

Procedure file

Basic information		
REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure	2005/2238(REG)	Procedure completed
EP Rules of Procedure: adapt the internal procedures to the cases of simplification of Community legislation		
Subject 8.40.01.08 Business of Parliament, procedure, sittings, rules of procedure		

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed	
	 Constitutional Affairs		24/01/2006	
		PSE REYNAUD Marie-Line		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	 Legal Affairs		30/01/2006	
		PPE-DE DOORN Bert		

Key events			
15/12/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/04/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
16/04/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0143/2007	
10/05/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/05/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0173/2007	Summary
10/05/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2005/2238(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/6/32180

Documentation gateway

Committee draft report		PE380.704	18/12/2006	EP	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE378.778	21/12/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE384.592	16/02/2007	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE386.676	28/03/2007	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0143/2007	16/04/2007	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0173/2007	10/05/2007	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2007)3179	14/06/2007	EC	

EP Rules of Procedure: adapt the internal procedures to the cases of simplification of Community legislation

The committee adopted the report by Marie-Line REYNAUD (PES, FR) on changes to be made to Parliament's Rules of Procedure to bring internal procedures into line with the requirements of simplification of Community legislation in the framework of the 'Better Lawmaking' initiative.

The committee proposed to change Rule 80 to adopt new procedures for the codification of Community legislation. Although no amendments can be made to the text of a Commission proposal for codification of Community legislation when it is submitted to Parliament, the committee suggested that, at the rapporteur's request, the chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee should submit amendments relating to technical adaptations "provided that those adaptations are necessary in order to ensure that the proposal complies with the codification rules and do not involve any substantive change to the proposal". Moreover, if the Legal Affairs Committee takes the view that the proposal entails a substantive change to Community legislation, it should propose that Parliament should reject the proposal.

The committee also proposed a new Rule 80a on the recasting of Community legislation (which was previously not covered by the Rules of Procedure). The new rule contains similar provisions to the modified Rule 80. However, it also stipulates that amendments to the provisions which remain unchanged in the recasting proposal may be admitted "as a special dispensation and on a case-by-case basis" by the chairman of the committee responsible if he considers this necessary "for pressing reasons relating to the internal logic of the text or because the amendments are inextricably linked to other admissible amendments". Moreover, if, as provided for in Rule 80, the Legal Affairs Committee proposes that Parliament should reject the proposal on the grounds that it entails substantive changes other than those identified as such in the proposal, the President of Parliament shall call on the Commission to withdraw its proposal.

EP Rules of Procedure: adapt the internal procedures to the cases of simplification of Community legislation

The European Parliament adopted the report by Marie-Line REYNAUD (PES, FR) on changes to be made to Parliament's Rules of Procedure to bring internal procedures into line with the requirements of simplification of Community legislation in the framework of the 'Better Lawmaking' initiative. The resolution was adopted by 434 votes in favour to 5 against with 10 abstentions.

Parliament amended Rule 80 to adopt new procedures for the codification of Community legislation. Although no amendments can be made to the text of a Commission proposal for codification of Community legislation when it is submitted to Parliament, the rule now states that, at the rapporteur's request, the chairman of the committee responsible for legal affairs may submit for the latter's approval, amendments relating to technical adaptations, provided that those adaptations are necessary in order to ensure that the proposal complies with the codification rules and do not involve any substantive change to the proposal. If the committee responsible for legal affairs concludes that the proposal does not entail any substantive change, it shall refer it to Parliament for approval. If the committee takes the view that the proposal entails a substantive change to Community legislation, it shall propose that Parliament reject the proposal. In either case, Parliament shall take a decision by means of a single vote, without amendments or debate.

Parliament also inserted a new Rule 80a on the recasting of Community legislation (which was previously not covered by the Rules of Procedure). The new rule contains similar provisions to the modified Rule 80. However, it also stipulates that amendments to the provisions which remain unchanged in the recasting proposal may be admitted as a special dispensation and on a case-by-case basis by the chairman of the committee responsible if he considers this necessary for pressing reasons relating to the internal logic of the text or because the amendments are inextricably linked to other admissible amendments. Such reasons must be stated in a written justification to the amendments. Moreover, if, as provided for in Rule 80, the Legal Affairs Committee proposes that Parliament should reject the proposal on the grounds that it entails substantive changes other than those identified as such in the proposal, the President of Parliament shall call on the Commission to withdraw its proposal. If the Commission does so, the President shall hold the procedure to be superfluous and shall inform the Council accordingly. If the Commission does not withdraw its proposal, Parliament shall refer the matter back to the committee responsible for the subject matter, which shall consider it in accordance with the normal procedure.