

# Special Rules European Council

## Committee Rules

### 1 Membership

1. The Council shall be composed of Representatives of the 28 European Union member states.
2. Each Representative shall have one vote in the Council.

### 2. Participation of non-members

1. The Council may admit, upon their application, non-member Agencies and international organizations, governmental or non-governmental as observers at its meetings under conditions which may be prescribed in its RoPs. No such observer shall have the right to vote on substantive matters.
2. The Chairpersons may, at their discretion, authorize observers to take part in the debates and he may impose such limitations upon their interventions as they deem necessary for the orderly conduct of business.

### 3. Motion to vote clause by clause

1. Representatives can move to vote clause by clause on the operative clauses of a Draft Resolution during voting procedure.
2. This motion is a procedural motion.
3. This motion does not require debate and needs a simple majority to pass.
4. If the motion receives the required majority, the Chairpersons will proceed to vote on each operative clause, separately. These votes will be substantive in nature. Only clauses receiving a majority of affirmative votes will be allowed to stand.

## Rules Governing Written Proposals

### 4. Draft Resolutions

1. Except in cases where the Council decides otherwise, decisions of the Council on substantive matters shall be recorded by Resolutions.
2. Rules 43 and 44 of the General Rules of Procedure shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, for what concerns the requirements for the introduction of Draft Resolutions.

## Decision-Making Rules

### 5. Voting arrangements and quorum

1. The European Council shall make every effort to reach agreement on substantive matters by way of consensus.
2. If the consensus fails, on Chair's discretions the Council can vote on substantive matters by qualified majority, according to the Lisbon Treaty and the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union.

## 6. Qualified Majority

When a decision is to be adopted by the Council by a qualified majority, it shall be verified that 55% of the Member States vote in favor and that the Member States constituting the qualified majority represent at least 65 % of the total population of the European Union calculated according to the population figures set out in Annex I.

## 7. Blocking minority

A blocking minority must include at least four Council members representing more than 35% of the EU population. The blocking minority prevents the adoption of a final decision.

## Annex – Weighting of votes

<b>Member Country</b>	<b>Percentage of EU population</b>
Austria	1,69%
Belgium	2,21%
Bulgaria	1,42%
Croatia	0,83%
Cyprus	0,17%
Czech Republic	2,05%
Denmark	1,11%
Estonia	0,26%
Finland	1,08%
France	13,04%
Germany	15,93%
Greece	2,13%
Hungary	1,94%
Ireland	0,91%
Italy	12,07%
Latvia	0,39%
Lithuania	0,57%
Luxembourg	0,11%
Malta	0,08%
Netherlands	3,37%
Poland	7,47%
Portugal	2,04
Romania	3,90%
Slovakia	1,06%
Slovenia	0,41%

Spain	9,12%
Sweden	1,92%
United Kingdom	12,73%