

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

2008/2063(INI)

27.5.2008

OPINION

of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

on Parliament's new role and responsibilities implementing the Treaty of
Lisbon
(2008/2063(INI))

Draftsman (*): Niels Busk

(*): Procedure with associated committees - Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the extension of the co-decision procedure to include the common agricultural policy (CAP);
2. Believes that the introduction of the ordinary legislative procedure, i.e. co-decision in the field of the CAP, improves the democratic accountability of the European Union as Parliament, which represents the citizens of the Union, will co-legislate on an equal footing with the Council, which represents the Member States;
3. Stresses that Parliament is the only democratically elected representation of citizens of the Union;
4. Is of the view that the provisions on agriculture need to be expanded to take account of the current situation; stresses, further, that food production must continue to be given priority with a view to security of food supply globally, without losing sight of the problems linked to energy security and environmental protection;
5. Stresses that Parliament needs to ensure that the provisions necessary for pursuit of the objectives of the CAP are laid down in legislative acts, and not left to acts to be adopted by the Council acting alone, or by the Commission within the framework of its powers concerning delegated acts and implementing measures;
6. Emphasises that all current Council legislation adopted on the basis of Articles 36 and 37 of the EC Treaty will fall under the new Article 37(2), i.e. the co-decision procedure; this is notably the case in respect of the four main horizontal texts in the field of agriculture (the single CMO, the Direct Payments Regulation, the Rural Development Regulation and financing of the CAP); points out, moreover, that legislation on quality, organic farming and promotion will also fall within the scope of Article 37(2);
7. Believes that Article 37(3) does not, in itself, constitute an independent power; emphasises that a co-decision act adopted on the basis of Article 37(2) is necessary in order to stipulate whether and how the Council may use its powers under Article 37(3);
8. Calls for it not to be possible for the measures referred to in Article 37(3) to be taken by the Council alone without consulting Parliament;
9. Is of the opinion that no existing Council act could have been adopted on the basis of Article 37(3), and therefore considers the scope and possible application of that paragraph to be invalid as a general basis for legislative acts;
10. Notes that the comitology procedures adopted on the basis of Article 202 of the EC Treaty will be repealed; emphasises the key role that Parliament has to play with regard to Article 249C in formulating a new comitology framework (i.e. by adopting acts in

accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure), especially with regard to the role of committees in the field of agriculture; stresses, therefore, the need to ensure that the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development is represented in the interinstitutional negotiations in which the new comitology framework will be formulated;

11. Underlines that Parliament's specialised committees should be adequately involved in the ongoing discussions on the future comitology regime under the Treaty of Lisbon in order to facilitate a smooth transition from the current system to the future provisions; considers that parliamentary control of delegated acts and implementing measures must be guaranteed;
12. Emphasises the need to strengthen relations, and set up a more intense and regular dialogue with national parliaments, given that the Treaty of Lisbon has, in Article 3b(3), introduced a check by national parliaments based on the principle of subsidiarity;
13. Stresses that the Treaty of Lisbon will apply to all legislative proposals that have been initiated at the time of its coming into force.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|--|
| Date adopted | 27.5.2008 |
| Result of final vote | +: 37 -: 0 0: 0 |
| Members present for the final vote | Vincenzo Aita, Peter Baco, Bernadette Bourzai, Niels Busk, Luis Manuel Capoulas Santos, Giuseppe Castiglione, Giovanna Corda, Joseph Daul, Albert Deß, Gintaras Didžiokas, Constantin Dumitriu, Michl Ebner, Ioannis Gklavakis, Lutz Goepel, Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf, Esther Herranz García, Lily Jacobs, Elisabeth Jeggler, Heinz Kindermann, Vincenzo Lavarra, Stéphane Le Foll, Mairead McGuinness, Rosa Miguélez Ramos, James Nicholson, María Isabel Salinas García, Agnes Schierhuber, Czesław Adam Siekierski, Alyn Smith, Petya Stavreva, Witold Tomczak, Donato Tommaso Veraldi, Janusz Wojciechowski, Andrzej Tomasz Zapałowski |
| Substitute(s) present for the final vote | Liam Aylward, Esther De Lange, Hans-Peter Mayer, Brian Simpson, Struan Stevenson, Kyösti Virrankoski |