

European Parliament
Implementation of the 14 point Reform plan
‘Strengthening Integrity, Independence and Accountability’

25 September 2023

Legend ● In progress ● Reform implemented

Status	Point	Theme	Proposal	Delivered
	0	Changing Integrity Culture	<p>Awareness raising campaign</p> <p>Parliament will run regular awareness raising campaigns on ethics and transparency obligations for MEPs and staff and improve available guidance in this field.</p>	<p>More than 200 participants (Members, APA or political group staff) have already participated in the first sessions of the awareness raising campaign on transparency and integrity.</p> <p>To increase the turnout, a Quaestors Notice was sent to Members to inform about training offers.</p>
	1	Conflict of Interest	<p>A new revolving door policy</p> <p>A 6 month ‘cooling-off’ period for former Members who wish to lobby the Parliament will be introduced.</p>	<p>The Bureau has already adopted Parliament’s new revolving door policy and revised Parliament’s rules on former Members on 17 April 2023, which have entered into force on 1 May 2023.</p> <p>More information is available in the Bureau Notice n°4/2023 on New Rules on former Members of the European Parliament.</p>
	2	Overall reform / Changing Integrity Culture	<p>Shining a brighter light on Members' activities</p> <p>Information relating to the integrity of parliamentary work will be available to the public in a centralised, complete and easily accessible way.</p>	<p>An integrity tab on the Parliament’s webpage has been created.</p>
	3	Lobbying	<p>Stronger checks on interest representatives</p> <p>Participation of interest and civil society representatives in any exchange of views or hearings in committee (or committee’s working or sub-groups) on Parliament’s premises and co-organisation of events with Parliament’s services, political</p>	<p>On 12 June 2023, the Bureau adopted the new rules governing the participation of interest representatives to events held in Parliament.</p> <p>An additional 12.000 meetings per year will be subject to the new rules.</p> <p>More information is available in the Bureau notice n°8/2023 on New</p>

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			groups or Members is to be conditional on registration in the Transparency Register.	Rules governing the participation of interest representatives in events held on Parliament’s premises.
	4	Lobbying	<p>Mandatory declaration of meetings</p> <p>A mandatory requirement will be extended to Members, APAs and staff to declare scheduled meetings with diplomatic representatives of third countries and third parties covered by the scope of the Transparency Register on specific reports or resolutions or in situations in which MEPs or staff have an active role and clear and immediate influence in the evolution of specific files.</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point have been incorporated in the new Code of Conduct (Art. 5a) adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023.</p> <p>A Quaestors Notice was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>
	5	Foreign Interference	<p>Enforcing a ban on friendship groups with third countries</p> <p>Any activities or meetings of any unofficial groupings of Members that could result in confusion with official European Parliament activities will be banned.</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point are covered by the amendment to the Rules of Procedure (Rules 35 and 35a) including sanctions and proactive obligations for MEPs. It was adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023.</p> <p>A Quaestors Notice was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>
	6	Overall reform / Changing Integrity Culture	<p>Clarity on accessing the Parliament premises</p> <p>The creation of a new entry log for all persons above 18 years old visiting the European Parliament premises, stating the date, time</p>	<p>The Bureau has already adopted revised rules on access to Parliament’s premises on 8 May 2023. The legal basis for the creation of a new entry log has been introduced in this decision.</p>

