

EPP Rules of Procedure
Amendments adopted by the EPP Group meeting on 03/03/2021

Article 3

Membership of the Group

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
(1) The Group shall consist of Members elected to the European Parliament on the lists of the member parties of the European People's Party.	(1) The Group shall consist of Members elected to the European Parliament on the lists of the member parties of the European People's Party.
(2) Other Members of the European Parliament may become Members of the Group of the European People's Party if they subscribe to the political programme of the European People's Party and accept these Rules of Procedure.	(2) Other Members of the European Parliament may be admitted as Members of the Group of the European People's Party if they subscribe to the political programme of the European People's Party and accept these Rules of Procedure.
(3) These Members (Article 3 paragraph 1 and paragraph 2) are committed to a policy, which, on the basis of a Constitution, pursues the process of federal unification and integration in Europe, which is a constituent element of the European Union as a Union of citizens and States.	(3) Members of the Group are committed to a policy, which, on the basis of a Constitution, pursues the process of federal unification and integration in Europe, which is a constituent element of the European Union as a Union of citizens and States.
(4) Acting on the basis of the Community model within the EU, they define their values and aims in line with the current election programme of the EPP, in accordance with principles such as freedom and democracy, as well as the rule of law, respect for human rights and subsidiarity.	(4) Acting on the basis of the Union model within the European Union, the Group defines its values and aims in line with the current election programme of the European People's Party , in accordance with the founding values of the European Union , such as freedom and democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and subsidiarity, as well as the rights and principles enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty of the European Union and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

	<p><i>(5) The Group is a parliamentary formation well anchored in the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament. Members of the Group shall respect the Rules of the Parliament, ensure the spirit of mutual respect among Members and serve the will of the Group in public.</i></p>
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Article 5

Admission of Members

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
	<p><i>(New paragraph requires renumbering of Article)</i></p> <p><i>(1) In accordance with Article 3 paragraph 1, Members elected to the European Parliament on the lists of the member parties of the European People's Party shall be Members of the Group.</i></p> <p><i>(2) Whenever the European People's Party admits a new member party, the Members elected to the European Parliament on its lists shall also be Members of the Group.</i></p>
<p>(1) Decisions according to Article 3 paragraph 2 and Article 4 on the admission of Members have to be supported by the majority of Group Members.</p> <p>The delegation/delegations of the Members elected in the same Member State as the applicant shall be consulted at least 14 days prior to that decision.</p>	<p>(3) Decisions according to Article 3 paragraph 2 and Article 4 on the admission of Members have to <i>be duly motivated and</i> supported by the <i>majority of votes cast, constituting</i> the majority of <i>the component Members of the</i> Group. <i>Members of</i> the same Member State as the applicant shall be <i>informed</i> at least <i>14</i> days prior to that decision. <i>Members may request a debate on the implications of the applications at least 7 days before a vote.</i></p>
<p>(2) Each new Member shall sign two copies of the Declaration of Constitution of the Group. One copy shall be passed by the Group secretariat to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament; the other shall be preserved in the Group records.</p>	<p>(4) Each new Member shall sign two copies of the Declaration of Constitution of the Group. One copy shall be passed by the Group secretariat to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament; the other shall be preserved in the Group records.</p>

Article 7

Termination of Membership

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
(1) Membership or allied membership of the Group shall end on the termination of a Member's appointment to the European Parliament or on resignation.	(1) Membership or allied membership of the Group shall end on the termination of a Member's appointment to the European Parliament or on resignation.
(2) The Group's Plenary Assembly can decide upon the exclusion of a Member of the Group by secret ballot.	(2) The Group's Plenary Assembly may decide, <i>in a duly motivated way</i> , upon the exclusion of a Member or Members of the Group by secret ballot. <i>A proposal for exclusion from the Group may be made by the Presidency or by a group of Members representing at least 15% of the component Members of the Group out of at least 4 delegations.</i>
A proposal for exclusion from the Group has to be submitted to all Members of the Group in writing at least three days before the vote. The Group shall hear the opinion of the Members of the same nationality as the Member in question. The decision is taken by a two-thirds majority of votes cast. The decision shall be valid if at least half the Members have participated in the vote.	(3) The proposal for exclusion from the Group <i>shall be duly motivated and</i> submitted to all Members of the Group in writing at least three days before the vote. The Group shall hear the <i>Member or Members concerned, as well as</i> Members of the same <i>Member State</i> before the vote. <i>The decision is taken by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, constituting at least a majority of the component Members of the Group. In determining whether a two-thirds majority is reached, no account shall be taken of abstentions.</i>
	(4) Where the European People's Party terminates the membership of a member party, the Presidency shall

