
















Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	2018/0332(COD) Awaiting Council's 1st reading position
Seasonal changes of time	
Repealing Directive 2000/84/EC	2000/0140(COD)
Subject	
2.10.03 Standardisation, EC/EU standards and trade mark, certification, compliance	
3.20.15 Transport agreements and cooperation	
3.60.08 Energy efficiency	
4.20 Public health	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	TRAN Transport and Tourism	 BERGKVIST Erik	30/06/2022
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 ŁUKACIJEWSKA Elżbieta Katarzyna	
		 BILBAO BARANDICA Izaskun	
		 HAIDER Roman	
		 ZŁOTOWSKI Kosma	
		 KOUNTOURA Elena	
	Former committee responsible		
	TRAN Transport and Tourism	 ULVSKOG Marita	25/10/2018
	Former committee for opinion		
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	 MÜLLER Ulrike	09/10/2018
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	 PIECHA Bolesław G.	22/10/2018
	JURI Legal Affairs		24/09/2018

		 SVOBODA Pavel	
	IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection		10/10/2018
		 ŠOLTES Igor	
	PETI Petitions		24/09/2018
		 WIKSTRÖM Cecilia	
	ITRE Industry, Research and Energy		25/10/2018
		 SCHULZE Sven	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	3658	03/12/2018
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Mobility and Transport	BULC Violeta	
European Economic and Social Committee			

Key events			
12/09/2018	Legislative proposal published	COM(2018)0639	Summary
13/09/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
04/03/2019	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
07/03/2019	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A8-0169/2019	Summary
25/03/2019	Debate in Parliament		
26/03/2019	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/03/2019	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T8-0225/2019	Summary
24/09/2019	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations after 1st reading in Parliament		
09/10/2019	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations announced in plenary (Rule 72)		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2018/0332(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
	Repealing Directive 2000/84/EC 2000/0140(COD)

Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 114-p1
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Council's 1st reading position
Committee dossier	TRAN/8/14576

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(2018)0639	12/09/2018	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2018)0406	12/09/2018	EC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES4580/2018	17/10/2018	ESC	
Committee draft report		PE632.060	18/12/2018	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE634.580	29/01/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	ITRE	PE632.025	19/02/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE630.764	20/02/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	PETI	PE629.635	21/02/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	IMCO	PE630.406	21/02/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE632.863	21/02/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE631.995	25/02/2019	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0169/2019	07/03/2019	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0225/2019	26/03/2019	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2019)437	30/07/2019	EC	

Additional information

Research document	Briefing
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Seasonal changes of time

PURPOSE: to end seasonal changes of time.

PROPOSED ACT: Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: EU legislation on summer-time arrangements was first introduced in 1980 with the objective of unifying existing national summer-time practices and schedules. Since 2001, EU summer-time arrangements have been governed by [Directive 2000/84/EC](#) setting out the obligation on all Member States to switch to summer-time on the last Sunday of March and to switch back to their standard time ("winter-time") on the last Sunday of October.

The system of bi-annual clock changes has been increasingly questioned, by citizens, by the European Parliament, and by a growing number of Member States.

In [its resolution](#) of 8 February 2018, Parliament asked the Commission to carry out an assessment of summer-time arrangements as provided for in [Directive 2000/84/EC](#) and, where appropriate, to submit a proposal for revision. The Commission has also carried out a public consultation, which generated around 4.6 million replies, of which 84% were in favour of discontinuing the bi-annual clock changes while 16% wanted to keep them.

Against this background, the Commission considers that the arrangements for summer time should be terminated in a coordinated manner in order to avoid any major disruption to the internal market caused by divergences between Member States in this area.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: based on the evidence available on the effects of the EU summer-time arrangements, the conclusion can be drawn that a continued harmonised regime whereby all Member States abolish the bi-annual time changes would remain beneficial for the functioning of the internal market.

Effects on other areas are rather inconclusive and are likely to depend on the geographical location and whether Member States choose to stay with permanent summer- or permanent winter-time. The impact of this choice therefore needs to be assessed at national level. A change of system will also bring about transition costs that should be considered.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes to end seasonal changes in European time from 2019 onwards, while leaving the Member States free to decide whether to permanently apply summer time or winter time. Directive 2000/84/EC will be repealed. The proposed directive provides that the last mandatory summer-time period will start on 31 March 2019 at 1.00 a.m.

Member States wishing to return permanently to winter time may make a final change of seasonal time on Sunday 27 October 2019 (at 01.00 in the morning). From this date, seasonal time changes will no longer be possible.

