



CEN and CLC/AGs/REG1025-2012-REGREP "Regulation 1025/2012 Reporting Group"



Secretary: Simeoni Alberto Mr

## CLC 2024\_Reg 1025\_2012\_Report

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# 2024 Report

to the European Commission on the  
CENELEC implementation of EU Regulation  
1025/2012 on European Standardization  
as amended by EU Regulation 2022/2480

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## **The Annual Report for 2024**

The present report is prepared by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) as a self-standing document pursuant to Art 24 of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 (hereby referred to as "the Regulation"). It is the 12<sup>th</sup> annual report of its kind submitted by CENELEC after the entry into force of the Regulation on 1 January 2013.

The objective of the document is to reply to the legal requirements of Art 24 (1) of the Regulation, by following the structure of that article. It thus contains five main chapters addressing:

- (1) the application of Articles 4, 5, 10, 15 and 17 of the Regulation,
- (2) the representation of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), consumer organisations and environmental and social stakeholders in national committees,
- (3) the representation of SMEs on the basis of the national committees, i.e. the CENELEC members' annual reports,
- (4) the use of ICT in the standardisation system
- (5) the cooperation between the national committees and European standardization organisations.

In addition to the requirements of Art 24 (1) of the Regulation, Art 3 of the Regulation requires transparency of the work programmes of the NCs. Consequently, Annex 3 of this report includes information on the annual work programmes of which in Art. 3 of Regulation 1025/2012.

Much of the data input for this report was gathered through an online survey sent to the members of CENELEC, i.e. the National Committees (NCs), during January 2025. All website links mentioned in this report were valid and active as per January 2025

## Art 24 (1 a) Application of articles 4, 5, 10, 15 and 17

### **Art 4: Transparency of standards**

Art 4 (1) Draft standards and deliverables upon request

Art 4 (2) Replies to and consideration of comments

Art 4 (3) Consultation with the ESOs and the EC

### **CENELEC**

Art 4 (1): CENELEC provides draft European standards or European standardization deliverables to the other ESOs (CEN and ETSI), or to the EC, or to the EFTA Secretariat on request. Moreover, the EC and EFTA Secretariat have permanent access to CENELEC's (draft) standards.

Art 4 (2): CENELEC replied to, and took due account of, all comments received from the other ESOs, the NCs, and EC/EFTA, as foreseen in CEN and CENELEC Internal Regulations.

Art 4 (3): CENELEC was not consulted on any national draft, as no comments were received in NCs in application of that article of the Regulation.

### **CENELEC National Committees**

The National Committees of CENELEC apply Art 4 of Regulation 1025/2012 as shown in the table below, as a way to guarantee transparency on the national draft standards. In addition, it should be noted that CENELEC members apply an additional notification process prior to starting national work, which is called the [Vilamoura procedure](#) [see Annex 3 Art 3 (6)] which not only increases transparency but also may derive national work to European (CENELEC) and International (IEC) levels when there is a wide interest on the topic.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Art 4 (1): National drafts requested	2 draft	---
Of which National drafts provided	1draft	50% of the drafts were available at the moment of being requested, and thus provided. Only one draft national standard was not provided because the project was in its initial phase and the draft was not available at the time of request
Art 4 (2): Comments received	1 comment	
Comments timely replied and taken into account	1	---

<b>Action</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Art 4 (3): Comments indicating that their draft standard would have a negative impact on the internal market	0 comment	---
Consultations of ESOs and EC before adopting the national drafts	N/A	---

Source: Data provided by NCs.

#### **Art 4 (4 - a) Access to draft national standards**

According to Art 4 (4 - a) of the Regulation, NCs shall ensure access to draft national standards in such a way that all relevant parties, in particular those established in other Member States, have the opportunity to submit comments.

All NCs make available draft national standards to all requesting parties and have put in place ways to receive comments.

Most of the NCs have decided to implement online commenting platforms. Another CENELEC member has planned to develop a similar platform.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Online platform available	27 platforms (79,4%)	Compared to last year, one NC more has an online platform
Online platform planned or under development	1 platform (2,9%)	1 NC with plans for online commenting platforms in 2025

Source: Data provided by NCs.

In addition, some CENELEC Members publicise the draft standards on the website and provide on request access to them, and receive comments, via e-mail or through a protected platform.

#### **Art 4 (4 - b): Involvement, active or passive, of other NCs**

According to Art 4 (4 - b) of the Regulation, NCs shall allow other NCs to be involved passively or actively, by sending an observer, in the planned activities.

All CENELEC members welcome the involvement, either active or passive, of other NCs in their planned national standardization activities. During 2024, the following number of delegations from NCs participated either actively (i.e. receiving documents and sending observers to the meetings) or passively (i.e. receiving documents and making comments by correspondence) in the committees of other NCs:

In 2024, we notice that the active involvement significantly increased.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Active involvement of another NC</b>	<b>Passive involvement of another NC</b>
Requests	22	4
Access rate	100%	100%

Source: Data provided by NCs. Some data provided does not distinguish between CENELEC and CEN.

CENELEC Guide 8 contains guidelines promoting the collaboration between the NCs. The guide is available at this link: [https://boss.cenelec.eu/media/Guides/CLC/8\\_cenelecguide8.pdf](https://boss.cenelec.eu/media/Guides/CLC/8_cenelecguide8.pdf)

### **Art 5 Stakeholder participation in European standardisation**

Art 5 of the Regulation addresses stakeholders' participation in European standardization. The first paragraph of the article focuses on the participation of the European stakeholder organizations mentioned in Annex III of the Regulation, i.e. organizations representing SMEs, consumers, environmental and social interests in standardization (the Annex III organizations). The second paragraph of article 5 of the Regulation takes into account other stakeholders such as market surveillance authorities in the Member States, research facilities of the EC, undertakings, research centres, universities and other legal entities.

#### **Art 5 (1) Participation of Annex III organizations in CENELEC**

Art 5 (1) of Regulation points out that the organizations recognized under Annex III have an important role to play in the representation of relevant stakeholders in European standardisation.

During 2024, CENELEC has encouraged and facilitated an appropriate representation and participation both at policy and technical level of the Annex III organizations, namely:

- European consumer voice in standardisation (ANEC)
- Environmental Coalition on Standards (ECOS)
- Small Business Standards (SBS)

This report will first lay out the participation in CENELEC at policy level and secondly the participation in CENELEC at technical level.

**At policy level**, ANEC, ECOS and SBS have access to the following Governing and Policy Groups and decisions:

- CENELEC General Assembly
- Reception of CENELEC AG decisions by correspondence
- CEN and CENELEC Joint Policy groups
- High level open meetings
- Other CENELEC or CEN-CENELEC Working Groups (WG), advisory groups, task forces, platforms and other groups dealing with issues having a political or corporate relevance, where such participation is envisaged in the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the group, or upon Chair invitation.

In addition, the 3 organizations are members of ad-hoc dedicated long-standing CEN-CENELEC working groups:

- ANEC and ECOS participate in the CEN-CENELEC **Societal Stakeholders Group** (SSG), that met on 9 April 2024;
- SBS participates in the CEN-CENELEC **Working Group for SME** (SME-WG), together with CEN and CENELEC members and other relevant SME European SME organisations (see also section 6.2). The meeting took place on 9 April 2024.

Both Groups are chaired by CENELEC Vice-President Policy and report to the CEN-CENELEC Presidential Committee as evidence of the relevance of these matters for CEN and CENELEC.

Furthermore, in 2024, in the framework of the EU Standardization Strategy, CEN and CENELEC continued work on the implementation of the Joint Action Plan with ANEC, ECOS, ETUC and SBS to address Annex III recommendations for inclusiveness. Some mid-term actions have been implemented by the responsible organizations and the remaining mid-to long-term actions were agreed to be continued in 2025 and beyond, in line with relevant HLF workstreams.

Other measures have been implemented in close cooperation with Annex III organizations to improve their participation and contribution to European standardization:

- **Opinion on (final) draft standards:** Since the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017, the Societal Stakeholder Organizations (SSOs) ANEC, ECOS and ETUC have the right to submit an Opinion on (final) draft standards during the enquiry and voting stage of the draft standard. The right of Opinion was also granted to SBS, by the CEN and CENELEC Administrative Boards during the annual meeting on 24-27 June 2024, to be applicable from 2 September 2024. The opinion, in addition to the already existing right to submit comments on a standard under development, gives the Annex III Organizations the opportunity to express their views on a given standard and its potential impact on society. CENELEC Technical Bodies are committed to consider this Opinion and to provide feedback to the submitter, and in particular for “not favourable” opinions. To be noted, that the Opinion mechanism is currently being digitalized.

