# **European Parliament**

2019-2024



### Plenary sitting

A9-0310/2023

27.10.2023

# **REPORT**

on European Union regulatory fitness and subsidiarity and proportionality – report on Better Law-Making covering 2020, 2021 and 2022 (2023/2079(INI))

Committee on Legal Affairs

Rapporteur: Catharina Rinzema

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# PR\_INI

## **CONTENTS**

	Page
MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION	3
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	10
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS	11
INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	18
FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	19

#### MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on European Union regulatory fitness and subsidiarity and proportionality – report on Better Law-Making covering 2020, 2021 and 2022 (2023/2079(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union,
- having regard to Protocol No 1 on the role of national parliaments in the European Union<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to Protocol No 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality<sup>2</sup>,
- having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2003 on better law-making<sup>3</sup>, and to the most recent version, the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making<sup>4</sup>,
- having regard to the practical arrangements agreed on 22 July 2011 between the competent services of the European Parliament and the Council for the implementation of Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union in the event of agreements at first reading,
- having regard to the Commission's 2020, 2021 and 2022 annual reports on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and on relations with national parliaments of 23 July 2021 (COM(2021)0417), 1 August 2022 (COM(2022)0366) and 12 October 2023 (COM(2023)640) respectively,
- having regard to its resolution of 9 June 2016 for an open, efficient and independent European Union administration<sup>5</sup>,
- having regard to its resolution of 24 June 2021 on European Union regulatory fitness and subsidiarity and proportionality – report on Better Law Making covering the years 2017, 2018 and 2019<sup>6</sup>,
- having regard to the Commission communication of 29 April 2021 entitled 'Better regulation: Joining forces to make better laws' (COM(2021)0219),
- having regard to its resolution of 7 July 2022 entitled 'Better regulation: Joining forces

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ C 202, 7.6.2016, p. 203.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OJ C 202, 7.6.2016, p. 206.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> OJ C 321, 31.12.2003, p. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> OJ C 86, 6.3.2018, p. 126.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> OJ C 81, 18.2.2022, p. 74.

- to make better laws'7,
- having regard to the Commission communication of 23 October 2018 entitled 'The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality: Strengthening their role in the EU's policymaking' (COM(2018)0703),
- having regard to the Cooperation Agreement signed on 5 February 2014 between the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions,
- having regard to all the previous Commission communications to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions on the need for better regulation in order to achieve better results for the benefit of EU citizens,
- having regard to Rule 54 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Legal Affairs (A9-0310/2023),
- A. whereas, since 2018, the Commission has continued to apply its reinforced better regulation agenda by integrating the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality at all stages of policymaking; whereas it started merging reports on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality in the drafting of EU legislation with reports on its relations with national parliaments, giving more importance to the views of national parliaments and avoiding overlaps between the two annual reports;
- B. whereas there is still the need to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens to make sure that EU laws deliver their intended benefits while reducing unnecessary costs, particularly for citizens and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); whereas, 'Better Regulation' should deliver for all and serve the interests of European society;
- C. whereas ensuring the coherence of EU legislation can significantly facilitate its implementation;
- D. whereas the mandate of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board includes checking the quality of impact assessments;
- E. whereas national parliaments are the natural guardians of the subsidiarity principle and have the right to monitor it through the Early Warning System (EWS), according to which when a national parliament and/or chamber considers that a legislative proposal does not respect the principle of subsidiarity, it may adopt a reasoned opinion;

### On subsidiarity

1. Recalls that the principle of subsidiarity enshrined in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union aims to ensure that decisions are taken as closely as possible to citizens and that constant checks are carried out to verify that action at EU level is justified;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> OJ C 47, 7.2.2023, p. 250.

