


Procedure file

| Basic information | |
|--|----------------|
| REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure | 1999/2031(REG) |
| Procedure completed | |
| EP Rules of procedure, annex V: procedure for the consideration and adoption on the giving of the discharge | |
| Subject 8.40.01.08 Business of Parliament, procedure, sittings, rules of procedure 8.70.03.01 Basic texts on discharge | |

| Key players | | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------|
| European Parliament | Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
| | REGL Rules of Procedure, Verification of Credentials and Immunities | | 19/01/1999 |
| | | PSE FAYOT Ben | |
| | Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
| | CONT Budgetary Control | | 16/03/1999 |
| | | ELDR KJER HANSEN Eva | |

| Key events | | | |
|------------|--|---|---------|
| 02/04/1999 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 20/04/1999 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 20/04/1999 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A4-0216/1999 | |
| 03/05/1999 | Debate in Parliament |  | |
| 04/05/1999 | Decision by Parliament | T4-0380/1999 | Summary |
| 04/05/1999 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 01/10/1999 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

| Technical information | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Procedure reference | 1999/2031(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/4/10876 |

| Documentation gateway | | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------|----|---------|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A4-0216/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0006 | 20/04/1999 | EP | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T4-0380/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0024-0101 | 04/05/1999 | EP | Summary |

EP Rules of procedure, annex V: procedure for the consideration and adoption on the giving of the discharge

The Committee has unanimously adopted Mr Fayot's report on an amendment to Annex V of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (governing the procedure for the consideration and adoption of a decision on giving a budget discharge). In order to complete the budget procedure and allow a discharge to be given for subsequent years, the committee responsible is allowed to use the procedure of "the closure of the accounts" of all the Community's revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities. If the proposal to close the accounts is not adopted in plenary, the report is referred back to the committee responsible. The discharge can be postponed for either technical or political reasons. In order to distinguish between the procedures applicable in each case, and to bring it more into line with Article 89 of the Financial Regulation, the procedure for postponing the discharge has been altered. Now, if there is a technical reason for deferring the discharge, the committee responsible may table a motion for a resolution postponing the decision for a discharge or else instruct the President of Parliament to inform the Commission of the reasons for the postponement. Should Parliament postpone its decision on giving a discharge, the Commission must make every effort to take measures, as soon as possible, to facilitate removal of any obstacles to that decision. The procedure for refusing the discharge has also been amended. Parliament now has to decide on any proposals for such a decision by a majority of votes cast in plenary (pursuant to Article 141 of the EC Treaty) and not by an absolute majority (314 votes). This change meets an immediate need: it enables the 1996 discharge procedure to be completed. It was therefore decided that all the changes will enter into force immediately. To amend an annex to the Rules of Procedure, only a simple majority is needed. ?

EP Rules of procedure, annex V: procedure for the consideration and adoption on the giving of the discharge

The European Parliament adopted the decision by Ben Fayot (PSE,LU) amending Annex V of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, with a view to clarifying the procedure with regard to granting or refusing to grant discharge. Henceforth, the relevant committee within the Parliament will draw up a report comprising: - a proposal for a decision granting or refusing to grant discharge; - a proposal for a decision closing the accounts of all the Community's revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities; - a motion for a resolution containing the comments accompanying the discharge decision including both an assessment of the Commission's budgetary management over the financial year and observations relating to the implementation of expenditure for the future. The relevant committee may also submit a proposal for a resolution to postpone the discharge. The Parliament will decide on these proposals for a decision by a majority of votes cast.?