In 2024, CENELEC received 37 Opinions: 26 favourable, 11 not favourable.

**At technical level**, representation and participation of Annex III organizations are encouraged in the following fields (as required in the Art 5 (1) lit. a - e):

- (a) The proposal and acceptance of new work items;
- (b) The technical discussion on proposals;
- (c) The submission of comments and opinions on draft and final draft standards;
- (d) The revision of existing European standards or European standardization deliverables;
- (e) The dissemination of information of, and awareness-building about, adopted European standards or European standardization deliverables.

The Annex III organizations complement at European level the participation of SMEs, consumers, environmental and social stakeholders, participating in the national delegations and/or in the mirror national committees and Working Groups (for details of this participation, please refer to the section on Art 24 (1 b) of the Regulation in this report).

Annex III organizations have access to all the stages of standards' development as prescribed above. They participate also as observers in the meetings of the CENELEC Technical Board general session and they receive all documents, both for the BT general session meetings and for the weekly dispatch by correspondence, as well as the compilation of decisions taken at BT Members-only session. They also have been granted observership in technical committees (TCs) and subcommittees (SCs), as well as participation in WGs. Through their particular partnership status, they have access and are encouraged to directly participate in all the above-mentioned stages.

In addition, the Annex III organizations have been granted online access to all European normative references, further facilitating their effective contribution to the standardization process.

During 2024, ANEC, ECOS and SBS received accesses to participate in the following technical bodies:

<b>Technical bodies</b>	<b>ANEC</b>	<b>ECOS</b>	<b>SBS</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>BT</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>AG</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>TC</b>	10	20	2
TC/SC/SR	1	3	/
TC/WG or TC/SC/WG	26	43	7
<b>CEN and CENELEC Joint TC*</b>	9	6	8
JTC/WGs*	21	15	8
Miscellaneous groups (Sector Fora, Coordination group, ad-hoc Groups, etc.)	4	5	1

\*Please note JTCs will be mentioned as a total in both the CEN report and the CLC report

## **Art 5 (2): Representation of other stakeholders in standardization**

Art 5 (2) of the Regulation states that the ESOs shall encourage and facilitate appropriate representation, at technical level, of undertakings, research centres, universities, and other legal entities in certain circumstances.

Representation at technical level can take place through CENELEC directly or through NCs. In the latter case, it should be noted that national delegations participating in CENELEC TCs or SCs are open to undertakings, research centres, universities and other legal entities. They can also participate by representation through experts in working groups in the corresponding NC.

At the level of CENELEC various ways of representation are illustrated hereinafter.

### **Research community and liaisons with CENELEC technical bodies**

CEN and CENELEC actively promote the concept of 'Project Liaison' to facilitate interaction between researchers and standardization communities. The liaison enables a research project representative to participate as an expert in the relevant meetings of the TCs and WG thus contributing to and being aware of the technical work.

During 2024, seven new project liaisons were started: AccessibleEU (CEN-CLC/JTC 11 'Accessibility in the built environment', CEN-CLC-ETSI/JTB 'eAccessibility', CEN-CLC/JTC 12 'Design for all'), CIRC-UIITS (CEN-CLC/JTC 23 'Digital Product Passport'), CircThread (CEN-CLC/JTC 23 'Digital Product Passport'), NebulOuS (CEN-CLC/JTC 13 'Cybersecurity and Data Protection'), OWASP (CEN-CLC/JTC 21/WG 5 'Joint standardization on Cybersecurity for AI systems').

### **Groups on research and innovation**

In 2024, CEN and CENELEC continued their close cooperation with EURAMET in contributing metrology research needs resulting from their standardization activities to the European Partnership on Metrology. All CEN and CENELEC Technical Committees were approached to inform on their metrology research needs. Selected research needs will be considered for calls for proposals to be published by EURAMET in 2025.

In preparation of calls for proposals to be launched in 2025, by the end of 2024, 19 needs were submitted to EURAMET as input to the European Metrology Partnership (EPM) - Regulation Call 2025. The needs for metrology research communicated to EURAMET in the context of our cooperation are presented on [Regulation Call 2025 S1](#).

### **CEN-CENELEC Research helpdesk**

The CEN-CENELEC Management Centre continued to maintain a dedicated helpdesk to support research projects in their interactions with standardization [Horizon Europe - CEN-CENELEC \(cencenelec.eu\)](#).

**Cooperation with the Joint Research Centre of the EC (JRC)**

The Putting-Science into Standards workshop, the annual foresight initiative in collaboration with JRC, took place on 18 March 2024 on “Molten Salt Reactors”. More information about the workshop can be found on [this page](#). Putting-Science-Into-Standards (PSIS) initiatives aims at bringing together stakeholders from research, industry and standardization community to facilitate the identification of emerging science and technology areas that could benefit from standardization activities to enable innovation and promote industrial competitiveness. The next PSIS workshop for 2025 is under discussion with JRC and shall be confirmed for Q3/Q4 2025.

**Art 10: Standardisation requests to ESOs**

In 2024, CENELEC accepted five standardization requests issued by the European Commission, all of which were also accepted by CEN.

As reported in the table below, CENELEC has provided to the EC a timely reply - within one month of receipt of the standardization request - in 100% of the cases as foreseen in Art. 10 (3) of Regulation 1025/2012.

Number	Title	Accepted	Within 1 month
M/571 Amd1	Personal Protective Equipment	Yes	Yes
M/575 Amd2	Medical devices in support of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 and in vitro diagnostic medical devices in support of Regulation (EU) 2017/746	Yes	Yes
M/579 Amd1	Performance, safety and sustainability requirements for batteries	Yes	Yes
M/601	Pressure equipment and assemblies in support of Directive 2014/68/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council	Yes	Yes
M/604	Digital Product Passport	Yes	Yes

It is to be noted that in compliance with EU Regulation 2022/2480, applicable as of 9 July 2023, the Standardization requests that were launched for BT(s) approval after that date (ie. from M/595), were all approved with both counts – EEA Members only and all Members – in line with Clause 6.4.4 of CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 2 (Clause 6 on 'Voting policy' of IR2 was adapted by CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards in May 2023 to ensure compliance with EU Regulation 2022/2480).

**SRAHG: an early consultation of relevant stakeholders for a timely reply to the European Commission**

Following a decision of CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards (BTs), for each draft Standardisation Request from the EC, an Ad-hoc Group (so-called SRAHG) is setup in order to ensure prompt coordination between, and input from, all relevant stakeholders including Technical Board Members, Partner Organizations, Liaisons as

well as other relevant parties, including ISO and IEC representatives. It allows the timely submission of CEN and/or CENELEC contribution to the European Commission and development of a consensus view about acceptance/refusal of a standardisation request for submission to the Technical Boards. Ultimately, it helps CEN and/or CENELEC to be in the position to provide a timely reply to the EC when the formal Standardization request is issued.

In 2024 the following Standardisation Request Ad Hoc Groups were created:

- 1) SRAHG 'Servers and data storage products 2' (January 2024)
- 2) SRAHG 'STRUBIAS\_BP\_HP' (May 2024)
- 3) SRAHG 'Wireless charging' (June 2024)
- 4) SRAHG 'Ecodesign – Offmodes' (June 2024)
- 5) SRAHG 'EU Trusted Data Framework' (June 2024)
- 6) SRAHG 'Methane Emissions' (September 2024)
- 7) SRAHG 'Rail System III' (September 2024)

### **Actions to improve processes for the standardization requests**

Following the setup in 2021 of the ESOs-EC Joint Task Force on 'Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market', a better way of working in the drafting of the SReqs has been agreed between the ESOs and the Commission and an ad-hoc SReq checklist has been introduced to identify and address all possible critical elements that could jeopardise the feasibility of the SReq (see paragraph 24.1(e)).

### **Art 15 and Art 17: Financing and financing arrangements**

The financing of European Standardization is governed by Chapter V of the Regulation (Art 15 to Art 19). While Art 15 itemises what actions may receive Union financing, Art 17 specifies how financing may be granted.

