REPORT


Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Rapporteur: Czesław Adam Siekierski

(Simplified procedure – Rule 50(1) of the Rules of Procedure)
## Symbols for procedures

* Consultation procedure  
*** Consent procedure  
***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)  
***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)  
***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)  

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

## Amendments to a draft act

Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns

Deletions are indicated in *bold italics* in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in *bold italics* in both columns. New text is indicated in *bold italics* in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text

New text is highlighted in *bold italics*. Deletions are indicated using either the | symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in *bold italics* and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.
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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION


(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2015)0141),
– having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 43(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0083/2015),
– having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
– having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,
– having regard to Rules 59 and 50(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
– having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A8-0174/2015),

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;

2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;

3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

¹ Opinion of 22.4.2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
ANNEX

PE-CONS 27/15 - 2015/0070(COD)

REGULATION (EU) 2015/...
OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of ...

fixing the adjustment rate provided for in Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 for direct payments in respect of the calendar year 2015

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure²,

¹ Opinion of 22.4.2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
² Position of the European Parliament of [...] (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of [...] .
Whereas:

(1) Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council\(^1\) provides that a reserve intended to provide additional support for the agricultural sector in the case of major crises affecting agricultural production or distribution is to be established by applying, at the beginning of each year, a reduction to direct payments with the financial discipline mechanism referred to in Article 26 of that Regulation.

(2) Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 provides that, in order to ensure that the annual ceilings set out in Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013\(^2\) for the financing of the market-related expenditure and direct payments are respected, an adjustment rate for direct payments is to be determined when the forecasts for the financing of the measures financed under that sub-ceiling for a given financial year indicate that the applicable annual ceilings will be exceeded.

(3) The amount of the reserve for crises in the agricultural sector, to be included in the Commission 2016 Draft Budget, totals EUR 441.6 million in current prices. To cover that amount, the financial discipline mechanism has to apply to direct payments under the support schemes listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council\(^3\) in respect of the calendar year 2015.

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(4) The preliminary forecasts for the direct payments and market-related expenditure to be determined in the Commission 2016 Draft Budget indicate that there is no need for any further financial discipline.

(5) Article 26(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 requires the Commission to present a proposal to the European Parliament and to the Council concerning the adjustment rate no later than 31 March of the calendar year in respect of which that adjustment rate applies.

(6) As a general rule, farmers submitting an aid application for direct payments for one calendar year (N) are paid within a fixed payment period falling within the financial year (N+1). However, Member States may make late payments to farmers beyond that payment period, within certain time limits. Such late payments may be made in a subsequent financial year. When financial discipline is applied for a given calendar year, the adjustment rate should not be applied to payments for which aid applications have been submitted in calendar years other than the calendar year for which the financial discipline applies. Therefore, in order to ensure equal treatment of farmers, it is appropriate to provide that the adjustment rate is to be applied only to payments for which aid applications have been submitted in the calendar year for which the financial discipline is applied, irrespective of when the payment to farmers is made.
Article 8(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 provides that the adjustment rate applied to direct payments determined in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 is to apply only to direct payments in excess of EUR 2 000 to be granted to farmers in the corresponding calendar year. Furthermore, Article 8(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 provides that, as a result of the gradual introduction of direct payments, the adjustment rate is to apply to Bulgaria and Romania only from 1 January 2016 and to Croatia only from 1 January 2022. The adjustment rate to be determined by this Regulation should therefore not apply to payments to farmers in those Member States.

Until 1 December 2015, the adjustment rate fixed by this Regulation may be adapted by the Commission, on the basis of new information in its possession, pursuant to Article 26(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:
Article 1

1. For the purpose of fixing the adjustment rate in accordance with Articles 25 and 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, and in accordance with Article 8(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, the amounts of direct payments under the support schemes listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 to be granted to farmers in excess of EUR 2 000 for an aid application submitted in respect of the calendar year 2015 shall be reduced by an adjustment rate of 1,393041%.

2. The reduction provided for in paragraph 1 shall not apply in Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania.
Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at ..., 

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President
**PROCEDURE**

| Title | Adjustment rate provided for in Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 for direct payments in respect of calendar year 2015 |
| Date submitted to Parliament | 26.3.2015 |
| Committee responsible Date announced in plenary | AGRI 15.4.2015 |
| Committees asked for opinions Date announced in plenary | BUDG 15.4.2015, REGI 15.4.2015 |
| Not delivering opinions Date of decision | BUDG 27.4.2015, REGI 5.5.2015 |
| Rapporteurs Date appointed | Czesław Adam Siekierski 14.4.2015 |
| Simplified procedure - date of decision | 14.4.2015 |
| Discussed in committee | 5.5.2015 |
| Date adopted | 28.5.2015 |
| Date tabled | 1.6.2015 |