

# Procedure file

## Basic information

REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure	<a href="#">1995/2219(REG)</a>	Procedure completed
EP Rules of procedure, rule 156.3: right of petition		
Subject 1.20.03 Right of petition		

## Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>REGL</b> Rules of Procedure, Verification of Credentials and Immunities	PSE <a href="#">EVANS Robert</a>	26/09/1995

## Key events

19/07/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	<a href="#">B4-0590/1995</a>	
20/09/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/05/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
26/05/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A4-0209/1998</a>	
16/07/1998	Debate in Parliament		
16/07/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0428/1998	Summary
16/07/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/09/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

## Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/2219(REG)
Procedure type	REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure
Procedure subtype	Rules
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 237-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	REGL/4/06934

## Documentation gateway

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Non-legislative basic document		<a href="#">B4-0590/1995</a>	19/07/1995	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A4-0209/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 210 06.07.1998, p. 0007</a>	26/05/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0428/1998 <a href="#">OJ C 292 21.09.1998, p. 0103-0115</a>	16/07/1998	EP	Summary

## EP Rules of procedure, rule 156.3: right of petition

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The committee adopted unopposed, with one abstention, the motion for a resolution concerning the right of petition and language use. The rapporteur, Mr Robert EVANS (PSE, UK), recalled that the two judicial institutions, the Court of First Instance and the Court of Justice, may authorise witnesses and experts to make their depositions in a language other than the official languages of the Union. On the basis of these provisions, it would be possible to conclude that the European Parliament may similarly authorise the use of a language other than the official languages for some of its activities. As regards a petitioner's right to make use of this option when petitioning the European Parliament, the committee has amended Rule 156(3) of the Rules of Procedure so as to allow citizens who are members of linguistic minorities to submit petitions in their mother tongue; however, if they do so they must enclose a translation or a summary of contents in an official language, but this translation or summary does not necessarily need to be produced by an official authority or any other body that makes a charge for its services. In its correspondence with the petitioner, Parliament will be required to use the official language in which the documents in question have been drawn up, which will enable Parliament to comply with Article 3 of Council Regulation No 1 (governing the languages of the institutions of the Union) and enable the petitioner to make use of the same person or agency that helped him with the translation or summary of contents of the petition in the chosen official language.?

## EP Rules of procedure, rule 156.3: right of petition

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In adopting the report by Mr Robert EVANS (PSE, UK) Parliament amended Rule 156 of its Rules of Procedure. This Rule sets out the conditions which must be met for submission of a petition to the European Parliament. The amendments seek only to provide additional details on language so that petitions written in any other language than the official languages of the Union will be considered only where the petitioner has attached a translation or summary in an official language of the European Union, which will form the basis of Parliament's work. In its correspondence with the petitioner Parliament will employ the official language in which the translation or summary is drawn up. ?