

Conclusions of the Tampere European Council: annex on the body to draft a Charter of Fundamental Rights (15 and 16 October 1999)

Caption: On 15 and 16 October 1999, the Tampere European Council, following up the Cologne conclusions, clarifies the composition, working method and the practical arrangements for the body to draw up a draft EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Source: Presidency Conclusions - Tampere European Council, 15 and 16 October 1999. [ON-LINE]. [s.l.]: Council of the European Union, [12.10.2004]. 200/1/99. Available on http://ue.eu.int/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/00200-r1.en9.htm.

Copyright: (c) European Union, 1995-2013

URL:

http://www.cvce.eu/obj/conclusions_of_the_tampere_european_council_annex_on_the_body_to_draft_a_charter_of_fundamental_rights_15_and_16_october_1999-en-de7bbd81-6849-4aed-bff5-c6e437d75eef.html

Publication date: 19/12/2013

Tampere European Council (15 and 16 October 1999) Presidency Conclusions

[...]

Annex

Composition method of work and practical arrangements for the body to elaborate a draft EU Charter of fundamental rights, as set out in the Cologne Conclusions

A. Composition of the body

(i) Members

(a) Heads of State or Government of Member States

Fifteen representatives of the Heads of State or Government of Member States.

(b) Commission

One representative of the President of the European Commission.

(c) European Parliament

Sixteen members of the European Parliament to be designated by itself.

(d) National Parliaments

Thirty members of national Parliaments (two from each national Parliament) to be designated by national Parliaments themselves.

Members of the Body may be replaced by alternates in the event of being unable to attend meetings of the Body.

(ii) Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Body

The Chairperson of the Body shall be elected by the Body. A member of the European Parliament, a member of a national Parliament, and the representative of the President of the European Council if not elected to the Chair, shall act as Vice-Chairpersons of the Body.

The member of the European Parliament acting as Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the members of the European Parliament serving on the Body. The member of a national Parliament acting as Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the members of national Parliaments serving on the Body.

(iii) Observers

Two representatives of the Court of Justice of the European Communities to be designated by the Court.

Two representatives of the Council of Europe, including one from the European Court of Human Rights.

(iv) Bodies of the European Union to be invited to give their views

The Economic and Social Committee

The Committee of the Regions

The Ombudsman

(v) Exchange of views with the applicant States

An appropriate exchange of views should be held by the Body or by the Chairperson with the applicant States.

(vi) Other bodies, social groups or experts to be invited to give their views

Other bodies, social groups and experts may be invited by the Body to give their views.

(vii) Secretariat

The General Secretariat of the Council shall provide the Body with secretariat services. To ensure proper coordination, close contacts will be established with the General Secretariat of the European Parliament, with the Commission and, to the extent necessary, with the secretariats of the national Parliaments.

B. Working methods of the body

(i) Preparation

The Chairperson of the Body shall, in close concertation with the Vice-Chairpersons, propose a work plan for the Body and perform other appropriate preparatory work.

(ii) Transparency of the proceedings

In principle, hearings held by the Body and documents submitted at such hearings should be public.

(iii) Working groups

The Body may establish ad hoc working groups, which shall be open to all members of the Body.

(iv) Drafting

On the basis of the work plan agreed by the Body, a Drafting Committee composed of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons and the representative of the Commission and assisted by the General Secretariat of the Council, shall elaborate a preliminary Draft Charter, taking account of drafting proposals submitted by any member of the Body.

Each of the three Vice-Chairpersons shall regularly consult with the respective component part of the Body from which he or she emanates.

(v) Elaboration of the Draft Charter by the Body

When the Chairperson, in close concertation with the Vice-Chairpersons, deems that the text of the draft Charter elaborated by the Body can eventually be subscribed to by all the parties, it shall be forwarded to the European Council through the normal preparatory procedure.

C. Practical arrangements

The Body shall hold its meetings in Brussels, alternately in the Council and the European Parliament buildings.

A complete language regime shall be applicable for sessions of the Body.