



# Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision	Procedure completed
European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States	
Amending Decision 1419/1999/EC <a href="#">1997/0290(COD)</a>	
Subject 4.45.02 Cultural programmes and actions, assistance 8.20.02 Enlargement 2004: new Member States	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>CULT</b> Culture and Education		13/09/2004
		PSE <a href="#">PRETS Christa</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
Council of the European Union	<b>CULT</b> Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport		26/11/2003
		PSE <a href="#">ROCARD Michel</a>	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN</a>	<a href="#">2612</a>	21/10/2004
European Commission	<a href="#">Education, Youth, Culture and Sport</a>	<a href="#">2585</a>	27/05/2004
	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	<a href="#">Education, Youth, Sport and Culture</a>		

Key events			
17/11/2003	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2003)0700</a>	Summary
20/11/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
15/03/2004	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
15/03/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	<a href="#">A5-0148/2004</a>	
30/03/2004	Debate in Parliament		Summary
21/04/2004	Debate in Parliament		
22/04/2004	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	<a href="#">T5-0361/2004</a>	Summary

21/10/2004	Council position published	<a href="#">12029/1/2004</a>	Summary
28/10/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
01/02/2005	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
03/02/2005	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A6-0017/2005</a>	
22/02/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
22/02/2005	Debate in Parliament		
22/02/2005	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	<a href="#">T6-0031/2005</a>	Summary
13/04/2005	Final act signed		
13/04/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/04/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		

## Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/0274(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
	Amending Decision 1419/1999/EC <a href="#">1997/0290(COD)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 151-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/6/24549

## Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(2003)0700</a>	17/11/2003	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0148/2004</a>	15/03/2004	EP	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		<a href="#">CDR0393/2003</a> <a href="#">OJ C 121 30.04.2004, p. 0015-0017</a>	21/04/2004	CofR	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0361/2004</a> <a href="#">OJ C 104 30.04.2004, p. 0745-0956 E</a>	22/04/2004	EP	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">13070/2004</a>	13/10/2004	CSL	
Council position		<a href="#">12029/1/2004</a> OJ C 025 01.02.2005, p. 0041-0043 E	21/10/2004	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position		<a href="#">COM(2004)0706</a>	22/10/2004	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		<a href="#">A6-0017/2005</a>	03/02/2005	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		<a href="#">T6-0031/2005</a>	22/02/2005	EP	Summary

		<a href="#">OJ C 304 01.12.2005, p. 0019-0113 E</a>			
Draft final act		<a href="#">03608/2005</a>	13/04/2005	CSL	
Additional information					
European Commission		<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>			
Final act					
<a href="#">Decision 2005/649</a> <a href="#">OJ L 117 04.05.2005, p. 0020-0021</a>		Summary			

## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

PURPOSE : to amend the list that determines for each year from 2005 to 2019 the Member State eligible to nominate a city to host the Cultural Capital event for that year, out of the current Member States. PROPOSED ACT : Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council. CONTENT : designed to bring European peoples closer, the European City of Culture was launched in June 1985. The European Cities of Culture up to 2004 have been selected on an intergovernmental basis. The Member States unanimously selected cities worthy of hosting the event, and the European Commission awarded a grant each year to the city selected. Decision 1419/1999/EC, of 25 May 1999, adopted on the basis of Article 151 of the EC treaty, amended the procedure for selecting the successful cities from 2005 onwards, to be known as "European Capitals of Culture". Henceforth, the European Capital of Culture will be decided each year by the Council on a Commission recommendation, which will take into account the view of a jury comprising 7 prominent independent members, each of them experts in the culture sector. The selection will be based on criteria laid down in the above Decision (please refer to COD/1997/0290). Annex I of Decision 1419/199/EC contains a chronological list that determines for each year from 2005 to 2019 the Member State eligible to nominate a city to host the Cultural Capital event for that year, out of the current Member States. Article 2 of this Decision states that this chronological order may be modified by mutual agreement between the Member States concerned. Such an agreement was reached by Greece and the Netherlands, who exchanged their positions (2006 now being the year during which a Greek city will be European Capital of Culture, and 2018 for the capital of the Netherlands) as the Culture/Audiovisual Council noted during its meeting on 28 May 1998. In accordance with Article 6 of Decision 1419/1999/EC, the Commission may make proposals for revisions of the decision, specifically to adapt it to the enlargements of the European Union. This is the purpose of this Commission proposal. Given the symbolic importance and repercussions of the "European Capital of Culture" event and the interest expressed by the new Member States in this action, there would seem to be a need for them to be able to participate without having to wait for an update to Decision 1419/1999/EC establishing a new chronological order for the Member States from 2020 onwards. Moreover, it is important that no changes be made to the existing order for nominations from Member States, because preparations for these nominations and then for the European Capitals of Culture projects can take several years. Under Article 2 of Decision 1419/1999/EC, States must submit these nominations no later than four years before the event in question is due to begin. This proposal is thus intended to establish a new system appointing two Member States eligible to submit nominations each year, so that each one could host a European capital. Each year, two capitals could therefore be nominated within the European Union in accordance of Article 2 of Decision 1419/1999/EC, in addition, potentially, to a capital in a third European Country (Article 4 of the Decision). It should be noted that Article 5 of Decision 1419/1999/EC states that a linkage between the programmes of the designated cities of the same year should be made. This proposed amendment was prepared with the full cooperation of the Member States and the accession countries, which were able to express their preferences during an informal consultation exercise launched by the Commission among the new States during 2003. The other European institutions concerned were also able to express their support for the principle of such an amendment. The Commission therefore proposes to amend Article 2(1) and Annex I of Decision 1419/1999/EC in order to complete the chronological order and establish a system whereby two cities in Member States can be designated European Capitals of Culture each year. The proposed order shall be as follows : - 2005 Ireland - 2006 Greece - 2007 Luxembourg - 2008 United Kingdom - 2009 Austria/Lithuania - 2010 Germany/Hungary - 2011 Finland/Estonia - 2012 Portugal/Slovenia - 2013 France/Slovakia - 2014 Sweden/Latvia - 2015 Belgium/Czech Republic - 2016 Spain/Poland - 2017 Denmark/Cyprus - 2018 Netherlands/Malta - 2019 Italy.?

## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

The committee adopted the report by Michel ROCARD (PES, F) broadly approving the proposal under the 1st reading of the codecision procedure, subject to a few amendments calling for adequate funding for the 'two capitals' approach, and for each Member State concerned to nominate at least two cities, so there is some competition. ?

## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

The examination of the report by Mr Michel ROCARD (PES, F) on the European Capitals of Culture has been postponed until the plenary session of 19 to 22 April 2004 in Strasbourg.?

## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

The European Parliament adopted by 309 votes for, 132 against and 35 abstentions, the report by Michel ROCARD (PES, F) on amending Decision 1419/1999/EC establishing a Community action for the 'European Capital of Culture' event for the years 2005 to 2019. The Parliament accepts the recommendations made by its committee responsible as well as additional amendments concerning the following issues : - account should be taken of the of the financial consequences of this decision in such a way as to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate European Community funding for the designation of two 'European Capitals of Culture'; - from 2010 onwards, the Commission shall each year from a selection panel which shall issue a report on the nominations judged against the periods, objectives and characteristics of this action. The selection panel shall be composed of 7 leading independent figures who are experts on the cultural sector, of whom 2 shall be appointed by the European Parliament, 2 by the Council, 2 by the Commission and 1 by the Committee of the Regions. In each case, the selection panel shall check the quality of the nomination, the European dimension of the programme and the viability of the structures for implementation of the proposed project. The selection panel shall submit its report to the Commission, the European Parliament and the Council; - the Council, acting on a recommendation from the Commission, shall officially designate the city in question as 'European Capital of Culture' for the year for which it has been nominated. From 2009 onwards, the European Parliament may forward an opinion to the Commission on the nominations not later than three months after receipt of the report. The Council, acting on a recommendation from the Commission drawn up in the light of the opinion of the European Parliament and of the selection panel's report, shall officially designate the cities in question as 'European Capital of Culture' for the year for which they have been nominated; - each year the Commission shall produce a report evaluating the results of the previous year's event, including an analysis by the organisers of the latter. This report shall be presented to the European Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions. The Commission shall also in good time make any proposals for revision of this Decision which it judges necessary for the smooth operation of this action and, in particular, with a view to the future enlargement of the European Union.?

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## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

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The Council endorsed in full the amendment proposed by the Parliament and accepted by the Commission which introduces a recital on adjusting the budget to allow for the fact that there will be two capitals per year. The Council, like the Commission, considered that the other amendments tabled went beyond the scope of the proposal and did not regard it as appropriate to incorporate them. Lastly, it considers that its common position is balanced and fully in line with the main objective of the Commission's proposal, thereby facilitating the participation of the new Member States in the European Capital of Culture event as soon as possible.

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## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

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The Commission's amended proposal has been unanimously adopted by the Council, therefore, the Commission considers that the Council's common position is acceptable.

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## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

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The committee adopted the report by Christa PRETS (PES, AT) approving the Council's common position unamended under the 2nd reading of the codecision procedure.

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## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

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The European Parliament adopted the report by Christa PRETS (PES, AT) on the Council common position for adopting a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision 1419/1999/EC establishing a Community action for the 'European Capital of Culture' event for the years 2005 to 2019. The Parliament has approved without amendment the Council's common position listing the countries which will be asked to put forward a candidate for the period 2005 to 2019.

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## European Capital of Culture for the years 2005 to 2019: participation of the new Member States

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**PURPOSE:** To amend the list that determines for each year from 2005 to 2019 the Member State eligible to nominate a city to host the Cultural Capital event for that year, out of the current Member States.

**LEGISLATIVE ACT:** Decision 649/2005 (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council.

**CONTENT:** The Council reached a political agreement on a draft European Parliament and Council Decision adapting Decision 1419/1999/EC on the European Capital of Culture event, in order to enable the participation of the EU's ten new Member States.

Decision 1419/1999/EC contains a chronological list that determines for each year, from 2005 to 2019, the Member State eligible to nominate a city to host the European Capital of Culture event.

The Decision completes the existing chronological order by adding for each year, from 2009 to 2019, one of the new Member States, under a new system with two Member States eligible each year. From 2009 onwards, one city of each of the Member States appearing on the list will be eligible for designation.

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 24/05/2005.