

# The Tasks of Nationaler Normenkontrollrat with a special view to the consultation process

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**Secretariat of Nationaler Normenkontrollrat**

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# Outline

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## **I) Background**

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## **II) Ex-ante procedure and stakeholder consultation**

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## **III) Ex-post projects and stakeholder consultation**

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## **IV) Conclusion**

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# I) Background

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- **April 2006:** Federal Government's Programme for the Reduction of Bureaucracy and Better Regulation

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- **August 2006:** NKR was established

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- **February 2007:** reduction target of 25% by 2011 was set

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- **March 2011:** expansion of NKR's mandate on compliance costs

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- **September 2011:** start of NKR's second term

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# I) Background

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## Members

**Dr. Johannes Ludewig** (Chairman; former Secretary of State; former Chairman of Deutsche Bahn AG)

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**Wolf-Michael Catenhusen** (Deputy Chairman; former Secretary of State; Member of Deutscher Bundestag from 1980 to 2002)

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**Dr. Thea Dückert** (Lecturer at the University of Oldenburg, Member of Deutscher Bundestag from 1998 to 2009)

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**Rainer Funke** (former Secretary of State, Member of Deutscher Bundestag from 1980 to 1983 and from 1987 to 2005)

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**Gudrun Grieser** (former Lord Mayor of the City of Schweinfurt)

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**Prof. Dr. Sabine Kuhlmann** (German University of Administrative Sciences in Speyer)

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**Sebastian Lechner** (Economist)

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**Dorothea Störr-Ritter** (Head of the district authority of the district of Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald)

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**Hanns-Eberhard Schleyer** (Lawyer, former Secretary General of German Confederation of Skilled Crafts)

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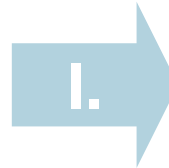
**Prof. Dr. Andrea Versteyl** (Lawyer, honorary Judge at the constitutional court of Saxony)

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# I) Background

## Tasks

Support and Advice  
to the Federal  
Government in the  
reduction of  
bureaucracy and  
better regulation



**Avoid the creation of  
new administrative  
burden**



**Perceivable reduction of  
existing administrative  
burden**

## II) Ex-ante procedure and stakeholder consultation

### Task I.: Avoid the creation of new administrative burden

- NKR is treated like a line ministry during legislative procedure

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- NKR examines the description of the compliance costs in terms of comprehensibility and correct methodology

