

EU Decision-making: Procedure and influence



abaneth [at] pac.org
www.pac.org/europe

Agenda

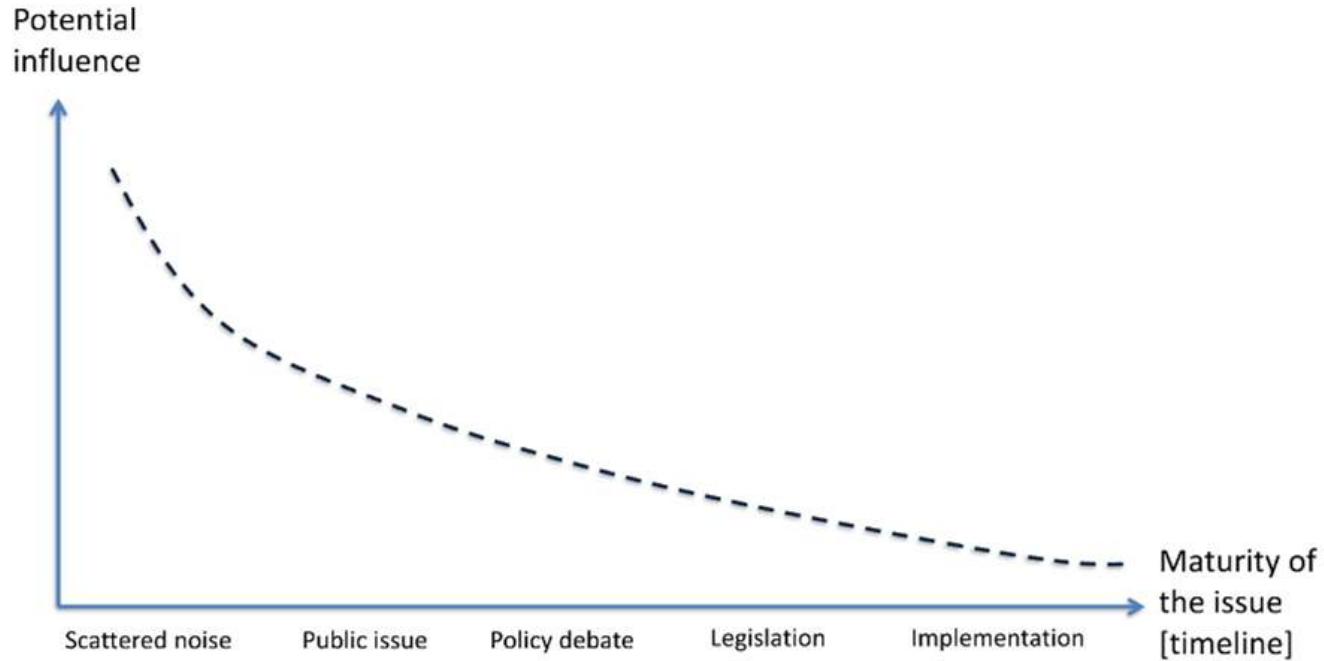
- How to influence decision-making: European Commission, Council and Parliament
- Trialogues: Timeline, participants, information sources and lobbying
- Regulatory implementing and delegated acts (“comitology”) in practice
- Mapping stakeholders and developing an advocacy strategy

Housekeeping

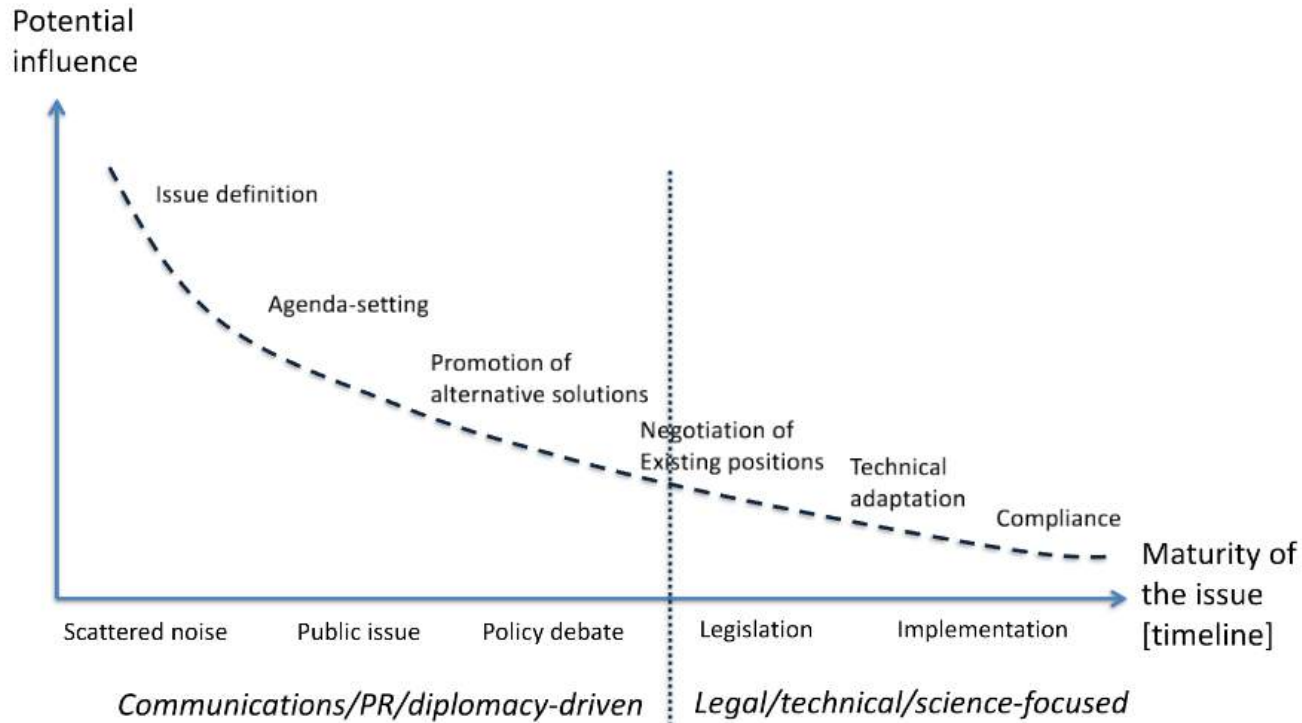
A top-down view of a wooden desk. On the left, there is a white cup of black coffee on a saucer with a spoon. In the center, a silver laptop is open, and a tablet is placed on top of it. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface.

- Webinar is recorded
- PPT and resources made available afterwards
- Ask questions any time in the Q&A box
- Unanswered questions will be follow up in a memo
- Your name/questions will be visible to all other participants
- Keep the discussions, comments & questions collegial
- Most audio/video problems are resolved if you restart your app/browser :-)

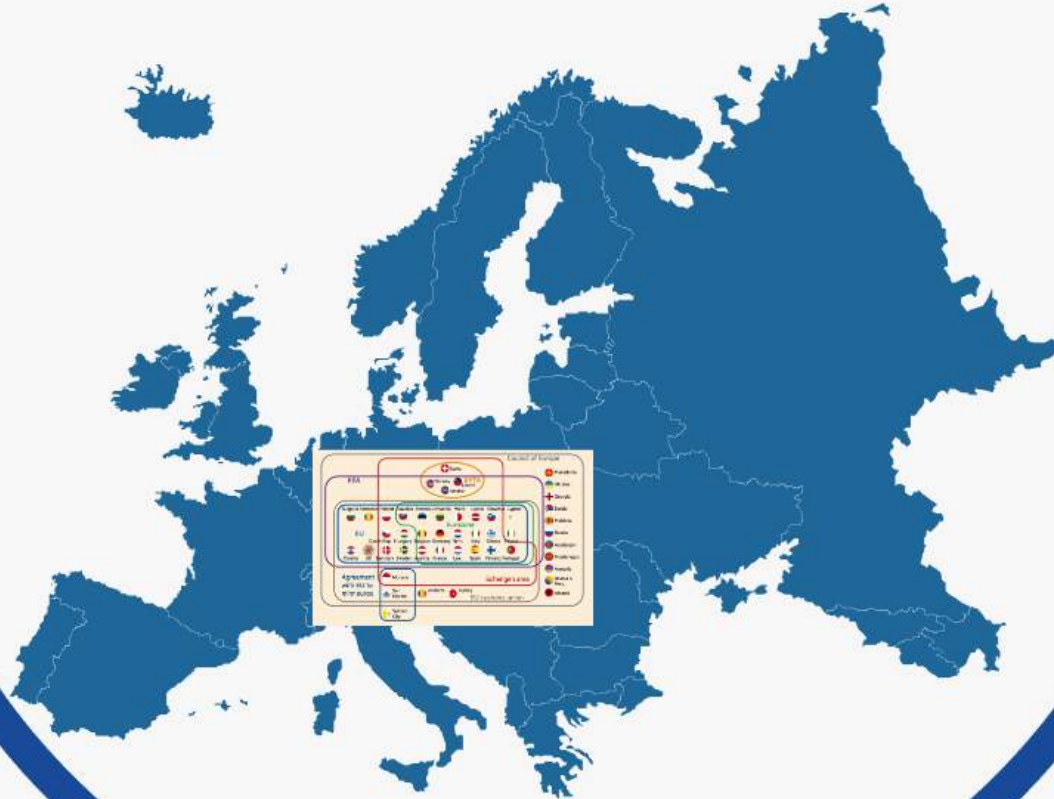
What can you achieve... and when?



