

EP Reinforced its Anti-corruption Rules



Thomas Wahl

News

On 1 November 2023, amendments to the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure entered into force. The amendments strengthen integrity, transparency and accountability in the European Parliament (EP) as a response to the Quatargate corruption scandal. They were decided in plenary on 13 September 2023 and are based on the [EP President's 14-point reform plan](#) (→ [eucrim 1/2023, 27](#)). MEPs have adopted a stricter ban on all activities by MEPs that are constituting lobbying and tougher penalties for breaches of the code of conduct. Other changes include:

- Obligation for MEPs to submit declarations of input on ideas or suggestions received from external actors to be annexed to all reports and opinions;
- Wider rules on the publication of meetings so they apply to all MEPs and cover meetings with third country representatives;
- Stronger rules on "revolving doors", introducing a ban on MEPs from engaging with former MEPs who have left Parliament in the previous six months;
- Expanded definition of conflicts of interest;
- Extended threshold to declare additional incomes (now including all remunerated activities both regular and occasional);
- Obligation to declare assets at the beginning and end of every term of office;
- Stronger role for the competent Advisory Committee;
- Regulation and restriction of unofficial groupings' activities.

The EP also decided that declarations of interests submitted prior to these changes will remain valid until 31 December 2023.

AUTHOR

Thomas Wahl

Senior Researcher
Max Planck Institute for the
Study of Crime, Security and
Law

ISSN: 1862-6947
<https://eucrim.eu>



About eucrim

eucrim is the leading journal which regularly informs about current developments in European criminal and "criministrative" law.

All news items are freely accessible at: <https://eucrim.eu/news/>

Stay informed by emailing to eucrim-subscribe@csl.mpg.de to receive alerts for new releases of issues.

The project is co-financed by the Union Anti-Fraud Programme (UAFP), managed by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).



Co-funded by
the European Union