

### Basic information

2006/2201(REG)

REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure

EP Rules of Procedure, Rule 29: formation of political groups

#### Subject

8.40.01.08 Business of Parliament, procedure, sittings, rules of procedure

Procedure completed

### Key players

European Parliament

#### Committee responsible

AFCO Constitutional Affairs



#### Rapporteur

CORBETT Richard (PSE)

#### Appointed

02/05/2007

### Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/09/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/05/2008	Vote in committee		<a href="#">Summary</a>
02/06/2008	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A6-0206/2008</a>	
07/07/2008	Debate in Parliament		
09/07/2008	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T6-0351/2008</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
09/07/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
09/07/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	2006/2201(REG)
Procedure type	REG - Parliament's Rules of Procedure
Procedure subtype	Rules
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 243-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFCO/6/39117

### Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE400.568</a>	28/01/2008	
Amendments tabled in committee		<a href="#">PE405.880</a>	25/04/2008	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A6-0206/2008</a>	02/06/2008	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		<a href="#">T6-0351/2008</a>	09/07/2008	<a href="#">Summary</a>

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>	

## EP Rules of Procedure, Rule 29: formation of political groups

2006/2201(REG) - 09/07/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 481 votes to 203, with 26 abstentions, a decision on the amendment of Rule 29 of the Parliament's Rules of Procedure (formation of political groups).

The report had been tabled for consideration in plenary by Richard **CORBETT** (PES, UK), on behalf of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs.

At present, a group can be formed by a minimum of 20 Members (or 2.5% of EP's membership), who also represent at least one-fifth of the Member States (i.e. at least 6 countries). The Parliament decided to raise the minimum number to **25 Members** (or 3.1% of EP's membership), representing **at least one-quarter of the Member States** (i.e. 7 countries).

An additional amendment introduces new rules on the possibility for a group to continue to exist until Parliament's next constitutive sitting, even if it does not meet the required minimum levels. In this case, the group must have been in existence for a period longer than one year and its Members must continue to represent at least one-fifth of the Member States. The President shall not apply this derogation where there is sufficient evidence to suspect that it is being abused.