What can you achieve... and when?



"Europe"



Council of Europe

EEA



Switz.



Norway



EFTA
Liecht.



Iceland

Bulgaria Romania Poland Slovakia Estonia Lithuania Malta Latvia Slovenia Cyprus



EU



Agreement
with EU to
mint euros



Monaco



San
Marino



Vatican
City



Andorra



Turkey

Schengen area

EU customs union



Macedonia



Ukraine



Georgia



Serbia



Moldova



Russia



Azerbaijan



Montenegro



Armenia

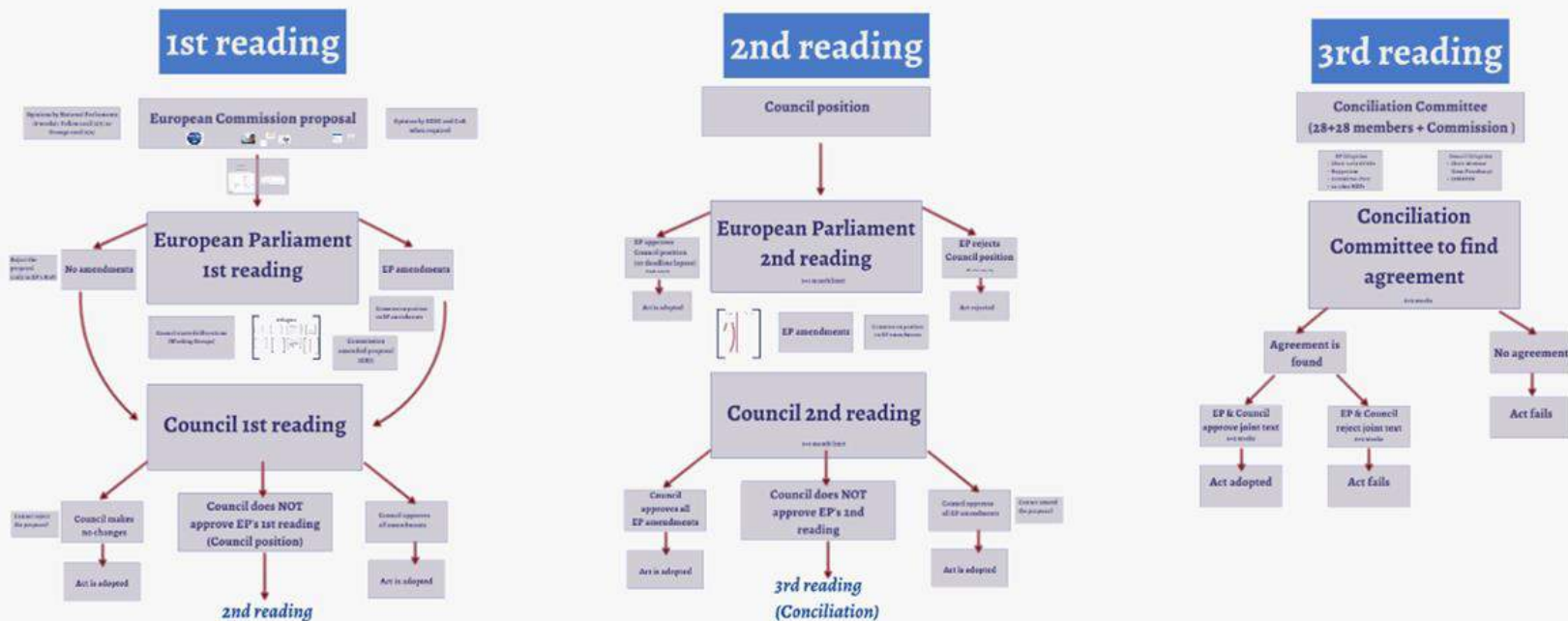


Bosnia &
Herz.



Albania

The Ordinary Legislative Procedure



A bit of context

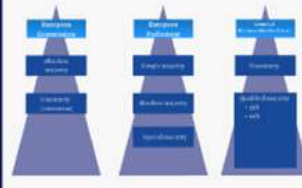
Decision-making in the EU



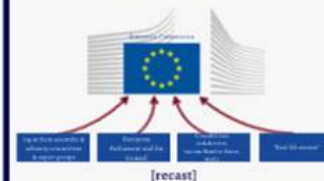
Policy Making in the Institutions



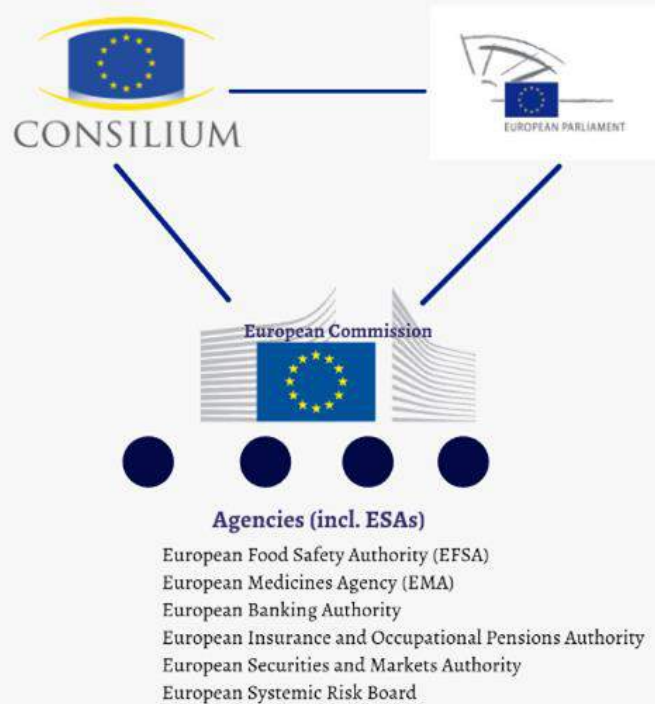
Decision Making Inside EU Institutions



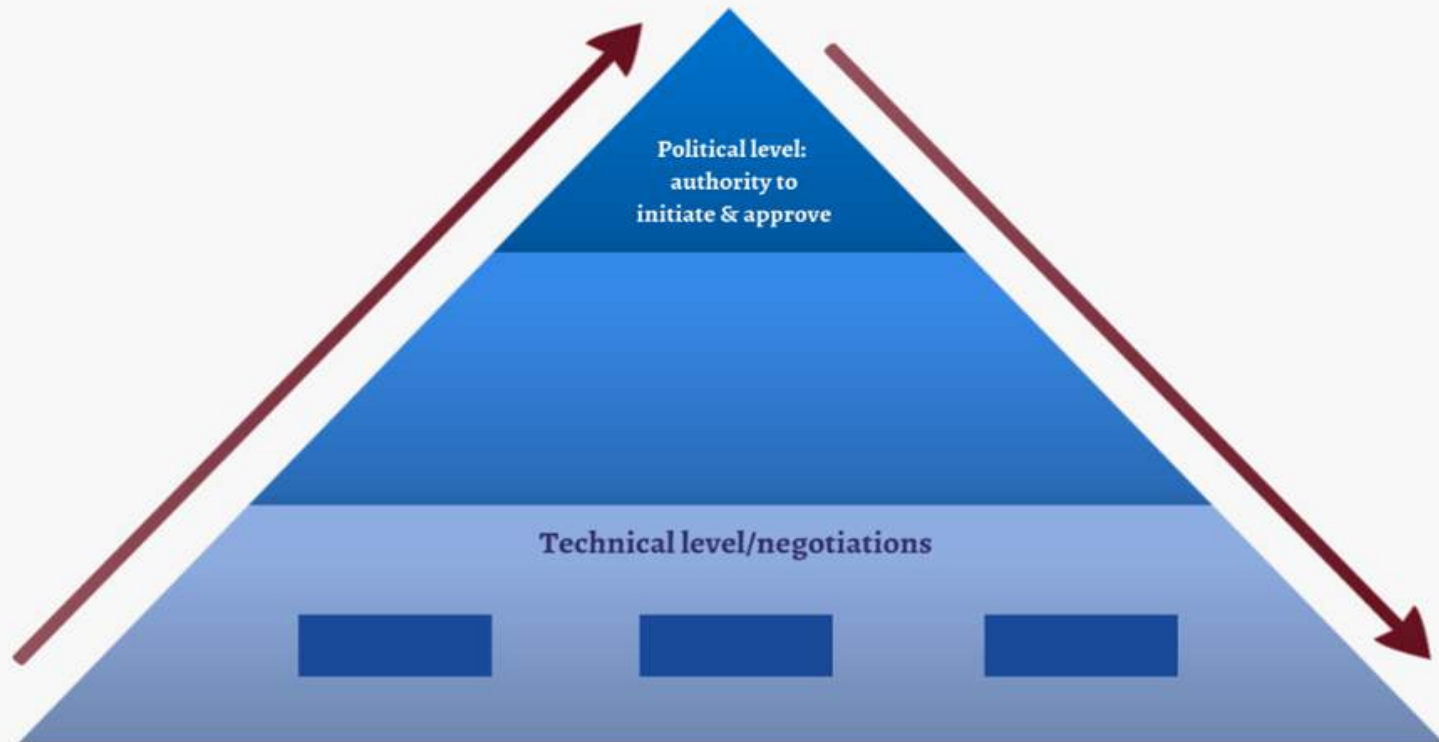
What influences the European Commission to initiate legislation?



