

Co-decision procedure: assignment of tasks within the General Secretariat of the Council

Caption: This table, published in 2000 in the Co-decision Guide of the Council of the European Union, shows, for the entire length of the co-decision procedure, the allocation of tasks within the General Secretariat of the Council, between the various Directorates-General (departments responsible) and the Co-decision Backbone.

Source: Council of the European Union - General Secretariat. Council Guide - IV. Co-decision Guide. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, September 2000. 32 p. ISBN 92-824-1874-X.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/Co_decision_procedure_assignment_of_tasks_within_the_General_Secretariat_of_the_Council-en-8ec5c5da-8af0-45e7-94a1-e48c7fbedaa1.html

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Leading department	Associated department	Information to	
GRD (1)	Backbone (2)		Receipt of the Commission proposal (copy of letter)
			First reading European Parliament/Council
GRD		Backbone	Examination of the proposal within the Council (working party/Coreper: convening, inclusion on agenda, documents)
Backbone	GRD		Further examination in European Parliament committee
GRD		Backbone	Working party (convening, documents)
	GRD	Backbone	Coreper (inclusion on agenda, documents)
Backbone/GRD			Informal negotiation meetings and contacts between the Council Presidency, Rapporteur/Chairman of European Parliament committee and Commission
Backbone		GRD	Information note on the outcome of the first European Parliament reading, together with the text of the amendments voted
GRD		Backbone	Examination of the outcome of the first reading, possibly of the amended Commission proposal
			Acceptance by the Council of the outcome of the first European Parliament reading (adoption of the legal act)
GRD	LS (J/L) (3)	Backbone	Coreper/Council (inclusion on agenda, I/A item note for adoption of the act, PE-CONS document)
			Non-acceptance by the Council of the outcome of the first European Parliament reading (adoption of the common position)
GRD		Backbone	Coreper/Council (inclusion on agenda, documents for the political adoption of the common position)
GRD	LS(J/L)		Statement of reasons (simultaneously with the legal/linguistic revision of the text of the common position): drafting/approval by delegations
GRD		Backbone	Coreper/Council (inclusion on agenda, 'I/A' item note for formal adoption, common position, statement of reasons)
Backbone	GRD		Referral to European Parliament (common position and statement of reasons and any statements)
			Second European Parliament reading
Backbone	GRD		Further examination in European Parliament committee and plenary
Backbone/GRD			Informal negotiation meetings and contacts between the Council Presidency, Rapporteur/Chairman of European Parliament committee and Commission
Backbone	GRD		Information note on the outcome of the second European Parliament reading: - Common position rejected - act not adopted - Common position accepted - act adopted - European Parliament amendments to the common position - second Council reading
			Second Council reading

GRD		Backbone	Working party (convening, documents, Commission opinion)
GRD		Backbone	Coreper (inclusion on agenda, documents)
			(a) Council accepts all the amendments - act adopted
GRD		Backbone	Coreper/Council (inclusion on agenda, 'I/A' item note with reference to the information note on the second European Parliament reading together with the text of the amendments)
			(b) Council does not accept all the amendments - conciliation
Backbone			European Parliament information on non-acceptance of the amendments
Backbone	GRD		Informal technical meetings (Chairman of the working party, European Parliament, Commission)
Backbone	GRD, LS		Informal triologue (Chairman of Coreper, European Parliament, Commission)
Backbone	GRD		Coreper preparatory work (inclusion on agenda, documents)
Backbone	GRD		(poss.) Council (inclusion on agenda, documents)
			Conciliation meeting(s):
Backbone		GRD	- Convening
Backbone	GRD, LS		- Preparatory work of Council delegation
Backbone	GRD, LS		- Meetings of the Conciliation Committee.
			(i) Agreement during conciliation
Backbone	GRD, LS (J/L)		- Drafting of joint text (PE-CONS)
Backbone			- Letter forwarding the joint text to Presidents of the European Parliament and of the Council, signed by the two co-Chairmen of the Conciliation Committee
Backbone	GRD		Coreper/Council (inclusion on agenda, 'I/A' item note, PE-CONS document) - adoption of act
			(ii) Disagreement during conciliation - act not adopted
Backbone	GRD		Information letter to the Presidents of the European Parliament and of the Council, signed by the two co-Chairmen of the Conciliation Committee
Backbone	LS (J/L) Central Coord. Private Office (Official Publications Office)	GRD	LEX document - signing of the legislative text by the Presidents and Secretaries-General of the European Parliament and of the Council Publication of the act in the Official Journal
Backbone		GRD	For the record Organisation of informal contacts between the Presidency and European Parliament, information for European Parliament and Commission departments, extension of time limits, information to delegations on the progress of work and time limits for various dossiers (synoptic table)

(1) GRD: department responsible

(2) Backbone: Co-decision backbone

(3) LS (J/L): Legal Service (Legal/Linguistic experts)