Basic information

2000/2212(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
European Ombudsman: Code of good administrative behaviour for the officials, relations with the public. Special report **Subject** 8.40.09 European officials, EU servants, staff regulations	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	PETI Petitions	PERRY Roy (PPE-DE)	10/07/2000
	Committee for opinion	**Rapporteur for opinion**	**Appointed**
	LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	CASHMAN Michael (PSE)	10/10/2000
	JURI Legal Affairs and Internal Market	DEHOUSSE Jean-Maurice (PSE)	17/10/2000
Council of the European Union			

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/04/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	N5-0438/2000	Summary
08/09/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/06/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
19/06/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0245/2001	
06/09/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0454/2001	Summary
06/09/2001	Debate in Parliament		
06/09/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/03/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/2212(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/5/12682

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0245/2001	19/06/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0454/2001 OJ C 072 21.03.2002, p. 0239-0331 E	06/09/2001	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
MED	Non-legislative basic document	N5-0438/2000	11/04/2000	Summary

European Ombudsman: Code of good administrative behaviour for the officials, relations with the public. Special report

2000/2212(COS) - 11/04/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: Special Report from the Ombudsman to the European parliament following an own-initiative inquiry into the existence and the public accessibility in the different Community institutions and bodies of a Code of Good Administrative Behaviour. CONTENT: This Special Report concerns the European Ombudsman's own initiative inquiry into the existence and the public accessibility, in the different Community institutions and bodies, of a Code of Good Administrative Behaviour. The inquiry was launched in November 1998. In July and September 1999, the Ombudsman made draft recommendations to 18 Community institutions and bodies to adopt rules concrning good administrative behaviour for their officials in the relations with the public. For adopting these rules, the Ombudsman stated that the institutions and bodies could take guidance from the provisions contained in the Ombudsman's Code of Good Administrative Behaviour. The Ombudsman stressed that, in order to be efficient and accessible to citizens, the rules should be adopted in the form of a decision and be published in the Official Journal. From the responses to the draft recommendations, it appears that only two bodies, namely the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMEA) and the Translation Centre for the Bodies pf the EU have adopted, respectively on 1 December 1999 and on 10 February 2000, the Code of Good Administrative Behaviour proposed by the Ombudsman. These two agencies have correctly implemented the draft recommendations. The European Commission presented a draft Code, but has not yet adopted it. Neither the European Parliament nor the Council has adopted a Code of Good Administrative Behaviour. No other institution or body had adopted a Code by 1 March 2000. The European Parliament has stressed the urgent need to draw up as soon as possible Codes of Good Administrative Behaviour which should be as identical as possible for all the European institutions and bodies. However, only 2 out of the 18 institutions, bodies and decentralised agencies concerned by the inquiry have implemented the Ombudsman's draft recommendations. The Ombudsman therefore concluded the present Special Report with a recommendation that a European administrative law is needed to ensure that officials of all the Community institutions and bodies observe the same principles of good administrative behaviour in their relations with the public. Such a lwa could take the form of a Regulation. The European Parliament, in its capacity as the only European institution democratically representing European citizens, could consider using the procedure referred to in Article 192 (2) of the EC Treaty in order to initiate the adoption of a European administrative law in this form.

European Ombudsman: Code of good administrative behaviour for the officials, relations with the public. Special report

2000/2212(COS) - 06/09/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mr Roy PERRY (EPP-ED, UK) welcoming the special report and the draft code drawn up in April 2000. (Please refer to the previous text). Furthermore, this resolution calls on the Commission to propose a regulation based on the code. The draft code, which would apply to all the institutions, bodies and agencies of the EU, has 28 articles covering issues such as equal treatment, impartiality and independence, the need to prevent abuses or power and protection of personal data. EU officials dealing with the public should act conscientiously, correctly and courteously. If errors occur, the official would be obliged to apologise and seek to remedy any negative effects resulting from the error. Any request or complaint would receive an acknowledgement within two weeks. A decision should be taken within two months of the date of receipt and indicate any available appeal procedures. A member of the public who writes to the institutions in one of the EU Treaty languages would receive a reply in that language. The House also wants the code to be publicised as widely as possible, including via the Internet. It would be reviewed 2 years after it comes into effect.