

# Impact Assessment

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## *Experience and lessons so far*

Dr Marianne Klingbeil

European Commission  
Secretariat-General

Better Regulation, Programming and Impact Assessment  
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# *Experience*

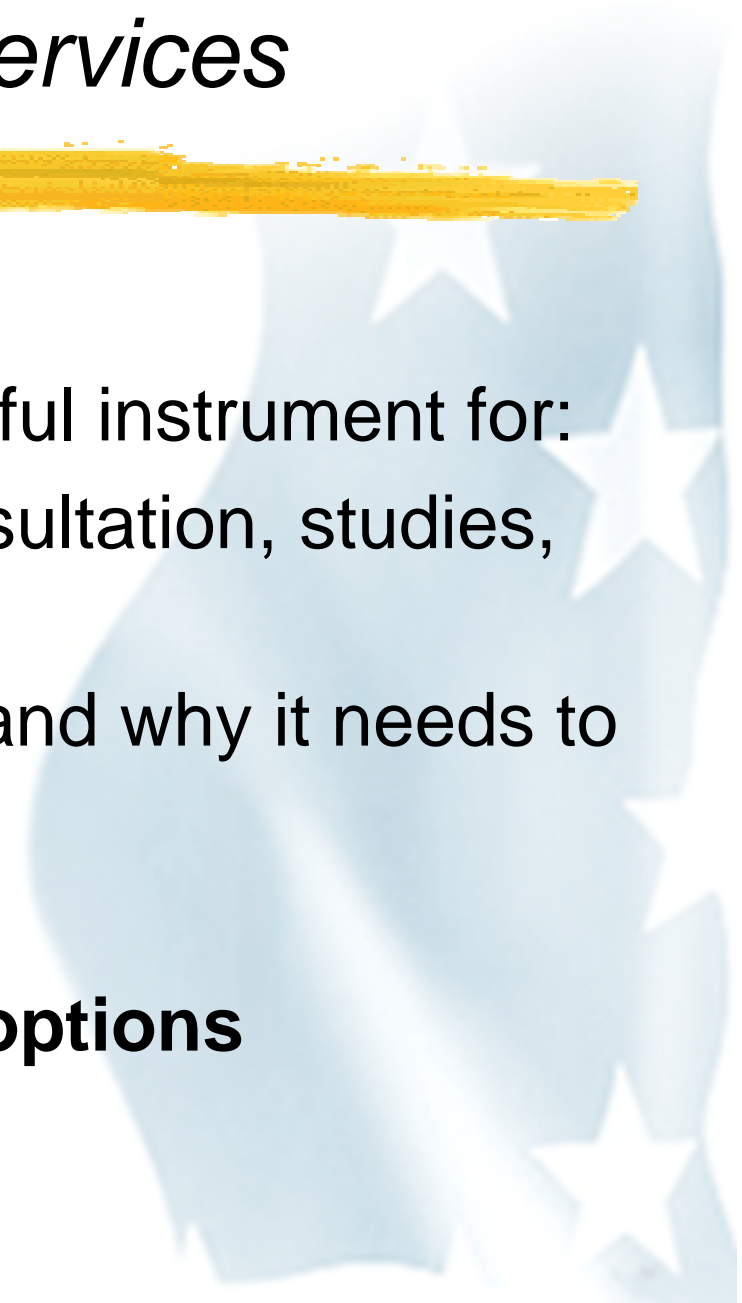


- **Impact Assessment Board** set up by President Barroso in November 2006
- Commission:
  - 112 IAs in 2007
  - 129 IAs so far in 2008 with ca. 20% resubmissions

# *Feedback from services*



Impact Assessments are an useful instrument for:

- **Planning** (stakeholder consultation, studies, interservice groups)
  - **Articulating the problem** and why it needs to be addressed
  - **Clarifying the baseline**
  - **Broadening the range of options**
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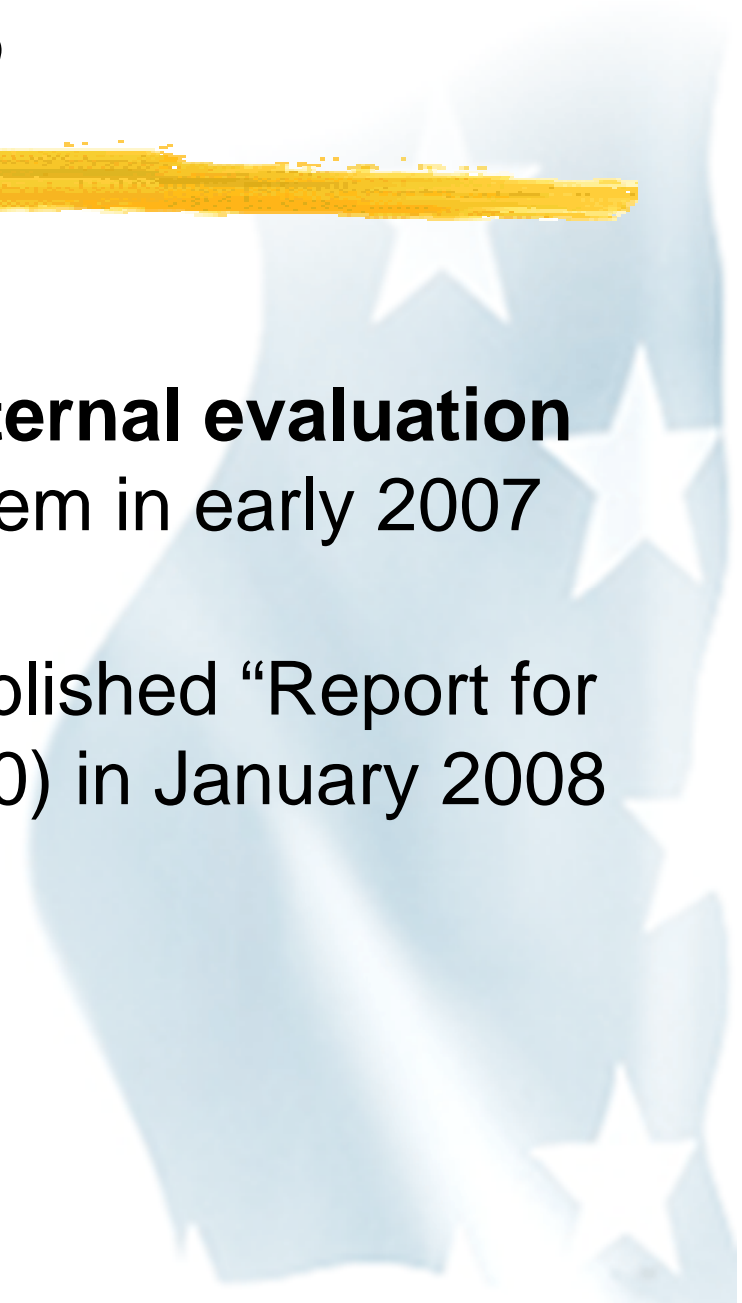
# *Lessons*



- More **coherence** across the key steps of the IA (problem – objectives – options – impact)
- Need to substantiate **subsidiarity and proportionality** tests more
- Improved analysis of **simplification potential**, use of EU Standard Cost Model