- recalls that the principle of proportionality requires that any action taken by the EU should not go beyond what is necessary to achieve the objectives of the Treaties;
- 2. Welcomes the measure to help national parliaments execute their role more effectively by excluding the period from 20 December to 10 January from the eight-week period during which national parliaments can submit reasoned opinions, which has produced positive results, and invites the Commission to evaluate the possibility of further extending this period;
- 3. Notes that the number of reasoned opinions received from EU national parliaments was 9 in 2020, 16 in 2021 and 34 in 2022; underlines that since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty in 2009, the EU national parliaments have activated the Early Warning System or 'yellow card' on only three occasions, and that no 'orange card' (the system according to which half of the national parliaments raise an objection to a Commission proposal) has ever been drawn;
- 4. Notes that, of the 16 reasoned opinions received in 2021, nine were related to the 'Fit for 55' package, three to the European Health Union package, two to the Pact on Migration and Asylum, one to the proposal for a directive on adequate minimum wages in the EU and one to the proposal amending the VAT Directive<sup>8</sup> as regards conferral of implementing powers to the Commission to determine the meaning of the terms used in certain provisions of that directive; notes as well that, of the nine reasoned opinions received in 2020, three concerned the proposal for a regulation establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality (European Climate Law<sup>9</sup>) adopted by the Commission on 4 March 2020;
- 5. Notes also that, in 2020, of a total number of 39 chambers of national parliaments, only eight issued reasoned opinions, that, in 2021, that number fell to seven and that, in 2022, it increased to 13;
- 6. Notes that in 2021, national parliaments submitted 360 opinions, while in 2020 they submitted only 225; further notes, however, that the trend in the number of opinions and reasoned opinions in the period 2007-2022 demonstrates that national parliaments are increasingly asking for more political dialogue and a greater involvement in the debate on EU policies;
- 7. Calls on the Commission to take greater account of the opinions expressed by the European Committee of the Regions through the Subsidiarity Monitoring Network created to facilitate the exchange of information between regional and local authorities and the Union on the various legislative proposals which, following their adoption, will have a direct impact on these bodies and on the policies for which they are responsible;

### On fostering the inclusion of national parliaments

8. Emphasises the importance of the participation of national parliaments in the process of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Council Directive 2006/112/EC of 28 November 2006 on the common system of value added tax (OJ L 347, 11.12.2006, p. 1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 (OJ L 243, 9.7.2021, p. 1).

law-making at EU level; highlights the crucial role of national parliaments in the prelegislative scrutiny of draft EU laws, which enhances the legitimacy and quality of EU legislation; notes that current forms of cooperation with national parliaments could be improved; calls for the InterParliamentary EU Information Exchange (IPEX) platform, which facilitates the electronic exchange of EU-related information between Member State national parliaments and the European Parliament, to be further refined, with the addition of an effective notification system for national parliamentarians;

- 9. Stresses the importance of promoting dialogue between Members of national parliaments and Members of the European Parliament; highlights the need for the European Parliament's committees to engage directly with national parliaments with specific thematic focuses; invites the Commission to evaluate the possibility for the EU to involve national parliaments at an earlier stage of the legislative procedure, more specifically when consultations take place;
- 10. Encourages national parliaments to take into account the reasoned opinions of regional parliaments with legislative powers in their reasoned final opinions which are sent to the Presidents of Parliament, the Council and the Commission, particularly when regional exclusive competences may be affected;
- 11. Supports the consolidation of responses if seven or more national parliaments issue reasoned opinions on one of the Commission's legislative proposals, despite the threshold for initiating the 'yellow card' procedure not having been reached; insists that every reasoned opinion by a national parliament receive a detailed response from the Commission;
- 12. Suggests that its Committee on Legal Affairs hold a genuine discussion of the national parliament reasoned opinions that are sent to it, alerting its members when at least two reasoned opinions criticise the same proposal;
- 13. Recalls the utmost importance of parliamentary scrutiny in the Union's legislative process and reiterates its call for Parliament's right to initiate policy proposals;
- 14. Shares the concerns expressed by national parliaments that the Commission's insufficient factual explanations when proposing draft legislative acts prevent them from performing a solid assessment of the subsidiarity and proportionality principles;

#### On improving regulatory fitness and EU law-making for an effective single market

- 15. Continues to support the Commission's commitment to *ex ante* evaluation before considering possible legislative changes or new initiatives; believes that the EU and the authorities of the Member States should continue to work closely together to ensure better evaluation of the real impact of EU regulations on citizens and businesses, notably SMEs; stresses the importance of the application and implementation of the 'think small first' principle;
- 16. Emphasises that the impact assessment is a key instrument of the 'Better Regulation' programme to ensure that subsidiarity and proportionality are respected and is used to

promote the accountability of Commission initiatives likely to have a significant economic, social or environmental impact; calls on the Commission to carry out gender impact assessments for the design of legislative proposals;

