Verification of credentials

2014/2165(REG) - 11/02/2015 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament by 657 votes to 27, with 24 abstentions **declared valid**, subject to any decisions by the competent authorities of Member States in which the election results have been disputed, the **mandate of the Members of the European Parliament** listed in the annex to this decision whose election has been notified by the competent national authorities and who have made the written declarations as regards the offices that are incompatible with the office of Member of the European Parliament, their professional activities and any other remunerated functions or activities.

The list of Members of the European Parliament whose mandate is declared valid is annexed to the draft decision of the European Parliament.

The authorities of the Member States are called upon to:

- notify the Parliament of all the names of the elected candidates and also to forward the names of any substitutes, together with their ranking in accordance with the results of the vote;
- complete without delay the examination of the disputes referred to them and to notify Parliament of the results.

Members noted that the nationals of certain Member States who have been living in another country for a given period of time can be deprived of the right to vote in their home Member State (disenfranchisement). They considered that disenfranchisement is tantamount to punishing nationals who have exercised the right of free movement within the EU, to denying them their right to vote and to stand as candidates in elections to the European Parliament in their Member State of residence and to violating the principle of direct universal suffrage.

They stated that **under no circumstances may disenfranchisement apply to European elections** and called on the Commission to ensure that none of the Member States provides for that possibility.

Parliament called on the Member States to ensure that the registration formalities relating to the participation of nationals of other Member States in the European elections, whether as voters or as candidates, are simplified.