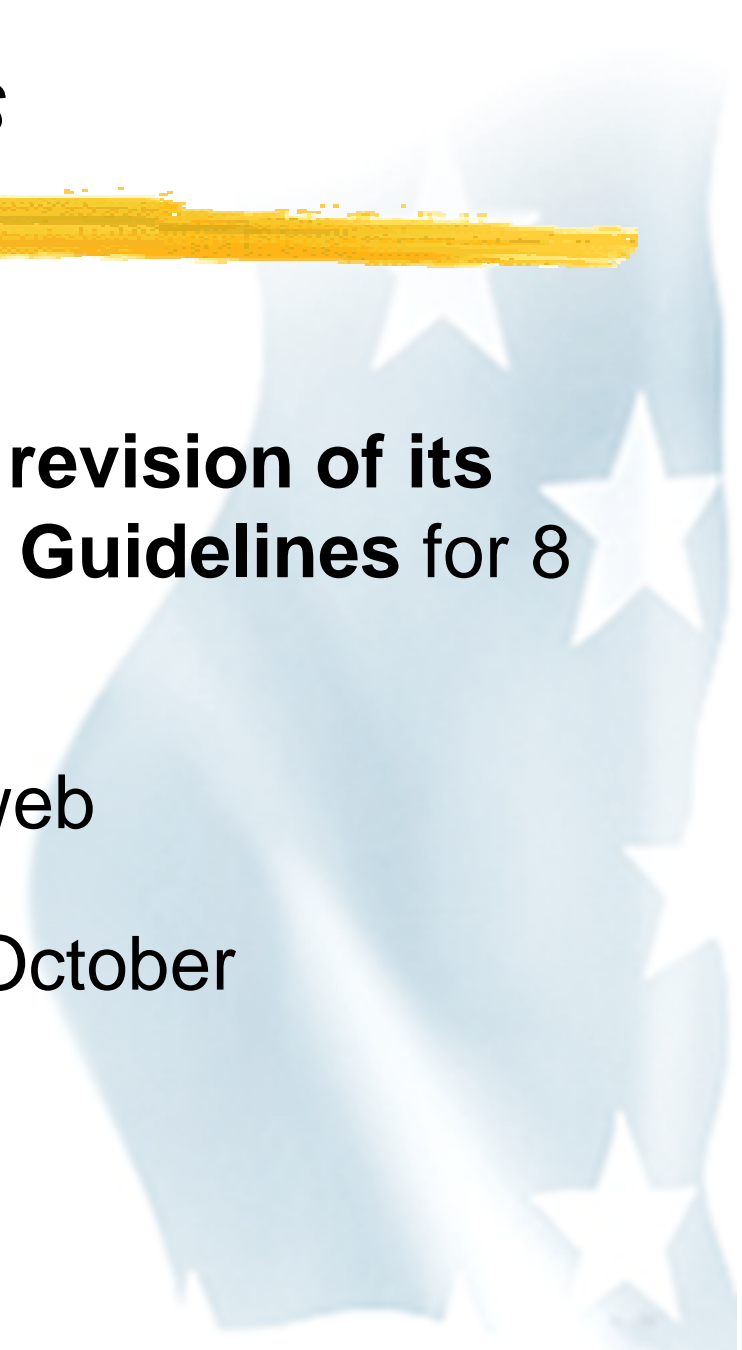
# *Evaluation*

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- Commission undertook an **external evaluation** of its Impact Assessment system in early 2007
  - Impact Assessment Board published “Report for the year 2007” (SEC(2008)120) in January 2008
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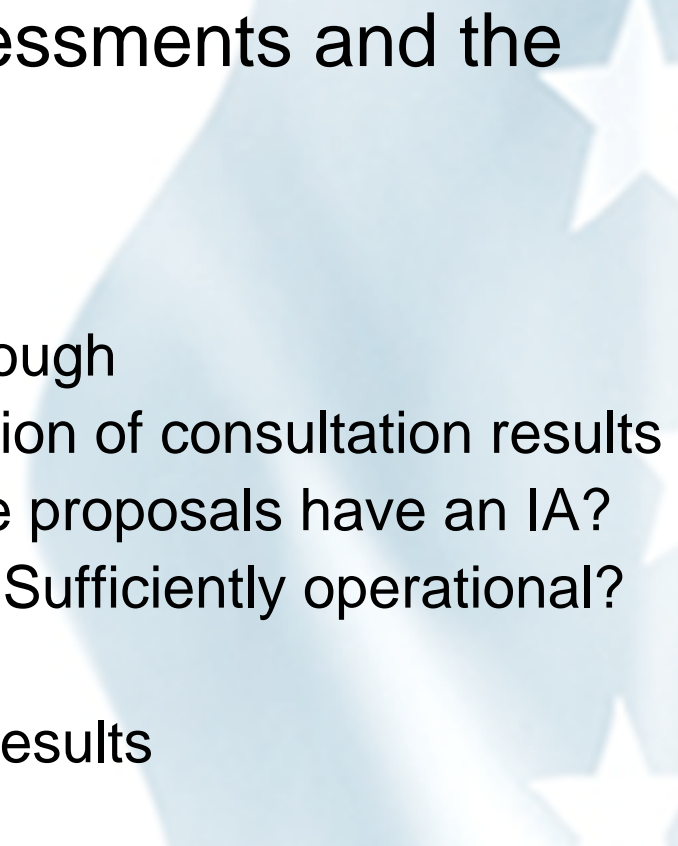
# *Guidelines*

