IMPLEMENTING ACTS

Under the Lisbon Treaty, the EU’s system of comitology was reformed. ‘Comitology’ refers to the procedures used for EU decision-making, where the European Commission is empowered by a basic legislative act, adopted under the ordinary legislative procedure, to take decisions in the form of non-legislative acts:

- either on aspects that are often highly technical but essential for the implementation of that basic act (implementing decisions); or
- to amend or supplement legislation (delegated acts).

Article 291 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides the legal basis for implementing acts. Implementing acts are adopted by the Commission after it consults committees comprising technical experts from the EU countries. The European Parliament and the Council have the right of scrutiny but cannot veto implementing acts.

Implementing acts are adopted in fields as diverse as spending programmes, environmental and health protection, and taxation.

SEE ALSO:

- Comitology
- Council of the European Union
- Delegated acts
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- European Union (EU) hierarchy of norms
- Legislative acts
- Non-legislative acts
- Ordinary legislative procedure
- Treaties