



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 31 May 2013

10396/13

**Interinstitutional File:
2013/0802 (CNS)**

**INST 272
POLGEN 91
OC 346**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council
to : Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2) / Council

Subject : Council Decision fixing the period for the eighth election of representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage
– Adoption
COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline: 7.6.2013

1. In accordance with Article 10(1) 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. However, 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.

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).

2. Following discussion by the Working Party on General Affairs, the Council decided on 15 March 2013¹ to consult the European Parliament on a 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 2014².
3. On 21 May 2013, the European Parliament adopted its opinion.
4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest to the Council:
 - a) to adopt the Decision set out in document 10101/13, INST 259, POLGEN 84, OC 322;
 - b) to decide to enter to its minutes the Council statement set out in the Annex to this note.



¹ By means of the silence procedure (Article 12(2)c of the Council Rules of Procedure).
² Doc. 7279/13.

Draft statement by the Council

"In order to foster voter turn out, the Council recognizes that, when determining the EP elections dates, due account should be given to national calendars."