- 17. Calls on the Commission to develop a more integrated approach to sustainability that would better take into account the interplay of the economic, social and environmental impacts of EU policies and legislation; considers that impact assessments must pay equal attention to the evaluation of these impacts; highlights the need to develop additional tools to assess the social and environmental impacts of new policies, initiatives and legislation where the existing tools are insufficient, in order to ensure that the Green Deal policy ambitions and their linkage to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals will feature more prominently in the Commission's impact assessments;
- 18. Notes that, in 2020, the Regulatory Scrutiny Board examined a total of 53 impact assessments, that in 12 cases, it estimated that it was necessary to improve their analysis of subsidiarity and EU added value, and that 30 opinions contained comments on proportionality; notes that, in 2018, it examined 75 impact assessments, that in 16 cases it was necessary to improve their analysis of subsidiarity and EU added value, and that 47 opinions contained remarks aimed at improving the analysis of proportionality and comparisons of policy options; underlines that, in 2019, the board examined only one impact assessment;
- 19. Stresses that the Regulatory Scrutiny Board aims to provide an effective check on the Commission's work with independence and impartiality; calls, in this regard, for the strengthening of the independence of the board, including by ensuring a well-balanced composition that reflects a broad set of backgrounds and competences; calls for increased transparency of the board, including by publishing all its opinions immediately after adoption, by declaring its meetings with interest groups and by making the use of the Transparency Register mandatory for its members; underlines that, while the advice of the board should be taken into account by the Commission to improve impact assessments, evaluations and fitness checks, it should in no way affect the Commission's capacity to propose legislation; calls for closer cooperation between the board and the co-legislators;
- 20. Welcomes the Commission's commitment to subjecting EU legislative proposals to an SME test; welcomes its increased accessibility; regrets, however, that the test is not conducted systematically and consistently; calls for the test to be binding and updated throughout the whole legislative process in order to ensure clear and predictable EU legislation; recommends that the SME test differentiate between different size-classes of SMEs to ensure proportionality; underlines the need to monitor and assess the implementation and quality of the SME test;
- 21. Stresses that the quality of the EU's regulatory framework is crucial for the Union's competitiveness; welcomes the Commission communication entitled 'Long-term competitiveness of the EU: looking beyond 2030'10 and the commitment therein to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Commission communication of 16 March 2023 entitled 'Long-term competitiveness of the EU: looking

better assess the cumulative impacts of different policy measures with a view to developing a methodology complementary to the competitiveness check currently used in impact assessments<sup>11</sup>; deplores, however, the fact that the promised methodology has not yet been developed and that the current competitiveness check focuses only on individual legislative proposals; calls, therefore, on the Commission to promptly develop a comprehensive methodology covering the cumulative effects of the relevant policy measures on the EU's competitiveness; calls, furthermore, for the competitiveness check to not only be performed on the impact assessments of single EU legislative proposals, but also on legislative packages<sup>12</sup> and the Commission work programme as a whole;

- 22. Notes with concern that, in 2022, 58 % of the impact assessments provided insufficient quantification of costs relevant to the 'one in, one out' approach<sup>13</sup>; calls, therefore, on the Commission to clarify the implementation of the 'one in, one out' approach in law-making, to better indicate what costs and benefits were considered and to provide clear information on the reduction of existing regulatory burdens;
- 23. Is concerned about the possible unintended consequences of some EU legislation for citizens and businesses, which hamper the transition towards a sustainable economy; stresses the importance of a holistic approach towards *ex post* evaluation; calls, therefore, on the Commission to come up with a thorough *ex post* 'practice check' aimed at clarifying any supporting best practices, as well as stumbling blocks, such as bureaucracy that acts as a hindrance, preventing citizens and businesses from making the necessary sustainable transition;
- 24. Calls for further transparency in decision-making processes within all institutions; deplores the Council's lack of transparency and its practice of over-classifying documents; urges the Council to increase the number of documents it makes public, in particular the positions expressed by the Member States, thereby allowing the public to be aware of the position of their government and enhancing scrutiny by national parliaments;
- 25. Stresses that the lack of a coherent and comprehensive set of codified rules on good administration applicable across the Union makes it difficult for citizens and businesses to easily and fully understand their rights under Union law; believes that codifying the rules on good administration would reinforce citizens' rights and transparency, and would respond to the need for investment and reform in the European Union; calls on the Commission to come forward with a legislative proposal on a European law of

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beyond 2030' (COM(2023)0168).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> COM(2023)0168, p.17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> For example, the 'Fit for 55' package.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Regulatory Scrutiny Board, 'Annual Report 2022', Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 16 May 2023, p. 25.

administrative procedure, taking into account the steps taken by Parliament in this field;

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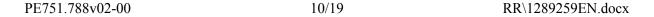
26. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee and the national parliaments of the Member States.

