



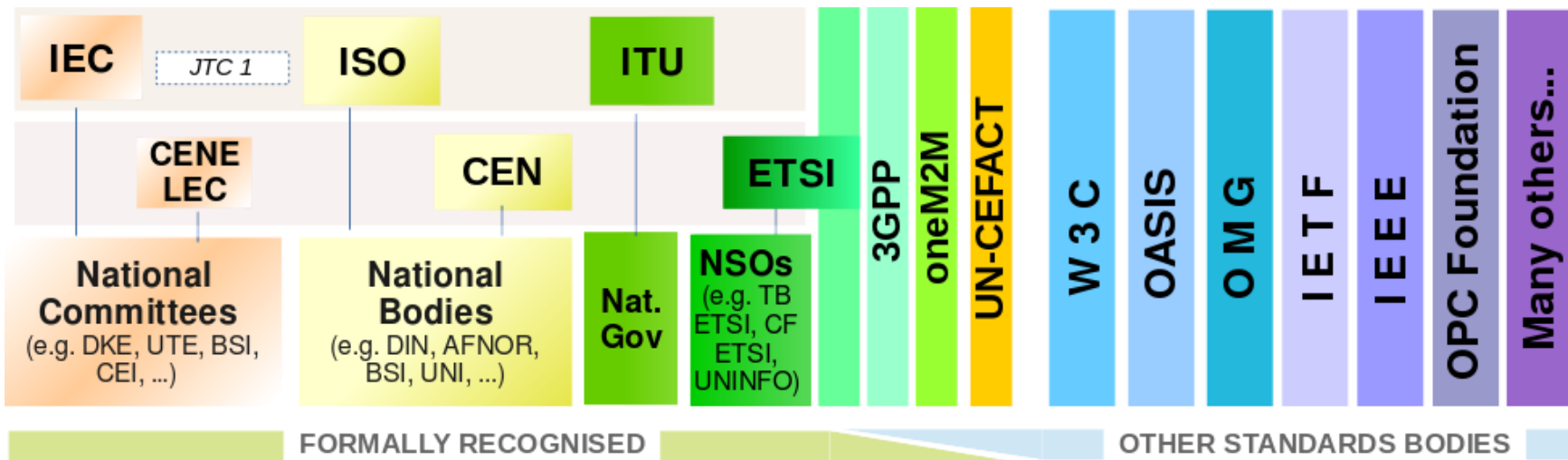
# EU Standardisation Policy

ETSI Technology Awareness Roadshow for SMEs

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# High-level overview of the global standardisation ecosystem



# The legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 establishes rules with regard to:

- The cooperation between ESOs, national standardisation bodies, Member States and the Commission
- The establishment of European standards and European standardisation deliverables in support of Union legislation and policies
- The identification of ICT technical specifications eligible for referencing
- The financing of European standardisation and stakeholder participation in European standardisation

# Standards as tool for the EU

Standards support **European legislation and policies** for the benefit of:

- single market completion
- innovation and quality
- competitiveness and market access
- health and safety, environmental protection, consumers

*Remember:* standards are **NOT** legislation!

## **Standards:**

voluntary, consensual,  
developed by private  
organisations, revised every 5  
years, provide specifications  
and test methods  
(interoperability, safety,  
quality, etc.)

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## **Legislation:**

mandatory, imposed by law,  
developed by public authorities,  
revised when legislators decide,  
sets requirements to protect  
public interests

# Standardisation and SMEs

- Standards are important tools for the competitiveness of undertakings and especially SMEs.
- SMEs are expected to be appropriately involved in the national and European standardisation process.
- The active participation of European organisations representing SMEs, consumers and environmental and social interests is essential for the development of European standardization.
- The translation of European standards and standardization deliverables into the various official Union languages aims at allowing SMEs to fully benefit from their understanding and application.

