Use of the Internal Market Information System and the Single Digital Gateway for the purposes of certain requirements laid down by Directive on European cross-border associations

2023/0314(COD) - 13/03/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 534 votes to 45, with 47 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1024/2012 and (EU) 2018/1724 as regards the use of the Internal Market Information System and the Single Digital Gateway for the purposes of certain requirements laid down by Directive (EU) .../... of the European Parliament and of the Council on European cross-border associations.

The European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure amends the proposal as follows:

The Commission's proposal for a directive on European cross-border associations (ECBAs) introduces an additional legal form of a European cross-border association (ECBA) in national legal systems of the Member States, which is specifically designed for cross-border purposes and will reduce legal and administrative burden when it comes to the recognition and establishment of non-profit associations engaging in activities in another Member State. Once established in one Member State, an ECBA will be recognised automatically and will be able to engage in activities in all Member States, including economic activities, thereby allowing non-profit associations to unleash their full societal and economic potential in the EU.

With the proposed directive, the Commission also proposed an accompanying Regulation of technical nature amending the Internal Market Information (IMI) system and the Single Digital Gateway (SDG) Regulations, to allow cooperation and exchange of information among competent authorities through the IMI system and to conduct digital operations through the SDG allowing access to information about ECBAs available online.

Parliament welcomed the Commission proposal to amend the IMI system and SDG for the purpose of establishing and operating ECBAs. It contains only technical changes to enhance the clarity of the text, without modifying the substance.

Members also clarified that the exchanges of information between the competent authorities should be established in the IMI system. The opinion of the European Data Protection Supervisor, which was published on 31 October 2023, should be highlighted in a recital.