



2017/2273(INI)

31.1.2018

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on monitoring the application of EU law 2016
(2017/2273(INI))

Rapporteur: Marijana Petir

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Maintains that effective application of EU law is essential in order to realise the benefits which EU policies bring to citizens and businesses and that uniform application of EU law in all Member States is central to the EU's success;
2. Points out that the Commission has the power and the duty to oversee the application of EU law and to institute infringement proceedings against a Member State that has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Treaties;
3. Welcomes the Commission's decision¹ to respond to infringements promptly, and supports its efforts to resolve implementation problems informally; calls on the Commission to improve the EU Pilot problem-solving system;
4. Expresses its concern at the increase in the total number of infringement procedures in 2016, making the figure for such cases the highest to have been recorded in the last five years;
5. Calls on the Commission closely to monitor environment-related infringement cases with a cross-border dimension, including correct transposition and application of EU law in future Member States;
6. Notes that the number of infringement proceedings concerning the environment fell in 2016 compared with 2015, but that there was an increase in the number of procedures in the area of health and food safety, and calls on the Commission to bring particular attention to bear on that point;
7. Calls on the Commission, when drafting and assessing legislation, to take greater account of the need to reduce the administrative burden for SMEs;
8. Considers that, in line with the Commission's efforts to produce better and more effective EU legislation², the application of the subsidiarity and proportionality principles should always be taken into account.

¹ C(2016)8600, SL C 18, 19 January 2017.

² COM(2017)0651, 24 October 2017.