

LIVING-IN.EU | GO-LI.EU

Annual plan Legal working group
2025



Legal Working Group

- The **Legal working group** assesses contractual and legislative measures related to the provision of a common EU framework for cross-sector and cross-border digital solutions for cities and communities.
- In 2025, the Legal working group will build on the activities of 2024, aiming to further facilitate a more in-depth understanding of European legislative measures and policy proposals, and accompany cities, regions, and communities in their implementation through dialogue and discussion, awareness raising, sharing knowledge and best practices, and presenting the main legal instruments.
- Involving legal experts and experts from local and regional administrations, the Legal working group will analyse EU legislative proposals and acts relevant for cities, regions and communities and inform signatories on activities based on legislative measures and policy initiatives.

Main results 2024

In 2024, the Legal working group continued exploring topics related to the legal aspects of smart cities and communities' digital transformation of interest to Living-in.EU signatories:

- Assessed the implication of the AI Act for cities, regions & communities;
- Discussed the recently approved Interoperable Europe Act and the measures and instruments it introduced;
- Followed the legal implications of the newly established European Digital Infrastructure Consortia, in particular the LDT CitiVerse EDIC.

In 2025, the Legal working group will continue some of the activities initiated in 2024, for example, by collaborating with the other working groups, and particularly the Financial working group, on the topic of the EDICs. Furthermore, the Legal working group will discuss the most recent updates of the Digital Wallet legislation and pilot use cases, and their implication for cities and regions, as well as focus on the ongoing work on the EC's procurement support package. In addition, the Legal subgroup will explore the priorities and the upcoming legislative proposals of the new Commission.

Lessons learned in 2024

- Exploring key European legislative proposals is dependent on the European legislative procedure's timeline and the priorities of the new European Commission. Thus, similarly to 2023, in some cases, the group had to flexibly adapt its plan.
- The Legal working group aims to further explore the synergies with other Living-in.EU working groups, as well as the Digital Forum of Eurocities.
- Furthermore, it aims to involve an even larger number of signatories and build on some of the activities initiated in 2024, such as: discussing recent EU legislative proposals and acts of interest to the Living-in.EU signatories, as well as exploring the impact of legislative documents (such as the AI act) and EC initiatives (such as the Digital wallets) on public authorities.

Objectives of the Legal Working Group in 2025

- **More in-depth understanding of EU legislative measures and policy proposals** and their impact across cities of different sizes, regions, and member states, also in the context of the new European Commission priorities
- Understanding the **legal instruments available** to speed up the implementation of multi-country projects to achieve the objectives of the Digital Decade
- **Encouraging an ongoing dialogue, discussing common challenges and opportunities, and exchanging know-how and best practices** to tackle common legal challenges related to the adoption and scaling up of digital solutions

Legal WG: Activities and results (1)

Activity	Results/ expected outcome	How does it contribute to the WG objectives in 2026?	Link to the other working groups and/or other stakeholders	Scheduled	Activity leader
Develop working group work plan for 2025	Finalised work plan for 2025, published at the WG space of Living-in.EU	Establishing a structured framework for the WG's activities throughout the year	All Living-in.EU working groups	Q1	Eurocities
Webinar on the procurement templates and guidelines, developed by the EC	Raise awareness about EC's standardized procurement templates and guidelines. Collect first reactions and feedback from cities	Understanding the EC's procurement support package; collection of feedback about cities' needs and challenges	Support services for EU smart communities project, Technical working group	Q1	Eurocities
Discussion of key aspects and practical implementation of the AI Act in the context of cities and regions	Online discussion and presentation of key aspects of the AI Act and its practical implementation for cities and regions	Understanding European legislative measures and policy proposals, and their practical implementations	All Living-in.EU working groups; synergies with the Technical WG	Q2	Eurocities

Legal WG: Activities and results (2)

Activity	Results/ expected outcome	How does it contribute to the WG objectives in 2026?	Link to the other working groups and/or other stakeholders	Schedule	Activity leader
Discussion of relevant EU legislation and European Commission portfolios	Online discussion and presentation of key features of the priorities and upcoming pieces of legislation	Understanding European legislative measures and policy proposals; bridging the gap between experts involved in policy/governance and more technical fields	Digital Forum at Eurocities	Q2/Q3	Eurocities
Webinar on the Digital wallet	Inform members on the most recent updates on the digital wallet legislation & pilot use cases, as well as their implication for cities and regions	Understanding European legislative measures and policy proposals; exchange of best practices	Digital Forum at Eurocities	Q2/Q3	Eurocities
Evaluation of the work plan for 2025	Assessment of the activities of 2025 and ideas for the 2026 work plan	Ensures continuous improvement and adaptability in achieving the WG's objectives	All Living-in.EU working groups	Q4	Eurocities

Schedule of meetings or events

Date	Meeting / event	Who is it for?	Contact person
March 5, 2025	Webinar on the procurement templates and guidelines, developed by the EC	Living-in.eu signatories	Ana Georgieva/ Gabriela Ruseva
Q2	Discussion of key aspects and practical implementation of the AI Act in the context of cities and regions	Living-in.eu signatories	Ana Georgieva
Q2/Q3	Discussion of relevant EU legislation and European Commission portfolios	Living-in.eu signatories, Eurocities Digital Forum members	Ana Georgieva/ Gabriela Ruseva
Q2/Q3	Webinar on the Digital wallet	Living-in.eu signatories, Eurocities Digital Forum members	Ana Georgieva

Cross-overs activities and partnerships

Activities	Together with other working group/ project/ partnership/...	Who is it for?	Contact person
Webinar on the procurement templates and guidelines, developed by the EC	LDT project, Technical working group	Signatories	Ana Georgieva/ Gabriela Ruseva
Discussion of key aspects and practical implementation of the AI Act in the context of cities and regions.	Technical working group*	Signatories	Ana Georgieva
Discussion of relevant EU legislation and Commission portfolios	Eurocities' Digital Forum	Signatories	Ana Georgieva/ Gabriela Ruseva
Webinar on the Digital wallet	Eurocities' Digital Forum	Signatories	Ana Georgieva

Risks and measures

Risk	Measure	Owner
Limited capacity from signatories for peer review activities (e.g., of the procurement templates)	Living-in.eu communication, Digital Public Buyers communication, and individual partner networks to collaborate for wide and timely dissemination of invitations	Go Li.EU, Digital Public Buyers Community, Living-in.eu partners.
Involving legal/policy experts to provide contributions during webinars on (legal) impact of proposed policies and regulations ‘in-kind’.	Leverage the wide Living-in.eu network by calling for interested experts to contribute on a structural level	Legal working group, Go Li.EU
Producing outputs for the activities	Involving cities, regions, and communities (and their experts) for production of the output, ask support from the SB/Go Li.EU Project	Legal working group, Go Li.EU

Support needed to execute the workplan

What does this subgroup need to achieve results?

Activity	What is needed? (e.g., expertise, resources, comms)	By when?
Webinar on the procurement templates and guidelines, developed by the EC	Legal expertise, communications, peer review capacity	Q1
Discussion of key aspects and practical implementation of the AI Act in the context of cities and regions	Legal expertise, policy expertise, communications	Q2
Discussion on relevant EU legislation and Commission portfolios	Policy expertise, legal expertise, communications, editorial support*	Q2/Q3
Webinar on the Digital wallet	Policy expertise (DG CNECT), legal expertise, communications	Q2/Q3