



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 4 November 2020
(OR. en)**

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**POLGEN 180
INST 252
JUR 493**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and (EU) 2020/1253, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/...

of ...

**further extending the temporary derogation
from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced
by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556,
(EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and (EU) 2020/1253,
in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular
Article 240(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Decision (EU) 2020/430¹ introduced a one-month derogation from the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure² as regards decisions to use the ordinary written procedure, where those decisions are taken by the Committee of the Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States (Coreper). That derogation was foreseen until 23 April 2020.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2020/430 of 23 March 2020 on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 88 I, 24.03.2020, p. 1).

² Council Decision 2009/937/EU of 1 December 2009 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure (OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35).

- (2) Decision (EU) 2020/430 provides that, if justified by continued exceptional circumstances, the Council may renew that Decision. On 21 April 2020, the Council, by Decision (EU) 2020/556¹, extended the derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430 for a further period of one month from 23 April 2020. That extension of the derogation was foreseen until 23 May 2020. On 20 May 2020, the Council, by Decision (EU) 2020/702², extended the derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430 for a further period until 10 July 2020. On 3 July 2020, the Council, by Decision (EU) 2020/970³, extended that derogation for a further period until 10 September 2020. On 4 September 2020, the Council, by Decision (EU) 2020/1253⁴, extended that derogation for a further period until 10 November 2020.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2020/556 of 21 April 2020 extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 128 I, 23.4.2020, p. 1).

² Council Decision (EU) 2020/702 of 20 May 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 and extended by Decision (EU) 2020/556 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 165, 27.5.2020, p. 38).

³ Council Decision (EU) 2020/970 of 3 July 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556 and (EU) 2020/702, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 216, 7.7.2020, p. 1).

⁴ Council Decision (EU) 2020/1253 of 4 September 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702 and (EU) 2020/970, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 294, 8.9.2020, p. 1).

- (3) Given that the exceptional circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continue, with a number of extraordinary preventive and containment measures taken by Member States still in place, it is necessary to extend the derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430, as extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and (EU) 2020/1253, for a further limited period until 15 January 2021,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430, as extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and (EU) 2020/1253, is hereby further extended until 15 January 2021.

Article 2

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

It shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
