



Council of the  
European Union

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
Subject: EUROPEAN COUCIL DECISION establishing the composition of the  
European Parliament  
- Adoption

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**Statement by Hungary**

Hungary remains concerned about the clear contradiction between the wording of the report of the European Parliament and the wording of the Treaty on the European Union. Article 14 (2) of the Treaty on the European Union clearly states that the European Parliament shall be composed of representatives of the Union's citizens, whereas the proposal of the European Parliament calculates the number of seats on the basis of Member States' population.

Hungary highlights the fact that the number of citizens and the population of Member States may differ significantly. This disparity stemming from the population-based calculation clearly affects Member States that acceded after 2004 negatively, mostly due to the internal mobility of workforce within the Union. Moreover, non-citizen migrants in pre-2004 Member States may also be included in the population (according to Regulation 1260/2013 of 20 November 2013 on European demographic statistics) and thus constitute a basis for the allocation of seats, whereas the Treaties stipulate that members of the European Parliament represent citizens of the Union (Article 10 (2) TEU). In addition, only residents in Member States may participate in the EP elections, meaning that Member States receive mandates after non-nationals living in their territories, who may not even have the right to vote.

Therefore, Hungary is of the opinion that the only legally sound option would be to use the calculation method on the basis of Union's citizens present on the territory of the Member States which would be in line with the Treaty. It means that the seats of the European Parliament shall be allocated according to the number of citizens of the Member States.