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The report on subsidiarity and proportionality aims to analyse the application of these principles by the European institutions and their partners with a view to meeting the expectations of citizens and their national institutions.

The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality are fundamental principles inherent to the efficient running of the Union. The Lisbon Treaty gave these principles a position of prominence, enshrining them in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union.

The principle of subsidiarity is a rule governing the allocation of powers between the Union and its Member States. Outside the areas of exclusive competence, the EU may only take action where it is able to act more effectively than the Member States at their respective national or local levels. The principle of proportionality requires that the means used by the EU to achieve the objectives laid down in the Treaties may not go beyond what is necessary.



#### OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on European Union regulatory fitness and subsidiarity and proportionality – report on Better Law Making covering 2020, 2021 and 2022 (2023/2079(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion: Jacek Saryusz-Wolski

#### SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

- 1. Notes that the number of reasoned opinions received from national parliaments in 2020 amounted to 131 out of 134 submissions formally received by Parliament under Protocol No 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality<sup>2</sup>; notes the increase in the submission of reasoned opinions in 2021 to 24 out of 227 submissions; observes that the total number of opinions received also rose from 255 in 2020 to 360 in 2021, reflecting the increased number of proposals presented by the Commission; stresses the need to evaluate the differences in approach among the Member States and underlines the need to encourage the wider participation of all national parliaments in the decision-making process;
- 2. Believes that European legislation should be fit for purpose, proportionate, clear, transparent, future-proof and comprehensive in order to effectively benefit citizens and stakeholders:
- Recalls the utmost importance of parliamentary scrutiny in the Union's legislative 3. process and reiterates its call for Parliament's right to initiate policy proposals;
- 4 Underlines that better law-making is a centrepiece of the 'ever closer Union' and an objective shared by all EU institutions; reiterates that regulatory fitness, subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as transparency, accountability and cooperation between the institutions, Member States, citizens and stakeholders, ensuring full respect of all fundamental European values, are essential prerequisites for EU democracy;

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 115, 9.5.2008, p. 206.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See for methodological differences in counting footnote 50 on page 9 of the Commission Annual report for 2020 (COM(2021)0417). The Commission counts 9 reasoned opinions for statistical purposes.

- 5. Underlines the role that national parliaments play in shaping EU policies and legislation, as outlined in Protocol No 1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; calls on the Commission and the co-legislators to support the active engagement of national parliaments in the EU legislative process; considers that the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality (Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union) should remain guiding principles in the development of EU and Member States' policies in areas of shared competence, focusing EU efforts on significant issues with EU added value that require collective action; reiterates the need to avoid unnecessary administrative burdens when designing, transposing and implementing EU acts in order to keep the burden for citizens and businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as low as possible, while ensuring that the objectives of the legislation are met;
- 6. Calls for the 'one in, one out' approach to be applied as it plays an important role in supporting efforts to simplify EU law and reduce red tape in order to support the recovery and resilience of the EU; calls on the Commission to consider best practices at national level, including a reduction of the regulatory burden affecting SMEs by at least 30 % in order to decrease cost pressures and promote competitiveness;
- 7. Underlines the importance of fully using the existing instruments for strengthening the role of participatory democracy in the Union's legislative process, such as the European Citizens' Initiative, the right to petition Parliament, as outlined in Article 44 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and the further implementation of Citizens' Assemblies;
- 8. Calls for providing for sufficient resources with the Parliament services entitled to support the Members' capacity to improve their function as co-legislator, such as Parliament's Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value;
- 9. Calls for improved comprehensive impact assessments with a special focus on SMEs, including a binding SME test within the impact assessment phase to fully assess the economic impact, including compliance costs of legislative proposals on SMEs; calls for the test to be updated throughout the whole legislative process; recommends a comprehensive review of the SME test including the use of appropriate tools to facilitate SME input, the regular revision of impact assessments and differentiation between different SME size categories; draws attention to the importance of solid impact assessments that take the competitiveness of European businesses into account;
- 10. Recalls the experiences that were gained from the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in the need for coordinated action to ensure an effective public health response; underlines that close coordination between the institutions and Member States would be needed to create an utmost European added value on public health matters for all EU citizens;
- 11. Encourages the Commission and the Member States to streamline procedures and implement the 'once-only' and 'digital by default' principles, thereby facilitating administrative processes for citizens and businesses alike;
- 12. Welcomes the adoption, in November 2021, of new better regulation guidelines and a new toolbox, which was updated in July 2023 and also includes the production of