# Why European standards are special?

European standards (ENs) support the functioning of the Single Market

- **One EN replaces 34 different national standards:** one product-one standard, priority to international ones
- National Standardisation Bodies are obliged to **adopt ENs as national standards** and **withdraw any conflicting ones**
- **The system is transparent, stable and predictable**



# How EU legislation makes reference to standards

**Direct reference:** mandatory (the legislation imposes the product to meet the standard) - for specific use – exceptional

**Indirect reference (New Approach)** → legal text refers to publication of standards, **references published in the Official Journal of the EU**

# Main characteristics of the New Approach

- **Harmonise legislation** at EU level
- Use **standards** to translate essential **health & safety requirements** into technical specifications
- **Indirect reference:** legal text refers to publication of standards, standard references are published in the Official Journal of the EU
- Harmonised standards confer **presumption of conformity**



# Harmonised standards (hEN)

- **Special category** of European standards
- **Developed on the basis of a request** (mandate or standardisation request) from the Commission
- **Developed by the ESOs**
- **Assessed by the Commission** (compliance with the standardisation request and essential requirements)
- Support application of the **Union's harmonisation legislation**
- Involvement of Member States through the **Committee on Standards**
- Compliant standards are cited in the Official Journal of the EU
  - Produces legal effects under the relevant EU legislation: **presumption of conformity** (part of Union law)
- Commission responsibilities in managing the process
  - Confirmed by the CJEU: **'James Elliott' case** (C-613/14)

# Communication COM(2018) 764

- Takes stock of the functioning of European standardisation, also in the light of the relevant case law of the CJEU.
- Proposes actions to enhance the efficiency, transparency and legal certainty for the actors involved in the development of harmonised standards.

# Joint Initiative on Standardisation (JIS)

- **Non-legislative initiative** in the areas of governance, interaction and communication to improve the ESS
- Joint exercise - **collaborative approach**
- Mutually agreed vision supporting the Juncker Commission priorities + **15 actions** to be delivered by 2019
- Driven by stakeholders with the EC coordinating and bringing together all participants involved
- More than 120 signatories/endorsements, including MSs, industry, civil society, NSBs

# A coherent Framework



European Commission



## Joint Initiative on Standardisation



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14 June 2016  
COM(2016) 357 final

### AUWP

Standardisation package

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The annual Union work programme for European standardisation for 2017

(SWD(2016) 185 final)

L 316/12 **1025/2012** 14.11.2012

REGULATION (EU) No 1025/2012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 25 October 2012 on European standardisation, amending Council Directives 89/686/EEC and 93/15/EEC and Directive 94/25/EC, 95/16/EC, 97/23/EC, 98/34/EC, 2004/22/EC, 2007/23/EC, 2009/21/EC and 2009/185/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Decision 87/953/EEC and Decision No 1673/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission;

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments;

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (1);

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure (2);

Whereas:

(1) The primary objective of standardisation is the definition of voluntary technical or quality specifications which current or future products, production processes or services may comply. Standardisation can cover various issues, such as standardisation of different grades or sizes of a particular product or technical specifications in product or service markets where compatibility and interoperability with other products or systems are essential.

(2) European standardisation bodies should also encourage and facilitate the participation of stakeholders.

(3) European standardisation also helps to boost the competitiveness of enterprises by facilitating in particular the free movement of goods and services, network interoperability, means of communication, technological development and innovation. European standardisation reinforces the global competitiveness of European industry especially when established in coordination with the international standardisation bodies, namely the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Standards produce significant positive economic effects, for example by the internalisation of externalities, the creation of new and larger supply chains, competitive advantages for economies as standards may improve information availability, thereby:

(4) European standardisation org

(5) European standardisation work

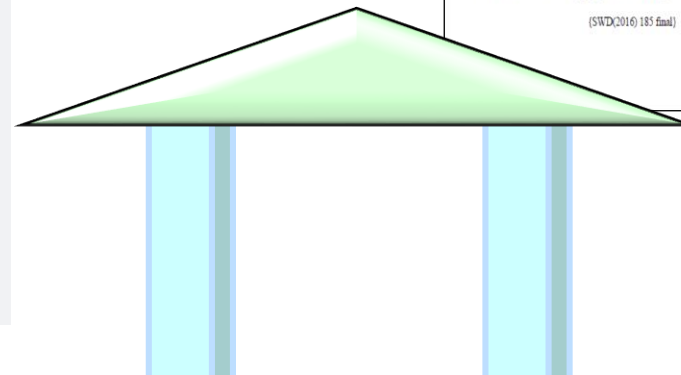
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

ROLLING PLAN FOR ICT STANDARDISATION 2019

EUROPEAN COMMISSION



MSP



COM (2016) 176



## Further information

[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards_en)

[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/ict-standardisation\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/ict-standardisation_en)