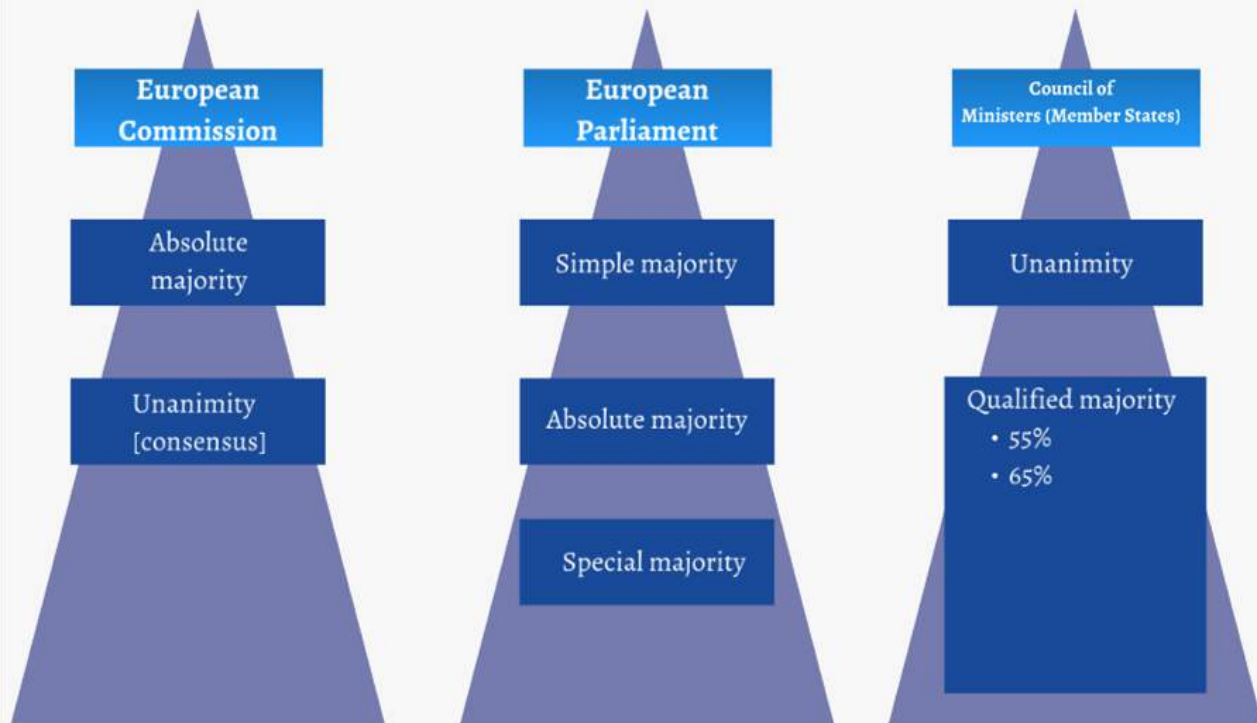
Decision-making in the EU



Policy Making in the Institutions



Decision Making Inside EU Institutions





Voting calculator

Council of the EU

Download the voting calculator also for your mobile device.



> Download from App Store

> Download from Google Play

Set the votes for each country

Countries participating	Votes	Reset all to Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All countries participating <input type="checkbox"/> Only Eurozone countries participating		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Austria 1.98% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Belgium 2.56% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria 1.56% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Croatia 0.91% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cyprus 0.20% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Czech Republic 2.35% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denmark 1.30% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estonia 0.30% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finland 1.23% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> France 14.98% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Germany 18.54% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

Choose the voting rule

Voting rule

Qualified majority

Voting result

Final result
Approved
[Download results as pdf](#)

27 member states

Minimum "Yes" required for adoption: (55%) 15

27

Yes

0

No

0

Abstain

% Population

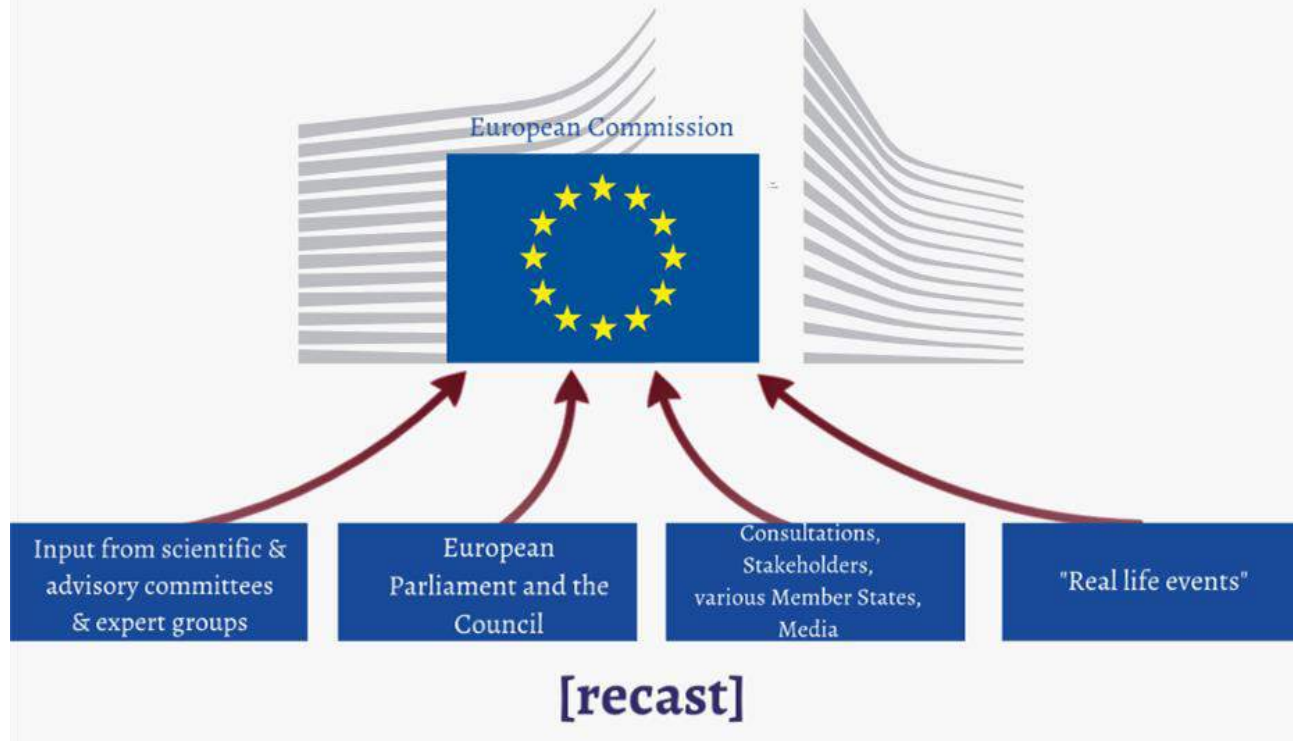
Minimum "Yes" required for adoption: 65%

