

ACEI position on the report on the conclusion of an interinstitutional agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission on a common Transparency Register (2010/2291(AVI))

Summary

The Alliance for a Competitive European Industry welcomes the report on the conclusion of an interinstitutional agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission on a common Transparency Register (2010/2291(AVI)) adopted on 19 April 2011 by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament. We fully support the Committee's proposal to have the draft agreement adopted by the European Parliament for the reasons we specify hereafter.

Position

The Alliance for a Competitive European Industry represents 12 European associations which are representative for their industry as a whole. Our members have for many years maintained and continue to maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with the European institutions.

We believe that this dialogue with representative associations, such as ours and with civil society, which is enshrined in article 11(2) of the Treaty of the European Union, is essential to ensure that members of the EU institutions, including the democratically elected representatives in the European Parliament, are able to obtain the required information to discuss and arrive at an informed opinion and decision on proposals, reports and policies developed by the European institutions. It is therefore essential and usual for policymakers and decision makers to be able to consult with and receive information and proposals from legitimate and representative stakeholders such as our associations represent.

In order to ensure that such a process remains transparent, the ACEI therefore welcomes the move towards establishing a Transparency Register common to the European Commission and the European Parliament and we hope that all European institutions which are involved in the policy or decision making process will see fit to join this.

Members of the ACEI also welcome the proposal that only registered interest representatives should be provided with badges allowing permanent access to the European Parliament.

Finally members of the Alliance for a Competitive European Industry would welcome a more transparent classification of interest representatives in the common Transparency Register which separates representative associations, as specified in the Treaty of the European Union, from other categories of interest representatives such as consultancies and law firms.