


Procedure file

Basic information	
REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure	2003/2205(REG)
Procedure completed	
EP Rules of Procedure: statute and financing of political parties at European level	
Subject 8.40.01.02 President, members, mandates, political groups 8.40.01.08 Business of Parliament, procedure, sittings, rules of procedure	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFCO Constitutional Affairs	PPE-DE DIMITRAKOPOULOS Giorgos	25/11/2003

Key events			
20/11/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/02/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
17/02/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0071/2004	
08/03/2004	Debate in Parliament		
09/03/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0144/2004	Summary
09/03/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/2205(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	AFCO/5/20302

Documentation gateway				
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0071/2004	17/02/2004	EP

EP Rules of Procedure: statute and financing of political parties at European level

The committee adopted the report by Giorgos DIMITRAKOPOULOS (EPP-ED, GR) on amending the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure following adoption of the Regulation governing the statute and financing of European political parties. It proposed giving power to Parliament's Bureau to lay down the implementing rules relating to that Regulation. MEPs argued that the Bureau should be responsible for most of the tasks to be performed in connection with the operation of the funding system, since it is the body responsible for financial and administrative matters concerning Members and the internal organisation of Parliament. They also specified that the President should represent Parliament in its relations with political parties at European level, given that the Rules of Procedure stipulate that the President directs all of Parliament's activities and represents it in administrative and financial matters. Applications for funding should therefore be submitted to the President, who will sign any agreement between Parliament and the beneficiary. ?

EP Rules of Procedure: statute and financing of political parties at European level

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Giorgos DIMITRAKOPOULOS (EPP-ED, GR) on the financing of political parties. (Please see the document dated 17/02/04.) The task of settling any administrative issues connected with the running of the funding system is conferred upon the Bureau. In carrying out its tasks the Bureau should be assisted by the secretariat staff under the direction of the Secretary-General. A new rule states that where Parliament - following verification - establishes that a political party at European level has ceased to observe the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, the Bureau shall decide that that political party shall be excluded from funding. Another new rule sets out the powers and responsibilities of the committee responsible and of Parliament's plenary. At the request of one-quarter of Parliament's Members representing at least three political groups, the President, following an exchange of views within the Conference of Presidents, shall call upon the committee responsible to verify whether or not a political party at European level is continuing to observe the above-mentioned principles. Before submitting a proposal for a decision to Parliament, the committee responsible will hear the representatives of the political party concerned and it must ask for and consider the opinion of a committee of independent eminent persons. Parliament will vote (by a majority of the votes cast) on the proposal for a decision establishing that the political party concerned either does or does not observe the principles. If the proposal for a decision does not secure a majority, a decision to the contrary will be deemed to have been adopted. Finally, the President will represent Parliament on the committee of independent eminent persons.?