


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2000/2042(INI)	Procedure completed
Committee on petitions. Annual report 1999-2000		
Subject 1.20.03 Right of petition 8.40.01.06 Committees, interparliamentary delegations		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PETI Petitions	V/ALE LAMBERT Jean	23/02/2000

Key events			
18/02/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/06/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
06/06/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0162/2000	
06/07/2000	Debate in Parliament		
06/07/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0343/2000	Summary
06/07/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/04/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2042(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 227-p7; Rules of Procedure EP P.F.
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/5/12377

Documentation gateway				
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0162/2000 OJ C 121 24.04.2001, p. 0007	06/06/2000	EP

Committee on petitions. Annual report 1999-2000

The committee adopted the report by Jean LAMBERT (Greens/EFA, UK) on the committee's activities for 1999-2000. This period was every bit as busy for the committee as the previous year, a trend which it believed bolstered its role within the institutions and put it in a good position to ensure transparency in the implementation of Community law. The report called for more resources to be made available to deal with the petitions received (around 500 of those submitted were deemed admissible and subsequently processed). It also urged various key players to improve their approach to petitions: the Council was invited to attend meetings of the committee and Member State governments were requested to respond more promptly to questions so as not to hold up the process. In an effort to maintain its role as a link between the public and the EU institutions, the committee planned, in line with the report's conclusions, to submit proposals to Parliament in the near future to enable it to work more effectively. Among the ideas it envisaged would be closer cooperation with the other parliamentary committees.

Committee on petitions. Annual report 1999-2000

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mrs Jean LAMBERT (Green/EFA, UK) on the work of the Petitions Committee during the year 1999/2000. The resolution reaffirms the importance of the committee in exercising scrutiny over EU and national and regional bodies concerned with the application of the EU law. The petitions submitted offer an insight into the difficulties faced by citizens with European and national administrations, illustrating quite often inappropriate use of discretionary powers in decision taking, and bureaucratic behaviour which alienates citizens. The positive response of the Commission is emphasised but Parliament also wants to see a more active role played by Council and see a reduction in time delays in dealing with petitions. Moreover, the Parliament calls for a modernised database as well as the use of the Internet in order for petitions to be filed more easily. It also wants to see twice-yearly meetings with corresponding committees in the Member States and there is a call on the Petitions Committee to maintain close contacts with Commissioners. The resolution approves the proposal for the committee to draw up two initiative reports on the main topics of petitions i.e. social security, environmental and consumer protection, freedom and movement and recognition of diplomas and other relevant subjects of Community law. The resolution supports the idea of providing travel expenses for petitioners called to present petitions to the committee.?