The following two tables show standardization activities for which Union financing was received in 2024 (Art 15 of the Regulation). At the same time, they provide an overview on the way of financing (Art 17 of the Regulation). The first table shows operating grant funding in the sense of Art 17 (2 - b) while the second table shows financing on the basis of grant agreements, so called grants for actions as stipulated in Art 17 (2 - a).

For the operating grants and grant agreements signed until 31 December 2020, the cooperation objectives, administrative and financial conditions applied were defined within the Framework Partnership Agreement 2014 signed between the EC and CEN, and EC and CENELEC on 24 June 2014, its first amendment of 25 August 2015 and the second amendment signed on 21 December 2020, as required by Art 17 (5) of the Regulation.

Since 1st January 2021, the operating grants are governed by a new Framework Partnership Agreement. The Operating Grant 2024 was signed between the EC and CEN, and EC and CENELEC on 28 April 2024.

The grant agreements are agreed under the Single Market Programme (SMP) Regulation.

The **Operating grants** are agreements that aim at supporting CEN and CENELEC as ESOs by providing co-financing on CCMC's total operational eligible costs for EC & EFTA). The Regulation refers to operating grants in Art 17 (2 - b).

Related to art. of the Regulation 1025	Type of agreement	# Proposals	Total amount submitted to EC/EFTA	# Contracts	Total amount committed by EC/EFTA	Amount available for National Standardisation Bodies/Committees	Amount available for CCMC operational costs	EC DG/Agency in charge	EC co-funding part	# National Standardisation Bodies/Committees involved
<b>OPERATING GRANTS</b>		1 CEN-CENELEC	€2.968.421	2	€2.968.421	€0	€2.968.421	GROW	€2.820.000	N/A
Art. 15 (1 d) & Art. 17 (2b)	CCMC operational costs	-	€2.968.421	-	€2.968.421	N/A	€2.968.421	-	€2.820.000	N/A

Table: Funding of Operating Grants - Source: CEN – CENELEC

**Grant agreements** are grants provided by the EC to support specific standardization related activities: the **translation grants** aim at co-financing the cost for translating standards into languages of the European Union other than the three official languages at CENELEC (English, French, German). The **action grants** aim at co-financing the development of some standards requested by the EC/EFTA and are referred to in Art 17 (2 - a) of the Regulation.

Since April 2021, DG GROW delegated the management of the grant agreements to the European Innovation Council and SME Executive Agency (EISMEA). The submission process of the proposals is tributed on the call for proposals launched by EISMEA.

Related to art. of the Regulation 1025	Type of agreement	# Proposals	Total amount submitted to EC/EFTA	# Contracts	# Contracts under Standardization requests	# Contracts not under Standardization requests	Total amount committed by EC/EFTA	Amount available for National Standardisation Bodies/Committees/Consultants	EC DG/Agency in charge	EC co-funding part	# National Standardisation Bodies/Committees involved
<b>GRANT AGREEMENTS</b>		10 CEN 5 CENELEC 2 CEN-CENELEC	€14.318.020	18 CEN 5 CENELEC 3 CEN-CENELEC	9	17	€22.365.772	€10.472.037	-	€21.645.960	
Art. 15 (1 a) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (normative work)	5 CEN	€1.488.345	9 CEN	5	4	€2.722.110	€2.722.110	DG GROW/EISMEA	€2.586.004	5
Art. 15 (1 c) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (prenormative work)	4 CEN	€1.985.222	6 CEN	2	4	€2.461.486	€2.461.486	DG GROW/EISMEA	€2.338.411	5
		3 CENELEC	€3.676.107	3 CENELEC	2	1	€3.676.107	€1.047.735	DG GROW/EISMEA	€3.492.302	6
		-	-	1 CEN-CENELEC	-	1	€2.999.999	€0	DG CNECT	€2.999.999	0
Art. 15 (1 e) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (translation of european standards)*	1 CEN	€498.567	1 CEN	-	1	€498.567	€498.567	DG GROW/EISMEA	€473.638	1
		2 CENELEC	€946.802	2 CENELEC	-	2	€946.802	€946.802	DG GROW/EISMEA	€899.462	1
Art. 15 (1 g) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (promotion of the European standardisation system)	-	-	2 CEN	-	2	€3.337.725	€0	DG GROW/EISMEA	€3.170.839	0
		2 CEN-CENELEC	€5.722.976	2 CEN-CENELEC	-	2	€5.722.976	€2.795.338	DG GROW/EISMEA	€5.685.304	12

\* Action grant only funded by EC

Table: Funding of Grant Agreements - Source: CEN - CENELEC

## Art 24 (1 b): Representation of SMEs, consumer organisations, environmental and social stakeholders in NCs

Art 24 (1 - b) of the Regulation requires detailed information on the representation of SMEs, consumer organizations, environmental and social stakeholders at national level. In analogy to information on their representation on the European level as required by Art 5 (see above), the following section distinguishes between participation in NCs at policy and technical level for each of the categories.

### Representation at policy level

The following table shows participation of the Art 24 (1 b) organisations in NCs at policy level. These figures cannot be taken as isolated data, as CENELEC members devote important resources to encourage and facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Stakeholder groups	Number of NCs where stakeholder groups are represented	Comparison with 2023
SME	<b>30</b> (88,2%)	(-1)
Consumer	<b>21</b> (61,8%)	(-1)
Environmental	<b>21</b> (61,8%)	(same)
Social	<b>18</b> (52,9%)	(-1)

Source: Data provided by NCs

There are several ways by which CENELEC National Committees promote and allow the participation of these stakeholder groups at policy level, for instance, participation in the General Assemblies, Administrative Board, Executive Boards, Board of Directors, and other Standing/Policy/Strategic Advisory committees. Some of these Policy or Strategic committees are generic (i.e. covering all stakeholder groups) or specialised (SMEs, consumer, environmental, social).

### Representation at technical level

During 2024, CENELEC members have been committed to facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of SMEs, Consumers, Environmental and Social interests in standardization in the different national (and/or mirror) committees.

Stakeholder Group	National technical bodies considered relevant for representation by NCs / total technical bodies	National technical bodies with interests represented / national technical bodies considered relevant for Stakeholder Groups by NCs
SME	67,1%	<b>72,4%</b>
Consumer	11,9%	<b>56,1%</b>
Environmental	8%	<b>43,3%</b>
Social	11,5%	<b>70,9%</b>

Source: Data provided by NCs.

## Art 24 (1 c) Representation of SMEs

### Art 6 (1): NCs to encourage and facilitate the access to standards

This section will first provide examples of activities, carried out by some NCs to promote access of SMEs. Subsequently, it will follow the structure of Art 6 (1) from a to f of the Regulation. It contains examples of good practices applied by CENELEC members. It

should be emphasised that the list of possible activities from a) to f) in Art 6 (1) is indicative.

### **Access to standards and standardisation:**

- Special licence fees for standards of interest to SMEs
- Edition of specific publications (e.g. guides) and publication of national standards with specific interest to SMEs
- Substantial reduction of the price of standards for all stakeholders compensated by higher number of standards' library subscriptions following SMEs' demand
- Packages of standards and online standards reading services at reduced prices for all (incl. SMEs)
- Incentive scheme for SMEs: grants provided for participation as national experts in Technical Committees
- Provision of targeted services (free or at a low price) to SMEs such as subscription to 'news on recently published standards' and online reading of standards.
- Ad-hoc section of NC website on *forthcoming standards* where every month information is published about important and popular draft standards, which are to be published in the coming months. Information is provided on the expected date of publication, the standard's scope, withdrawal of other related standards, responsible TC, etc.
- Free ad-hoc consultancy services to SMEs providing required clarifications or expert opinions on the application of particular standards. It facilitates SMEs in their understanding of the standards they work with, for which they get a support from internal and external experts.
- Translation of standards: some NCs translate many of the European standards into their national language(s). In some cases, international standards are also translated.
- Provision of on-site access to standards libraries which may contain published national, European, international and foreign standards and standardization documents.
- Some members delegate the secretariat of national committees to sector federations or associations, which draw together SMEs and other specific stakeholders, thus contributing to the dissemination of standards and promoting participation in their development.
- Establishment of a separate unit called 'The Innovation Lab' to investigate how barriers to participation in the standardization process can be eliminated.
- Annual agreement for a special subscription scheme with the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry where the beneficiaries are SMEs registered in the "Company Registry and Official Receiver".
- Upon request SMEs can use the organization's Vocational Training Center at special rates for their training or meeting needs.

