



Scrutiny of documents coming from the European Union and monitoring compliance with the principle of subsidiarity

Date	Responsible body or unit	Description of the procedure
<i>Day 1</i>	Transmission to Nationalrat and Bundesrat ¹ by EU institutions	All EU draft legislative proposals and other documents are transmitted directly to the parliamentary EU-database by the competent EU institution.
<i>Day 2</i>	Parliamentary EU database	All directly transmitted documents are publicly accessible in the EU database (http://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/EU/) of the Austrian parliament. A daily newsletter is sent out informing MPs about all recently directly transmitted documents. At the same time, those documents are forwarded to the provincial diets in order to give them the opportunity to send statements with regard to the subsidiarity principle to the Bundesrat.
<i>Between day 2 and day 7</i>	Parliamentary administration, EU and international service	All draft legislative proposals are pre-checked against the background of the subsidiarity principle on the administrative level. Preparatory lists are drawn up and sent out to members of the EU committees (once per week). These lists provide an overview of directly transmitted documents as well as deadlines currently open in the subsidiarity scrutiny procedure. They also contain short legal analyses of all draft legislative proposals which may include recommendations for further scrutiny if problems with the subsidiarity principle are suspected.

¹ The following description of the scrutiny procedure is valid for both chambers of the Austrian parliament, unless stated otherwise.

<i>Within 8 weeks deadline</i>	EU committee	The chair of the EU committee (in consultation with the parliamentary groups) draws up the agenda for the next committee session. If an EU document figures on the agenda, the EU and international service of the parliamentary administration addresses a request for written information to the competent member of the federal government. This information has to be conveyed before the committee session takes place and is distributed to all committee members.
<i>Within 8 weeks deadline</i>	EU committee	<p>EU committee session (app. 1-2 times per month). Motions for reasoned opinions, statements in the framework of the political dialogue or binding opinions addressed to the member of the federal government responsible for council negotiations may be tabled by every committee member. All decisions are adopted by simple majority voting.</p> <p>Usually final decisions are taken at EU committee level, but there is the possibility to transfer negotiations and voting to the plenary.</p> <p>The EU committee of the Bundesrat has to take into account statements by the provincial diets with regard to the subsidiarity principle.</p>
<i>App. 1 day after committee session</i>	Parliamentary Administration, EU and International Service	<p>Adopted decisions are transmitted to addressees. Reasoned opinions in the framework of the subsidiarity scrutiny procedure are sent to the presidents of the EP, the council and the commission, all members of the federal government and other addressees. Adopted texts are uploaded on IPEX together with a full text translation in English.</p>