

Use by Parliament of the symbols of the Union (new Rule 202a)

European Parliament decision of 9 October 2008 on insertion in Parliament's Rules of Procedure of a new Rule 202a on the use by Parliament of the symbols of the Union (2007/2240(REG))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 11 July 2007 on the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference¹, in particular paragraph 23 thereof,
 - having regard to the letter from its President of 12 September 2007,
 - having regard to the importance of symbols for reconnecting the citizens with the European Union and for building a European identity which is complementary to the national identities of the Member States,
 - having regard to the fact that the symbols have been in use for over 30 years by all European Institutions and were formally approved by the European Council in 1985²,
 - having regard to Rules 201 and 202 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (A6-0347/2008),
1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as shown below;
 2. Decides that the amendment will enter into force on the day following its adoption;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Council and the Commission, for information.

Amendment 1

Parliament's Rules of Procedure

Title XIII – Miscellaneous Provisions – Rule 202 a (new)

Present text

Amendment

Rule 202a

The symbols of the Union

1. Parliament shall recognise and espouse the following symbols of the Union:

¹ OJ C 175 E, 10.7.2008, p. 347.

² Milan European Council of 28 and 29 June 1985.

- the flag showing a circle of twelve golden stars on a blue background;*
- the anthem based on the ‘Ode to Joy’ from the Ninth Symphony by Ludwig van Beethoven;*
- the motto 'United in diversity'.*

2. Parliament shall celebrate Europe Day on 9 May.

3. The flag shall be flown at all Parliament premises and on the occasion of official events. The flag shall be used in each meeting room of the Parliament.

4. The anthem shall be performed at the opening of each constitutive sitting and at other solemn sittings, notably to welcome heads of State or government or to greet new Members following enlargements.

5. The motto shall be reproduced on Parliament's official documents.

6. The Bureau shall examine further use of the symbols within the Parliament. The Bureau shall lay down detailed provisions for the implementation of this Rule.