



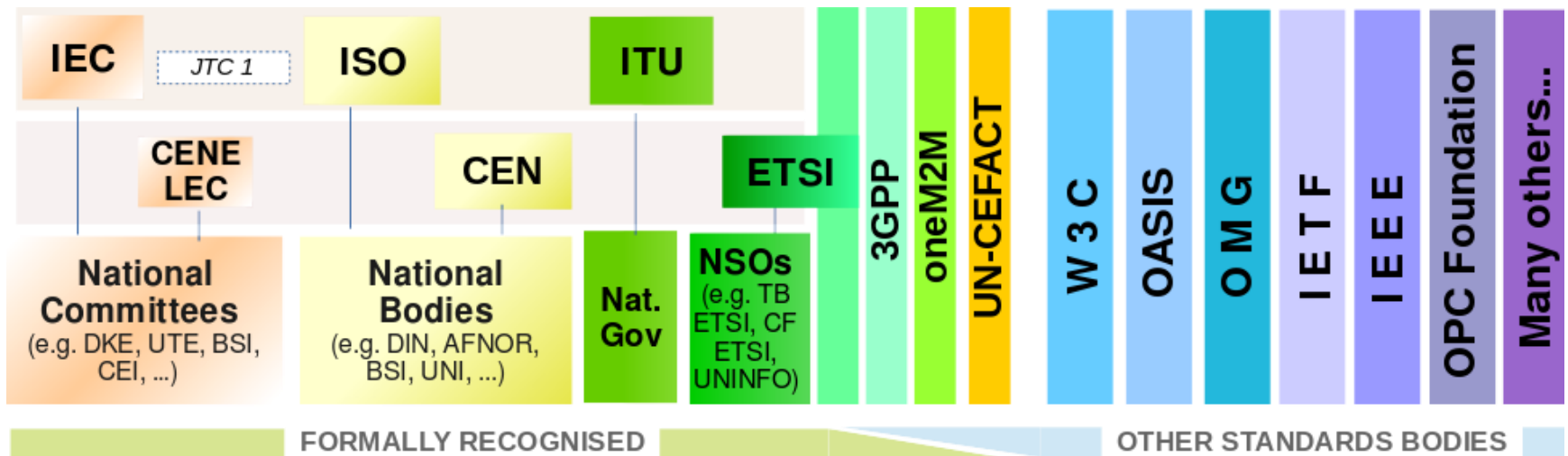
EU Standardisation Policy

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)

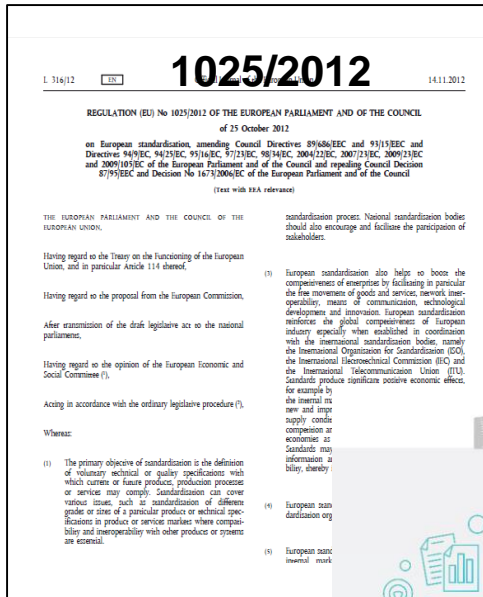
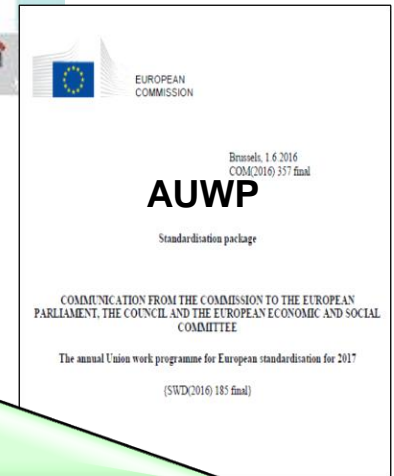
- **Non-legislative initiative** in the areas of governance, interaction and communication to improve the ESS
- Joint exercise - **collaborative approach**
- Mutually agreed vision supporting the Juncker Commission priorities + **15 actions** to be delivered by 2019
- Driven by stakeholders with the 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



MSP

COM (2016) 176



Further information

https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards_en

https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/ict-standardisation_en