

### **European Parliament - unfinished business: What happens to legislation that has not been completed by the end of a parliamentary term?**



Documents

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All votes taken by Parliament before the elections remain legally valid for the next Parliament. This means that after the elections the new Parliament will pick up the files where the previous Parliament left them and will continue with the next stage of the decision-making procedure.

For legislative business that hasn't reached the plenary before the elections, there is no legally valid Parliament position and therefore Parliament's internal rules of procedure stipulate that in these cases the work done on them (e.g. in committee) during the previous parliamentary term lapses.

However, at the beginning of the new parliamentary term, the new Parliament's Conference of Presidents – the EP President and the political group leaders – may decide to continue the work already done on those files (rule 229 of the EP's rules of procedure). Examples from the field of water policy are presented.