

Food Information to Consumers and the Better Regulation agenda

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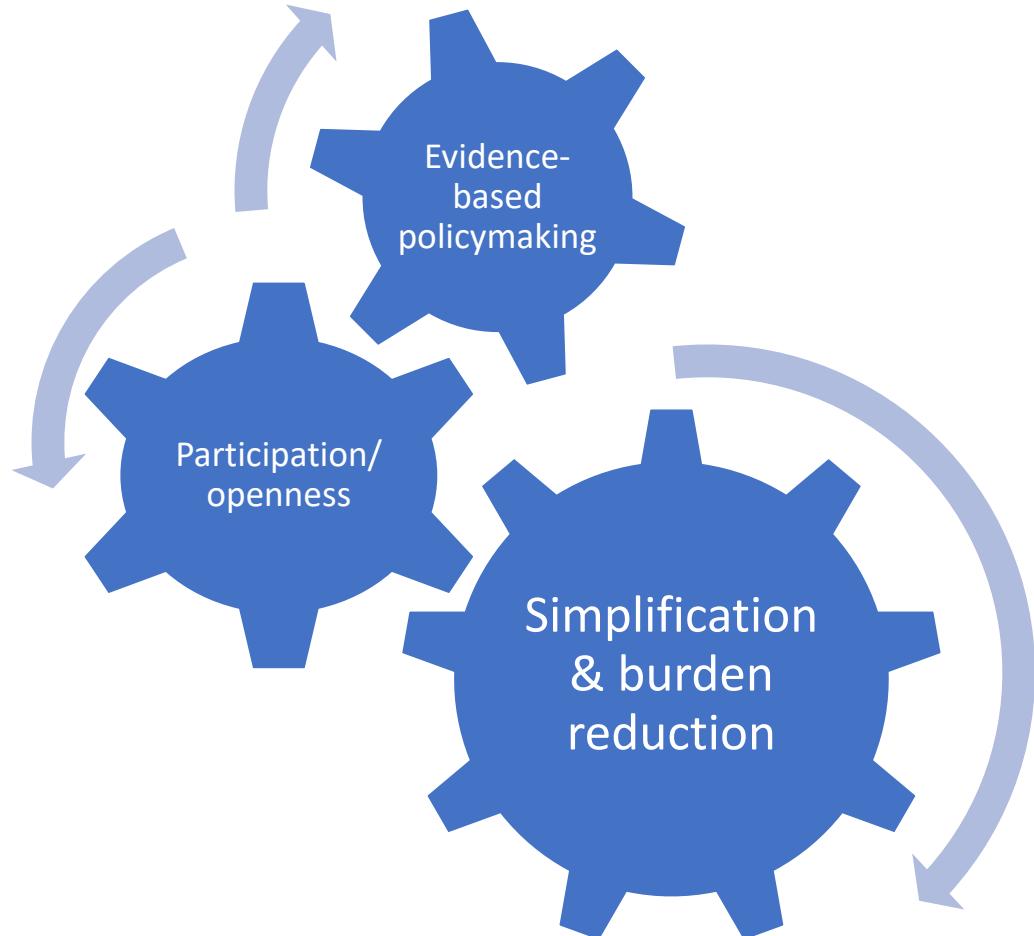
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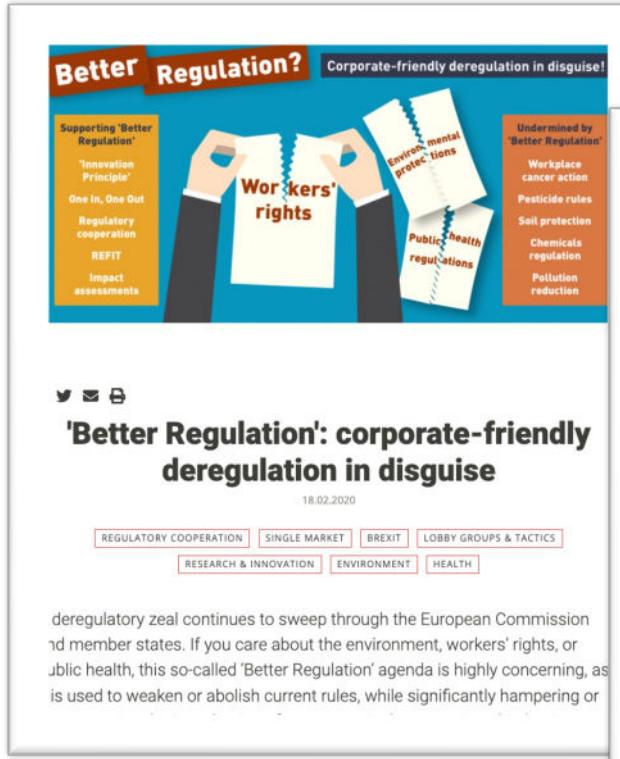
Better Regulation is a commitment, on the part of the EU & its institutions, to use particular **tools**, follow particular **principles** and be guided by particular **norms** in the policy-making process