100.00

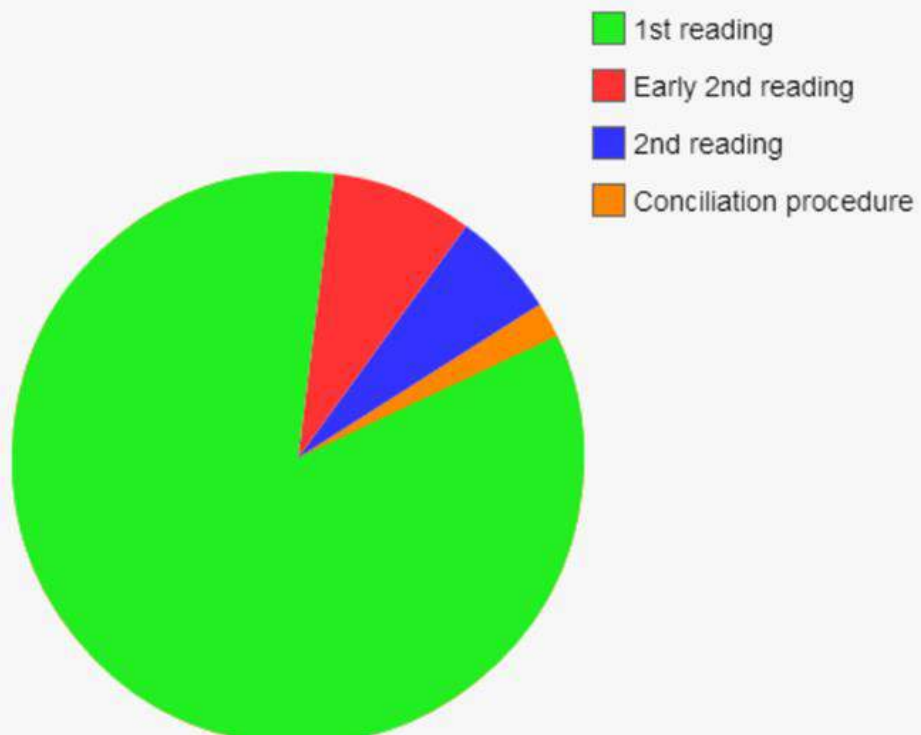
0.00

0.00

What influences the European Commission to initiate legislation?



Ordinary legislative procedure



Hierarchy of EU legal norms

Soft law [recommendations, guidelines]

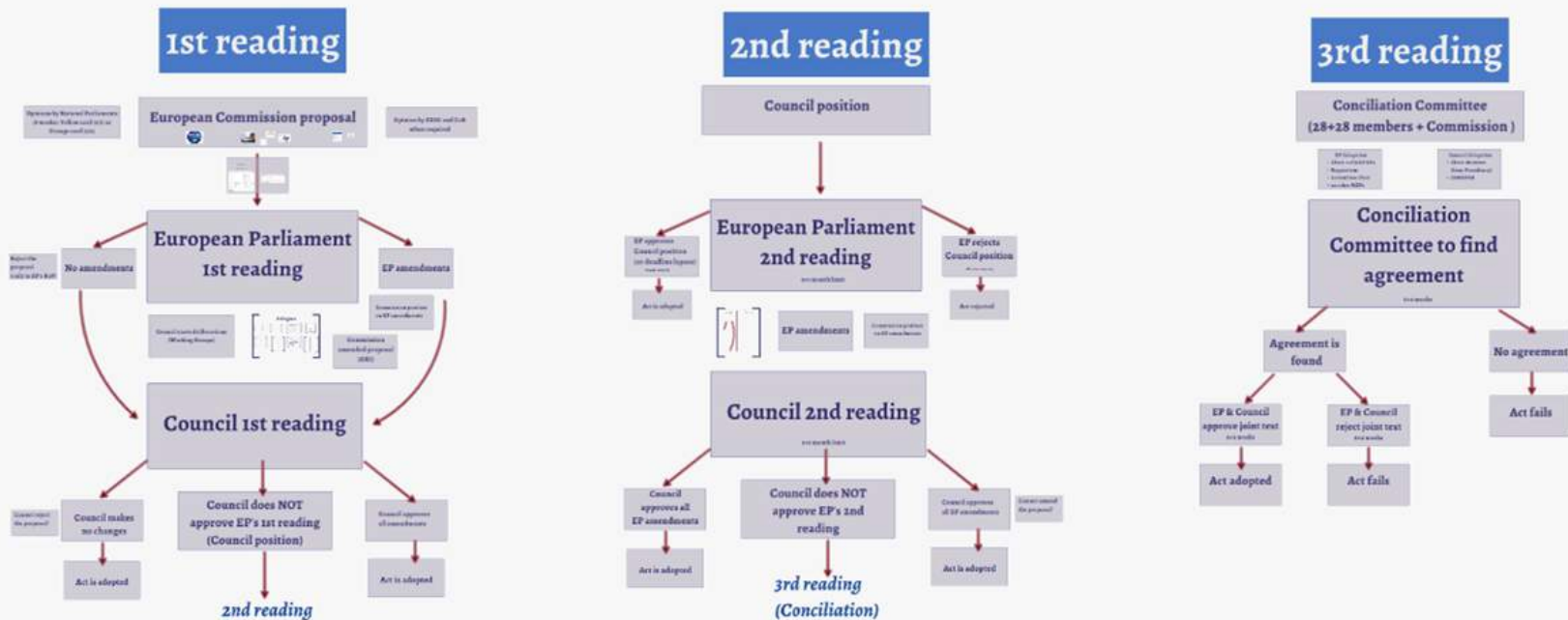
Other EU law [inter-institutional agreements, rules of procedure, code of conduct]

Implementing + Delegated Acts
[Regulation, Directive, Decision]

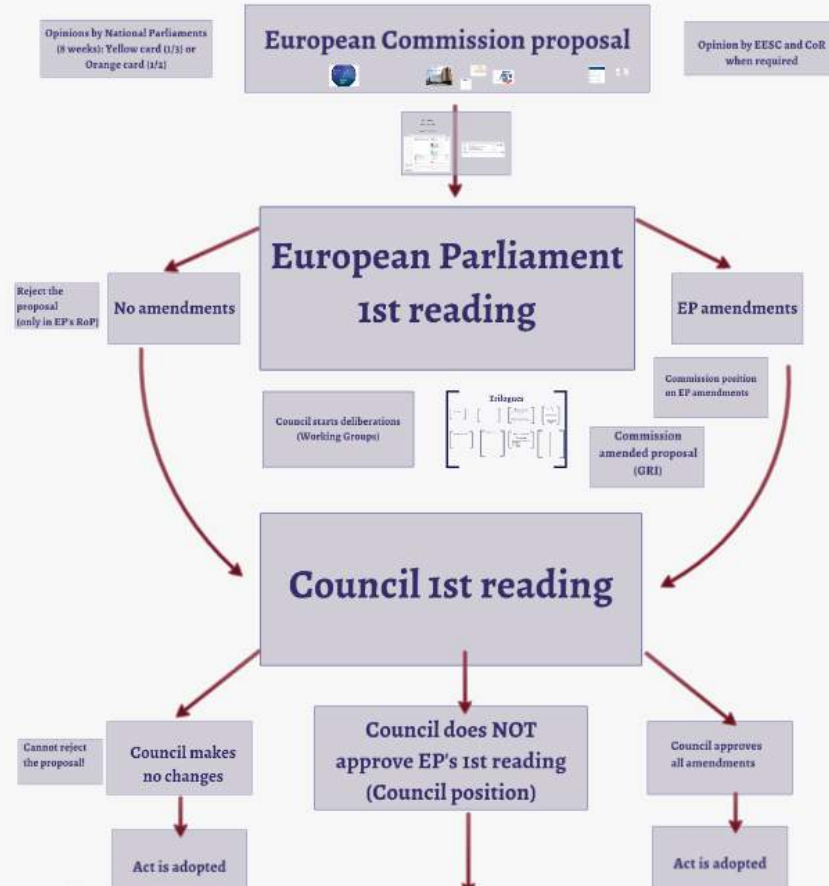
Legislation [Regulation, Directive, Decision]

Treaties [TEU, TFEU, as amended by ToL]

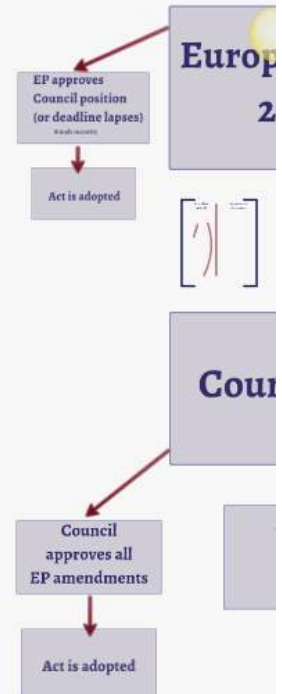
The Ordinary Legislative Procedure



1st reading



2nd



Opinions by National Parliaments
(8 weeks): Yellow card (1/3) or
Orange card (1/2)

