Basic information

2015/0249(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3 See also 1996/0006(AVC) **Subject** 2.10.03 Standardisation, EC/EU standards and trade mark, certification, compliance 3.40.03 Motor industry, cycle and motorcycle, commercial and agricultural vehicles 6.20.05 Multilateral and plurilateral economic and trade agreements and relations	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	LANGE Bernd (S&D)	01/12/2015

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Mobility and Transport	BULC Violeta

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
27/10/2015	Preparatory document	COM(2015)0535	Summary
09/02/2016	Legislative proposal published	13954/2015	Summary
10/03/2016	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/05/2016	Vote in committee		
26/05/2016	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0185/2016	Summary

07/06/2016	Decision by Parliament	T8-0239/2016	Summary
07/06/2016	Results of vote in Parliament		
17/06/2016	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/06/2016	End of procedure in Parliament		
11/10/2016	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2015/0249(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Amendments and repeals	See also 1996/0006(AVC)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/8/04878

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE573.154	29/03/2016	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0185/2016	26/05/2016	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0239/2016	07/06/2016	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	13954/2015	09/02/2016	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2015)0535	27/10/2015	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date

European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2016/1790 OJ L 274 11.10.2016, p. 0002	Summary

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 12/02/2016 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2016/1790 on the conclusion of Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and /or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement').

CONTENT: the Council Decision approves, on behalf of the Union, Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

The Revised 1958 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts entered into force in 1995.

WP.29 agreed, at its 150th session in March 2010, to establish an informal group with a view to assisting WP.29 in considering actions on the future direction for the harmonisation of vehicle regulations under the Agreement. This future direction should aim:

- at fostering the participation of more countries and regional economic integration organisations in the activities of the World Forum;
- at increasing the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement, by improving its functioning and reliability, and thus ensuring that it remains the key international framework for the harmonisation of technical regulations in the automotive sector.

On 15 July 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 to amend the Agreement.

At its 164th session in November 2014, WP.29 took note of a proposal submitted by a number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement to **increase the voting majority threshold** for the establishment of new UN Regulations and amendments to existing UN Regulations, **from the two-thirds to a four-fifths majority**. The representative of the Union announced the intention to establish a coordinated position of the EU Member States on this proposal.

The proposals for Revision 3 of the Agreement and for increasing the voting majority threshold from two thirds to four fifths meet the negotiation objectives specified in the Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for Revision 3 of the Agreement.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11.10.2016.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 26/05/2016 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Bernd LANGE (S&D, DE) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement').

The committee recommended that the European Parliament should **give its consent** to the conclusion of the Agreement.

In the explanatory memorandum accompanying the report, it is recalled that the automotive industry and the related auxiliary industries are a core economic sector for the European Union. The automotive sector provides jobs for 12 million people and accounts for 4% of the EU's GDP.

The EU is among the world's biggest producers of motor vehicles and the sector represents the largest private investor in research and development. The automotive industry presents a well-integrated value chain in which almost all Member States are involved. Moreover, it offers very high added value along the entire chain and plays an important role in the Eurozone trade balance. In order to maintain the vital position of the automotive industry, the EU must strengthen the competitiveness of the EU automotive industry and preserve its global technological leadership.

International regulatory cooperation has the potential to promote a transparent, effective, procompetitive economic environment while developing and securing the highest levels of protection of health and safety.

The EU must provide support to global technological harmonisation. Common technical requirements like the UNECE framework help reduce development costs, reduce costs of production and certification and avoid duplication of administrative procedures.

It is of the utmost importance that the EU is able to present its position at the June 2016 UNECE meeting. In this sense, the Council has requested to do so and to try to vote in Plenary in May. Given that the rapporteur's will is to respect the principle of multilingualism and to give as much publicity to this consent as possible, the proposal is to vote in the June plenary.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 07/06/2016 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 589 votes to 46, with 11 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

In line with the recommendation made by the Committee on International Trade, Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the Agreement.

To recall, the Revised 1958 Agreement of the UNECE concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions entered into force in 1995. It is now necessary to approve the amendments to the Revised 1958 Agreement and amend the Agreement accordingly.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 27/10/2015 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement').

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

CONTENT: under this proposal, the Council is called upon to **approve, on behalf of the Union, Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe** concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

To recall, the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions entered into force in 1995.

WP.29 agreed, at its 150th session in March 2010, to establish an informal group with a view to **assisting WP.29 in considering actions on the future direction for the harmonisation of vehicle regulations** under the Revised 1958 Agreement. This future direction should aim at:

- fostering the participation of more countries and regional economic integration organisations in the activities of the World Forum;
- increasing the number of Contracting Parties to the Revised 1958 Agreement, by improving its functioning and reliability, and thus ensuring that it remains the key international framework for the harmonisation of technical regulations in the automotive sector.

On 15 July 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for amending the Agreement.

At its 164th session in November 2014 WP.29 took note of a proposal submitted by a number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement to increase the voting majority threshold, for the establishment of new UN Regulations and amendments to existing UN Regulations, **from the two-thirds to a four-fifths majority**. The representative of the EU announced the intention to establish a coordinated position of the EU Member States on this proposal.

The proposals for Revision 3 of the Agreement and for increasing the voting majority threshold from two-thirds to four-fifths meet the **negotiation objectives** specified in the Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for Revision 3 of the Agreement.

Therefore, it is proposed to **adopt the proposed amendments to the 1958 Agreement** and amend it accordingly.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 09/02/2016 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions (‘Revised 1958 Agreement’).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Revised 1958 Agreement of the UNECE concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions entered into force in 1995.

WP.29 agreed, at its 150th session in March 2010, to establish an informal group with a view to assisting WP.29 in considering actions on the **future direction for the harmonisation of vehicle regulations** under the Agreement. This future direction should aim at: (i) fostering the participation of more countries and regional economic integration organisations in the activities of the World Forum; (ii) increase the number of Contracting Parties to the Revised 1958 Agreement.

On 15 July 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 to amend the Agreement. It is now proposed to approve the amendments to the Revised 1958 Agreement and to amend the Agreement accordingly.

CONTENT: the proposed Decision seeks the approval, on behalf of the Union, of the Revision 3of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and /or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

The proposals for Revision 3 of the Agreement and for increasing the **voting majority threshold from two-thirds to four-fifths** meet the negotiation objectives specified in the Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for Revision 3 of the Agreement.

For further details, please report to the summary of the Commission’s initial legislative proposal of 27.10.2015.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 'Revised 1958 Agreement': uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, and conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals; Revision 3

2015/0249(NLE) - 27/10/2015

PURPOSE: to conclude Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement').

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

CONTENT: under this proposal, the Council is called upon to **approve, on behalf of the Union, Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe** concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions.

To recall, the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions entered into force in 1995.

WP.29 agreed, at its 150th session in March 2010, to establish an informal group with a view to **assisting WP.29 in considering actions on the future direction for the harmonisation of vehicle regulations** under the Revised 1958 Agreement. This future direction should aim at:

- fostering the participation of more countries and regional economic integration organisations in the activities of the World Forum;
- increasing the number of Contracting Parties to the Revised 1958 Agreement, by improving its functioning and reliability, and thus ensuring that it remains the key international framework for the harmonisation of technical regulations in the automotive sector.

On 15 July 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for amending the Agreement.

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The proposals for Revision 3 of the Agreement and for increasing the voting majority threshold from two-thirds to four-fifths meet the **negotiation objectives** specified in the Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations within WP.29 for Revision 3 of the Agreement.

Therefore, it is proposed to **adopt the proposed amendments to the 1958 Agreement** and amend it accordingly.