

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1157
of 14 July 2015
determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 301 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 106a thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 300 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) sets out the rules for the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee.
- (2) Article 301 TFEU provides that the Council is to determine the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee. The number of members is not to exceed 350.
- (3) The current balance in the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee should as far as possible be maintained as it is the result of successive Intergovernmental Conferences.
- (4) This Decision is of a transitional nature as it is adopted to address a specific legal issue, namely the discrepancy which exists between the total number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee resulting from successive Intergovernmental Conferences and the maximum number of members established by Article 301 TFEU.
- (5) This Decision is adopted in the context of specific circumstances related to the European Economic and Social Committee and does not constitute a precedent for the composition of any institution.
- (6) This Decision shall be revised by the Council, on the basis of a Commission proposal, in time for the mandate of the Committee starting in 2020 or, in any case, in view of the next enlargement.
- (7) The review shall be based on the outcome of the current Decision, namely respecting the number of seats established hereby for Member States interested by the present change. As a result of this review the further reduction of seats will not be applicable to Member States affected by the current Decision.
- (8) In order to allow the European Economic and Social Committee to be composed in accordance with Article 23 of the Act of Accession of Croatia until the end of the term of office of the current members, the entry into force of this Decision should be deferred until that date,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The number of members of the European Economic and Social Committee shall be as follows:

Belgium	12
Bulgaria	12
Czech Republic	12
Denmark	9

Germany	24
Estonia	6
Ireland	9
Greece	12
Spain	21
France	24
Croatia	9
Italy	24
Cyprus	5
Latvia	7
Lithuania	9
Luxembourg	5
Hungary	12
Malta	5
Netherlands	12
Austria	12
Poland	21
Portugal	12
Romania	15
Slovenia	7
Slovakia	9
Finland	9
Sweden	12
United Kingdom	24.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply as from 21 September 2015.

Done at Brussels, 14 July 2015.

For the Council
The President
Pierre GRAMEGNA
