



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Council adopts biocides regulation

The Council today adopted¹ a regulation amending biocides regulation 528/2012/EU ([PE-CONS 140/13](#)).

Biocides are chemicals used to suppress organisms that are harmful to human or animal health or that cause damage to natural or manufactured materials. Examples of biocidal products are insect repellents, disinfectants and industrial chemicals such as anti-fouling paints for ships and material preservatives.

The objective of the existing regulation is to improve the functioning of the internal market in biocidal products whilst ensuring a high level of environmental and human health protection. The new regulation aims at remedying problems related to provisions of the above-mentioned biocides regulation which has been in force since 1 September 2013. In particular, it removes unintended market barriers for suppliers of new articles treated with biocidal products and for a large number of suppliers of biocidal active substances.

Today's final adoption of the legislation by the Council follows an agreement reached at first reading with the European Parliament. The European Parliament voted at its plenary session of 25 February 2014.

¹ The decision was taken without discussion at a meeting of the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council.

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