

Call for an ELI Innovation Paper



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1. Background

The aim of the new European Law Institute (ELI) Innovation Paper Series is to enable ELI Members to propose pioneering legal or multidisciplinary ideas, which would deserve the attention of the European legal community and aim at improving European law. The Innovation Papers contain concrete proposals for relevant stakeholders and may resemble ELI project output (such as draft legislation, model rules, principles, checklists or position papers - more information about ELI projects is available [here](#)), but be shorter (usually not more than 10 pages) and more tentative in nature. It is not necessary that Innovation Papers are the result of comprehensive research, but they should possibly serve as an inspiration to other stakeholders and be a catalyst for discussion. Innovation Papers may be followed by an ELI project.

After publishing a successful pilot Innovation Paper entitled '[Guiding Principles for Updating the EU Product Liability Directive for the Digital Age](#)' in January 2021, the Institute wishes to invite interested authors to submit their ideas for a second Innovation Paper, which will be published and promoted by ELI. It will also serve as a basis to further fine-tune the call procedure.

2. Applicants

All ELI Members (Individual Members or individuals working for ELI's Institutional Members), or small teams of ELI Members (up to five persons), can participate in the call. In case of interested authors who are yet to become ELI Members, their submission would be considered upon indication of a pending membership application.

Where queries concerning eligibility arise, the decision of the ELI Executive Committee is final.

3. Submission

Applicants are invited to submit an idea for the next ELI Innovation Paper (not exceeding 2,000 words) on a topic of their choice, briefly explaining how the Innovation Paper would contribute to an innovative development of European law as well as defining the proposed type of outcome of the Innovation Paper. The idea should be accompanied by a brief executive summary (not exceeding 500 words). The submission should be provided in English.

Please use the submission template available [here](#) for this purpose.

4. Deadline for Submission

Applicants are invited to send their submission to the ELI Secretariat (secretariat@europeanlawinstitute.eu) by 23 May 2021.

5. Procedure

The ELI Executive Committee will review the submissions on a rolling basis and select the most promising idea by 6 June 2021. The proposer(s) of the selected idea will be asked to prepare an ELI Innovation Paper within one to two months. They will receive further guidance as to the style of the Innovation Paper from the ELI Secretariat. The Executive Committee may also suggest modifications to the idea prior to it being adopted to proceed as an ELI Innovation Paper, or may suggest to the proposers of two or more ideas to join forces and combine their ideas within a defined period, if those proposers agree.

The Innovation Paper would be then consulted upon with ELI Members for a period of one month, thereby guaranteeing a broad input and support by the European legal community. The author(s) would be invited to consider the comments and revise the Innovation Paper in light of them. An ad hoc online Council meeting will be organised two weeks after the consultation period to discuss the draft paper and possible modifications with the author(s). The author(s) would then have two more weeks to finalise the Innovation Paper in light of comments received. Afterwards, the Innovation Paper would be forwarded to the ELI Council for endorsement or rejection and, if endorsed, published and promoted by ELI. The author would assign to ELI the necessary exclusive intellectual property rights to that end.

The decision to select an idea for an Innovation Paper and invite its author to prepare such a Paper or not to select any idea for an Innovation Paper is at the discretion of the ELI Executive Committee.

[Submission Template](#)

[E-Mail ELI Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@europeanlawinstitute.eu)