



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 March 2013

7279/13

**PE 122
INST 119**

"I" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject : Draft Council Decision fixing the period for the eighth election of representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage
– Consultation of the European Parliament

1. In accordance with Article 11(2), first subparagraph, of the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage of 20 September 1976 ("Electoral Act")¹, the 2014 elections to the European Parliament should take place from 5 to 8 June 2014. Nevertheless, in accordance with Article 11(2), second subparagraph, of the Electoral Act, if it proves impossible to hold the elections during that period, the Council acting unanimously shall, after consulting the European Parliament, determine, at least one year before the end of the five-year term, another electoral period which shall not be more than two months before or one month after the period normally applicable.
2. At the request of one delegation, the Working Party on General Affairs has discussed during several meetings the question of the dates of the 2014 elections to the European Parliament. Following those discussions, delegations have agreed, pending the consultation of the European Parliament, to depart from the normally applicable dates and hold the next European Parliament elections in the period from 22 to 25 May 2014.

¹ OJ L 278, 8.10.1976, p. 5; last amended by Council Decision 2002/772/EC, Euratom (OJ L 283, 21.10.2002, p. 1).

3. The draft Council decision fixing the period for the eighth election of representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage from 22 to 25 May 2014 is set out in Annex to this note.

4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to endorse the draft Decision set out in Annex to this note as a basis for the Council to decide, by means of the silence procedure (Article 12(2)c of the Council Rules of Procedure), to consult the European Parliament.

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Draft

COUNCIL DECISION No .../2013/EU, Euratom

of [...]

**fixing the period for the eighth election of representatives to the European Parliament by
direct universal suffrage**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Act of 20 September 1976 concerning the election of the representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage², and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 11(2) thereof,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament³,

Whereas:

(1) By its Decision 78/639/Euratom, ECSC, EEC of 25 July 1978 fixing the period for the first election of representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage⁴, the Council fixed the period for this first election from 7 to 10 June 1979.

(2) It proves to be impossible to hold the eighth election during the corresponding period of 2014.

(3) Another electoral period should therefore be determined.

² OJ L 278, 8.10.1976, p. 1.

³ Reference to be added.

⁴ OJ L 205, 29.7.1978, p. 75.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The period referred to in Article 10(1) of the Act of 20 September 1976 concerning the election of the representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage shall be from 22 to 25 May 2014 for the eighth election.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, [...].

For the Council
The President