European Commission proposal



Opinion by EESC and CoR
when required



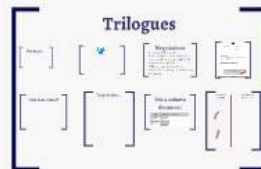
European Parliament 1st reading

Reject the
proposal
(only in EP's RoP)

No amendments

EP amendments

Council starts deliberations
(Working Groups)



Commission position
on EP amendments

Commission
amended proposal
(GRI)

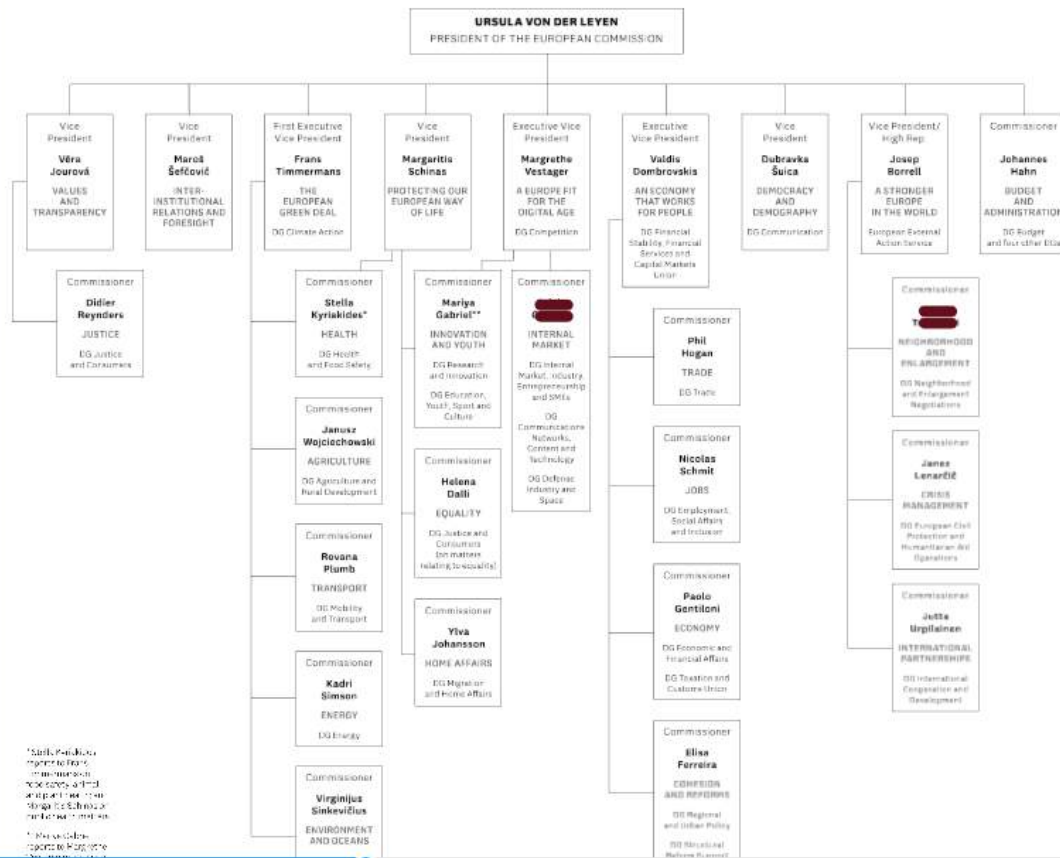


"the country I know best"



POLITICO

COMMISSION POWER STRUCTURE

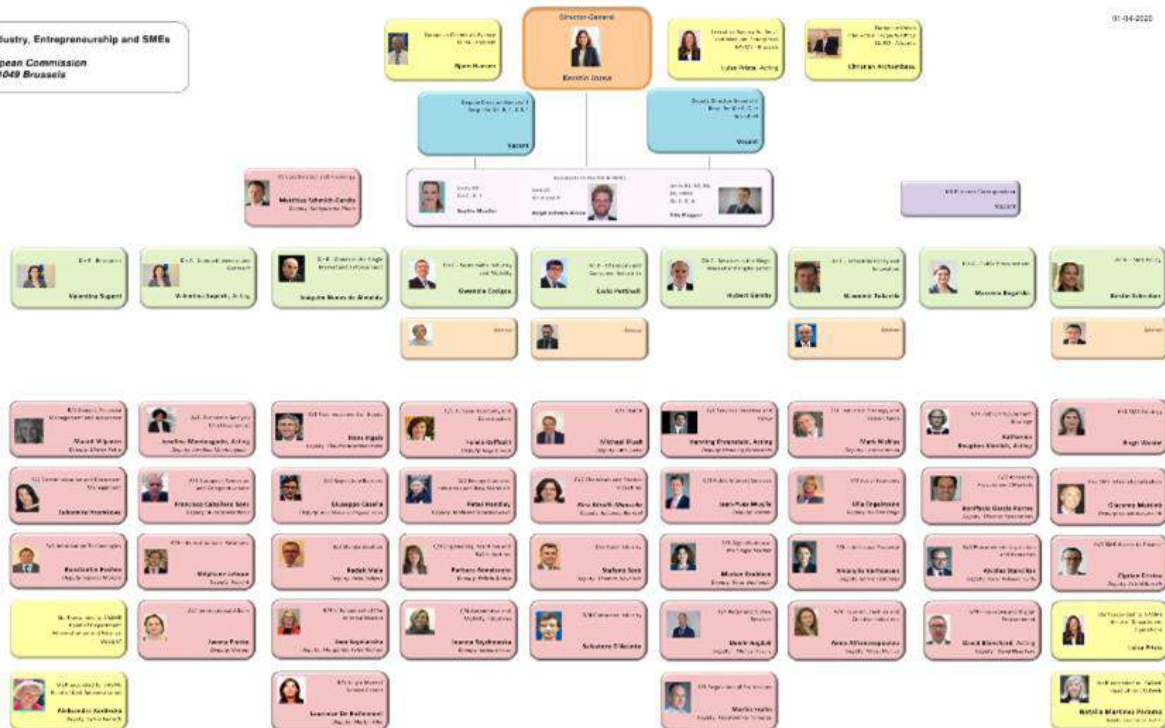


* Maria Kyriakides
Member of the
Commission
for Health and
Food Safety

** Mariya Gabriel
Member of the
Commission
for Innovation and
Youth

DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
European Commission
1049 Brussels

01-04-2020



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2020 Commission Work Programme – key documents

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Author

Commission work programme

29 January 2020

Secretariat-General

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29 January 2020

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**2020 Commission Work Programme Explained - factsheet**

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Available languages (2) ▾

**2020 Commission Work Programme - New Policy**

Objections - factsheet

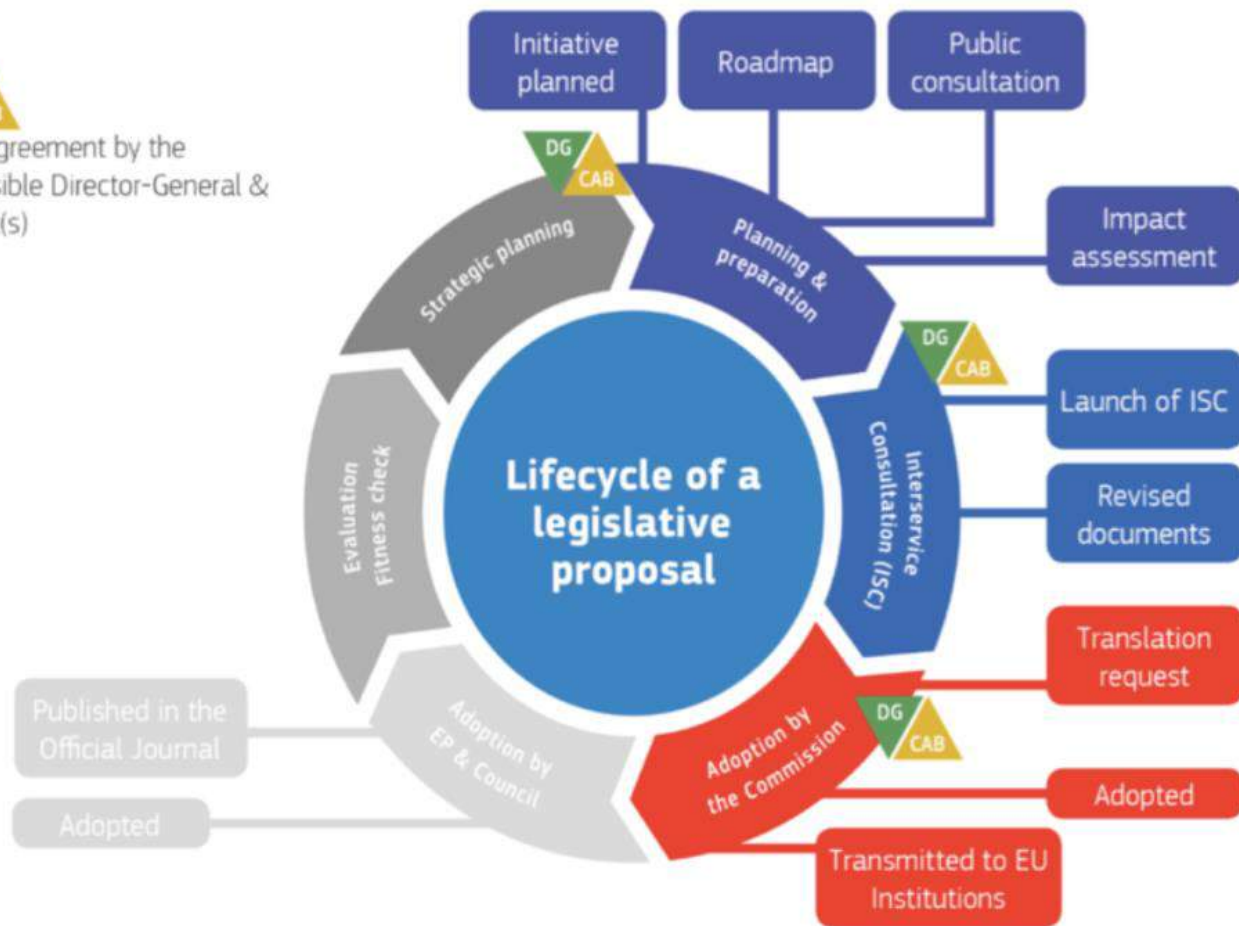
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Annex I: New initiatives¹