- New SMEs campaign developed with the goal to inform SMEs which are not yet active in standardization committees about the economic advantages of standards.
- Development of a fast-track standard product with the National Specifications, that can be used to produce a standard product in a short lead time and within the quality requirements.
- Possibility for SMEs to become member of a national mirror committee by paying the 'committee fee'. Micro companies with less than 10 employees get a 50% reduction of the committee fee.
- Satisfaction survey launched to SMEs on available facilities
- Commission for SMEs initiating working groups for solving issues on different subjects (e.g. Monitoring tool, competence profile of SMEs experts, role of SMEs in standardization, facilitation of structures and processes for SMEs, European strategy, etc...)
- Technical committees scrutinized every quarter to look at the current participant and potential interested parties, including SMEs.
- Cooperation with Language council to facilitate the emergence of a common national language within the field of electronically engineering.
- Promotion of Student theses encouraging standardization process.
- Free participation of dedicated forum (electronic area, electrified transport infrastructure, etc...)
- Establishment of a new pricing model which entails reduced rates for micro-SMEs and independent entrepreneurs.
- Free membership in special cases to potential experts (students, pensioners, teachers, etc...)
- New Sales Policy established easing the accessibility to Standards
- New interactive forms developed to facilitate the formalities related to Technical committees membership
- Special label 'Appropriate for SMEs' indicated for every project on Website
- Providing access to standards for innovative SMEs
- Web portal to Access Harmonized standards
- Developing national standards following the recommendations of CEN-CENELEC Guide 17 on taking into consideration SMEs needs and specifics
- Agreements with Professional Associations, many of whose members are SME owners or employed in SMEs, to allow experts to access a number of standards free of charge.
- Guidance developed to help SMEs understand the relationship between different versions of standards.

**Dissemination of information:**

- Training module - free of charge sessions - developed for stakeholders interested in standardization (incl. SMEs) aiming at increasing their awareness of standards and standardization and encouraging their participation to the standardization process.
- Training (in cooperation with industry and associations): online seminars, conference, webinars, SME Helpdesks, special portals for SME, SME consultants, etc.

- Educational programme about Standardization activities, with dedicated module to raise awareness and attract participants (including SMEs) to standardization activities, and also CE marking, CEN, CENELEC, ISO and IEC activities
- Twinning seminar with NCs, Small Business Standards (SBS) and Chamber of Commerce
- Special events relevant for SMEs: innovation contests and awards for students, start-ups and scale-ups
- Debate sessions to present new standardization initiatives
- Workshops/events - free of charge - for new work items targeted to SMEs/Societal stakeholders
- Meetings, open to all stakeholders, to raise their awareness of ongoing work before processing standards drafts
- Participation and presentation in trade fairs on the voluntary standardization system and importance of participation of SMEs in standardization.
- Information meetings with entrepreneurs about the benefits of standardization
- Promotion in an ad-hoc section in websites of the video 'Standards, business tools for SMEs' (<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/success-stories-and-best-practices/> )
- Publications: monthly or quarterly newsletters, standardization reports, magazines, press releases, dedicated web sites and toolboxes, links on third party web sites, workshops, brochures, articles professional, social networks (Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, etc.)
- Special sections of NCs' newsletters dedicated to SMEs. These include novelties in standardization, present, popular, new and important standards and aim at attracting new participants to the standardization process
- Business information centre providing information in national languages and 'on the spot' information on published national, European and international standards and offering copies of all national and European standards
- Sector-specific information services on standardization projects
- Publication of a video made in collaboration with SBS (and also translated into national language) to promote the participation of SMEs in Standardization
- New website section related to 'Compliance with EU Regulation 1025/2012'
- Hybrid conference on 'Strengthening SMEs and crafts through standards'.
- Free Webinars and implementation tool kits were provided to support stakeholders with the implementation of specific standards.

### **Networking and building partnerships:**

- Commercial and institutional agreements (partnership/membership) signed with SME associations.
- Memorandum of Understanding with chambers of commerce, where SMEs are well represented
- SME contact person providing specific support
- Travel compensation by the NCs to participants coming from SMEs to facilitate access to technical committees.

- Signature of collaboration protocols with representative Trade Associations with a predominantly SMEs composition for the promotion and technical knowledge and for economic facilitations to the benefit of operators
- Organization of a young professional workshop aiming at raising awareness of Standardization
- Participation in the European SME week
- Participation of National SME associations and SBS in events
- Participation in SBS's "Meeting standards" campaign
- Memorandum of Understanding with Employers Union
- Standardization initiatives and information sessions are sent to National Confederation of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises to be distributed among its members.

#### **Sharing of best practices between members:**

- Participation of NSBs and NCs in the CEN-CENELEC SME Working Group
- Special cooperation agreements between NCs of different countries
- Joint workshops or working groups of NCs from different countries
- Staff visits to other NCs in view of further improving the standardization processes and IT tools
- Regional NC fora to exchange best practices
- Joint events organised by two or more NCs
- Memorandum of Understanding (and bilateral agreements) signed between some NCs for exchanging best practices (incl. an obligation related to SMEs).

#### **Art 6 (1 - a): Identifying, in their annual work programmes, the standardisation projects, which are of particular interests to SMEs;**

61,8% of the NCs identify standards projects which are of particular interest to SMEs in the following ways (a way does not exclude the others):

- 26,5% of the NCs identify the standards in their annual work programme;
- 38,2% identify them through their website;
- 26,5% identify them through dedicated mailings.

To be noted that some of the above NCs identify projects through a mix of the three means.

Some other interesting practices identified in one or several NCs:

- Sending of quality managers (and/or internal assessors) to the newly created CEN-CENELEC group 'Experts' feedback' to scout for best practices
- NC role dedicated ('Innovation broker') to raising awareness on the value of standardization for ensuring market acceptance of innovation products
- Participation in formalized fora with NCs at Technical Board (BT) and Administrative Board (CA) level
- NC meeting facilities offered to SMEs (and their associations) at a discount price
- Identifying potential SMEs and encouraging them to become active members of NCs
- Network of NCs, having either the same size, speaking the same language or from the same geographical area, to exchange best practices (e.g. European Forum for

Standards Distribution (EFSD), Baltic Standards Forum, Nordic Cooperation (NOREK), etc...)

- Exchange of practices during European Standards Organizations (ESOs) meetings, working groups or workshops
- Participation to ERASMUS+ and Horizon Europe programme, one of its aims being the exchange of best practices
- NC contact point responsible for answering queries from other NCs on how it interacts and engages with SMEs
- NC participation in funded (sectoral) study visits to other NCs
- Free participation to the standardization process and offer with the help of ANEC many free services in the field of standardization (incl. trainings, standards analysis, specific standards watch)
- Activity in the different strategic groups, projects, workings groups and task forces.
- Establishment of a new commenting system, providing facilities to submit comments for Published standards

#### **Art 6 (1 - b): Access without membership**

SMEs have access to NCs without obligation to become member of the NC in 33 NCs. Hereinafter follows a list of details in respect of SME access without membership.

- 79,4% provide direct participation in national technical committees
- 47,1% provide specific assistance to SMEs, while 100% has a contact point (e.g. SME helpdesk (<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/local-support-for-smes/>))
- 44,1% provide an online support
- 67,7% provide consultation of texts of standards
- 82,4% provide assistance for commenting on drafts

#### **Art 6 (1 - c): Free access or special rates in standardisation activities**

SMEs benefit from free access or access at a special rate to participate in standardization activities in the majority of NCs (91,2%). The following enumeration provides further details in this respect:

- 55,9% of NCs provide SMEs with free access to all standardization activities
- 46,1% provide SMEs with special rates for participating in national technical committees
- 26,5% provide SMEs with special rates for workshops
- 29,4% provide SMEs with special rates for attending training sessions
- 17,7% provide SMEs with special rates for the use of logistics (meeting rooms, promotional material, etc.)
- 50% provide SMEs with special rates to discount prices to members/subscribers (EN standards)

#### **Art 6 (1 - d): Free access to draft standards**

100% of CENELEC members offer free access to draft standards. More specifically (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 76,5% of NCs facilitate draft standards to be consulted at their premises (e.g. library)
- 82,4% of NCs provide online access to draft standards
- 17,7% of NCs send drafts by e-mail, or proactively send drafts to identified stakeholders for comments, or have different libraries all over the country to access drafts and other measures.

