Procedure file

Basic information

IMM - Members' immunity	2014/2203(IMM)	Procedure completed
Request for the waiver of the immunity of Viktor Uspaskich

Subject
8.40.01.03 Members' immunity | | |

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs		02/12/2014
		EFD FERRARA Laura	

Key events

06/05/2015	Vote in committee		
11/05/2015	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0149/2015	Summary
19/05/2015	Results of vote in Parliament	✉	
19/05/2015	Decision by Parliament	T8-0191/2015	Summary
19/05/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2014/2203(IMM)
Procedure type	IMM - Members' immunity
Procedure subtype	Waiver of immunity
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 6
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	JURI/8/02105

Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0149/2015	11/05/2015	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0191/2015	19/05/2015	EP	Summary

Request for the waiver of the immunity of Viktor Uspaskich

The Committee on Legal Affairs adopted the report by Laura FERRARA (EFDD, IT) and recommended that Parliament waive the immunity of Viktor USPASKICH (ALDE, LT).

Members recalled that the Prosecutor General of Lithuania has requested the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of Viktor Uspaskich,

Member of the European Parliament, in connection with a pre-trial investigation concerning an alleged criminal offence.

To recall, on 28 July 2013, Viktor Uspaskich was answering questions by journalists at the Vilnius Airport, when he allegedly described as being cowards, criminals, and puppets the judges who handed down on 12 July 2013 a verdict of guilty in a criminal case against him.

Consequently, the Prosecutor-Generals Office opened a preliminary investigation on the basis of indications that a punishable offence had been committed within the meaning of Article 232 of the Lithuanian Criminal Code: under this article, a person who publicly, in an abusive manner by an action, word of mouth or in writing, humiliates a court or a judge executing justice by reason of their activities shall be punished by a fine or by arrest or by imprisonment for a term of up to two years.

Given that at the time of the alleged offence, Mr. Uspaskich served as a member of the Lithuanian parliament (Seimas) and that there is no evidence of fumus persecutionis, that is to say a well-founded suspicion that the legal proceedings have been instituted with the intention of causing political damage to the Member, the committee on Legal Affairs recommended that Parliament waive the immunity of Victor Uspaskich .

Request for the waiver of the immunity of Viktor Uspaskich

The European Parliament decided to waive the immunity of Viktor USPASKICH (ALDE, LT).

Parliament recalled that the Prosecutor General of Lithuania has requested the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of Viktor Uspaskich, Member of the European Parliament, in connection with a pre-trial investigation concerning an alleged criminal offence.

On 28 July 2013, Viktor Uspaskich was answering questions by journalists, when he allegedly described as being cowards, criminals, and puppets the judges who handed down on 12 July 2013 a verdict of guilty in a criminal case against him.

Consequently, the Prosecutor-Generals Office opened a preliminary investigation on the basis of indications that a punishable offence had been committed: humiliation of a court or a judge executing justice by reason of their activities.

Given that at the time of the alleged offence, Mr. Uspaskich was not a Member of the European Parliament and that there is no evidence of fumus persecutionis, that is to say a well-founded suspicion that the legal proceedings have been instituted with the intention of causing political damage to the Member, Parliament decided to waive the immunity of Victor Uspaskich.