

EuroPetition

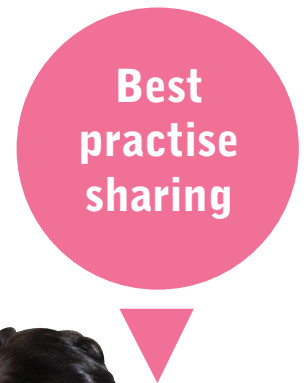
► Provides local and European wide petitioning tools and best practise



► **EuroPetition** will develop, scale-up and prove an open-source ePetitions service already in operation in the UK in 5 EU territories to produce a trans-European EuroPetition service that will allow Local Authorities across the EU to facilitate ePetitions and on-line discussion groups with their citizens.

In each region local authorities will be provided with a local ePetitioning facility which will also enable single issue multi-lingual trans-national on-line petitions to be launched and submitted from multiple sources. The project will coordinate the submission of cross-border EuroPetitions to the European Parliament's PETI Petitions Committee from at least the 5 regions being ES, IT, NL, SE, and UK. Specifically the project will:

- Provide a local ePetitioning facility for Local Authorities or other organisations to facilitate on-line petitions from their communities on local issues.
- Have an embedded workflow which supports the petitioner in 'marketing' the petition as well as providing viral tools (such as Facebook widgets) to help increase participation and signing across regions.
- Have a process for engaging signatories in discussion around the petition topic, thus retaining the interaction between the citizen and their local authority / EU.
- Provide a trans-European Local Authority service enabling regional citizen engagement and interaction with the European Parliament's PETI Petitions Committee.
- Enable Citizens to launch and manage EuroPetitions on specific EU issues.
- Enable Local Authorities to support and moderate EuroPetitions with on-line discussions using Web 2.0 tools either on a local basis or through regional clusters.



What is the anticipated impact of the EuroPetition service?

Petitioning has enormous potential as tool for democratic engagement. It is simple, understood by the public and requires little effort for the Citizen to carry out a meaningful democratic act. Recent experiences in the UK has created enormous

public interest with effective marketing the Project Team believe that this can be translated into cross-border actions that directly engage with the European Commission and Parliament.

EuroPetition will work with Local Authorities to help them engage with their citizens to help them rediscover the relevance of local democracy by enabling them to raise issues and connect with other interested citizens.

How the EuroPetition Service be used?

Local Petitioning

At a local level the *EuroPetition* tool will look very similar to the petitioning tool which is already in operation at Bristol at <http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk> and more recently at Malmo at <http://www.epet-malmo.public-i.tv:80>. The stages of these petitions are as follows:

Extending beyond one organisation – Local clusters

Though the project will have just one Local Authority or representative in each region as part of the Consortium the project plans to support other users of the system in that region as Cluster Members of the project. All individual Local Authorities will have either their own Petitioning system or they will host specific petitions which are being managed by the main project partner – however can also share the common discussion board which is hosted by the main project partner in the region.

Discussion boards will be used to provide space for additional debate and to provide a next step of activity for anyone signing a petition. They should also be a communication tool for the lead petitioners to help support a viral effect for the marketing of their petitions.

Accessing the European Parliament and Commission

Where petitions have been created for cross border support the EuroPetition Project Team will ensure that these comply with the requirements of the European Parliament's PETI Petitions Committee and the Commission's Citizen Initiative procedures and are practical candidates for the appropriate petitioning process. The Project Team will establish a dialogue with PETI and the Commission in order to support this process.

Technical objectives – using Web 2.0 more effectively

The petitioning tool will work with multiple instances to accommodate local differences in petitioning workflows for petitions which are being considered locally. However each of the instances will have a common workflow for creating petitions aimed at the European Parliament and Commission, and these EuroPetitions will be shared across the different sites by displaying a count of signatures from the other regions against the petition.



<http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/>



<http://www.epet-malmo.public-i.tv/>

Consortium members

- ▶ **The National Microelectronics Applications Centre Ltd - MAC**
Project Manager, Coordinator, User, Commission & EP PETI Committee requirements and service viability plan
[IE \(Ireland\)](#)
- ▶ **Public-i Group Ltd - PI**
Technology Platform service provider, service developer & operation of pilot trials
[UK \(United Kingdom\)](#)
- ▶ **Napier University - NAP**
Pilot Trials Evaluation
[UK \(United Kingdom\)](#)
- ▶ **Bristol City Council - BCC**
ePetitions UK experience, User Org/UK Cluster Pilots with Kingston-upon-Thames, Birmingham & North Lincolnshire
[UK \(United Kingdom\)](#)
- ▶ **Dijksman.com - DC**
Hague & Felvoland User Orgs/NL Cluster Pilot Trials
[NL \(Netherlands\)](#)
- ▶ **Innovation Institute for Citizens' Wellbeing - I2BC**
Abla in Almería, Córdoba & Málaga User Orgs/ES Cluster Pilot Trials
[ES \(Spain\)](#)
- ▶ **NESTOR s.c.a.r.l. (Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata) - NES**
Ferrara & Bologna User Orgs/IT Cluster Pilot Trials
[IT \(Italy\)](#)
- ▶ **Malmö stad - MS**
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You can find out more about the project at:

 <http://www.europetition.eu>