#### **Art 6 (1 - e): Abstracts of standards available free of charge**

100% of the NCs make available abstracts of standards free of charge. In particular (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 91,2% provide this access through their website
- 11,8% provide a link to the CENELEC website
- 23,5% provide it upon request by email
- 11,8% provide other access, such as through the standards database, through a web store or similar.

#### **Art 6 (1 - f): Special rates for standards or bundles at a reduced price**

73,5% of the NCs provide access to standards or bundles at a special rate and 1 Member (2,9%) is planning to provide this access during 2025. In more detail (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 58,8% provide the special rates for bundles, and/or
- 29,4% for the provision of standards.

#### **Art 6 (2): Exchange of best practices by NCs**

Art 6 (2) of the Regulation requires NCs to exchange best practices aiming to enhance the participation of SMEs in standardisation activities and to increase and facilitate the use of standards by SMEs. There are various forms of exchange of best practices and of increasing and/or facilitating the use of standards respectively. These are outlined hereinafter.

##### **SME Working Group (SME-WG)**

CEN and CENELEC national Members, together with Small Business Standards (SBS) as well as other SME-related European organisations and EC and EFTA representatives, participate in the CEN-CENELEC SME Working Group that serves as a forum for the exchange of information, national experiences and best practices to further support and encourage the participation of SMEs in the ESS. It aims at supporting the further participation of SMEs and their increased used of European standards.

In 2024, the SME-WG particularly focused on ensuring continuous exchanges on National and European activities about SMEs and inclusiveness, and provided support to SBS proposal to the High-Level Forum workstream via the input gathered by the SME-WG Ad-hoc group.

Other platforms: Several NSBs have dedicated forum, workshops or joint collaboration activities with other NSBs to exchange best practices that are often, but not exclusively, based on geographical or linguistic proximity. A kept-up-to-date inventory of all CEN and CENELEC Members' SME initiatives' is available on CEN-CENELEC website.

### **SME Helpdesks**

National SME Helpdesks are one-stop service points to introduce SMEs to the benefits of standardization and to the business tools required to access the European Standardization System. Each NSB member of CEN or CENELEC have set up a SME Helpdesk. Those local helpdesks provide support in their respective languages and tailored to the situation in the country. More information can be found on the CEN and CENELEC dedicated pages for SMEs at the following link:

<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/local-support-for-smes/>

### **SME Toolbox**

The CEN-CENELEC SME Toolbox of Solutions is available on the website <https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/tools-for-smes/>. The toolbox leads SMEs through a journey to better understand how using standards can benefit their business, how they can identify the standards relevant to them and how to get support from their national CENELEC member in order to shape the content of future standards.

### **Art 6 (3): NCs' Annual reports for SMEs**

Pursuant to Art 6 (3) of the Regulation NCs shall send annual reports to the ESOs regarding measures relating to SME's access to standards (including the aforementioned Art 6 (1) and Art 6 (2) of the Regulation). The NCs shall publish those reports on their websites.

The following table lists the CENELEC member's URL to these reports.

Organisation	Comments
AFNOR	<a href="https://www.francenormalisation.fr/gouvernance/comites-consultatifs/">https://www.francenormalisation.fr/gouvernance/comites-consultatifs/</a>
ASRO	<a href="https://www.asro.ro/en/smes-portal/">https://www.asro.ro/en/smes-portal/</a>
BDS	<a href="https://bds-bg.org/en/download/page-section/document/7731">https://bds-bg.org/en/download/page-section/document/7731</a>
BSI	<a href="https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/small-business/">https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/small-business/</a> - We are currently updating our website and the report link will change.
CEB-BEC	<a href="https://www.ceb-bec.be/files/Reg1025_Art-63_CEB-BEC_SME_Report_Jan2025.pdf">https://www.ceb-bec.be/files/Reg1025_Art-63_CEB-BEC_SME_Report_Jan2025.pdf</a>
CEI	<a href="https://static.ceinorme.it/ceinorme/RelazioneAttivita2023.pdf">https://static.ceinorme.it/ceinorme/RelazioneAttivita2023.pdf</a>
CYS	<a href="https://www.cys.org.cy/diakyvernisi-etairiki-ypefthynotita/">https://www.cys.org.cy/diakyvernisi-etairiki-ypefthynotita/</a>
DKE	<a href="http://www.dke.de/KMU">www.dke.de/KMU</a>
DS	<a href="https://www.ds.dk/da/om-standarder/hjaelp-til-smv-er-og-ivaerksaettere">https://www.ds.dk/da/om-standarder/hjaelp-til-smv-er-og-ivaerksaettere</a>
Electrosuisse	<a href="https://www.switec.info/de/wto-enquiry-point/kmu-portal/">https://www.switec.info/de/wto-enquiry-point/kmu-portal/</a>
ELOT	<a href="https://elot.gr/typopoiisi-kai-mikres-kai-mesaies-epiheiriseis-mme">https://elot.gr/typopoiisi-kai-mikres-kai-mesaies-epiheiriseis-mme</a>
EVS	<a href="https://www.evs.ee/images/uploaded/SME%20Raport%202024.pdf">https://www.evs.ee/images/uploaded/SME%20Raport%202024.pdf</a>
HZN	<a href="https://www.hzn.hr/en/report-on-hzn-s-activities-for-smes/497">https://www.hzn.hr/en/report-on-hzn-s-activities-for-smes/497</a>
ILNAS	<a href="https://portail-qualite.public.lu/content/dam/qualite/fr/publications/normes-normalisation/information-sensibilisation/activites-normalisation-pme/rapport-pme-v-1.pdf">https://portail-qualite.public.lu/content/dam/qualite/fr/publications/normes-normalisation/information-sensibilisation/activites-normalisation-pme/rapport-pme-v-1.pdf</a>

IPQ	<a href="https://www.ipq.pt/normalizacao/plano-de-normalizacao/">https://www.ipq.pt/normalizacao/plano-de-normalizacao/</a>
ISRM	<a href="https://isrm.gov.mk/en/small-and-medium-size-enterprises_p1117.html">https://isrm.gov.mk/en/small-and-medium-size-enterprises_p1117.html</a>
ISS	<a href="https://iss.rs/sr_Cyrl/download/page-section/document/17786">https://iss.rs/sr_Cyrl/download/page-section/document/17786</a>
IST	<a href="https://stadlar.is/taktu-thatt/">https://stadlar.is/taktu-thatt/</a>
LST	<a href="https://isd.lrv.lt/public/canonical/1735535259/635/MVI_ataskaita_u%C5%BE%202024%20m.pdf">https://isd.lrv.lt/public/canonical/1735535259/635/MVI_ataskaita_u%C5%BE%202024%20m.pdf</a>
LVS	<a href="https://www.lvs.lv/en/page?slug=work-programme">https://www.lvs.lv/en/page?slug=work-programme</a>
MCCAA	<a href="https://mccaa.org.mt/Section/Content?contentId=1274">https://mccaa.org.mt/Section/Content?contentId=1274</a>
MSZT	<a href="https://www.mszt.hu/hu-hu/szabvanyositas/informacio-kkv-knak">https://www.mszt.hu/hu-hu/szabvanyositas/informacio-kkv-knak</a>
NEC	Go to <a href="https://www.nen.nl/normontwikkeling">https://www.nen.nl/normontwikkeling</a> and scroll to the heading 'Het MKB & normontwikkeling' and then click on the words 'In dit jaarverslag'
NEK	<a href="https://www.nek.no/standarder/om-standarder/">https://www.nek.no/standarder/om-standarder/</a>
NSAI	<a href="https://www.nsa.ie/standards/supporting-standards/supporting-smes/">https://www.nsa.ie/standards/supporting-standards/supporting-smes/</a>
OVE	<a href="https://www.ove.at/medien-pr/jahresberichte/aktueller-jahresbericht/">https://www.ove.at/medien-pr/jahresberichte/aktueller-jahresbericht/</a>
PKN	<a href="https://www.pkn.pl/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/imce/files/Raport%20z%20dzia%C5%82alno%C5%9Bci%20PKN%20na%20rzecz%20M%C5%9AP.pdf">https://www.pkn.pl/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/imce/files/Raport%20z%20dzia%C5%82alno%C5%9Bci%20PKN%20na%20rzecz%20M%C5%9AP.pdf</a>
SEK	<a href="http://www.elstandard.se/smaforetag/">www.elstandard.se/smaforetag/</a>
SESKO	<a href="https://sesko.fi/en/getting-involved/sme-and-standards/">https://sesko.fi/en/getting-involved/sme-and-standards/</a>
SIST	<a href="https://www.sist.si/standardization/care-for-smes/current-news-for-smes">https://www.sist.si/standardization/care-for-smes/current-news-for-smes</a>
TSE	<a href="https://files.tse.org.tr//2024/12/2024-Yili-KOBI-Faaliyet-Raporu.docx">https://files.tse.org.tr//2024/12/2024-Yili-KOBI-Faaliyet-Raporu.docx</a>
UNE	<a href="https://www.une.org/normalizacion_documentos/Pymes_2020.pdf">https://www.une.org/normalizacion_documentos/Pymes_2020.pdf</a>
UNMS SR	<a href="https://www.unms.sk/stranka/139/zapojte-sa-a-spolupracujte/">https://www.unms.sk/stranka/139/zapojte-sa-a-spolupracujte/</a>
UNMZ	UNMZ's Annual Report - <a href="https://unmz.gov.cz/en/present/o-uradu/documents/news-about-office-activities/">https://unmz.gov.cz/en/present/o-uradu/documents/news-about-office-activities/</a>

