



**DECISION**  
**on the direct public access of EESC meeting minutes and attendance lists**

**THE BUREAU**

**HAVING REGARD TO** Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

**HAVING REGARD TO** the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) Rules of Procedure, in particular Rule 98(4) thereof,

**WHEREAS:**

- (1) Decision 2003/603/EC of the European Economic and Social Committee<sup>1</sup> lays down the rules on public access to European Economic and Social Committee documents.
- (2) Decision 2003/603/EC does not provide specifically for the systematic publication of EESC meeting minutes and attendance lists.
- (3) Where legally possible, the EESC is committed to ensure the greatest possible transparency by publishing on its website, proactively and systematically, the attendance lists and minutes of all its internal bodies; in cases where no minutes exist or the minutes contain sensitive/confidential information, pursuant to the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>2</sup> on public access to documents and Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>3</sup> on the protection of personal data, the agenda of the meeting should be made available instead as well as the relevant attendance list.
- (4) This decision requires that, before its implementation, in order to comply with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, the responsible internal data controller(s) updates the relevant records of processing activities as well as the privacy statements, to adequately inform both the public and the data

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 2003/603/EC of 1 July 2003 of the European Economic and Social Committee on public access to European Economic and Social Committee documents (OJ L 205, 14.8.2003, p. 19).

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

subjects (i.e. the participants to these meetings).

(5) The Bureau adopted in its meeting of 21 March 2023 the present decision.

**HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**Article 1**

1. Without prejudice to EESC Decision 603/2003/EC of 1 July 2003 on public access to EESC documents and to the limits laid down in Articles 4 and 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the minutes and attendance lists of the EESC bodies and structures referred to in the annex to this Decision shall be directly publicly accessible.
2. In cases where no minutes exist or where meeting minutes cannot be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 and Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, the agenda of the meeting as well as the attendance list of the meeting in question shall be directly publicly accessible instead.
3. Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be implemented in full compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

**Article 2**

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication on the EESC website. It shall be implemented within a maximum period of three months as of that date.

Done at Brussels, on 31.03.2023



For the Bureau  
Christa SCHWENG  
President

## ANNEX

### **Bodies and structures concerned by the systematic publication of meeting minutes and attendance lists<sup>4</sup>**

*Plenary session*

*Bureau*

*Enlarged Presidency\**

*Bureau commissions (Commission for Financial and Budgetary Affairs\*, Communication Commission)*

*Ad hoc groups*

*Horizontal structures (Liaison Group with European civil society organisations and networks, Audit Committee and EESC-CoR Political Monitoring Group)*

*Permanent groups*

*Categories*

*Sections and Section Bureaus*

*Observatories (Sustainable Development Observatory, Labour Market Observatory, Observatory of the Digital Transition and the Single Market)*

*Consultative commissions (Consultative Commission on Industrial Change)*

*REX section follow-up committees, platforms, delegations and advisory groups*

*Study Groups*

*Quaestors' Group*

*Ethical Committee\**

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<sup>4</sup>

When no meeting minutes are available, or cannot be disclosed, only meeting agendas and attendance lists shall be provided. For the bodies marked with an asterisk (\*) by default only the agendas and attendance lists shall be provided.