EU Better Regulation tools



Relevance for health (advocacy)



'Better Regulation': corporate-friendly deregulation in disguise

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REGULATORY COOPERATION | SINGLE MARKET | BREXIT | LOBBY GROUPS & TACTICS | RESEARCH & INNOVATION | ENVIRONMENT | HEALTH

deregulatory zeal continues to sweep through the European Commission and member states. If you care about the environment, workers' rights, or public health, this so-called 'Better Regulation' agenda is highly concerning, as it is used to weaken or abolish current rules, while significantly hampering or

[Corporate Europe Observatory \(2020\)](#)



REPROTECTING EUROPE

The European Green Deal vs the war on regulations.

BY DAVID POWELL, PATRICK TEN BRINK, FRANCESCA CARLSSON, EMILY SCURRAH, FRANK VAN LERVEN, ADRIAN BUA

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Europe faces multiple environmental, social, and economic challenges. The European Council, representing the Member States, has endorsed the Commission's commitment to becoming climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, and the European Parliament has adopted a resolution declaring a climate and environmental emergency. It seems very hard to conclude that this is a time when we need Europe to be focused on regulating less and reducing regulatory 'burdens' as a point of principle. But the deregulatory mindset that has taken hold of the European Commission over the last two decades is increasingly visible. Its agenda is rooted in ideology and has been pushed for decades by corporate lobbying as part of a desire to ensure that the

[New Economics Foundation / European Environmental Bureau \(2020\)](#)



The Origin of EU Better Regulation - The Disturbing Truth

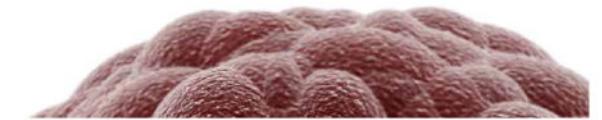
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ies present employee protection necessary' burden on companies, and then and delay the EU's revision of the the EU alone, over client protection against cancer-causing substances this lobbying a real threat to public health

[Smoke Free Partnership \(2010\)](#)

Using 'Better Regulation' to make things worse:
Industry tactics to delay and weaken workplace cancers law



'Better Regulation' to make things worse
Industry tactics to delay and weaken workplace cancer law

[Corporate Europe Observatory \(2016\)](#)

Better Regulation for Better Health project

'To explore the impact of the Better Regulation agenda on EU health policy-making'

Case studies of the policy process	Norms and discourse in the wider agenda	Capacity building within civil society
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Audiovisual media services directive• General pharmaceutical legislation• Ambient air quality directives• Food Information to Consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different understandings and uses of 'better regulation' concept• Disjuncture between narratives of 'deregulation' and 'EBPM', for ex.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge and understanding of agenda• Strategic use of agenda and tools• ...

The FIC revision process

Better Regulation requires that the Commission:

- Seeks feedback on an inception impact assessment
- Undertakes an impact assessment
- Conducts a 12-week public consultation and targeted stakeholder consultations
- Submits and responds to review by the Regulatory Scrutiny Board
- Will gather feedback on a legislative proposal...

Questions for the audience

- What has delayed the FIC Regulation revision?
- What was your experience with the consultation process for the FIC Regulation revision?
- Have the Better Regulation tools and processes strengthened or improved the revision process for the FIC Regulation?

More generally,

- What is your experience with EU impact assessments, evaluation and/or consultations?
- What, in your view, are the positive and negative aspects of Better Regulation? What has it improved; where does it cause difficulty?

Thank you

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