P9_TA(2024)0085

Protection of journalists and human rights defenders from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings

European Parliament legislative resolution of 27 February 2024 on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings ('Strategic lawsuits against public participation') (COM(2022)0177 – C9-0161/2022 – 2022/0117(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

(C/2024/6754)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2022)0177),

— having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 81(2)(f) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C9-0161/2022),

— having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

— having regard to the reasoned opinion submitted, within the framework of Protocol No 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, by the French Senate, asserting that the draft legislative act does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity,

— having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 26 October 2022 ([1]),

— having regard to the provisional agreement approved by the committee responsible under Rule 74(4) of its Rules of Procedure and the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 20 December 2023 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

— having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,

— having regard to the opinions of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Culture and Education,

— having regard to the report of the Committee on Legal Affairs (A9-0223/2023),

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out ([2]);

2. Suggests that the act be cited as 'the Wölken-Bolaños García Directive on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings ('Strategic lawsuits against public participation')' ([3]);

3. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;

4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

([1]) OJ C 75, 28.2.2023, p. 143.
([2]) This position replaces the amendments adopted on 11 July 2023 (Texts adopted, P9_TA(2023)0264).
([3]) Tiemo Wölken and Félix Bolaños García led the negotiations on the act on behalf of Parliament and the Council respectively.

P9_TC1-COD(2022)0117

Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 27 February 2024 with a view to the adoption of Directive (EU) 2024/… of the European Parliament and of the Council on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings ('Strategic lawsuits against public participation')

(As an agreement was reached between Parliament and Council, Parliament's position corresponds to the final legislative act, Directive (EU) 2024/1069.)