Member States remain free to make changes to their standard time that are not linked to seasonal changes. In order to avoid disturbances Member States should inform the Commission of their intention to change their standard time 6 months before changes take effect.

Given that the Member States will have to apply Directive as from 1 April 2019, the Directive provides that each Member State must, by 27 April 2019 at the latest, on the basis of possible consultations and assessments at national level and in concertation with other Member States, notify the Commission of its intention to permanently apply a standard time corresponding to their current winter-time, rather than to their current summer-time.

Seasonal changes of time

The Committee on Transport and Tourism adopted the report by Marita ULVSKOG (S&D, SE) on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council discontinuing seasonal changes of time and repealing Directive 2000/84/EC.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission's proposal as follows:

End of the biannual seasonal change of time

Members proposed that the time change scheduled for the last Sunday in March 2021 should be the last for EU Member States wishing to keep summer time. Member States that prefer to keep the standard time, i.e. winter time, may change their time one last time on the last Sunday in October 2021. Member States should notify their decision to the Commission by 1 April 2020 at the latest.

Member States should cooperate with one another and take decisions on their envisaged time arrangements in a concerted and coordinated manner. Therefore, a coordination mechanism should be established, consisting of a designated representative from each Member State and a representative of the Commission. The coordination mechanism should discuss and assess the potential impact of any envisaged decision on a Member States standard times on the functioning of the internal market, in order to avoid significant disruptions.

Protecting the functioning of the internal market

Where the Commission considers that the envisaged change will significantly affect the proper functioning of the internal market, it shall inform the notifying Member State thereof.

By 31 October 2020 at the latest, the notifying Member State shall decide whether to maintain its intention or not. Where the notifying Member State decides to maintain its intention, it shall provide a detailed explanation of how it will address the negative impact of the change on the functioning of the internal market.

Where the Commission determines that the envisaged time arrangements, notified by the Member States, have the potential to significantly and permanently hamper the proper functioning of the internal market, it is empowered to adopt delegated acts to postpone the date of application of this Directive by no more than 12 months and submit a legislative proposal, if appropriate.

Assessment

By 31 December 2025 at the latest the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and to the Council an evaluation report on the application and implementation of this Directive, accompanied, where necessary, by a legislative proposal for its review based on a thorough impact assessment, involving all relevant stakeholders.

Seasonal changes of time

The European Parliament adopted by 410 votes to 192 with 51 abstentions a legislative resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council discontinuing seasonal changes of time and repealing Directive 2000/84/EC.

The position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure has amended the Commission proposal as follows:

End of the biannual seasonal change of time

Members supported the Commissions proposal to discontinue the time change but voted in favour of postponing the date from 2019 to 2021.

They proposed that the time change scheduled for the last Sunday in March 2021 should be the last for EU Member States wishing to keep summer time. Member States that prefer to keep the standard time, i.e. winter time, may change their time one last time on the last Sunday in October 2021. Member States should notify their decision to the Commission by 1 April 2020 at the latest.

The decision on the time zone to be applied in each Member State should be preceded by consultations and studies taking into account

citizens' preferences, geographical variations, regional differences, standard working arrangements and other factors relevant to the Member State in question. Member States should therefore have sufficient time to analyse the impact of the proposal and choose the most advantageous solution for their population, while taking into account the proper functioning of the internal market.

Member States should cooperate with one another and take decisions on their envisaged time arrangements in a concerted and coordinated manner. Therefore, a coordination mechanism should be established, consisting of a designated representative from each Member State and a representative of the Commission. The coordination mechanism should discuss and assess the potential impact of any envisaged decision on a Member States standard times on the functioning of the internal market, in order to avoid significant disruptions.

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Where the Commission considers that the envisaged change will significantly affect the proper functioning of the internal market, it shall inform the notifying Member State thereof.

By 31 October 2020 at the latest, the notifying Member State shall decide whether to maintain its intention or not. Where the notifying Member State decides to maintain its intention, it shall provide a detailed explanation of how it will address the negative impact of the change on the functioning of the internal market.

Where the Commission determines that the envisaged time arrangements, notified by the Member States, have the potential to significantly and permanently hamper the proper functioning of the internal market, it is empowered to adopt delegated acts to postpone the date of application of this directive by no more than 12 months and submit a legislative proposal, if appropriate.

Assessment

By 31 December 2025 at the latest the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and to the Council an evaluation report on the application and implementation of this directive, accompanied, where necessary, by a legislative proposal for its review based on a thorough impact assessment, involving all relevant stakeholders.