subsidiarity assessment grids that are currently limited to proposals for politically sensitive and important initiatives accompanied by an impact assessment; believes that the Commission's better regulation toolbox should be amended to more prominently evaluate the impact of the Commission's proposals on future generations; highlights that the toolbox does not provide a clear definition of the European Green Deal's 'do no harm' principle, leaving it up to the Commission's services to determine if a policy option would cause harm; regrets the fact that there is a risk of the rule being inconsistently implemented without a clear definition;

- 13. Welcomes the Commission's integration of strategic foresight and the mainstreaming of sustainable development goals that reflect the need to anticipate future challenges in the policymaking process, and to ensure that all legislative proposals contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- 14. Recalls that the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making<sup>3</sup> stipulates that the Commission should outline, in its explanatory memoranda, how its proposed measures are justified in the light of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality; points out that this requires that, as a general rule, every Commission proposal should be duly accompanied by an impact assessment that evaluates the initiative's compliance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as the potential generation of European added value;
- 15. Points out that the structural consultation of stakeholders on all new EU policy initiatives is critical to assess their proportionality; welcomes the Commission's efforts to consolidate the consultation process; believes that the public consultation process for strategic initiatives can be further strengthened, in particular to improve outreach to under-represented groups, such as SMEs, young people and minorities;
- 16. Urges the Commission to provide comprehensive training and resources to national parliaments, enabling them to better understand and evaluate the implications of EU proposals, thereby promoting a more informed and constructive debate at national level;
- 17. Stresses the need for greater public awareness and understanding of the EU's legislative processes; proposes the launch of educational campaigns and initiatives aimed at informing the public about the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and the role of national parliaments in shaping EU decisions and the importance of their active participation;
- 18. Reiterates its call for the establishment of a permanent participatory mechanism for citizens in the lead-up to the adoption of the Commission's annual work programme and calls, therefore, to revise the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making;
- 19. Is concerned about the persistent lack of transparency in the Council's decision-making process and the practice of over-classifying documents and applying an excessively broad interpretation of the exceptions included under Regulation (EC) 1049/2001<sup>4</sup>; calls on the three institutions to ensure a forward-looking and consistent application of the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Interinstitutional agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making, OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

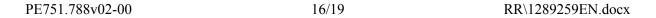
- abovementioned Regulation, allowing appropriate access to registered documents and to all types of communications, provided that they concern a matter relating to the policies, activities and decisions falling within the institution's sphere of responsibility;
- 20. Notes, with concern, the European Council's practice of 'tasking the Council and the Commission' which goes beyond the role of strategic guidance assigned to it by the Treaties, and which is therefore contrary to both the words and spirit of the Treaties; considers it necessary to respect the division of competences as defined in the Treaties in order to ensure the independence and good functioning of the legislative process;
- 21. Notes that, in 2020 and 2021, no Commission proposals reached the threshold of four countries to trigger an aggregate response from the Commission to the reasoned opinions from national parliaments; invites and encourages national and regional parliaments to prioritise resources for subsidiarity and proportionality checks in order to strengthen their scrutiny of EU decision-making processes; calls, at the same time, for a review of the relevant Treaty provisions to strengthen the 'yellow card' procedure and to discuss the possibility of a 'green card' mechanism, in order to enable national parliaments to actively engage in and proactively contribute to the EU decision-making process;
- 22. Encourages national parliaments to systematically include the reasoned opinions of regional parliaments with legislative powers in their reasoned final opinions that are sent to the Presidents of Parliament, the Council and the Commission, especially when regional exclusive competences may be affected;
- 23. Encourages the Commission to have a more active engagement with national and regional parliaments in consultations at the different stages of policy preparation; encourages the Commission, furthermore, to take a more active role in its direct interaction with regional parliaments;
- 24. Recommends to better take into account the role played by the European Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee in the legislative framework as representatives of local and regional authorities and organised civil society; reaffirms the need to reform the European Committee of the Regions in order to maximise its impact in the law-making process;
- 25. Notes that, in 2020, members of the Commission had 101 visits to national parliaments or meetings with national parliament delegations and that in 2021, this number rose to 130; strongly encourages the Commission to further increase its participation in debates on EU proposals in national parliaments;
- 26. Reiterates that an effective enforcement of EU legislation is necessary to ensure that the principles of proportionality and subsidiarity are observed in full; points out that disproportionate regulatory burdens for citizens and businesses can often be attributed to Member State compliance issues; calls on the Commission to enforce EU legislation in full and without undue delay and to therefore leverage all existing tools; stresses that the Commission's enforcement policy must be more predictable and transparent and reinforce legal certainty for all stakeholders;
- 27. Believes that, within the Union's multi-level governance structure, the transparency of