Source: Data provided by NCs

## Art 24 (1 d) Use of IT tools in the standardization system

### Use of ICT tools by CENELEC: 2024 improvements

#### Harmonized Standards (HAS) – Data/documents exchange with the European Commission

The coordination with the European Commission services continued in 2024 and recurrent meetings took place to improve the exchange of data and documents with the European Commission (in the context of the future Commission's eNorm platform).

In 2023, an API was developed to provide an access to the CEN and CENELEC documents to the European Commission services.

In 2024, events API have been developed by CCMC to notify the European Commission services of the key stages (4 events in production) of a harmonized standard's development. In 2024, The Commission also developed an event aiming to help CCMC to set-up proper mapping between EC eNorms platform and related standardization projects in CCMC database.

#### Harmonized Standards (HAS) – Citation workflow

A workflow solution to allow CEN and CENELEC PMs to follow, check and validate the submission of a standards for publication in the Official Journal was developed and deployed in 2024. This new solution replaces email exchange and allows to better streamline this process.

## **New Work Item delegation**

In 2024, A new solution was set-up to allow the handling of CENELEC New Work item approval process end-to-end and as much as possible in an automated way. This process can be initiated directly by the TC secretary via a web application. It is integrated with a CCMC workflow for further check of the WI proposal and approval by relevant PM. When approve it will automatically generate the related ballot on our e-balloting application.

## **Bibliographic reference on web site**

In 2024, CEN-CENELEC implemented a solution to automatically extract the bibliographic references from the CEN and CENELEC homegrown standards and make them publically available on the CEN-CENELEC web site

Having a scientific publication referenced in a standard's bibliography proves the importance of this scientific publication for standardisation. Researchers can make use of the public availability of these bibliographies in support of their scientific careers. Such references further provide evidence to research funding organizations of the valorisation of the research outcomes enabled by those funds.

By providing access to the bibliographies, CEN and CENELEC also link with the Code of Practice (CoP) on standardization for researchers as adopted on 1 March 2023 by the European Commission (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/498) recommends to promote standardisation as a means of knowledge valorisation at national and regional level.

## **Use of ICT tools by NCs**

In addition to the text provided above and the data given in Art 4 (4 - a) Access to draft national standards, the data regarding of ICT tools is provided in the table below.

<b>IT Tool</b>	<b>Available</b>	<b>Planned</b>
Data management system	91,2%	2,9%
Experts management system	100,0%	-
Document management system	94,1%	-
Web sites	97,1%	-
Web store for standards	88,2%	5,9%

CENELEC members' websites are reported in Annex 2.

## **Art 24 (1 e): Cooperation between NCs and CENELEC**

Some examples of cooperation between CEN and NSBs have been already given under the previous paragraphs, for instance within the SRAHGs (see page 13) and in the SME-WG mentioned in Section Art.6 (2) of this report. Other examples are provided below:

### **Cooperation for the reporting on EU Regulation 1025/2012**

As in the preceding years, collaboration amongst national members and the CCMC for the present report is always very active. The 'RegRep Group', a group consisting of representatives of the CEN and CENELEC members, has continued meeting with active participation and contribution of the members, that have provided the required data for fulfilling the reporting requirements of the Regulation.

The last meeting took place on 1 December 2024 under the convenorship of the CENELEC Vice President Technical.

### **ESOs-EC Task Force on Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market (with EFTA participation)**

While the formal TF one-year later meeting was postponed due to the consequences of the ECJ case C-588/21 P, on 4 July 2024 CEN and CENELEC organised an operational meeting with DG Grow H.3 Standards Policy and ETSI to assess the progress of the implementation of the actions that were defined in the TF Action plan approved in 2023.

Consensus was found on the following achievements and gaps:

- Checklist for Standardization Requests: positive experience from the use of the checklist and agreement on systematic inclusion in all draft SReqs to be circulated for CoS final voting;
- Checklist for hEN assessment: positive and systematic use of the new checklist by both HAS consultants/EC and TCs/CCMC.
- ESO quality check (QC): CEN and CENELEC created an ad-hoc Team within CCMC, the 'Harmonized Standards Compliance' (HSC) unit, who performed so far more than 200 Quality checks. Increase of the % compliant assessment at Pre-FV stage is already visible in 2024 data.
- Innovative process: connected with the QC, CEN and CENELEC adopted
  - from October 2023 a brand new (innovative) process to deal with homegrown candidate harmonised standards
  - from March 2024 a new process when developing in parallel candidate harmonised standards with ISO and IEC
- Timeliness of EC assessments report: considering that the time for delivery of the assessment reports has been a major issue in the past months (after contract disruption), the Commission and its consultants have done significant progresses and are reaching the expected target of 35 days to deliver the reports.
- Timeliness of EC final assessment and citation: this appeared to be still a point for improvement for Commission's services since in general EC services do not systematically respect the '2 months + 1 week' period to provide the ESOs with the outcome of final EC assessment before citation, via a rejection/non rejection letter. CEN and CENELEC have started to systematically add a specific sentence in

the offering letter with the expected timeline for reaction from the EC and since Q1 2024 have started sending reminders to sectoral units with Grow.H3 in copy, with the expected deadline.

- Definition of a process for SR funding: this is still an open action.

### **BTWG 12 on European standards and the EU legislative framework**

CEN-CENELEC BTWG 12 was created by CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards to provide advice to both BTs on issues related to mandated work, i.e. harmonised-standards-related matters.

It has been the mirror group for CEN and CLC for the activities of the above-mentioned Task force. It held 5 meetings in 2024, during which representatives of NSBs/NCs were made aware of the figures related to the citation of standards, including main issues, and could put forward proposals for improvements in view of final BTs approval.

CCMC provided **19** trainings to the Technical Body Officers (TBOs) to support the development of harmonized Standards, with dedicated training material available on the respective CEN and CENELEC experts' sites. Notably, two seminars in support of harmonized standards were held in Brussels on 22/23 May 2024 ([European Harmonized Standards: A Journey from Legal Framework to Citation in the Official Journal of the European Union](#)), attracting over 500 attendees. As well, deep-dive webinars were given to Technical Bodies to explain the novelties brought by the above-mentioned innovative process. The year 2024 closed with the annual training for newly appointed TBOs in December, with the participation of 65 experts.

### **BTWG 14 Rules & Process**

During 2024, CEN-CLC/BTWG 14 'Rules & Processes', with an active participation of BT members of most NSBs/NCs, dedicated some time to the detailed definition of a new process for candidate harmonised standards when developed in parallel with ISO and IEC, based on the input of the ESOs-EC TF.

To be noted that CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards decided to merge BTWG 14 and BTWG 12 in a new body, which is called Technical governance group 1 (TGG 1), following the governance review exercise, and that will be active as of 1 January 2025.

