



Plenary sitting

B9-0358/2023

1.8.2023

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 143 of the Rules of Procedure

on the need to abolish the European Economic and Social Committee

Filip De Man, Gerolf Annemans, Dominique Bilde, Gunnar Beck, Nicolaus Fest, Roman Haider, Jean-François Jalkh, Joachim Kuhs, Jaak Madison, Gilles Lebreton, Eric Minardi, Guido Reil, Harald Vilimsky, Georg Mayer, Anders Vistisen

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the need to abolish the European Economic and Social Committee

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Treaty of Rome of 1957,
 - having regard to the Treaty of Maastricht of 1992,
 - having regard to the Treaty of Lisbon of 2007,
 - having regard to Rule 143 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) was set up in 1958 to allow civil society organisations to influence EU policy;
- B. whereas Parliament and other EU bodies now interact directly with civil society organisations;
- C. whereas there is no evidence of how the EESC has helped to shape EU policy;
- D. whereas the EESC issued only 131 non-binding opinions in 2020, yet employs almost 700 permanent staff members and costs around EUR 150 million of taxpayers' money annually;
- E. whereas German Federal Parliament member Katharina Willkomm (FDP), former MEP Derk Jan Eppink and current MEP Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP) have underlined the EESC's uselessness;
1. Underlines the complete lack of added value provided by the EESC;
 2. Underlines the EESC's call to increase its budget;
 3. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the Member States to abolish the EESC.