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- Commission consulted on the **revision of its internal Impact Assessment Guidelines** for 8 weeks in June-July 2008
  - 97 replies – available on the web
  - Responses to be published in October
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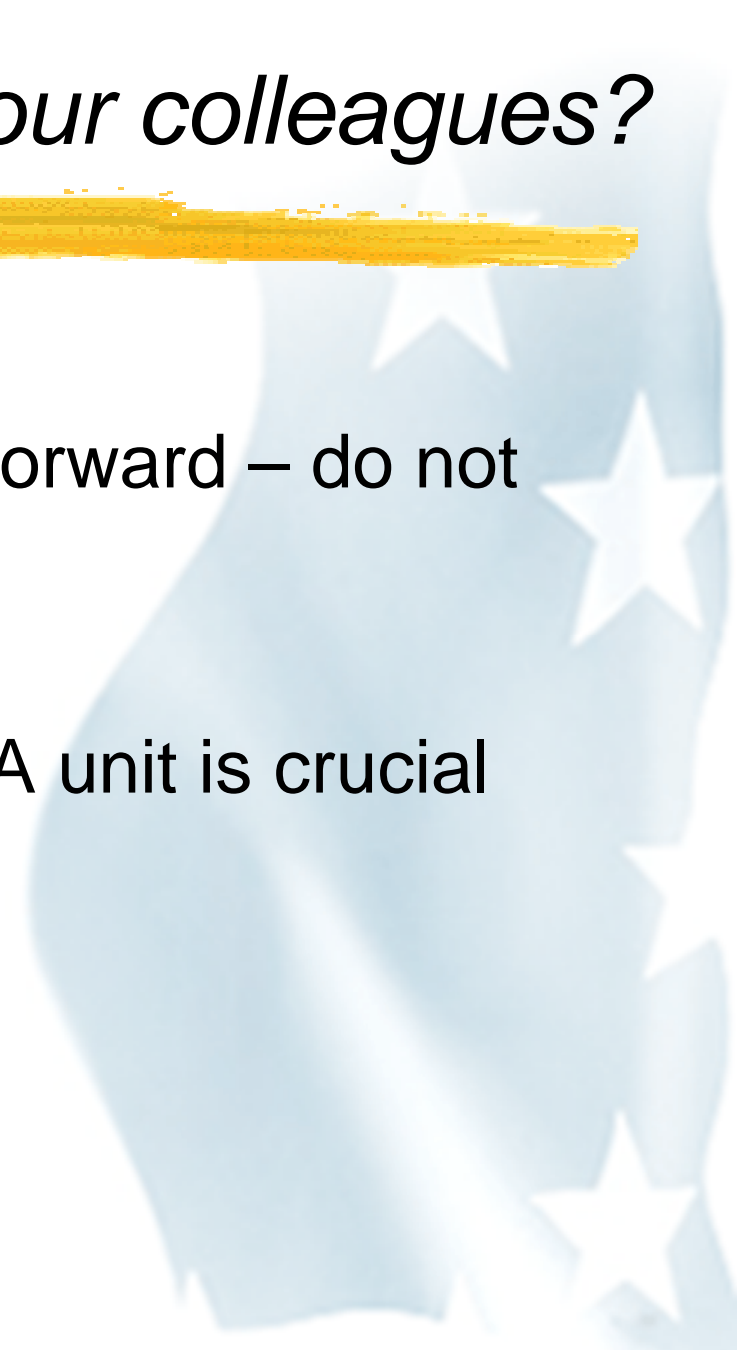
# *Guidelines - stakeholders' reactions*