### **Research, development and innovation**

Examples of cooperation between the national standardization bodies and European standardization organisations in the research and innovation sector are the following:

- The activities of **CEN-CENELEC BTWG 3 STAIR-** – Standardization, Innovation and Research (see also 5 (2)) that is composed of the interested CEN and CENELEC members and their national stakeholders, and representatives from the European Commission (DG RTD, DG CONNECT and DG JRC regularly attend the meetings) met on 22 March and 11 December in 2024. From 2025, following the CEN and CENELEC governance review, the Technical Boards have disbanded the BTWG 3 STAIR. A new Advisory Group for Research and Innovation activities will be established under the 'Board Standing Committee Strategy and Policy', to further reflect the priorities in this field in line with the CEN and CENELEC Strategy 2030.

- The sixth edition of the **CEN-CENELEC Standards+Innovation Awards** was presented as part of the event 'Driving EU Prosperity: The Future of Knowledge Valorisation' organized by the European Commission, DG RTD on 10 December 2024. The following winners have been announced: Project award to INKplant (ink-based hybrid multi-material fabrication of next-generation implants), nominated by UNE; Individual researcher/innovator award to ProfDr.med.univ. Kurt Zatloukal, nominated by DIN; Young researcher award to Maria Hartmann, nominated by ILNAS

### **CEN and CENELEC Governance Review Progress in 2024**

The CEN and CENELEC governance review activities initiated in early 2022, with the objective of improving the efficiency of the CEN and CENELEC governance.

To ensure full Member inclusion and awareness across the organisation, and to help secure the necessary endorsement, a series of workshops and information sessions were conducted, involving the Presidential Committee (PC), the Boards (formerly Administrative Boards - CAs), and Members. In addition to the Annual Meetings in June 2024, dedicated Member sessions were held on 17 January 2024, 21 May 2024, and 13 December 2024.

In 2024, the focus of the CEN and CENELEC governance review was on implementing the proposed changes to the statutory documentation, structured into three key areas:

- Approval of the revised CEN Statutes and CENELEC Statutes, which took place at the respective Extraordinary General Assembly meetings on 27 June 2024, with an entry into force on 1 January 2025;
- Approval of the revised version of the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations (Part 1A, Part 1B, Part 1C, and Part 2), conducted by correspondence by the respective General Assemblies on 12 December 2024, also taking effect on 1 January 2025;
- Organization of the transition period, ensuring a smooth adaptation of the new organisational structures, including the changes to the reporting lines, the establishment of new Board Standing Committees (BSCs), and the disbandment of former Advisory Bodies.

In addition to the establishment of five Boards Standing Committees: a) BSC on Eligibility and Governance, b) BSC on Finance, c) BSC on Business Innovation and Digital Transformation, d) BSC on Policy and Strategy, and e) BSC on Commercial Policy - the governance review also introduced key structural changes. Notably, an adjustment to the reporting line of the CENELEC Technical Board, so that both CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards report to the CEN and CENELEC Boards. The revised governance framework also reinforced the powers of the Boards, positioning them at the heart of governance, introduced a Board members Code of Conduct, and provided clarity on the role of the Deputy Director General.

### **Membership Relations & Monitoring Committee (MRMC)**

The Membership Relations and Monitoring Committee (MRMC) is a body established by the CEN and CENELEC General Assemblies (CEN AG Resolution 32/2012 and CENELEC AG52/32). The MRMC key responsibility is to manage the system of assessment of the membership criteria for CEN and CENELEC membership (in line with

EU Regulation 1025/2012), which are featured in the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 1D - and in Guide 22.

In January 2024 the MRMC meeting started the CEN-CENELEC Guide 22 review exercise with objective to revisit the assessment process of the Members' compliance with the criteria of the CEN and CENELEC membership. A webinar open to Members' internal assessors, peer assessors and Annex III organizations took place twice to exchange on the identified improvement areas and align expectations.

### **European Policy Hub (EPH)**

The informal CEN and CENELEC 'European Policy Hub' (**EPH**), started in October 2018 - bringing together standardization policy/ public affairs staff members of the NSBs and NCs for a regular exchange on shared European files. This group reports its activities to the CEN and CENELEC Policy Groups. EPH aims at promoting a flow of information that can facilitate efficient monitoring and engagement with current EU legislative initiatives, as well as supports targeted consultations of Partners and/or other stakeholders.

This combined effort for 'reactive policy outreach' is supported by the CEN and CENELEC Management Centre, exchanging with CEN and CENELEC Partners, European Institutions, and/or other stakeholders to target policy input on standardization issues. Throughout 2024, the EPH met on bi-weekly basis, online and twice in-person.

There were two main priorities for the EPH in 2024: The Evaluation of Regulation 1025/2012 and the new mandate of the European Institutions after the 2024 European elections. The EPH prepared the response to the questionnaire for the evaluation of Regulation 1025/2012 and a position paper expanding on CEN and CENELEC's answers to the questionnaire. This was alongside engagement directly with the consultancy carrying out the evaluation through bilateral stakeholder interviews.

The EPH worked on the publication of the CEN and CENELEC "Declaration and Call for Action for the Next Legislative Cycle", published in July 2024. This was followed by several promotional activities, using traditional media, social media, and events to share these messages. Beyond these priorities, CEN and CENELEC participated in a number of policy initiatives, such as providing input into the Enrico Letta Single Market report, speaking at various policy events and creating closer links with the Council of the European Union, through the Hungarian and Polish Presidency.

## Annex 1: List of abbreviations and acronyms

<b>ANEC</b>	<b>European Association for the Coordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (one of the Annex III organisations)</b>
<b>BRIDGIT</b>	Project: "Bridge the Gap between Research and Standardization"
<b>BT</b>	Bureau Technique, French for "Technical Board"
<b>CCMC</b>	CEN-CENELEC Management Centre
<b>CEN</b>	European Committee for Standardization
<b>CENELEC</b>	European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
<b>CIP</b>	Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (EC)
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>EFTA</b>	European Free Trade Association
<b>ECOS</b>	European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation (one of the Annex III organisations)
<b>EN</b>	European standard
<b>EPH</b>	European Policy Hub
<b>ESO</b>	European Standardization Organization
<b>ETSI</b>	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
<b>ETUC</b>	European Trade Union Confederation (one of the Annex III organisations)
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>ICT</b>	Information and communications technology
<b>IEC</b>	International Electrotechnical Commission
<b>ISO</b>	International Organization for Standardization
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>JIS</b>	Joint Initiative on Standardisation
<b>JRC</b>	Joint Research Centre (EC)
<b>MRMC</b>	Membership Review and Monitoring Committee
<b>NC</b>	National Committee (In CENELEC the national standardisation bodies in the sense of Art. 2 (10) of the Regulation are typically referred to as national committees.)
<b>NSB</b>	National Standardisation Body
<b>PC</b>	Presidential Committee
<b>PrEN</b>	Draft (preliminary) European standard
<b>RDI</b>	National contact for Research, Development and Innovation
<b>SBS</b>	Small Business Standards (one of the Annex III organisations)
<b>SC</b>	Sub-Committee
<b>SMEs</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>SSG</b>	CEN-CENELEC Societal Stakeholder Group
<b>TC</b>	Technical Committee
<b>ToR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>URL</b>	Uniform Resource Locator
<b>WG</b>	Working Group