No.	Policy objective	Initiatives
A European Green Deal		
1.	The European Green Deal	Communication on the European Green Deal (non-legislative, Q4 2019); European Climate Law enshrining the 2050 climate neutrality objective (legislative, Article 192(1) TFEU, Q1 2020); The European Climate Pact (non-legislative, Q3 2020)
2.	Financing the sustainable transition	European Green Deal Investment Plan (non-legislative, Q1 2020); Just Transition Fund (legislative, Article 175 TFEU, Q1 2020); Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy (non-legislative, Q3 2020); Review of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 114 TFEU, Q4 2020)
3.	Commission contribution to COP26 in Glasgow	2030 Climate Target Plan (non-legislative, incl. impact assessment, Q3 2020); New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (non-legislative, Q4 2020); New EU Forest Strategy (non-legislative, Q4 2020)
4.	Sustainability of food systems	'Farm to Fork' Strategy (non-legislative, Q1 2020)
5.	Decarbonising energy	Strategy for smart sector integration (non-legislative, Q2 2020); Renovation wave (non-legislative, Q3 2020); Offshore renewable energy (non-legislative, Q4 2020)
6.	Sustainable production and consumption	New Circular Economy Action Plan (non-legislative, Q1 2020); Empowering the consumer for the green transition (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 114 TFEU, Q4 2020)
7.	Protecting our environment	EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (non-legislative, Q1 2020); 8th Environmental Action Programme (legislative, Article 192(3) TFEU, Q2 2020); Chemicals strategy for sustainability (non-legislative, Q3 2020)
8.	Sustainable and smart mobility	Strategy for sustainable and smart mobility (non-legislative, Q4 2020); ReFuelEU Aviation - Sustainable Aviation Fuels (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 100(2) TFEU and/or Article 192(1) TFEU, Q4 2020); FuelEU Maritime - Green European Maritime Space (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 100(2) TFEU and/or Article 192(1) TFEU, Q4 2020)



*Prior agreement by the
responsible Director-General &
Cabinet(s)



European Commission proposal



EXAMPLE:
2018/372(COD)
Single Use Plastics



Reject the
proposal
(only in EP's RoP)

No amendments

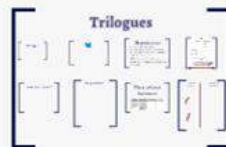
European Parliament 1st reading

EP amendments

Commission position
on EP amendments

Commission
amended proposal
(GRI)

Council starts deliberations
(Working Groups)



