



**Hungarian National Assembly
Committee on European Affairs**

Opinion of the Committee on European Affairs

by virtue of Article 145 of Resolution 10/2014. (II. 24.) OGY on certain provisions of the Rules of Procedure

concerning the European Parliament resolution and draft legislative act of 11 November 2015 on the reform of the electoral law of the European Union (2015/2035(INL))

The Committee

- bearing in mind that the Council Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom of 20 September 1976 (electoral act) lays down minimum regulations regarding the elections to the European Parliament, thereby respects Member States' competences and constitutional traditions related to electoral procedure;
- agrees that adequate responses are required, in particular to urge the participation of young people at European elections;
- notes with regret that the transmission of the proposal for a Council decision adopted by the European Parliament on 11 November 2015 to the national parliaments didn't comply with the provisions of Protocols No 1. and 2. attached to the Treaty of Lisbon;
- declares that the proposals on the so-called top candidate and the joint constituency are contrary to Article 17 (7) of the Treaty on the European Union;
- refuses that unanimity should be replaced by qualified majority concerning Council decisions on implementing measures of the electoral act;
- however, deems favourable the proposals on the determination of obligatory electoral thresholds as well as the assurance of the voting rights of EU citizens living in a third country;
- considers acceptable, on a voluntary basis, the placing of the name and logo of the European political parties on ballot papers used in elections to the European Parliament;
- emphasises that the autonomy of nominating organisations should be respected regarding the selection and establishment of candidates for elections to the European Parliament.

Budapest, 2 May 2016