


Basic information	
2004/2125(INL) INL - Legislative initiative procedure Access to the institutions' texts Subject 1.20.05 Public access to information and documents, administrative practice	Procedure completed

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		CASHMAN Michael (PSE)	31/08/2004
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
	Legal Service			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
28/10/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/02/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
15/03/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0052/2006	
03/04/2006	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
04/04/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0122/2006	Summary
04/04/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
04/04/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2004/2125(INL)
Procedure type	INL - Legislative initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Request for legislative proposal
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 47
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/6/23161

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Amendments tabled in committee		PE367.699	12/01/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0052/2006	15/03/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0122/2006	04/04/2006	Summary

Access to the institutions' texts

2004/2125(INL) - 04/04/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted the own-initiative report by Michael **CASHMAN** (PES, UK) on access to the institutions' texts. The report was drawn up under an infrequently used procedure (Rule 39 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure) enabling Parliament to request the Commission to submit proposals for legislation.

The Parliament requests the Commission to submit to Parliament in 2006 a legislative proposal on 'the right of access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, and general principles and limits on grounds of public or private interest governing this right of access', a proposal to be prepared in inter-institutional discussions and which should follow the detailed recommendations set out in the summary dated 22/02/2006.

In addition, it confirms that these recommendations respect the principle of subsidiarity, the fundamental rights of citizens, the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights, particularly that on Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The financial implications of the requested proposal must be covered by the institutions' operating budgets as the rules on transparency are indissociable from those relating to the establishment, adoption and publication of the texts of which they are the authors or which are addressed to them.

Lastly, the European Parliament stresses that any new rules on access to documents should apply as from the date of the entry into force of the prospectively amended Regulation and should, therefore, have no retroactive effect.