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			and purpose of visit. Exemption for journalists.	More information is available in the Bureau Notice n°5/2023 on New Rules on access to the European Parliament.
	7	Conflict of Interest	<p>Revision of rules on former Members</p> <p>Permanent access badges currently granted to former Members and former staff will be replaced by new daily access badges. Former Members and former staff should no longer have the right to grant entry to anyone else, apart from family members.</p>	<p>The Bureau has already revised Parliament’s rules on former Members on 17 April 2023 and on access to Parliament’s premises on 8 May 2023.</p> <p>More information is available in the Bureau Notice n°4/2023 on New Rules on former Members of the European Parliament and in the Bureau Notice n°5/2023 on New Rules on access to the European Parliament.</p>
	8	Conflict of Interest	<p>Avoiding conflict of interests</p> <p>Any Member who finds that he or she has a conflict of interest shall immediately take the necessary steps to address it as set in Article 3(2) of the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Any office-holder in Parliament or rapporteur or shadow rapporteur must submit a declaration of conflict of interests. This obligation also applies to EP co-rapporteurs in multilateral assemblies and their committees.</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point are covered by the amendment to the Code of Conduct (Art. 3). It was adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023.</p> <p>The Quaestors Notice was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>
	9	Conflict of Interest	<p>Increased transparency on financial declarations</p> <p>A revised Declaration Form on financial interests should be developed with a clearer level of detail. More information should be included on Members’ side</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point are covered by the amendment to the Code of Conduct (Art. 4). It was adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023. A Quaestors Notice</p>

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			<p>jobs and outside activities where appropriate. Checks should be allowed to ensure proper enforcement of the rules.</p> <p>A requirement to submit an asset declaration at the beginning and the end of the mandate is also introduced</p>	<p>was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>
	10	Whistleblower rules	<p>Introduction of compliance and whistleblowing training</p> <p>Training for Members should be made regularly available throughout the legislature. The European Parliament should enforce mandatory training for all Members’ Accredited Parliamentary Assistants on financial rules, compliance, conduct and whistleblowing, ensuring they are aware of all rules and systems to protect the integrity of the Institution, themselves and the Member they work with.</p> <p>Training on whistleblowing should also be mandatory for all EP Staff managers.</p>	<p>The text of the internal rules on whistleblowing was politically agreed at the Bureau meeting of 10 July 2023.</p> <p>The new staff committee is being consulted, before reverting the matter to the Bureau for final approval.</p>
	11	Code of Conduct / Ethics	<p>Strengthening the Advisory Committee on the Code of Conduct</p> <p>While the European Parliament has already proposed a new Ethics Body for EU Institutions, we will take action unilaterally to ensure that Members get advice, easily and speedily, on possible conflicts of interests on a systematic basis from the</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point are covered by the amendment to the Code of Conduct (Art. 7 and 8). It was adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023.</p> <p>A Quaestors Notice was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>

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			Advisory Committee on the Conduct of Members. The role of the Committee should be reinforced.	
	12	Foreign Interference	<p>Fighting foreign interference while strengthening work on Human Rights</p> <p>The European Parliament’s work on protecting Human Rights around the globe is one we are proud of and must strengthen. We must do this by pushing back against any foreign interference in our work. Checks and balances for Motions for Resolutions tabled with urgency, that have been the target of undue influence, can be strengthened and confidence in this critical aspect of the European Parliament’s work restored.</p>	Actions to reinforce our tools to fight against foreign interference are being implemented by Parliament’s administration.
	13	Overall reform / Changing Integrity Culture	<p>Boosting the fight against corruption</p> <p>The European Parliament should reinforce its cooperation with Member State intelligence, judicial and law enforcement authorities, to ensure that the Institution is best able to respond and aid with any investigations into alleged criminal activities of Members or staff. We will look into what protection such national intelligence, judicial and law enforcement institutions can provide to the Institution, particularly vis-a-vis third country attempts to influence the democratic process.</p>	Actions to reinforce our tools to fight against corruption are being implemented by Parliament’s administration.

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	14	Code of Conduct / Ethics	<p>Sanctions</p> <p>The list of sanctionable activities for Members will need to be revised accordingly to help compliance with the obligations and responsibilities listed in this document. A system of warnings and reminders will be put in place to remind Members of rules before sanctions in case of severe and systematic breaches are to be applied.</p>	<p>All the objectives in this point are covered by the amendment to the Rules of Procedure (Rule 176) It was adopted in September by the Plenary. It will enter into force in November 2023.</p> <p>A Quaestors Notice was sent to inform MEPs of their new obligations in July.</p>