



European  
Drinking Water

# Revision of the Drinking Water Directive: How to harmonise materials and products in contact with drinking water?

European Drinking Water Position on the Revision of the Drinking Water Directive

## About us



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- The European Drinking Water is an **alliance of 30 European trade associations** representing industries supplying materials and products in contact with drinking water:
    - Manufacturers of **raw materials** (metals, plastics, elastomers, silicones, etc.)
    - Manufacturers of **products** (Pumps, pipes, valves, taps, fittings, water treatment, water heaters, catering equipment, seals, etc.)

# What are materials and products in contact with drinking water?



Pipes



Water meters



Hoses



Taps



Pumps



Water heaters



Valves



Gaskets



# Our Members



**ANIMA**  
Federation of Association of  
Mechanical and Engineering  
Industry



**APPLiA**  
Home Appliances Europe



**AQUA**  
European Association of  
Water Meters and Heat  
Meters Manufacturers



**AQUA EUROPA**



**BMA**  
Bathroom Manufacturers  
Association



**Branchehuset**



**British Water**



**CEIR**  
European Association for the  
Taps and Valves Industry



**CES**  
Silicones Europe



**CESA**  
Catering Equipment Suppliers  
Association



**DKI**  
Copper Alliance



**EADIPS**  
European Association for  
Ductile Iron Pipe Systems



**EFCEM**  
European Federation of  
Catering Equipment



**EHI**  
European Heating Industry



**ELISANA**  
European Light Stabilisers and  
Antioxidants



**ESA**  
European Sealing Association



**ETRMA**  
European Tyre & Rubber  
Manufacturers' Association



**Europump**  
The European Pump  
Manufacturers Association



**EVA**  
European Vending  
Association



**EWTA**  
European Water Treatment  
Association



**FCA**  
Food Contact Additives (a  
Cefic Sector Group)



**Figawa**  
Association of Companies for  
Gas and Water Technologies



**KRV**  
Fachverband der  
Kunststoffrohrindustrie



**PlasticsEurope**



**SOIA**  
Synthetic Organic Ion  
Exchangers and Adsorbents



**TEPPFA**  
The European Plastic Pipes  
and Fittings Association



**VDDW**  
Association of German water-  
and heat meters industry



**VRH**  
Association for Piping  
Systems Inside Buildings



**WQA**  
Water Quality Association



**ZVEI**  
German Electrical and  
Electronic Manufacturers'  
Association

## Our mission



- European Drinking Water supports the development of a **harmonised EU-wide regulatory framework** as a way to safeguard **equal drinking water quality** for the consumers across Europe and improve the **competitiveness and innovation capability** of the European industry.