Source: CENELEC

## Annex 2: CENELEC members' websites

<b>CENELEC NCs of EU Countries</b>	
<b>Austria</b>	OVE Austria Austrian Electrotechnical Association <a href="http://www.ove.at">www.ove.at</a>
<b>Belgium</b>	CEB-BEC Belgium Comité Electrotechnique Belge/Belgisch Elektrotechnisch Comité <a href="http://www.ceb-bec.be">www.ceb-bec.be</a>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	BDS (БИС) Bulgarian Institute for Standardization (BDS) / Български институт за стандартизация (БИС) <a href="http://www.bds-bg.org/en">http://www.bds-bg.org/en</a>
<b>Croatia</b>	HZN Croatian Standards Institute / Hrvatski zavod za norme <a href="http://www.hzn.hr">www.hzn.hr</a>
<b>Cyprus</b>	CYS Cyprus Organisation for Standardisation / Κυπριακός Οργανισμός Τυποποίησης <a href="https://www.cys.org.cy/en/">https://www.cys.org.cy/en/</a>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	ÚNMZ Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing / Úřad pro technickou normalizaci, metrologii a státní zkušebnictví <a href="http://www.unmz.cz/">http://www.unmz.cz/</a>
<b>Denmark</b>	DS Danish Standards Foundation / Fonden Dansk Standard <a href="http://www.ds.dk">www.ds.dk</a>
<b>Estonia</b>	EVS Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation / Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskus <a href="https://www.evs.ee/">https://www.evs.ee/</a>
<b>Finland</b>	SESKO Finland Finnish Electrotechnical Standards Association <a href="http://www.sesko.fi">www.sesko.fi</a>
<b>France</b>	AFNOR- Comité Electronique Français <a href="http://www.afnor.org">www.afnor.org</a>
<b>Germany</b>	DKE Germany German Commission for Electrical, Electronic and Information Technologies of DIN and VDE <a href="http://www.dke.de">www.dke.de</a>
<b>Greece</b>	ΕΣΥΠ/ΕΛΟΤ Hellenic organization for Standardisation (ELOT) / Εθνικό Σύστημα Υποδομών Ποιότητας/Αυτοτελής Λειτουργική Μονάδα Τυποποίησης ΕΛΟΤ <a href="http://www.elot.gr/">http://www.elot.gr/</a>
<b>Hungary</b>	MSZT Hungarian Standards Institution / Magyar Szabványügyi Testület <a href="http://www.mszt.hu">http://www.mszt.hu</a>
<b>Ireland</b>	NSAI National Standards Authority of Ireland <a href="http://www.nsai.ie/">http://www.nsai.ie/</a>
<b>Italy</b>	CEI Italy Comitato Elettrotecnico Italiano <a href="http://www.ceinorme.it/it">http://www.ceinorme.it/it</a>
<b>Latvia</b>	LVS Latvian Standard / Latvijas standarts <a href="https://www.lvs.lv/en">https://www.lvs.lv/en</a>
<b>Lithuania</b>	LST Lithuanian Standards Board/ Lietuvos standartizacijos departamentas <a href="https://lsd.lrv.lt/en/">https://lsd.lrv.lt/en/</a>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	ILNAS Luxembourg Institute of standardisation / Organisme luxembourgeois de normalisation <a href="https://portail-qualite.public.lu/fr.html">https://portail-qualite.public.lu/fr.html</a>
<b>Malta</b>	MCCAA The Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA) / L-Awtorita' ta' Malta għall-Kompetizzjoni u għall-Affarijiet tal-Konsumatur <a href="http://www.mccaa.org.mt/en/home">http://www.mccaa.org.mt/en/home</a>
<b>Netherlands</b>	NEC Royal Netherlands Electrotechnical Committee / Stichting Koninklijk Nederlands Elektrotechnisch Comité <a href="http://www.nen.nl">www.nen.nl</a>
<b>Poland</b>	PKN Polish Committee for Standardization / Polski Komitet Normalizacyjny <a href="http://www.pkn.pl/en">http://www.pkn.pl/en</a>
<b>Portugal</b>	IPQ Portuguese Institute for Quality / Instituto Português da Qualidade <a href="https://www.ipq.pt/">https://www.ipq.pt/</a>

<b>Romania</b>	ASRO Romanian Standards Association / Asociația de Standardizare din România <a href="http://www.asro.ro/">http://www.asro.ro/</a>
<b>Slovakia</b>	UNMS SR Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing / Úrad pre normalizáciu, metrológiu a skúšobníctvo Slovenskej republiky <a href="http://www.unms.sk/?home">http://www.unms.sk/?home</a>
<b>Slovenia</b>	SIST Slovenian Institute for Standardization / Slovenski inštitut za standardizacijo <a href="http://www.sist.si/index.php">http://www.sist.si/index.php</a>
<b>Spain</b>	UNE Spanish Association for Standardization / Asociación Española de Normalización <a href="http://www.une.org">www.une.org</a>
<b>Sweden</b>	SEK Svensk Elstandard <a href="http://www.elstandard.se">www.elstandard.se</a>
<b>CENELEC NCs of EFTA Countries</b>	
<b>Iceland</b>	IST Icelandic Standards / Staðlaráð Íslands <a href="https://www.stadlar.is/english">https://www.stadlar.is/english</a>
<b>Norway</b>	NEK Norway Norsk Elektroteknisk Komite <a href="http://www.nek.no">www.nek.no</a>
<b>Switzerland</b>	Electrosuisse Switzerland Association for Electrical Engineering, Power and Information Technologies <a href="http://www.electrosuisse.ch">www.electrosuisse.ch</a>
<b>CENELEC NCs of Countries outside EU and EFTA</b>	
<b>Republic of North Macedonia</b>	ISRSM Standardization Institute of the Republic of North Macedonia / Институт за стандардизација на Република Северна Македонија <a href="http://www.isrsm.gov.mk/">http://www.isrsm.gov.mk/</a>
<b>Serbia</b>	ISS Institute for Standardization of Serbia / Institut za standardizaciju Srbije <a href="http://www.iss.rs/en">http://www.iss.rs/en</a>
<b>Türkiye</b>	TSE Turkish Standards Institution / Türk Standardları Enstitüsü <a href="https://en.tse.org.tr/">https://en.tse.org.tr/</a>
<b>UK</b>	BSI British Standards Institution <a href="http://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/">http://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/</a>

Source: Data provided by NCs

## Annex 3: Transparency of work programmes

### Art 3 (1): Establishment of the work programme of CENELEC

Information about CENELEC draft standards and standardization deliverables is available online at the following link:

[CENELEC - Standards Evolution and Forecast](#)

This dynamic Work Programme is complemented by the annual publication giving an overview of the main standardization developments and strategic priority areas for 2025: <https://wp2025.cencenelec.eu/>

### Art 3 (2): Information indicated in the work programme

As required by Art 3 (2) of the Regulation the information included in CENELEC's work programme complies with the requirements of that article. It 1) includes the title of the matter designating the subject, it 2) specifies the stage attained and it 3) indicates the references of any international standards taken as a basis.



<b>CENELEC NCs of Countries outside EU and EFTA</b>		
Republic of North Macedonia	ISRSM	<a href="https://isrsm.gov.mk/en/download/file/page-section/554">https://isrsm.gov.mk/en/download/file/page-section/554</a>
Serbia	ISS	<a href="https://iss.rs/sr_Cyrl/download/page-section/document/15088">https://iss.rs/sr_Cyrl/download/page-section/document/15088</a>
Türkiye	TSE	<a href="https://intweb.tse.org.tr/Standard/Versiyon/IsProgrami.aspx">https://intweb.tse.org.tr/Standard/Versiyon/IsProgrami.aspx</a>
UK	BSI	<a href="https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/">https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/</a>

Source: Data provided by NCs

### **Art 3 (4): Notification to the ESOs, NCs and the European Commission**

Art 3 (4) of the Regulation requires that no later than the time of publication of its work programme, each ESO and national committee has to notify the existence thereof to the other ESOs and national committees and to the EC. In 2024, CENELEC and its Members complied with this requirement.

In this context the preceding scoreboard for the work programmes is relevant because it allows for an easy access to the NCs' work.

### **Art 3 (5): Primacy of work items at European level**

In 2024, no member of CENELEC has objected to a subject in their work programme being considered at European level. Hence, the members of CENELEC complied with the requirement of Art 3 (5) of the Regulation which effectively attributes a standstill effect to European standardization items at the national level.

The CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations contains information on who may initiate proposals for new work items at European level (see also <http://boss.cen.eu/reference%20material/Guidancedoc/Pages/TCNewWI.aspx>):

- the CENELEC Members;
- the CENELEC technical bodies;
- the EC or EFTA Secretariat;
- international organisations;
- European trade, professional, technical or scientific organisations.

### **Art 3 (6) Standstill entailed by work items at European level**

This clause of the Regulation prohibits NCs from taking actions that could prejudice the object and purpose of an intended harmonisation. After publication of a new harmonised standard, all conflicting national standards must be withdrawn. CENELEC has been promoting the concept of standstill for many years even before the existence of the Regulation. It is part of the CEN-CENELEC [Internal Regulations - Part 2](#). Considering that Art 3 (6) refers to the case when a harmonized standard exists, or is under preparation, CENELEC and its members have in fact a stricter policy regarding any action that could prejudice the existing or intended harmonization at European level.

**Additional voluntary requirement applied by CENELEC NCs**

For CENELEC, in addition to standstill, applies the "[Vilamoura notification procedure](#)", as an early detection mechanism of possible work items with potential interest for several national committees, or with potential interest to be transferred into the European standardization.