

Wednesday 9 June 2021

P9_TA(2021)0273

EU Digital COVID Certificate — Union citizens *I**

European Parliament legislative resolution of 9 June 2021 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery to facilitate free movement during the COVID-19 pandemic (Digital Green Certificate) (COM(2021)0130 — C9-0104/2021 — 2021/0068(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

(2022/C 67/31)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2021)0130),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 21(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C9-0104/2021),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 27 April 2021 ⁽¹⁾,
 - having regard to the provisional agreement approved by the committee responsible under Rule 74(4) of its Rules of Procedure and the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 21 May 2021 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rules 59 and 163 of its Rules of Procedure,
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out ⁽²⁾;
 2. Takes note of the Commission statement annexed to this resolution;
 3. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
 4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

P9_TC1-COD(2021)0068

Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 9 June 2021 with a view to the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2021/... of the European Parliament and of the Council on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable COVID-19 vaccination, test and recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificate) to facilitate free movement during the COVID-19 pandemic

(As an agreement was reached between Parliament and Council, Parliament's position corresponds to the final legislative act, Regulation (EU) 2021/953.)

⁽¹⁾ Not yet published in the Official Journal.

⁽²⁾ This position replaces the amendments adopted on 29 April 2021 (Texts adopted, P9_TA(2021)0145).

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ANNEX TO THE LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

The Commission agrees that affordable and accessible COVID-19 vaccines and tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection are crucial in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking into account that not the entire population will have been vaccinated when Regulations (EU) 2021/953 and (EU) 2021/954 of the European Parliament and of the Council enter into force, access to affordable and widely available testing possibilities is important to facilitate free movement and mobility in Europe.

To support Member States' testing capacities, the Commission has already mobilised funds under the Emergency Support Instrument to purchase rapid antigen tests and has launched a joint procurement for over half a billion rapid antigen tests. The International Federation of Red Cross is also supporting Member States to increase testing capacity, using funding from the Emergency Support Instrument.

To further support the availability of affordable tests, in particular for persons who cross borders daily or frequently to go to work or school, visit close relatives, seek medical care, or to take care of loved ones, the Commission commits to mobilise additional funds of EUR 100 million under the Emergency Support Instrument for the purchase of tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection that qualify for the issuance of a test certificate pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2021/953. If necessary, additional funding above EUR 100 million could be mobilised, subject to approval by the budgetary authority.
