Basic information

1996/2186(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
The constitutional status of European political parties **Subject** 8.40.01.02 President, members, mandates, political groups	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	INST Institutional Affairs	TSATSOS Dimitris (PSE)	29/05/1996

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
21/10/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
29/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0342/1996	
09/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		
10/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/01/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/2186(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INST/4/08265

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0342/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0005	29/10/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0661/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0020-0029	10/12/1996	Summary

The constitutional status of European political parties

1996/2186(INI) - 10/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Dimitris TSATSOS (PSE, EL) Parliament called on the European Union to introduce a framework regulation on the legal status of European political parties, together with a regulation on their financial situation. It also laid down a certain number of guidelines and minimum obligations which should be included in these regulations, namely that any political party wishing to obtain the status of European party must be represented in at least one third of the Member States. Parliament took the view that European political parties should be open to individual membership. Political parties should have a set of rules and a basic political programme and should respect the basic principles of constitutional law enshrined in the Treaty on European Union (democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law). Parliament also thought that it was necessary to clarify certain rights of European political parties, such as the right to set up a political party, freedom of political action, the right to equality of treatment, the right to put forward candidates at elections and the right to enjoy legal status in all Member States. Lastly, Parliament took the view that sums paid to political parties from Community resources should be clearly shown as such in the EU budget.