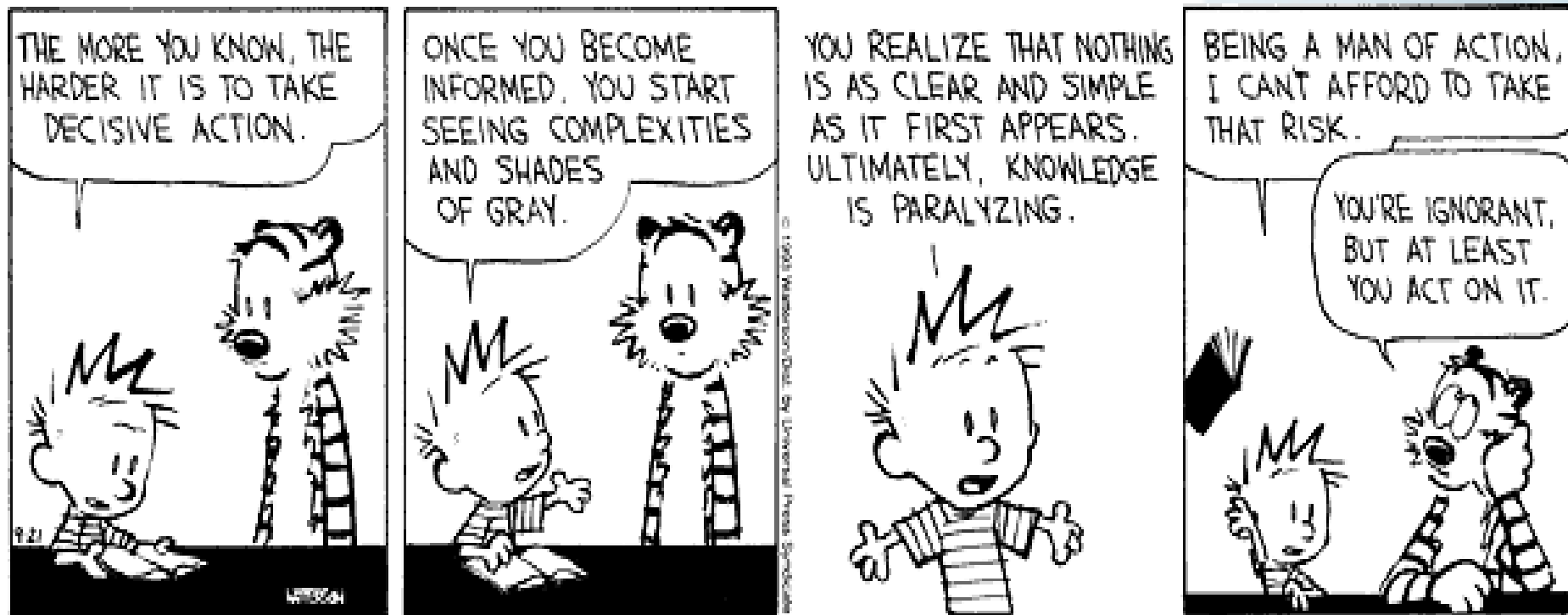
- Broad support for Impact Assessments and the Board
  - Several points often raised:
    - Consultation of eight weeks not enough
    - Insufficient feedback and presentation of consultation results
    - Scope: Should all or only legislative proposals have an IA?
    - Principle of proportionate analysis: Sufficiently operational?
    - Quality control of IAs
    - Presentation of summary and key results
    - Need to improve quantification
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# *What do we recommend our colleagues?*



- Preparing IA report is straightforward – do not invent ‘shortcuts’
  - Support from your economic/IA unit is crucial
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# *What we should all try to avoid!*



Questions?