

FORMER MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

BUREAU DECISION

OF 17 APRIL 2023

THE BUREAU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- having regard to Rule 11(6), Rule 123 and Annex I of the Parliament's Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to Article 40(2) of the Implementing measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1
Conduct

Former Members shall respect Parliament's dignity and rules.

Article 2
Access to premises and facilities

1. Without prejudice to the limitations laid down under Article 3(2), former Members shall be entitled to have access on a daily basis to the premises of the European Parliament during opening hours, including car parks, and restaurants of exclusive use for Members.
2. When former Members have no access rights to Parliament and need to enter Parliament's premises in connection with an administrative formality linked to the end of their mandate, to their financial or social entitlements as former Member, or to their IT account with Parliament, the relevant department of the Secretariat shall make arrangements to allow entry as a visitor only.

Article 3
Lobbying or representational activities

1. Former Members shall not engage in lobbying or representational activities covered by Article 3 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021¹, with the European Parliament, within the six months following the end of their mandate.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register, OJ L 207 of 11 June 2021, p. 1.

2. Former Members who engage in lobbying or representational activities after this period may enter Parliament's premises for the purposes of these activities only after having been granted a specific badge, issued on the basis of their prior registration in the Transparency Register where they fall under its scope, which they shall wear prominently throughout their presence in those premises. They shall not be entitled to the access rights provided for in Articles 2(1) and 5(1).

Article 4
Democracy support activities

Former Members may participate in official European Parliament democracy support activities only upon authorisation by the President.

Article 5
IT account, IT access rights and IT equipment

1. The Members' Parliament IT account and IT access rights shall be deactivated three months after the end of their mandate. After the deactivation, former Members may obtain, upon request, an IT account with restricted access, allowing access to Parliament's intranet and to functionalities linked to their financial or social entitlements.
2. Members' portable IT equipment must be returned by former Members to the relevant department within two weeks after the end of their mandate. After the lapse of this period, Parliament shall be entitled to deduct from the former Member's individual financial entitlement an amount corresponding to the residual market value of the not returned equipment. If no such financial entitlement is available, Parliament shall initiate a recovery procedure.

Article 6
Official documents

Former Members shall return to the Parliament's relevant department for cancellation, within one month of the end of their mandate, any EU laissez-passer or Belgian special identity card issued to them, or their family members, in their capacity as Member.

Article 7
Procedure in the event of non-compliance

1. The President may decide to withdraw from a specific former Member the access rights provided for in Articles 2(1) and 5(1) for a specified period in any of the following cases:
 - a) improper behaviour, which might compromise parliamentary business, order or security;
 - b) lobbying or representational activities with the European Parliament, during the six-month period provided for in Article 3(1);

- c) lobbying or representational activities with Parliament without having obtained or wearing the specific badge mentioned in Article 3(2); or
 - d) failure to return an official document in breach of Article 6.
2. A former Member who is subject to the withdrawal of the access rights pursuant to paragraph 1 may lodge an internal appeal to the Bureau within 15 working days from the notification of the decision. Such a complaint shall not have suspensory effect. The Bureau shall notify the complainant of its reasoned decision within two months from the date on which the complaint was lodged.

Article 8
Enforcement

The President shall be responsible for enforcing these rules. Any department of the Secretariat which becomes aware of one of the cases listed in Article 7 shall notify the President thereof.

Article 9
Repeal

The Bureau decision of 12 April 1999 on the facilities granted to former Members of the European Parliament is repealed.

Article 10
Review

The Bureau will evaluate the implementation of this Decision no later than by the end of 2026, on the basis of a report from the Secretary-General.

Article 11
Entry into force

This Decision shall enter into force on 1 May 2023. It shall apply, as of that date, to all former Members regardless of the date of the end of their mandate.