

Procedure file

Basic information	
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2013/2637(RSP) Procedure completed
Resolution on the deadlock on the revision of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 See also Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 2000/0032(COD) See also 2008/0090(COD) See also 2011/0073(COD)	
Subject 1.20.05 Public access to information and documents, administrative practice 8.40 Institutions of the Union 8.40.10 Interinstitutional relations, subsidiarity, proportionality, comitology	

Key players	
European Parliament	
European Commission	Commission DG Secretariat-General Commissioner BARROSO José Manuel

Key events			
21/05/2013	Debate in Parliament		Summary
12/06/2013	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/06/2013	Decision by Parliament	T7-0271/2013	Summary
12/06/2013	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2013/2637(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
	See also Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 2000/0032(COD) See also 2008/0090(COD) See also 2011/0073(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 132-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
Motion for a resolution		B7-0256/2013	05/06/2013	EP
Motion for a resolution		B7-0257/2013	05/06/2013	EP

Motion for a resolution		B7-0259/2013	05/06/2013	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0261/2013	05/06/2013	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0265/2013	05/06/2013	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0266/2013	05/06/2013	EP	
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B7-0256/2013	05/06/2013		
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0271/2013	12/06/2013	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2013)626	15/11/2013	EC	

Resolution on the deadlock on the revision of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

The House held a [debate](#), following on the Commission statement, on the Deadlock on the revision of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

A motion for a resolution closing this debate was due to be put to the vote at the June part-session.

Resolution on the deadlock on the revision of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

The European Parliament adopted by 333 votes to 128 with 50 abstentions a resolution [on the deadlock on the revision of Regulation \(EC\) No 1049/2001](#) regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.

The resolution was tabled by the S&D, ECR, ALDE, Greens/EFA and GUE/NGL groups.

Strongly reaffirming the importance of the fundamental right of access to information and documents, Parliament states its commitment to revising Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, which, taken overall, should give EU citizens wider and improved access to EU documents. It regrets the deadlock that has been created between the EU institutions and considers that amending the Regulation should be a priority and that all the EU institutions must work together to find a way out as soon as possible.

Parliament insists that an amended text, as an absolute minimum, and in accordance with the Treaty requirements and [Parliament's first reading position](#), should:

- explicitly extend the scope to all EU institutions, offices and agencies;
- enhance legislative transparency, including access to legislative legal opinions, whereby any use of exceptions in the legislative procedure should constitute an exemption from the general rule of legislative transparency;
- clarify the relationship between transparency and data protection;
- include the Aarhus Convention;
- consider the current broad definition of a document as a minimum basis for further development;
- ensure appropriate access to documents and transparency in relation to international negotiations and agreements;
- provide for financial transparency of EU funds;
- not introduce any block exemptions.

The resolution recalls that the Commission proposed a recast of the Regulation in 2008 but it did not withdraw this proposal following the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, which further enhanced EU transparency obligations and enshrined access to documents as a fundamental right.

However, Parliament informed the Commission about the inappropriateness of the use of the recast procedure. Members recall that Parliament has on several occasions called for enhanced transparency in respect of Council working groups, publication of legal opinions in legislative procedures, greater transparency in the trilogues, as well as in EU agencies, in international negotiations and in the Commissions dialogue with Member States, notably when fundamental rights or the interests of European citizens are at stake.

Parliament goes on to recall that in 2011 the Commission made an additional proposal that only implicitly extends the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 to all EU institutions, offices, agencies and bodies. Whilst Parliament adopted its first-reading position on 15 December 2011, and trilogues were started with the Danish Presidency in 2012, the Commission did not agree with the proposed compromises, which Parliament cites as the main reason for a standstill which has lasted more than a year.

Accordingly, Parliament calls on the Commission to engage fully, at the political and the technical level, in the amending and Lisbonising of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, or to take any appropriate measures to break the deadlock. The Council, for its part, is asked immediately to restart debates on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to adopt its first-reading position and to continue negotiations.

Lastly, Members state that a failure to agree on a new version of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 would undermine the legitimacy of EU decision-making, especially in the light of the fast-approaching key European elections.