Request for the waiver of the immunity of Manolis Kefalogiannis

2017/2133(IMM) - 23/10/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided, by 307 votes to 253 with 41 abstentions, **not to waive the immunity of Manolis Kefalogiannis** (EPP, EL).

The Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Supreme Court of the Hellenic Republic has requested that the parliamentary immunity of a Member of the European Parliament, Manolis Kefalogiannis, be waived in order to initiate criminal proceedings against him for two alleged offences.

Manolis Kefalogiannis is alleged to have attempted to commit fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Union, resulting in a loss of more than EUR 73 000, for attempting to illegally misappropriate part of his assistant’s salary by an amount of EUR 4 240 per month between July 2014 and the end of 2016.

Given the circumstances in which the case against Manolis Kefalogiannis was dealt with by the authorities involved, the uncertainties as to the elements on which the request for waiver of immunity is based and the serious doubts surrounding the proceedings, including the reasons underlying the request for waiver of immunity, it appears to be a case in which *fumus persecutionis* can be assumed to be present (the underlying intention of the judicial procedure may be to harm the Member's political activity or reputation and thus the independence of Parliament.

Therefore, Parliament considered that the immunity of Manolis Kefalogiannis should not be waived.