Basic information

2012/2309(INL) INL - Legislative initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Composition of the European Parliament with a view to the 2014 elections See also 2013/0900(NLE) **Subject** 8.40.01.01 Elections, direct universal suffrage 8.40.01.02 President, members, mandates, political groups	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFCO Constitutional Affairs	TRZASKOWSKI Rafał (PPE) GUALTIERI Roberto (S&D)	27/11/2012 27/11/2012
	Shadow rapporteur DUFF Andrew (ALDE) HÄFNER Gerald (Verts/ALE) FOX Ashley (ECR) SCHOLZ Helmut (GUE/NGL) MESSERSCHMIDT Morten (EFD)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Secretariat-General	BARROSO José Manuel

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/11/2012	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/02/2013	Vote in committee		
25/02/2013	Committee report tabled for plenary	A7-0041/2013	Summary
12/03/2013	Debate in Parliament		
13/03/2013	Decision by Parliament	T7-0082/2013	Summary
13/03/2013	Results of vote in Parliament		

13/03/2013	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2012/2309(INL)
Procedure type	INL - Legislative initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislative initiative
Amendments and repeals	See also 2013/0900(NLE)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 46
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFCO/7/11303

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE502.178	22/01/2013	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE504.228	01/02/2013	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A7-0041/2013	25/02/2013	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0082/2013	13/03/2013	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Composition of the European Parliament with a view to the 2014 elections

2012/2309(INL) - 25/02/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs adopted an own-initiative report by Roberto GUALTIERI (S&D, IT) and Rafał TRZASKOWSKI (EPP, PL) on the composition of the European Parliament with a view to the 2014 elections, and submitted to the European Council a proposal establishing the composition of the European Parliament for the 2014-2019 parliamentary term.

Members recall that when the next parliamentary term starts in 2014, the current derogation from Article 14(2) of the Treaty on European Union will expire and as a result, the total number of seats will need to be reduced by 15 in order to bring the number of seats into line with the number laid down by Treaty provision and also to take account of the accession of Croatia. Thus, the **European Parliament will be composed of 751 Members** (750, plus the President), i.e. there will be **15 fewer seats than the number currently in force**.

Pragmatic solution: to minimise the loss of seats for Member States, the committee proposes a “pragmatic” solution in the application of the principle of degressive proportionality provided for in the Treaty, whereby Members from larger Member States represent more citizens than those from smaller ones. The committee’s solution means that **12 Member States will each lose one seat** (Romania, Greece, Belgium, Portugal, Czech Republic,

Hungary, Austria, Bulgaria, Ireland, Croatia, Lithuania and Latvia) and **no Member State will increase its number of seats**. The **remaining 3 seats in the 15-seat reduction will come from Germany,** whose share of seats will be cut from 99 to 96 (the maximum allowed by the Lisbon Treaty). These 3 extra seats were part of a transitional arrangement that arrangement that expires at the end of the current legislature.

The committee recommends that Parliament should undertake to submit, before the end of 2015, a new proposal for a decision of the European Council with the aim of establishing, sufficiently far in advance of the beginning of the 2019-2024 parliamentary term, a durable and transparent system which will allow seats to be apportioned amongst the Member States in an objective manner, based on the principle of degressive proportionality.

Lastly, Members note that the new system for apportioning seats in Parliament should be established in conjunction with a review of the voting system in the Council and they are determined to make proposals to this end at the next Convention revising the Treaty.

Composition of the European Parliament with a view to the 2014 elections

2012/2309(INL) - 13/03/2013 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 536 votes to 111 with 44 abstentions a resolution on the composition of the European Parliament with a view to the 2014 elections, and submitted to the European Council a proposal establishing the composition of the European Parliament for the 2014-2019 parliamentary term.

Parliament recalls that when the next parliamentary term starts in 2014, the current derogation from Article 14(2) of the Treaty on European Union will expire and as a result, the total number of seats will need to be reduced by 15 in order to bring the number of seats into line with the number laid down by Treaty provision and also to take account of the accession of Croatia. Thus, the **European Parliament will be composed of 751 Members** (750, plus the President), i.e. there will be **15 fewer seats than the number currently in force**.

To minimise the loss of seats for Member States, and in the application of the principle of degressive proportionality provided for in the Treaty, whereby Members from larger Member States represent more citizens than those from smaller ones, Parliament proposes the following:

12 Member States will each lose one seat (Romania, Greece, Belgium, Portugal, Czech Republic, Hungary, Austria, Bulgaria, Ireland, Croatia, Lithuania and Latvia) and **no Member State will increase its number of seats**;

- the **remaining 3 seats in the 15-seat reduction will come from Germany,** whose share of seats will be cut from 99 to 96 (the maximum allowed by the Lisbon Treaty). These 3 extra seats were part of a transitional arrangement that arrangement that expires at the end of the current legislature.
- Parliament adds that it undertakes to submit, before the end of 2015, a new proposal for a decision of the European Council with the aim of establishing, sufficiently far in advance of the beginning of the 2019-2024 parliamentary term, a durable and transparent system which will allow seats to be apportioned amongst the Member States in an objective manner, based on the principle of degressive proportionality.

Members note that the new system for apportioning seats in Parliament should be established in conjunction with a review of the voting system in the Council and they are determined to make proposals to this end at the next Convention revising the Treaty.

Lastly, Parliament underlines the urgent need to adopt this decision, which requires its consent, as soon as so that the Member States can enact, in good time, the necessary domestic measures for organising the elections to the European Parliament for the 2014-2019 parliamentary term.