Request for the waiver of the immunity of Jean-Marie Le Pen

2016/2108(IMM) - 25/10/2016 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to waive the immunity of Jean-Marie Le PEN (NI, FR).

Parliament recalled that two applications for waiver of the immunity of M. Le Pen have been forwarded in 2016 by the General Public Prosecutor at the Paris Court of Appeal, pertaining to incitement to racial in a video clip published on the internet.

It pointed out that Article 8 of the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Union stipulates that Members of the European Parliament shall not be subject to any form of inquiry, detention or legal proceedings in respect of opinions expressed or votes cast by them in the performance of their duties. It noted that the purpose of this provision is to ensure that Members of the European Parliament have the right of freedom of expression, but **this right does not provide carte blanche for slander, defamation, and incitement to hatred.**

Parliament decided to waive the immunity of M. Le PEN, and remarked that there is no connection between the statement at issue and the parliamentary work of M. Le Pen.