

Changes in the organisation and operation of the European Parliament


Caption: Comparison between the organisation and the operation of the Common Assembly, the European Parliamentary Assembly and the European Parliament.

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Organisation and operation of the European Parliament

	Common Assembly (18 April 1951) Regulation of September 1952-January 1953	European Parliamentary Assembly (20 March 1958) Regulation of June 1958	European Parliament (30 March 1962) Regulation of February 2008
Organisation	<p>Bureau: President and five Vice-Presidents. Duties: appoint the Secretary-General; determine the number of officials, their scales and their salaries, allowances and pensions; draw up estimates relating to extraordinary expenditure required for the operation of the Assembly; set down staff regulations.</p> <p>Committee of Presidents: President, Vice-Presidents and Chairmen of general committees. Duties: examine the President's agenda and draw up draft agendas for part-sessions of the Parliament.</p> <p>Secretary-General: heads the secretariat.</p>	<p>Bureau: President and eight Vice-Presidents. Duties: appoint the Secretary-General; approve the composition and the organisation of the secretariat; determine the number of officials; approve the financial rules of procedure; play a role in the setting up of committees.</p> <p>Committee of Presidents: oversee the Assembly, Vice-Presidents, committee Chairmen and Chairmen of political groups.</p> <p>Secretary-General: responsible for the smooth running of the administrative services; heads the secretariat.</p>	<p>Bureau: President and 14 Vice-Presidents, quaestors. Duties: take financial, organisational and administrative decisions on matters concerning Members, and on the internal organisation of the Parliament, its secretariat and its bodies; take decisions on matters relating to the conduct of sittings, and on the establishment plan of the General Secretariat; lay down regulations relating to the administrative and financial situation of officials and other servants; draw up Parliamentary draft estimates; lay down the implementing rules relating to European Parliament and Council Regulation on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding; appoint the Secretary-General.</p> <p>Quaestors: responsible for administrative and financial matters concerning the Members.</p> <p>Conference of Presidents: President of the Parliament and chairmen of the political groups (Non-attached Members delegate two of their number to attend meeting, without having the right to vote). Duties: organise the work of the Parliament in matters concerning relations with the other bodies and institutions of the European Union, with the national parliaments of Member States and with non-member countries and non-Union organisations; draw up the draft agenda for part-sessions.</p> <p>Conference of Committee Chairmen:</p>

			<p>Presidents of all standing or temporary committees.</p> <p>Conference of Delegation Chairmen: Chairmen of all standing interparliamentary delegations.</p> <p>Secretary-General: heads the Secretariat.</p>
Operation	<p>Annual session: from the second Tuesday in May until the end of the financial year (30 June).</p> <p>Extraordinary session: held either at the request of the Council in order for it to deliver an opinion on the issues that it has referred to the Assembly, or at the request of the majority of the Members of the Assembly or the High Authority.</p>	<p>Annual session: held on the second Tuesday in May and the third Tuesday in October. Since the entry into force of the Merger Treaty of 8 April 1965, the annual session commences on the second Tuesday in March.</p> <p>Extraordinary Sessions: held at the request of the majority of the Members of the Assembly, of the Council or of the Commission.</p>	<p>Annual session: second Tuesday in March.</p> <p>Part-session (divided into sittings): one week per month (with the exception of August).</p> <p>Plenary sessions: held in Strasbourg.</p> <p>Additional sessions: held in Brussels.</p> <p>Extraordinary Session: held at the request of the majority of the Members of the European Parliament, of the Council or of the Commission.</p>