Basic information

2017/2063(IMM) IMM - Members' immunity	Procedure completed
Request for the waiver of the immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet **Subject** 8.40.01.03 Members' immunity	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	JURI Legal Affairs	HAUTALA Heidi (Verts/ALE)	03/05/2017

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/07/2017	Vote in committee		
17/07/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0259/2017	Summary
12/09/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0317/2017	Summary
12/09/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/09/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2063(IMM)
Procedure type	IMM - Members' immunity
Procedure subtype	Waiver of immunity
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 6
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	JURI/8/09867

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0259/2017	17/07/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0317/2017	12/09/2017	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Request for the waiver of the immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet

2017/2063(IMM) - 17/07/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Legal Affairs adopted the report by HEIDI HAUTALA (Greens/EFA, FI) on the request to waive the immunity of Marie-Christine BOUTONNET (ENF, FR).

As a reminder, The examining magistrates at the Paris Regional Court requested the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet in order to hear her in connection with a suspected criminal offence, namely funds received by virtue of the parliamentary assistant's contract of a named individual.

During a search conducted at the headquarters of the Front National in February 2016, a number of documents were seized in the office of the treasurer of the Front National, which bore witness to this party's desire to make 'savings' thanks to the European Parliament's defraying the remuneration of employees of the party by virtue of their capacity as parliamentary assistants.

Marie-Christine Boutonnet explained her refusal to appear as summoned, invoking her European parliamentary immunity.

Since then, Marie-Christine Boutonnet has been heard by the investigating magistrates in Paris.

However, Members proposed to waive the immunity of the Member concerned, considering that there is no evidence of *fumus persecutionis*, particularly in view of the fact that proceedings are under way on the basis of similar charges against Members belonging to other Political Groups.

Therefore, the Committee on Legal Affairs recommended that the European Parliament **waive the parliamentary immunity** of Marie-Christine Boutonnet.

Request for the waiver of the immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet

2017/2063(IMM) - 12/09/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **waive the immunity** of Marie-Christine BOUTONNET (ENF, FR).

The request was forwarded on 14 April 2017 by the Ministry of Justice of the French Republic on the basis of a request of the Prosecutor-General at the Paris Court of Appeal, with a view to waiving the immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet in connection with a case pending before Examining Magistrates at the Paris Regional Court ("pôle financier") pertaining to a judicial investigation on grounds of, *inter alia*, breach of trust in connection with funds received by virtue of the parliamentary assistant's contract of a named individual.

The examining magistrates considered that the investigations conducted during the preliminary inquiry and the judicial investigation suggest that the initial suspicions raised by the European Parliament regarding a certain number of parliamentary assistants of Members of the European Parliament affiliated to the Front National may be justified.

Given that there was no evidence of *fumus persecutionis*, particularly in view of the fact that proceedings are under way on the basis of similar charges against Members belonging to other Political Groups and of other nationalities, Parliament decided to waive the parliamentary immunity of Marie-Christine Boutonnet.