

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3864/03
by Michiel van Hulten (PSE)
to the Council

Subject: Members' Statute

According to information presented to the European Parliament by its rapporteur, an overall compromise on the Statute for Members of the European Parliament could consist of the following elements:

- (a) a separate, autonomous examination, and approval in accordance with the applicable institutional arrangements, of that part of the Statute adopted on 3/4 June which is governed by secondary law and of that part which is governed, instead, by primary law;
- (b) with regard to that part which is governed by primary law, an invitation to Member States to review the 1965 Protocol on Privileges and Immunities in so far as it concerns the Members of the European Parliament and having regard to the lines proposed in the Statute which was adopted on 3/4 June 2003;
- (c) an amendment to the effect that Members' entitlement to an old-age pension is to start as from the age of 63;
- (d) an amendment to the effect that the provision concerning the Community tax to be levied on a Member's allowance shall not prejudice the Member States' power to apply the provisions of national tax law to the allowance, provided that this does not entail any double taxation.

Could the Council agree to the above compromise and approve the Statute for Members if Parliament's decision of 3/4 June 2003 is modified accordingly? If not, why not?