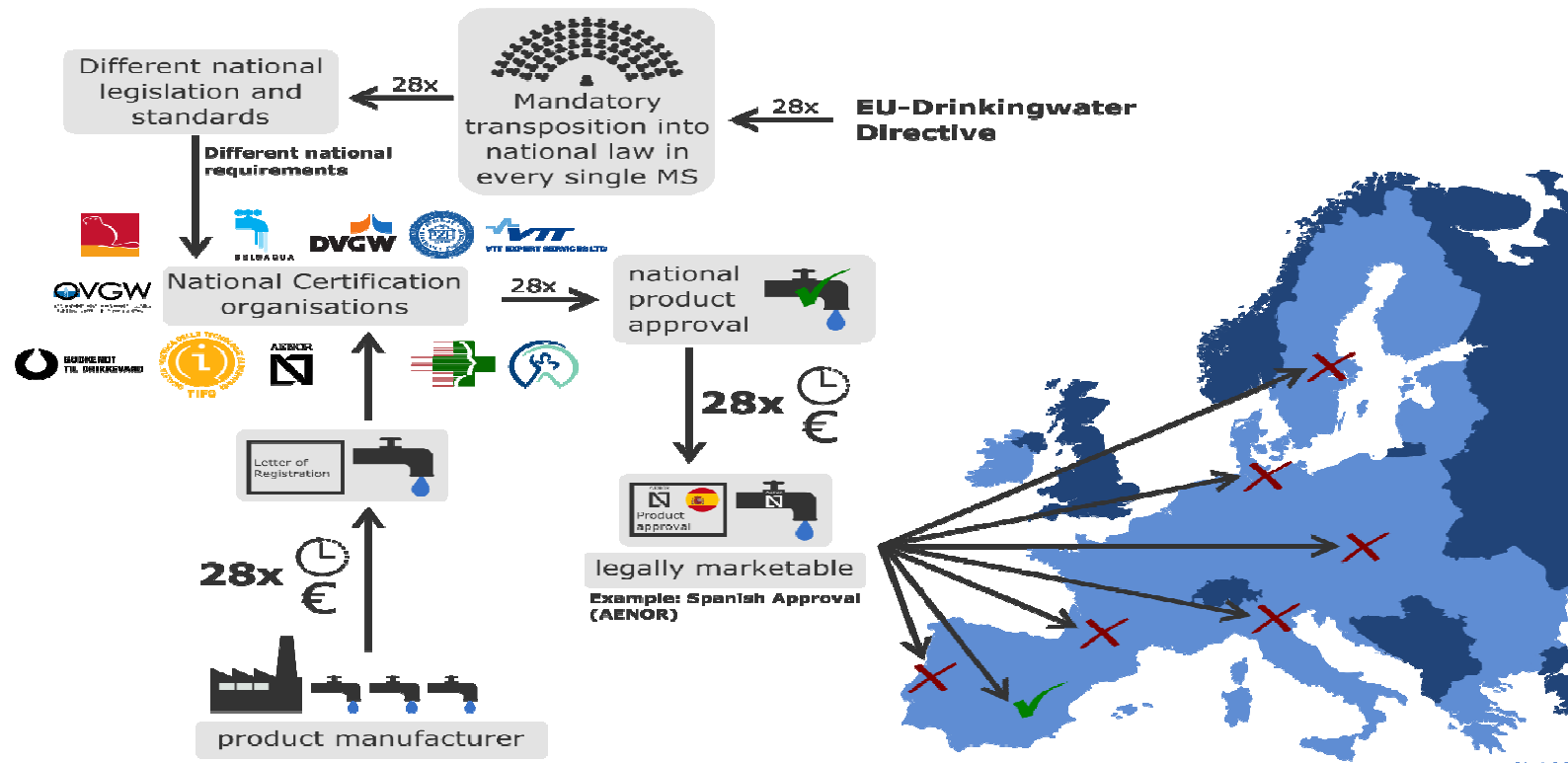
# Context

# What is the issue?



- The Drinking Water Directive (currently under revision) led to the proliferation of national provisions to ensure the hygienic safety of materials and products in contact with drinking water
- Member States have often adopted divergent provisions, while some Member States still do not have any scheme to assess the safety of such materials and products

# What is the current situation?





# What are the consequences?



- Different levels of **consumer protection** across EU Member States.
- A **fragmentation** of the EU internal market
- Endangering the **competitiveness** of the European industry by imposing **significant financial and administrative burden**
- **Hindering innovation**: companies lack of incentives to put innovative products on the market

# Summary



- “Several Member States have set up their own approval systems for products in contact with drinking water, for which **mutual recognition provisions mostly do not work** and (these approval system) have been identified as an **obstacle to the internal market**”
- “The Article 10 provisions do not work well and represent a **long term challenge** to the **provision of clean and healthy drinking water** in the EU”

*These conclusions are taken from the Commission REFIT EVALUATION of the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC (December 2016)*

# What is the Commission proposal?

Assessment of the Commission proposal

# What is the Commission proposal to address this issue?



- The Commission proposal on the DWD states that:
  - Hygienic requirements for materials and products in contact with drinking water are set under the Construction Products Regulation



- Development of European standards for construction products in contact with drinking water

# Assessment of the Commission proposal



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The Commission proposal is **insufficient** in providing harmonisation:

- ✓ It will create significant **loopholes**: several products in contact with drinking water are not covered by the CPR (e.g. pumps, water heaters, hoses, water meters, and so on) and will not be harmonised
- Standards under the CPR usually only define test methods and do not set the hygienic requirements against which products should be tested.