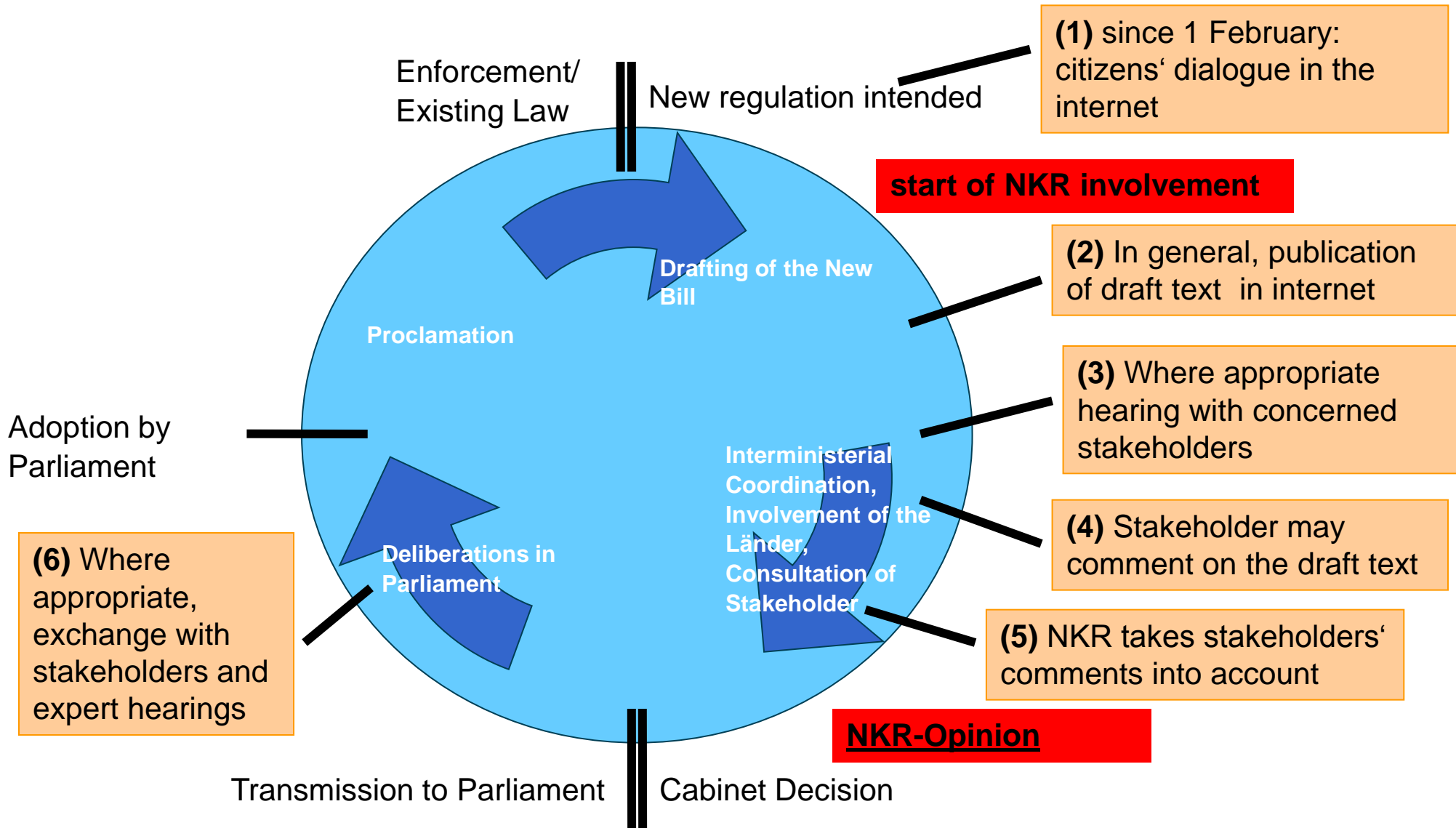
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- formal Opinion of NKR is attached to the cabinet draft and is passed to Parliament and the Federal Council

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- ➔
  - ensuring transparency
  - raising awareness of administrative burdens
  - improving the basis for decision-making

## II) Ex-ante procedure and stakeholder consultation



## III) Ex-post projects and stakeholder consultation

### Task II.: Reduction of existing administrative burden

#### The NKR...

- has supported the Federal Government in reaching the reduction target of 25 %
- ensured quality control during the baseline measurement
- provides recommendations and statements
- comments on simplification proposals
- acts as driver for reduction of bureaucracy
- initiates and coordinates ex-post projects



## III) Ex-post projects and stakeholder consultation

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- regular exchange between the Federal Government, the business sector and the NKR on the development of reduction of bureaucracy

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- business sector was asked to submit simplification proposals for the new Government's programme

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- database on baseline measurement is publicly available

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- common projects with stakeholders, e.g.
  - financial support to students (BAföG)
  - entry visa for qualified employees

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## III) Ex-post projects and stakeholder consultation

### Example: Simplification of the BAföG procedure

- stakeholders: students, parents, relevant administrative bodies

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- burden measurement at stakeholders by means of
  - personal interviews
  - telephone interviews
  - questionnaires
  - online database

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- stakeholders were asked for experiences and proposals for improvement

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- prioritisation of proposals by stakeholders

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- all proposals were included in the final report

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## IV) Conclusion

### Stakeholder consultation...

- ensures transparency of the legislative procedure
- provides the necessary input from users and interested parties
- in order to meet the needs of stakeholders
- but: means also to find the balance between stakeholders' interests and public interests
- is necessary for getting the full picture
- improves the basis for decision-making

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