



Procedure file

Basic information	
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2004/2090(INI) Procedure completed
Deliberations of the Committee of petitions in 2003 and 2004	
Subject 1.20.03 Right of petition 8.40.01.06 Committees, interparliamentary delegations	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PETI Petitions	PPE-DE WIELAND Rainer	01/09/2004

Key events			
28/10/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/01/2005	Vote in committee		Summary
11/02/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0040/2005	
08/03/2005	Debate in Parliament		
09/03/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
09/03/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0068/2005	Summary
09/03/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2004/2090(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 227-p7
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/6/22626

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0040/2005	11/02/2005	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0068/2005	09/03/2005	EP	Summary

		OJ C 320 15.12.2005, p. 0072-0161 E		
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2005)1475	06/04/2005	EC
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2005)1714/2	07/06/2005	EC

Deliberations of the Committee of petitions in 2003 and 2004

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Rainer WIELAND (EPP-ED , DE) on the work of the Petitions Committee 2003-2004. The report reaffirmed that this committee was "one of the most important bodies within the European Parliament for the exercise of parliamentary scrutiny over the EU institutions as well as national, regional, local and social authorities, thereby improving transparency and awareness of the actions of the European Union as they relate to the European citizen".

The committee underlined the constructive role played by the Commission in the consideration of petitions, but it felt that cooperation with the Council needed to be improved. MEPs suggested that the Council set a 3-month deadline for all Member States' government departments and agencies to make a detailed response to the Petitions Committee and the petitioner(s), and that a similar deadline should be set for the Commission to respond. They also wanted the Commission to indicate in its annual report on the application of Community law those cases where infringement procedures had been initiated as a result of Parliament's involvement following the submission of petitions by European citizens.

Finally, the report called for measures to ensure that citizens of the new Member States become more aware of their rights to petition Parliament under Article 194 of the EC Treaty on matters coming within the EU's fields of activity which concern them directly, and to submit complaints to the Ombudsman under Article 195 of the EC Treaty when there are allegations of maladministration within the EU institutions or bodies. And those national parliaments which had not yet done so were urged to develop national committees on petitions to work where necessary with the EP Petitions Committee.

Deliberations of the Committee of petitions in 2003 and 2004

The European Parliament adopted the own-initiative report by Rainer WIELAND (EPP-ED,DE) on the work of the Petitions Committee 2003-2004 which reaffirms that the Committee on Petitions is one of the most important bodies within the European Parliament for the exercise of parliamentary scrutiny over the EU institutions as well as national, regional, local and social authorities, thereby improving transparency and awareness of the actions of the European Union as they relate to the European citizen. (Please refer to the summary dated 17/01/2005).

In addition, the Council and the Commission are called upon to review the 1989 Interinstitutional Agreement with the European Parliament, with a view to affording petitioners a more effective means of redress and defining a clear and coherent framework for essential cooperation between the institutions in the area concerned.

Parliament is of the opinion that a Standing Working Group should be set up to improve and to monitor permanently the processing of petitions submitted to the European Parliament.