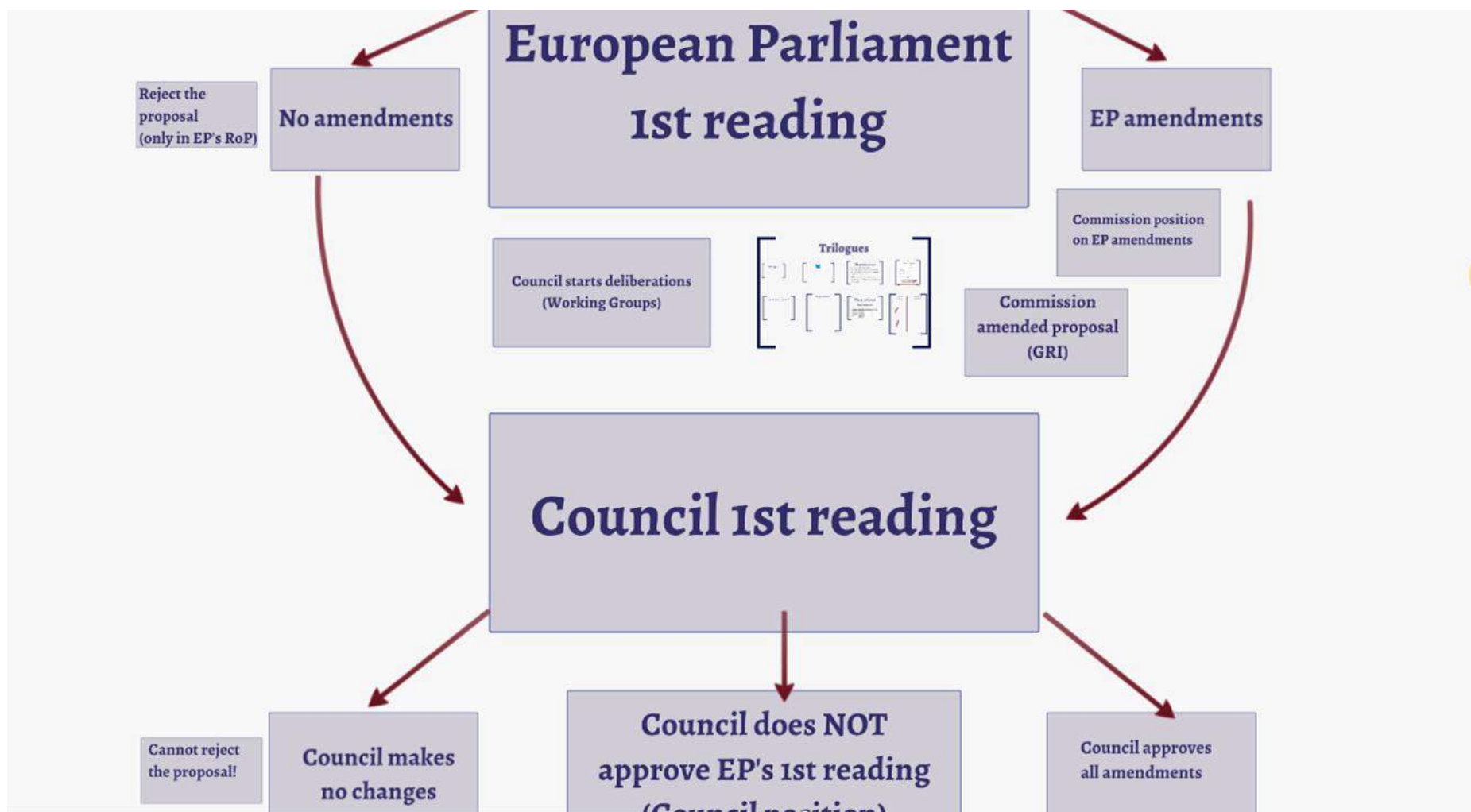
Council 1st reading

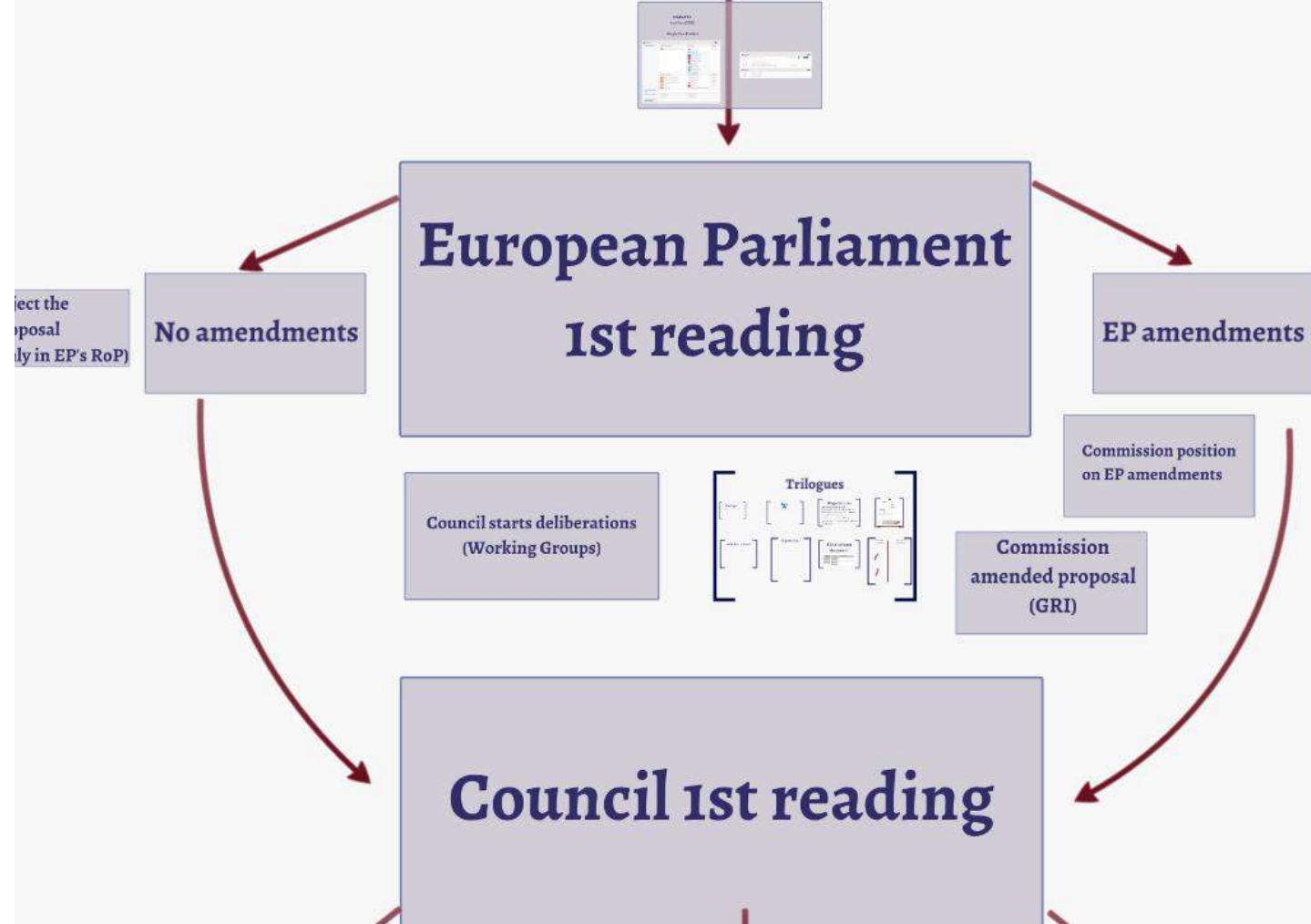
Cannot reject
the proposal!

Council makes
no changes

Council does NOT
approve EP's 1st reading
(Council position)

Council approves
all amendments





Green Deal – The Coordinators

logos earn trust.
make change.



European Parliament

1 February 2020 – 1st 2024

David Sassoli



Lorenzo Mannelli
Head of Cabinet

Klaus Welle
Secretary General

"I want the European Green Deal to become Europe's hallmark. At the heart of it is our commitment to becoming the world's first climate-neutral continent. It is also a long-term economic imperative: those who act first and fastest will be the ones who grasp the opportunities from the ecological transition. I want Europe to be the front runner. I want Europe to be the exporter of knowledge, technologies and best practice."

— Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission

Chairs and Vice-Chairs

ENVI

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety



Pascal Canfin
Chair



Dan-Ștefan Motreanu
Vice-Chair



Bas Eickhout
Vice-Chair



César Luena
Vice-Chair



Anja Hazekamp
Vice-Chair

ITRE

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy



Cristian Bușoi
Chair



Patrizia Toia
Vice-Chair



Morten Petersen
Vice-Chair



Lina Gálvez Muñoz
Vice-Chair



Zdzisław Krasnodębski
Vice-Chair

TRAN

Committee on Transport and Tourism



Karima Delli
Chair



Sven Schulze
Vice-Chair



Andris Ameriks
Vice-Chair



István Ujhelyi
Vice-Chair



Jan-Christoph Oetjen
Vice-Chair

IMCO

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection



Petra De Sutter
Chair



Róża Thun und Hohenstein
Vice-Chair



Maria Manuel Leitão Marques
Vice-Chair



Maria Grapini
Vice-Chair



Pierre Karleskind
Vice-Chair

Political Group Coordinators



Peter Liese
Coordinator



Bas Eickhout
Coordinator



Christian Ehler
Coordinator



Ville Niinistö
Coordinator



Marian-Jean Marinescu
Coordinator



Ciarán Cuffe
Coordinator



Andreas Schwab
Coordinator



Marcel Kolaja
Coordinator



Jytte Guteland
Coordinator



Alexandr Vondra
Coordinator



Dan Nica
Coordinator



Zdzisław Krasnodębski
Coordinator



Johan Danielsson
Coordinator



Roberts Cīrle
Coordinator



Christel Schaldemose
Coordinator



Adam Bielan
Coordinator



Nils Torvalds
Coordinator



Silvia Modig
Coordinator



Martina Dlabajová
Coordinator



Marisa Matias
Coordinator



José Ramón Bauzá Díaz
Coordinator



Elena Kountoura
Coordinator



Dita Charanzová
Coordinator



Kateřina Konečná
Coordinator



Silvia Sardone
Coordinator



Paolo Borchia
Coordinator



Roman Haider
Coordinator








































Virginie Joron
Coordinator

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EXAMPLE: 2018/172(COD)

Single Use Plastics

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	 RIES Frédérique	07/05/2018
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 FLORENZ Karl-Heinz	
		 PADLUCCI Massimo	
		 DEMESMAEKER Mark	
		 BOYLAN Lynn	
		 AUKEN Mergreth	
		 PEDICINI Patricia	
		 GOHYN Sylvie	
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	 KAPPEL Barbara	20/06/2018
	 ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	 KAPPEL Barbara	25/06/2018
	 AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	 ROYCE Brona	10/07/2018
	 PECH Fisheries	 BRIANO Renata	14/06/2019
	 JURI Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
European Commission	Commission DG Environment	Commissioner VELLA Karmenu	
European Economic and Social Committee			

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	 RIES Frédérique	07/05/2018
		 Shadow rapporteur	
		 FLORENZ Karl-Heinz	
		 PAOLUCCI Massimo	
		 DEMESMAEKER Mark	
		 BOYLAN Lynn	
		 AUKEN Margrete	
		 PEDICINI Piernicola	
		 GODDYN Sylvie	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Economic and Monetary Affairs	 KAPPEL Barbara	20/06/2018
	 Industry, Research and Energy	 KAPPEL Barbara	25/06/2018
 Agriculture and Rural Development	 ROPE Bronis	10/07/2018	
 Fisheries	 BRIANO Renata	14/06/2018	
 Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Environment	VELLA Karmenu	
European Economic and Social Committee			

Key events

28/05/2018	Legislative proposal published	COM(2018)0340	Summary
11/06/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		
10/10/2018	Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading		
11/10/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0317/2018	Summary
22/10/2018	Debate in Parliament		
24/10/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
24/10/2018	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0411/2018	Summary
24/10/2018	Matter referred back to the committee responsible		
22/01/2019	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	PE632.990 GEDA/A/(2019)000622	
27/03/2019	Debate in Parliament		
27/03/2019	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0305/2019	Summary
21/05/2019	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
05/06/2019	Final act signed		
05/06/2019	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/06/2019	Final act published in Official Journal		



Filter by topic

☒ Consumer protection

[+ See all topics](#)

Working parties by Council configuration

- ☐ Agriculture and Fisheries Council
- ☐ Competitiveness Council
- ☐ Economic and Financial Affairs Council
- ☐ Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council
- ☐ Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

[+ See all Council configurations](#)

Council preparatory bodies

- › [Ad Hoc Working Party on Genetically Modified Organisms \(GMO\)](#)
- › [Coreper I](#)
- › [Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers](#)
- › [Working Party of Veterinary Experts](#)
- › [Working Party on Agricultural Questions](#)
- › [Working Party on Consumer Protection and Information](#)
- › [Working Party on Foodstuff Quality](#)
- › [Working Party on Foodstuffs](#)
- › [Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices](#)
- › [Working Party on Technical Harmonisation](#)

COVID-19: This page is constantly updated to reflect the latest changes to the calendar of summits, ministerial meetings and video conferences.