# Many products will be excluded from harmonisation



Pipes



Water meters



Hoses



Taps



Pumps



Water heaters



Valves



Gaskets



# What is the solution?

EDW position

# EDW Position



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EDW supports a full harmonisation of hygienic requirements and test methods on drinking water applications:

- List of **substances** allowed in the production of materials (organic materials, elastomers, cement, metals, etc.) in contact with drinking water
- Other **requirements** mainly related to products
- **Test methods**
- A system to **identify products in contact with drinking water** compliant with EU legislation

## EDW solution

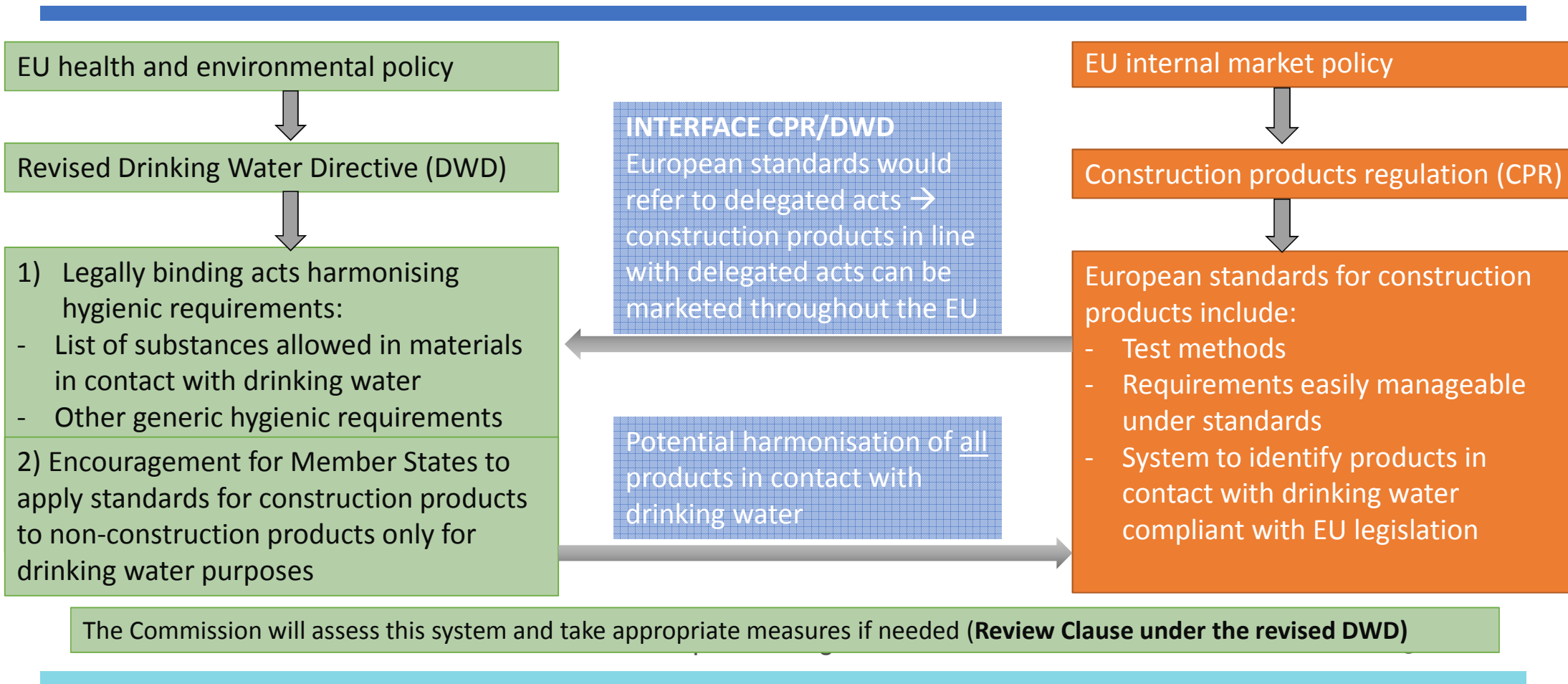


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To ensure **full harmonisation** and **high safety standards** all over Europe, the revised Drinking Water Directive should:

1. Give the **mandate** to EU institutions to adopt **legally binding acts** to harmonise hygienic requirements on materials and products in contact with drinking water
2. Include a **review clause** requiring the Commission to evaluate progress in harmonisation
3. Ensure a **link between the Drinking Water Directive and the CPR**: harmonised standards under the CPR refer to the legally binding acts adopted under the Drinking Water Directive (see point 1)
4. Encourage Member States to **apply CPR standards to products not covered by the CPR only for drinking water purposes**

# EDW solution



## Benefits of the EDW solution



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EDW proposed solution would:

- Ensure that all EU citizens enjoy the **same degree of human health protection**
- **Deepen the EU internal market**
- Stimulate the **competitiveness of the EU industry** and **job creation**
- Promote the **development of innovative technologies** and **resource-efficient products**

Thank you for your attention!



European  
Drinking Water

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