

AMENDMENTS

to the

Rules of Procedure ⁽¹⁾

of the European Parliament

⁽¹⁾ The following changes were made to the Rules of Procedure during Parliament's part-sessions in December 1985 and January 1986

Rule 1 (2)

Add the following:

'Diputados del Parlamento Europeo'
in Spanish,
'Deputados do Parlamento Europeu'
in Portuguese

Rule 12 (1)

Replace 'ten Members' by
'thirteen Members'

Rule 14 (1)

Replace 'twelve' by
'fourteen'

Rule 21 (1)

Replace 'twelve Vice-Presidents' by
'fourteen Vice-Presidents'

Rule 26 (5)

Replace 'twenty-one', 'fifteen' and 'ten' by
'twenty-three', 'eighteen' and 'twelve' respectively

Rule 33

To read as follows:

1. The President, a minimum of 23 Members or a committee may propose to Parliament that a request for an opinion or for advice submitted pursuant to Rule 32 be referred to the appropriate committee with the power to take a decision.

2. A decision shall be taken on this proposal at the beginning of the sitting following that during which Parliament was informed thereof. Parliament shall, if necessary after hearing one speaker in favour and one against, vote on the proposal. If at least one-tenth of the current Members of Parliament are opposed to the referral to committee for a decision, this referral shall not take place.

3. Where one-third of the members of the committee to which a request for an opinion or for advice has been referred pursuant to paragraph 2 request that the matter be referred back to Parliament, the procedure provided for in Rule 32 shall apply.

4. Where paragraphs 1 and 2 are applied, the usual rules governing discussions in committee shall apply. However, the committee meeting at which a decision is to be taken shall be open to the public; the agenda for this meeting and any deadline for tabling amendments, shall be published in the EP Bulletin.

5. The opinion of the committee shall include the committee's views on the proposal on which Parliament has been consulted, together with any amendments and the result of the vote pursuant to Rule 100 (3). The opinion may take the form of a letter.

6. Once the committee responsible has adopted its decision pursuant to this Rule, the President shall inform Parliament thereof at the beginning of the next sitting and the committee's decision shall be recorded in the minutes of that sitting.

Delete the text in italics.

Rule 34

To read as follows:

1. Where the committee responsible requests that its report be adopted by Parliament without debate, or where the committee has delivered an opinion on a Commission proposal without report pursuant to Rule 99 (1) or in accordance with the simplified procedure pursuant to Rule 99 (2), the proposal or report in question shall be placed on the draft agenda of the part-session following the decision by the committee.

2. The proposal and, where appropriate, the motion for a resolution contained in the report shall be put to the vote without debate unless a political group or at least 13 Members of Parliament lodge a protest in advance. In the latter case the report shall be placed on the draft agenda of a subsequent part-session with debate. Where it had been decided to apply the procedure without report pursuant to Rule 99 (1), however, the Commission proposal shall be referred back to the committee responsible for reconsideration.

Rule 42 (1), first subparagraph

Replace 'five or more Members' by
'seven or more Members'

Rule 42 (5), first subparagraph: ditto

Rule 45 (1)

Ditto

Rule 48 (1)

Replace 'twenty-one Members' by
'twenty-three Members'

Rule 48 (2), second subparagraph: ditto

Rule 54a

Replace 'three votes' and 'twenty-one Members' by
'four votes' and 'twenty-three Members' respectively

Rule 56 (1)

Replace 'twenty-one Members' and 'ten Members' by
'twenty-three Members' and 'thirteen Members'
respectively

Rule 57

To read as follows:

1. A request that a debate on a proposal on which Parliament has been consulted pursuant to Rule 32 (1) be treated as urgent may be made to Parliament by the President, by at least twenty-three Members, by a committee, by the Commission or by the Council. This request shall be made in writing and supported by reasons.
2. As soon as the President has received a request for urgent debate, he shall inform Parliament thereof; the vote on that request shall be taken at the beginning of the sitting following that during which notification was given of the request, provided that the proposal to which the request relates has been distributed in the official languages. Where there are several requests for urgent debate on the same subject, the approval or rejection of the request for urgent debate shall apply to all the requests on the same subject.
3. Before the vote, only the person making the request, one speaker in favour, one speaker against, and the chairman and/or rapporteur of the committee responsible may be heard, in each case for a maximum of three minutes.
4. Questions to be dealt with by urgent procedure shall be given priority over other items on the agenda. The President shall determine the time of the debate and vote.
5. An urgent debate may be held without a report pursuant to Rule 99 (1) or, exceptionally, on the basis of an oral report by the committee responsible.

Rule 71 (3) and (5)

Replace 'ten Members' by
'thirteen Members'

Rule 74 (3), second subparagraph

Replace 'twenty-one Members' by
'twenty-three Members'

Rule 77 (1)

Ditto

Rule 85

To read as follows:

1. Referral back to committee may be requested by any Member at any time, during the debate before final voting begins, subject to Rule 81 (2).

A request for referral back to committee may also be made at the beginning of each part-session, during the discussion of the draft agenda, subject to the same conditions as for an amendment to the draft agenda pursuant to Rule 56 (1).

Application of Rule 36 (2) does not preclude a request for referral back to committee pursuant to Rule 85.

The vote shall be taken immediately on the request for referral back to committee. (If a check on the quorum has been requested and the quorum is not present, the provisions of Rule 71 (3) final sentence and Rule 85 (2) shall not apply and Parliament shall proceed with the debate.)

2. The matter shall be referred back to the committee responsible where, pursuant to Rule 71 (3), two votes have been taken following a request for a check on the quorum, without the quorum being present.

Paragraph 2 shall not apply to votes on procedural motions but only to votes on the subject matter itself.

3. Referral back to committee shall entail suspension of the discussion and vote in plenary sitting on the amendments, and the vote on the motion for a resolution. If the request for referral back to committee is accepted after a Member has already spoken on behalf of a political group, only one Member may speak from each political group which has not yet provided a speaker in that debate.

4. When referring a matter back to the committee responsible, Parliament may set a time limit within which the committee shall report its conclusions.

5. If a motion requesting referral back to committee is rejected, it shall not be tabled again during that debate.

Rule 86 (1)

Replace 'ten Members' by
'thirteen Members'

Rule 88

Ditto

Rule 92 (2)

Ditto

Rule 96 (2)

Replace 'nine Members' by
'twelve Members'

Rule 99 (1), *second subparagraph*

Replace 'three Members' by
'four Members'

Rule 99 (2), *second subparagraph*

Replace 'three Members' by
'four Members' (twice)

Rule 111 (4)

Replace 'ten Members' by
'thirteen Members'

ANNEX III

Article 2 (2)

Replace 'five Members' by
'seven Members'

Article 3 (4), *second subparagraph*

Replace 'three votes' and 'twenty-one Members' by
'four votes' and 'twenty-three Members' respectively

Article 5 (3)

Replace 'five Members' by
'seven Members'

Article 6 (1)

Ditto

Article 7 (2)

Ditto