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8. They recall in this respect the key role of the Inter-institutional Group on Information (IGI) serving as a high-level framework for the Institutions to encourage political debate on EU-related information and communication activities in order to foster synergy and complementarity. To that purpose, the IGI, co-chaired by representatives of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission, and with the participation of the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee as observers, meets in principle twice a year.

### **A framework for working together**

The three Institutions intend to cooperate on the following basis:

9. Whilst respecting the individual responsibility of each EU institution and Member State for its own communication strategy and priorities, the three Institutions will, in the framework of the IGI, identify yearly a limited number of common communication priorities.

10. These priorities will be based on communication priorities identified by the EU Institutions and bodies following their internal procedures and complementing, where appropriate, Member States' strategic views and efforts in this field, taking into account citizens' expectations.

11. The three Institutions and the Member States will endeavour to promote appropriate support for communication on the priorities identified.

12. The services responsible for communication in Member States and EU institutions should liaise with each other to ensure successful implementation of the common communication priorities, as well as other activities linked to EU communication, if need be on the basis of appropriate administrative arrangements.

13. The Institutions and Member States are invited to exchange information on other EU related communication activities, in particular on sectoral communication activities envisaged by the Institutions and bodies, when they result in information campaigns in Member States.

14. The Commission is invited to report back at the beginning of each year to the other EU Institutions on the main achievements of the implementation of the common communication priorities of the previous year.

15. This political declaration has been signed on *[date]*.

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## **Use by Parliament of the symbols of the Union (new Rule 202a)**

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### **European Parliament decision of 9 October 2008 on insertion in Parliament's Rules of Procedure of a new Rule 202a on the use by Parliament of the symbols of the Union (2007/2240(REG))**

(2010/C 9 E/12)

*The European Parliament,*

— having regard to its resolution of 11 July 2007 on the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference <sup>(1)</sup>, in particular paragraph 23 thereof,

— having regard to the letter from its President of 12 September 2007,

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 175 E, 10.7.2008, p. 347.

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- having regard to the importance of symbols for reconnecting the citizens with the European Union and for building a European identity which is complementary to the national identities of the Member States,
  - having regard to the fact that the symbols have been in use for over 30 years by all European Institutions and were formally approved by the European Council in 1985 <sup>(1)</sup>,
  - having regard to Rules 201 and 202 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (A6-0347/2008),
1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as shown below;
  2. Decides that the amendment will enter into force on the day following its adoption;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Council and the Commission, for information.

PRESENT TEXT

AMENDMENT

### Amendment 1

#### Parliament's Rules of Procedure

#### Title XIII — Miscellaneous Provisions — Rule 202a (new)

##### *Rule 202a*

##### *The symbols of the Union*

*1. Parliament shall recognise and espouse the following symbols of the Union:*

- *the flag showing a circle of twelve golden stars on a blue background;*
- *the anthem based on the 'Ode to Joy' from the Ninth Symphony by Ludwig van Beethoven;*
- *the motto 'United in diversity'.*

*2. Parliament shall celebrate Europe Day on 9 May.*

*3. The flag shall be flown at all Parliament premises and on the occasion of official events. The flag shall be used in each meeting room of the Parliament.*

*4. The anthem shall be performed at the opening of each constitutive sitting and at other solemn sittings, notably to welcome heads of State or government or to greet new Members following enlargements.*

*5. The motto shall be reproduced on Parliament's official documents.*

*6. The Bureau shall examine further use of the symbols within the Parliament. The Bureau shall lay down detailed provisions for the implementation of this Rule.*

<sup>(1)</sup> Milan European Council of 28 and 29 June 1985.