	<p><i>present a proposal regarding the membership in the Group of the Members of the delegation belonging to that party. In this case, the decision on their exclusion from the Group shall be taken by a majority of votes cast, constituting the majority of the component Members of the Group.</i></p>
	<p><i>(5) An excluded Member shall be entitled to ask for readmission provided that the requirements established in Article 3 are fulfilled. Readmission shall be subject to the provisions laid down in Article 5 paragraph 2.</i></p>

Article 7 Bis

Suspension of rights of a Member of the Group

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
	<i>(1) The rights of a Member may be temporarily suspended.</i>
	<i>(2) The Group's Plenary Assembly may decide, in a duly motivated way, upon the suspension of the rights of a Member or Members of the Group by secret ballot.</i>
	<i>(3) A proposal for the suspension of rights may be made by the Presidency or by a group of Members representing at least 15% of the Members of the Group out of at least 4 Delegations.</i>
	<i>(4) The proposal for suspension of rights shall be duly motivated and submitted to all Members of the Group in writing at least three days before the vote.</i> <i>The Group shall hear the Member or Members concerned, as well as Members of the same Member State before the vote.</i>
	<i>(5) The decision is taken by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, constituting at least a majority of the component Members of the Group. In determining whether a two-thirds majority is reached, no account shall be taken of abstentions.</i>
	<i>(6) The decision to suspend shall specify the reasons and the period of the suspension. The decision may be revised or revoked at any time. The decision to revise, revoke or prolong a</i>

	<p><i>suspension shall be adopted if it is supported by a majority of votes cast, constituting the majority of the component Members of the Group. In any case, the decision of suspension ceases to be effective at the end of the parliamentary term.</i></p>
	<p><i>(7) Whilst respecting their essential rights as Members of the European Parliament, Members whose rights have been suspended shall immediately be precluded from the following rights that belong to them as Members of the Group:</i></p> <p><i>(i) Active participation in Group meetings and activities or in any vote or any other decision of the Group's Plenary Assembly;</i></p> <p><i>(ii) Speaking in plenary, committee or other parliamentary activities on behalf of the Group. Provided that the Presidency shall ensure that their speaking rights as Members of the European Parliament are not curtailed;</i></p> <p><i>(iii) Holding any elected position within the Group or being nominated by the Group for any elected position within the European Parliament;</i></p> <p><i>(iv) Being nominated for any rapporteurship or shadow rapporteurship on behalf of the Group;</i></p>
	<p><i>(8) Where the European People's Party suspends the membership of a member party, the Presidency shall present a proposal regarding the position in the Group of the Members of the delegation belonging to that party. In</i></p>

	<p><i>this case, the decision on the suspension of their rights as Members of the Group shall be taken by a majority of votes cast, constituting a majority of the component Members of the Group. It shall have the effect of suspending the rights of the Members concerned, as defined in this Article. The decision to revise, revoke or prolong suspension of rights in the Group shall also be taken by a majority of votes cast, constituting a majority of the component Members of the Group. In any case, the decision of suspension ceases to be effective at the end of the parliamentary term.</i></p>
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Article 10

Responsibilities of the Group Plenary Assembly

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
The Plenary Assembly shall: (a) Decide on admission and termination of membership of the Group;	The Plenary Assembly shall: (a) Decide on admission, <i>suspension of rights</i> and termination of membership of the Group;

Article 12

Responsibilities of the Presidency

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
The Presidency shall be responsible for: (...)	The Presidency shall be responsible for: <i>(h bis) Tabling a proposal for suspension of rights and for exclusion of a Member or Members of the Group.</i>

Article 19bis

Remote voting

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
	<i>All organs of the Group shall be able to take their decisions by remote vote.</i>

Article 32

Modifications of the Rules of Procedure

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
Amendments to the Rules of Procedure may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of votes cast. The decision shall be valid if at least half the Group Members have participated in the vote.	<i>Amendments to the Rules of Procedure may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, constituting at least a majority of the component Members of the Group. In determining whether a two-thirds majority is reached, no account shall be taken of abstentions.</i>

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Article 33

Entry into force

ORIGINAL RoP	NEW RoP
This version of the Rules of Procedures replaces that of 17 June 2009 with effect from 09 October 2013.	This version of the Rules of Procedures replaces that of 9 October 2013 with effect from 3 March 2021 .

03.03.2021