









Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision 2020/0053(COD)	Procedure completed
Equivalence of field inspections carried out on cereal seed-producing crops and equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine	
Subject 3.10.03 Marketing and trade of agricultural products and livestock 3.10.06.03 Cereals, rice	
Geographical area Ukraine	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Agriculture and Rural Development	 VRECIHOVÁ Veronika Shadow rapporteur	04/05/2020
Council of the European Union European Economic and Social Committee	Committee for opinion	 ŠOJDROVÁ Michaela	
		 OLEKAS Juozas	
		 DECERLE Jérémy	
		 ROPÉ Bronis	
		 DAVID Ivan	Rapporteur for opinion Appointed The committee decided not to give an opinion.

Key events			
16/04/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
22/09/2020	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
25/09/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0164/2020	
08/10/2020	Debate in Parliament		
08/10/2020	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T9-0254/2020	Summary

19/10/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/10/2020	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
21/10/2020	Final act signed		
26/10/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/0053(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 043-p2
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/9/02780

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(2020)0137	07/04/2020	EC	Summary
Committee draft report	PE652.324	05/06/2020	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee	PE653.996	03/07/2020	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0164/2020	25/09/2020	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T9-0254/2020	08/10/2020	EP	Summary
Draft final act	00038/2020/LEX	21/10/2020	CSL	

Final act

[Decision 2020/1544](#)
[OJ L 356 26.10.2020, p. 0005](#)

Equivalence of field inspections carried out on cereal seed-producing crops and equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine

PURPOSE: to add Ukraine to the list of countries, for which equivalence of field inspections of seed-producing crops of cereal species and the equivalence of the produced seed has been recognised.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision 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: [Council Decision 2003/17/EC](#) provides that under certain conditions field inspections carried out on certain seed-producing crops in the listed third countries are to be considered equivalent to field inspections carried out in accordance with Union law and that under certain conditions seed of certain species of cereal produced in those countries is to be considered equivalent to seed produced in accordance with Union law.

Ukraine has submitted a request to the Commission for equivalence as regards its system of field inspection of cereal seed producing crops and in respect of cereal seed produced and certified in Ukraine.

Following that request, the Commission examined the relevant Ukrainian legislation and carried out an audit of the field inspections and seed certification system for cereal seed in place in Ukraine. It was concluded that its requirements and system in place are equivalent to the ones of the Union and offer the same assurance as the Unions system.

CONTENT: the proposal to amend Decision 2003/17/EC aims to grant equivalence as regards field inspections carried in respect of cereal seed in Ukraine and as regards cereal seed produced in Ukraine and officially certified by its authorities.

The proposal fully meets the objectives of the EU/Ukraine Association Agreement as it shall boost trade in seed which complies with EU rules.

According to the Commission, equivalence would therefore contribute to the maintenance of the continuous supply of high quality seed in the EU. Moreover, European seed companies seek new opportunities, which would be provided for by the EU equivalence. The proposal has no impact on compliance costs for operators.

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The European Parliament adopted by 491 votes to 159, with 47 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2003/17/EC as regards the equivalence of field inspections carried out in Ukraine on cereal seed-producing crops and on the equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure without amending the Commission proposal.

The proposal aims to update Council Decision 2003/17/EC, which grants equivalence to certain non-EU countries in respect of field inspections carried out and seed production of certain species in accordance with Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 2002/54/EC and 2002/57/EC. It is intended to add Ukraine to the list of countries for which the equivalence of field inspections carried out in respect of seed-producing crops of cereal species and the equivalence of produced seed has been recognised.

The proposal follows the request to have its cereal seed covered by Council Decision 2003/17/EC as equivalent cereal seed. Following this request, the Commission examined the relevant Ukrainian legislation and carried out an audit of field inspections and of the certification scheme for cereal seed in Ukraine. This examination led to overall positive results. The requirements and the system in place in Ukraine are equivalent to those of the EU and offer the same guarantees as the EU system.

A proposal to reject the Commission's proposal was rejected in plenary by 111 to 572, with 11 abstentions.