

Framework agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission: revision

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The committee adopted the report by Jo LEINEN (PES, DE) approving the new framework agreement governing relations between the Parliament and the Commission. It particularly welcomed the following improvements contained in the new agreement:

- the new provisions concerning potential conflicts of interest;
- the arrangements for the replacement of a Commissioner during the Commission's term of office;
- the establishment of regular dialogue at the highest level between the President of the Commission and the Conference of Presidents;
- improved information from the Commission on follow-up to and measures to take account of Parliament's reports and opinions;
- incorporation into the agreement of the undertakings given by the Commission regarding the implementing measures for the banking, insurance and securities sectors ('Lamfalussy procedure') and the agreement between Parliament and the Commission on procedures for implementing the 1999 'comitology' decision. In this connection, the report also urged the Commission "to take account of the political guidelines which Parliament adopts in the exercise of its right to consider documents under the comitology procedure";
- the undertakings given concerning the Commission's participation in Parliament's work;
- the insertion of a clause providing for the revision of the agreement when the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe comes into force.