

Council Regulation (EC) No 2157/2001 of 8 October
2001 on the Statute for a European company (SE)

TITLE II

FORMATION

Section 3

Formation of a holding SE

Article 32

1 A holding SE may be formed in accordance with Article 2(2).

A company promoting the formation of a holding SE in accordance with Article 2(2) shall continue to exist.

2 The management or administrative organs of the companies which promote such an operation shall draw up, in the same terms, draft terms for the formation of the holding SE. The draft terms shall include a report explaining and justifying the legal and economic aspects of the formation and indicating the implications for the shareholders and for the employees of the adoption of the form of a holding SE. The draft terms shall also set out the particulars provided for in Article 20(1)(a), (b), (c), (f), (g), (h) and (i) and shall fix the minimum proportion of the shares in each of the companies promoting the operation which the shareholders must contribute to the formation of the holding SE. That proportion shall be shares conferring more than 50 % of the permanent voting rights.

3 For each of the companies promoting the operation, the draft terms for the formation of the holding SE shall be publicised in the manner laid down in each Member State's national law in accordance with Article 3 of Directive 68/151/EEC at least one month before the date of the general meeting called to decide thereon.

4 One or more experts independent of the companies promoting the operation, appointed or approved by a judicial or administrative authority in the Member State to which each company is subject in accordance with national provisions adopted in implementation of Directive 78/855/EEC, shall examine the draft terms of formation drawn up in accordance with paragraph 2 and draw up a written report for the shareholders of each company. By agreement between the companies promoting the operation, a single written report may be drawn up for the shareholders of all the companies by one or more independent experts, appointed or approved by a judicial or administrative authority in the Member State to which one of the companies promoting the operation or the proposed SE is subject in accordance with national provisions adopted in implementation of Directive 78/855/EEC.

5 The report shall indicate any particular difficulties of valuation and state whether the proposed share-exchange ratio is fair and reasonable, indicating the methods used to arrive at it and whether such methods are adequate in the case in question.

6 The general meeting of each company promoting the operation shall approve the draft terms of formation of the holding SE.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Council Regulation (EC) No 2157/2001. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

Employee involvement in the holding SE shall be decided pursuant to Directive 2001/86/EC. The general meetings of each company promoting the operation may reserve the right to make registration of the holding SE conditional upon its express ratification of the arrangements so decided.

7 These provisions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to private limited-liability companies.

Article 33

1 The shareholders of the companies promoting such an operation shall have a period of three months in which to inform the promoting companies whether they intend to contribute their shares to the formation of the holding SE. That period shall begin on the date upon which the terms for the formation of the holding SE have been finally determined in accordance with Article 32.

2 The holding SE shall be formed only if, within the period referred to in paragraph 1, the shareholders of the companies promoting the operation have assigned the minimum proportion of shares in each company in accordance with the draft terms of formation and if all the other conditions are fulfilled.

3 If the conditions for the formation of the holding SE are all fulfilled in accordance with paragraph 2, that fact shall, in respect of each of the promoting companies, be publicised in the manner laid down in the national law governing each of those companies adopted in implementation of Article 3 of Directive 68/151/EEC.

Shareholders of the companies promoting the operation who have not indicated whether they intend to make their shares available to the promoting companies for the purpose of forming the holding SE within the period referred to in paragraph 1 shall have a further month in which to do so.

4 Shareholders who have contributed their securities to the formation of the SE shall receive shares in the holding SE.

5 The holding SE may not be registered until it is shown that the formalities referred to in Article 32 have been completed and that the conditions referred to in paragraph 2 have been fulfilled.

Article 34

A Member State may, in the case of companies promoting such an operation, adopt provisions designed to ensure protection for minority shareholders who oppose the operation, creditors and employees.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Title 3 heading words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 110](#)
- Signature words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 138](#)
- Art. AA1(1) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1298, reg. 97 by [S.I. 2020/523 reg. 4\(a\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. AA1(2) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1298, reg. 97 by [S.I. 2020/523 reg. 4\(a\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. AA1(5) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1298, reg. 97 by [S.I. 2020/523 reg. 4\(a\)\(ii\)\(cc\)](#)
- Art. A1 words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1298, reg. 97 by [S.I. 2020/523 reg. 4\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 000A1-AAA1 inserted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 97](#)
- Annex 1 omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 139](#)
- Annex 2 omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 139](#)
- Art. 9(1)(c)(i) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 104\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 9(1)(c)(iii) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 104\(a\)\(iv\)](#)
- Art. 9(1)(c)(ii) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 104\(a\)\(iii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 9(1)(c)(ii) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 104\(a\)\(iii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 40(2)(a)-(c) Art. 40(2)(a)-(c) substituted for words by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 113\(b\)](#)
- Art. 43(2)(a)(b) Art. 43(2)(a)(b) substituted for words by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 115\(b\)\(iv\)](#)
- Art. 43(3)(a)-(c) Art. 43(3)(a)(b) substituted for words by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 115\(c\)](#)
- Art. 47(2)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 117\(b\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 47(2)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 117\(b\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 47(2)(b) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 117\(b\)\(iii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 47(2)(b) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 117\(b\)\(iii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 52(b) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1298 reg. 122\(a\)](#)