

6.2.2019

A8-0024/12

**Amendment 12**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital J**

*Motion for a resolution*

J. whereas four fact-finding visits took place in 2018, conducted pursuant to Rule 216a of the Rules of Procedure: to Lusatia (Germany) on the impact of lignite mining on the local population, in particular the Sorb community, and on the pollution of the river Spree and adjacent waters; to Famagusta (Cyprus) concerning the return of the closed area of the occupied town of Famagusta to the original inhabitants; to Doñana (Spain) on the environmental situation and possible degradation in the protected area of the Doñana National Park; and to Valledora (Italy) on environmental damage due to landfill sites and quarries;

*Amendment*

J. whereas four fact-finding visits took place in 2018, conducted pursuant to Rule 216a of the Rules of Procedure: to Lusatia (Germany) on the impact of lignite mining on the local population, in particular the Sorb community, and on the pollution of the river Spree and adjacent waters; to Famagusta (Cyprus) concerning the return of the closed area of the occupied town of Famagusta to the original inhabitants; to Doñana (Spain) on the environmental situation and possible degradation in the protected area of the Doñana National Park ***due to a gas storage project and the overexploitation of underground water resources***; and to Valledora (Italy) on environmental damage due to landfill sites and quarries;

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/13

**Amendment 13**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital P**

*Motion for a resolution*

P. whereas a number of technical improvements have been implemented in order to make the Petitions web portal more user-friendly and accessible to citizens, such as further development of the search function, increasing the number of displayed results and allowing users to locate petitions via highlighted keywords in the petition title and summary, and the implementation of more specific notifications to users in their own language; whereas portal statistics were made available from the second half of 2018, providing useful data regarding website traffic and user behaviour; whereas the technical improvements have continued, with the introduction of a new frequently asked questions (FAQ) editor and other improvements in the administration module; whereas a large number of individual support requests have been handled successfully;

*Amendment*

P. whereas a number of technical improvements have been implemented in order to make the Petitions web portal more user-friendly and accessible to citizens, such as further development of the search function, increasing the number of displayed results and allowing users to locate petitions via highlighted keywords in the petition title and summary, and the implementation of more specific notifications to users in their own language; whereas portal statistics were made available from the second half of 2018, providing useful data regarding website traffic and user behaviour; whereas the technical improvements have continued, with the introduction of a new frequently asked questions (FAQ) editor and other improvements in the administration module; whereas a large number of individual support requests have been handled successfully; ***whereas some features that will render the portal more interactive and a real-time source of information for both petitioners and supporters are yet to be fully implemented;***

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/14

**Amendment 14**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Reiterates the need for a continuous public debate about the Union's **fields of activity, its limits and its future in order** to ensure that citizens are well informed about the levels at which decisions are taken and to prevent the 'blame Brussels' phenomenon used by some irresponsible Member States; calls for more intensive and structured **biannual** dialogue between the Committee on Petitions and Members of Committees on Petitions in the national parliaments on petitions dealing with issues of major concern to European citizens stimulating a genuine debate between MEPs and national MPs centred on petitions that would further raise awareness of EU policies and clarity on the competences of the EU and of the Member States;

*Amendment*

4. Reiterates the need for a continuous public debate about the Union's future, **and the need** to ensure that citizens are well informed about the levels at which decisions are taken and to prevent the 'blame Brussels' phenomenon used by some irresponsible Member States; calls for more intensive and structured **regular** dialogue between the Committee on Petitions and Members of Committees on Petitions in the national parliaments on petitions dealing with issues of major concern to European citizens stimulating a genuine debate between MEPs and national MPs centred on petitions that would further raise awareness of EU policies and clarity on the competences of the EU and of the Member States;

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/15

**Amendment 15**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. Confirms the need to strengthen political and technical dialogue with the relevant committees of the national parliaments; welcomes the visit of the Petitions Committee of the German Bundestag to the committee meeting of 9 October 2018 to raise issues of common interest and to discuss relevant petitions; highlights the Interparliamentary Committee Meeting with National Parliaments of 27 November 2018, organised together with the Committee on Legal Affairs and in cooperation with the European Network of Ombudsmen, which addressed the topic of the implementation and application of Union law;

*Amendment*

10. Confirms the need to strengthen political and technical dialogue with the relevant committees of the national parliaments; welcomes the visit of the Petitions Committee of the German Bundestag to the committee meeting of 9 October 2018 to raise issues of common interest and to discuss relevant petitions; highlights the Interparliamentary Committee Meeting with National Parliaments of 27 November 2018, organised together with the Committee on Legal Affairs and in cooperation with the European Network of Ombudsmen, which addressed the topic of the implementation and application of Union law ***and, in particular, the role of petitions to parliaments in this regard;***

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/16

**Amendment 16**  
**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**  
**Cecilia Wikström**  
Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 21**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

21. Is convinced that the Secretariat of the Committee on Petitions handles petitions ***efficiently and with great care according to the committee's guidelines and the petitions lifecycle in the EP administration***; calls for ***further innovations*** in the treatment of petitions, taking stock of the most recent technological developments, in order to render the whole process clearer and more transparent for European citizens;

21. Is convinced that the Secretariat of the Committee on Petitions handles petitions ***in accordance with the committee's guidelines***; calls for ***more human resources to be allocated to the task in order to ensure the best service*** in the treatment of petitions, ***alongside further innovations*** taking stock of the most recent technological developments, in order to render the whole process clearer and more transparent for European citizens ***and residents***;

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/17

**Amendment 17**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 22**

*Motion for a resolution*

22. Highlights the importance of the Petitions web portal for the overall smooth and *efficient* processing of petitions; points out that one of the priorities *for the next period* is to improve communication with the petitioners through their accounts, in order to ease the administrative burden and speed up petition processing times; reiterates the need to continue the technical development of the portal, to align it to the standards of Parliament's website and to increase its visibility both on the EP platform and among citizens; stresses that efforts must be continued to make the portal more accessible to its users, in particular to persons with disabilities;

*Amendment*

22. Highlights the importance of the Petitions web portal for the overall smooth and *transparent* processing of petitions; points out that one of the *immediate* priorities is to improve communication with the petitioners *and supporters* through their accounts, in order to ease the administrative burden and speed up petition processing times; reiterates the need to continue the technical development of the portal, to align it to the standards of Parliament's website and to increase its visibility both on the EP platform and among citizens; stresses that efforts must be continued to make the portal more accessible to its users, in particular to persons with disabilities;

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/18

**Amendment 18**  
**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**  
**Cecilia Wikström**  
Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2a. Recalls that for the majority of EU residents, it is evident that submitting petitions to Parliament is either the only or the easiest way to communicate with the EU institutions directly; considers that the petition procedure serves as an effective way to maintain the practical and emotional ties between EU institutions and citizens, and as an instrument for instilling greater confidence in the Union;**

Or. en

6.2.2019

A8-0024/19

**Amendment 19**

**Miroslavs Mitrofanovs**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Report**

**Cecilia Wikström**

Deliberations of the Committee on Petitions 2018  
(2018/2280(INI))

**A8-0024/2019**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 22 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***22a. Suggests that the necessary administrative steps be taken to effectively facilitate the submission of petitions in the various regional and traditional minority languages of the EU; considers that this would further guarantee that millions of EU citizens and residents can exercise such a right;***

Or. en