the legislative process is of the utmost importance to ensure public accountability and the legitimacy of the decision-making process; underlines the importance of the EU transparency register in this regard and calls on the institutions to further strengthen its usage; reiterates its call for an independent ethics body to ensure the consistent and full implementation of ethics standards across the EU institutions;

- 28. Considers that, in cases where Parliament exercises the right of initiative, such as on regulations relating to its own composition, the election of its Members, the general conditions for the exercise of its functions, the statute of the Ombudsman as well as the constitution of temporary committees of inquiry, it is necessary to contemplate measures in a future Interinstitutional Agreement that would prevent the Council from refusing to negotiate with Parliament;
- 29. Recommends that the legislative process arising from the right of legislative initiative conferred on Parliament by the Treaties must include a request for the establishment of a legislative calendar for the initiatives concerned, similarly as with the ordinary legislative procedure; underlines, moreover, that such a special legislative procedure must respect the provisions of the Interinstitutional Agreement concerning the institutional obligation of all three institutions to negotiate;
- 30. Notes that current challenges, including the supply of energy and rapid changes in the industrial landscape, require new methods to improve regulatory cooperation; calls, therefore, on the Member States to consider the impact of their national regulations under these constraints and to foster any potential for stronger mutual coordination at EU level.

# INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	20.9.2023
Result of final vote	+: 23 -: 0 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Ana Collado Jiménez, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Salvatore De Meo, Daniel Freund, Charles Goerens, Sandro Gozi, Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Jaak Madison, Victor Negrescu, Max Orville, Paulo Rangel, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, Helmut Scholz, Pedro Silva Pereira, Loránt Vincze, Rainer Wieland
Substitutes present for the final vote	François Alfonsi, Vladimír Bilčík, Mercedes Bresso, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	Sara Skyttedal



# FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

23	+
ECR	Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski
PPE	Vladimír Bilčík, Ana Collado Jiménez, Salvatore De Meo, Paulo Rangel, Sara Skyttedal, Loránt Vincze, Rainer Wieland
Renew	Charles Goerens, Sandro Gozi, Alin Mituţa, Max Orville
S&D	Mercedes Bresso, Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Pascal Durand, Victor Negrescu, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Pedro Silva Pereira
The Left	Helmut Scholz
Verts/ALE	François Alfonsi, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Daniel Freund

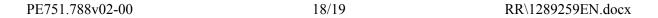
0	-

1	0
ID	Jaak Madison

Key to symbols: + : in favour - : against 0 : abstention

# INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Date adopted	24.10.2023
Result of final vote	+: 24 -: 0 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Pascal Arimont, Geoffroy Didier, Pierre Karleskind, Gilles Lebreton, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Sabrina Pignedoli, Jiří Pospíšil, Franco Roberti, Raffaele Stancanelli, Adrián Vázquez Lázara, Axel Voss, Marion Walsmann
Substitutes present for the final vote	Alessandra Basso, Caterina Chinnici, Heidi Hautala, Antonius Manders, Catharina Rinzema, Kosma Złotowski
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	Andrus Ansip, Jonás Fernández, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Katrin Langensiepen, Philippe Olivier, Anne-Sophie Pelletier



# FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

24	+
ECR	Raffaele Stancanelli, Kosma Złotowski
ID	Alessandra Basso, Gilles Lebreton, Philippe Olivier
NI	Sabrina Pignedoli
PPE	Pascal Arimont, Caterina Chinnici, Antonius Manders, Jiří Pospíšil, Axel Voss, Marion Walsmann
Renew	Andrus Ansip, Pierre Karleskind, Catharina Rinzema, Adrián Vázquez Lázara
S&D	Jonás Fernández, Ibán García Del Blanco, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Franco Roberti
The Left	Anne-Sophie Pelletier
Verts/ALE	Heidi Hautala, Katrin Langensiepen

0	-

0	0

Key to symbols: + : in favour - : against 0 : abstention