The list of meetings of the Council preparatory bodies is included in the following document:

The Council is supported by the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States to the European Union (**Coreper**) and more than **150 highly specialised working parties and committees**, known as the 'Council preparatory bodies'.

The preparatory bodies can be divided into two main categories:



European Parliament 1st reading

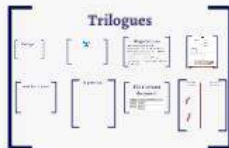
No amendments

EP amendments

Commission position
on EP amendments

Commission
amended proposal
(GRI)

Council starts deliberations
(Working Groups)



Council 1st reading

ject the
posal
ly in EP's RoP)

Trilogues

The logic...



Negotiations

- As many rounds as needed
- Until agreement is found (or lack of it)
- Once agreed: Presidency via COREPER sends letter of assurance
- If EP votes on it [Political Groups --> Committee -->] Plenary, Council will adopt it as A point



LETTER OF ASSURANCE

Presidency of the Council of the European Union

European Parliament

Delegation of the European Parliament to the Council

Subject: ...

Date: ...

Signature of the President of the Council: ...

Signature of the President of the European Parliament: ...



The logic...

The logic...

1. What is the position of each of the 3 institutions?

The logic...

1. What is the position of each of the 3 institutions?
2. Once officially clarified, needs to be mandated

The logic...

1. What is the position of each of the 3 institutions?
2. Once officially clarified, needs to be mandated
3. How can the 3 positions be reconciled?

The logic...

1. What is the position of each of the 3 institutions?
2. Once officially clarified, needs to be mandated
3. How can the 3 positions be reconciled?
4. Once agreed, needs political approval in each

The logic...

1. What is the position of each of the 3 institutions?
2. Once officially clarified, needs to be mandated
3. How can the 3 positions be reconciled?
4. Once agreed, needs political approval in each
5. When both (de facto all three) 'cleared' it --> act adopted



Delegations



CONSILIUM

- Presidency [chair of WG]
- Or: COREPER chair
- Council Secretariat
[unit + LS + CoD unit]



Delegations



- Presidency [chair of WG]
- Or: COREPER chair
- Council Secretariat
[unit + LS + CoD unit]



- Rapporteur
- Shadow rapporteurs [or
staff from political groups]
- EP Secretariat



- Presidency [chair of WG]
- Or: COREPER chair
- Council Secretariat
[unit + LS + CoD unit]



- Rapporteur
- Shadow rapporteurs [or
staff from political groups]
- EP Secretariat



- HoU or Director in charge
- SecGen
- Legal service

Negotiations

- As many rounds as needed
- Until agreement is found (or lack of it)
- Once agreed: Presidency via COREPER sends letter of assurance
- If EP votes on it [Political Groups --> Committee -->] Plenary, Council will adopt it as A point



COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 13 February 2014
(OR. en)

6304/1/14
REV 1 ADD 1

OJ CRP1 6

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Subject:	2485th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE (Part 1)
Date:	14 February 2014
Time:	14.30
Venue:	Brussels

ADDENDUM N° 1 to the REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Committee will continue with the examination of the following item:

II

31. Remunerations (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council adjusting with effect from 1 July 2011 the remuneration and pensions of officials and other servants of the European Union and the correction coefficients applied thereto
- b) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council adjusting with effect from 1 July 2012 the remuneration and pensions of officials and other servants of the European Union and the correction coefficients applied thereto
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

[This item will be taken
in restricted session]

The 4-column document

COMMISSION PROPOSAL COM(2013) 245 final (22 April 2013)	EP Plenary Position (Doc P7_TA-PROV(2013)0437 of 23 October 2013)	COUNCIL GENERAL APPROACH (Doc 15458/1/12 REV 1 of 22 July 2013)	
transparent decision-making in relation to the policies affecting the oceans, seas, islands, coastal and outermost regions and maritime sectors, in accordance with the Commission Communication "An Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union" ²⁸ .	transparent decision-making in relation to the policies affecting the oceans, seas, islands, coastal and outermost regions and maritime sectors, in accordance with the Commission Communication "An Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union" ²⁹ .		
(76) Sustained funding is needed for the implementation and further development of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union as reflected in the statements of the Council, the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions ³⁰ .	(76) Sustained funding is needed for the implementation and further development of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union as reflected in <i>Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2011 establishing a Programme to support the further development of an Integrated Maritime Policy</i> ³¹ and the		

t

Procedure in the Council



Opinions by National Parliaments
(8 weeks): Yellow card (1/3) or
Orange card (1/2)

European Commission proposal



Opinion by EESC and CoR
when required



European Parliament 1st reading

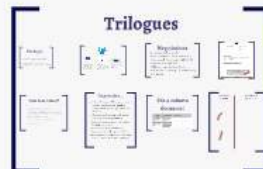
No amendments

Reject the
proposal
(only in EP's RoP)

EP amendments

Commission position
on EP amendments

Council starts deliberations
(Working Groups)



Commission
amended proposal
(GRI)

3rd reading

Conciliation Committee (28+28 members + Commission)

EP delegation
• Chair: 1 of 5 EP VPs
• Rapporteur
• Committee chair
• 22 other MEPs

Council delegation
• Chair: Minister
(from Presidency)
• COREPER

Conciliation Committee to find agreement

6+2 weeks

Agreement is
found

No agreement

EP & Council
approve joint text
6+2 weeks

EP & Council
reject joint text
6+2 weeks

Act fails

Act adopted

Act fails

EP rejects
Council position

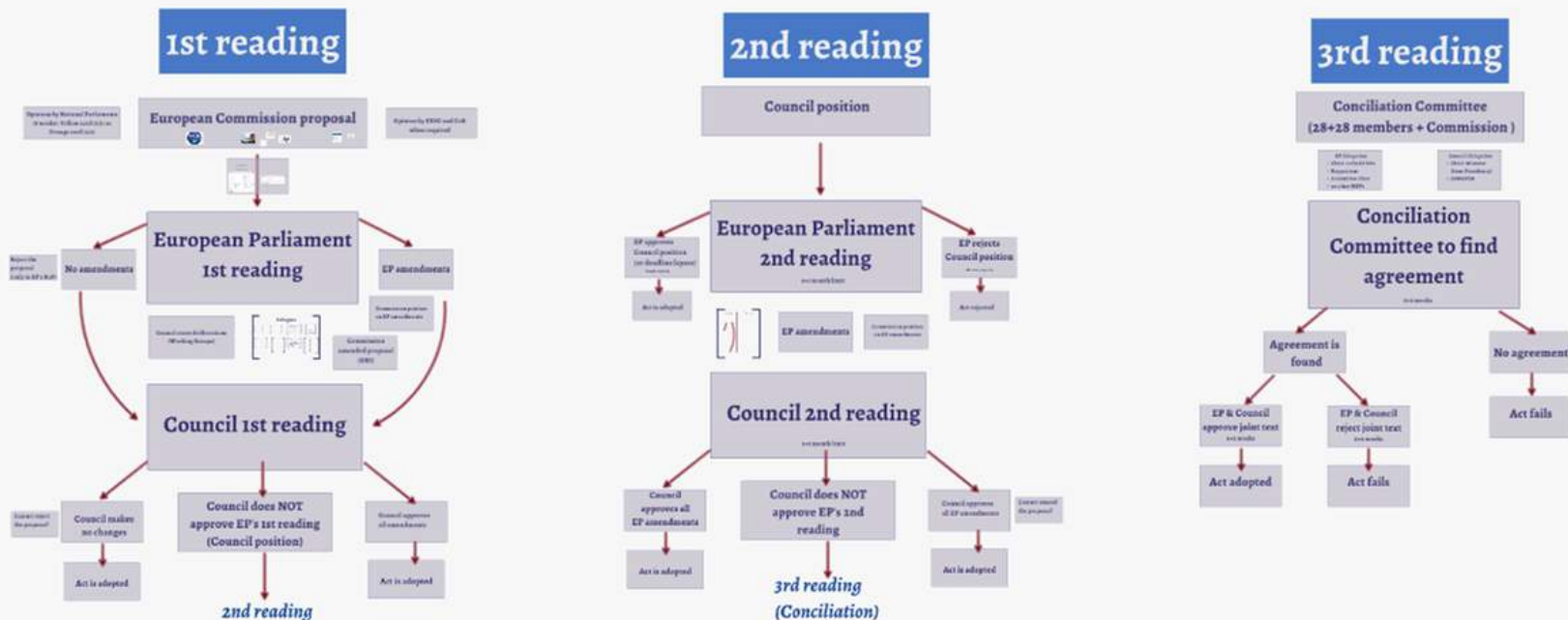
Absolute majority

Act rejected

Council approves
if EP amendments

Cannot amend
the proposal!

The Ordinary Legislative Procedure



Questions?

Comments?

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