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DRAFT REPORT

on amendments to Parliament's Rules of Procedure concerning the referral of proposals for legally binding acts to committees and the procedure for solving conflicts of competence
(2023/2055(REG))

Committee on Constitutional Affairs

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PROPOSAL FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DECISION

**on amendments to Parliament's Rules of Procedure concerning the referral of proposals for legally binding acts to committees and the procedure for solving conflicts of competence
(2023/2055(REG))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the letter from its President of 12 October 2022,
 - having regard to Rules 236 and 237 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (A9-0000/2023),
1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as shown below;
 2. Points out that the amendments will enter into force on the first day of the next part-session;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Council and the Commission, for information.

Amendment 1

Parliament's Rules of Procedure Rule 48 – paragraph 1

Present text

1. The President shall refer proposals for legally binding acts received from other institutions or Member States to the committee responsible, for consideration.

Amendment

1. The President shall refer proposals for legally binding acts received from other institutions or Member States to the committee responsible, for consideration.
The other committees shall be informed of the referral at the same time.

Or. en

Justification

If the deadline for raising conflicts of competence is no longer linked to the announcement of the referral (see AM 3) but to the referral itself, the other committees need to be informed of the referral.

Amendment 2

Parliament's Rules of Procedure Rule 48 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Present text

Amendment

2a. The President shall announce the referral in Parliament after receiving the proposal in all official languages of the European Union and, where relevant, after any conflict of competence between committees has been settled in accordance with Rule 211(2). Once it has been announced in Parliament, the referral shall be made public on Parliament's website.

Or. en

Justification

The objective of this modification is to clarify that the referral to the committee responsible needs to be announced in plenary. In order to respect the principle of multilingualism laid down in Rule 167(1), the announcement may only be made after all language versions of the proposal are available. In order to ensure that the announcement contains the final decision on the referral, possible conflicts of competence must have been solved before. The publication of the referral on Parliament's website aims to increase transparency.

Amendment 3

Parliament's Rules of Procedure Rule 211 – paragraph 1

Present text

Amendment

1. If a standing committee declares itself not to be competent to consider an item, or if a conflict arises over the competence of two or more standing committees, the question of competence shall be submitted to the Conference of Committee Chairs within **four** weeks **of the announcement in Parliament** of the referral to committee.

1. If a standing committee declares itself not to be competent to consider an item, or if a conflict arises over the competence of two or more standing committees, the question of competence shall be submitted to the Conference of Committee Chairs within **two** weeks of the referral to committee, **as provided for in Rule 48(1). Weeks without parliamentary activities and weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities shall not be taken into account for that deadline.**

Or. en

Justification

With a view to shortening the procedure for solving conflicts of competence, the deadline for raising such conflicts is reduced to two weeks. For that same purpose, its beginning is linked to the referral to committee in accordance with Rule 48(1) and not to the later announcement in plenary. The short deadline of two weeks is only manageable, if weeks without parliamentary activities and weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities do not count for this deadline.

Amendment 4

Parliament's Rules of Procedure

Rule 211 – paragraph 2

Present text

2. The Conference of Presidents shall take a decision ***within six weeks after the submission of the question*** on the basis of a recommendation ***from the Conference of Committee Chairs, or, if no such recommendation is forthcoming, from the latter's Chair.*** If the Conference of Presidents fails to take a decision within that period, the recommendation shall be deemed to have been approved.

Amendment

2. ***At the latest at its second meeting after the expiry of the deadline laid down in paragraph 1, the Conference of Committee Chairs or its Chair shall issue a recommendation.*** The Conference of Presidents shall take a decision on the basis of ***this*** recommendation ***within six weeks after its transmission.*** If the Conference of Presidents fails to take a decision within that period, the recommendation shall be deemed to have been approved.

Or. en

Justification

With a view to avoiding delays, this modification introduces a deadline for the Conference of Committee Chairs or its Chair to issue a recommendation. For the purpose of clarification, the deadline of six weeks for a decision of the Conference of Presidents starts when this recommendation is transmitted to the Conference of Presidents.