

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

TITLE III

STRUCTURE OF THE SE

Section 4

General meeting

Article 52

The general meeting shall decide on matters for which it is given sole responsibility by:

- (a) this Regulation or
- (b) the legislation of the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated adopted in implementation of Directive 2001/86/EC.

Furthermore, the general meeting shall decide on matters for which responsibility is given to the general meeting of a public limited-liability company governed by the law of the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated, either by the law of that Member State or by the SE's statutes in accordance with that law.

Article 53

Without prejudice to the rules laid down in this section, the organisation and conduct of general meetings together with voting procedures shall be governed by the law applicable to public limited-liability companies in the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated.

Article 54

1 An SE shall hold a general meeting at least once each calendar year, within six months of the end of its financial year, unless the law of the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated applicable to public limited-liability companies carrying on the same type of activity as the SE provides for more frequent meetings. A Member State may, however, provide that the first general meeting may be held at any time in the 18 months following an SE's incorporation.

2 General meetings may be convened at any time by the management organ, the administrative organ, the supervisory organ or any other organ or competent authority in accordance with the national law applicable to public limited-liability companies in the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated.

Article 55

1 One or more shareholders who together hold at least 10 % of an SE's subscribed capital may request the SE to convene a general meeting and draw up the agenda therefor; the SE's statutes or national legislation may provide for a smaller proportion under the same conditions as those applicable to public limited-liability companies.

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](#)

2 The request that a general meeting be convened shall state the items to be put on the agenda.

3 If, following a request made under paragraph 1, a general meeting is not held in due time and, in any event, within two months, the competent judicial or administrative authority within the jurisdiction of which the SE's registered office is situated may order that a general meeting be convened within a given period or authorise either the shareholders who have requested it or their representatives to convene a general meeting. This shall be without prejudice to any national provisions which allow the shareholders themselves to convene general meetings.

Article 56

One or more shareholders who together hold at least 10 % of an SE's subscribed capital may request that one or more additional items be put on the agenda of any general meeting. The procedures and time limits applicable to such requests shall be laid down by the national law of the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated or, failing that, by the SE's statutes. The above proportion may be reduced by the statutes or by the law of the Member State in which the SE's registered office is situated under the same conditions as are applicable to public limited-liability companies.

Article 57

Save where this Regulation or, failing that, the law applicable to public limited-liability companies in the Member State in which an SE's registered office is situated requires a larger majority, the general meeting's decisions shall be taken by a majority of the votes validly cast.

Article 58

The votes cast shall not include votes attaching to shares in respect of which the shareholder has not taken part in the vote or has abstained or has returned a blank or spoilt ballot paper.

Article 59

1 Amendment of an SE's statutes shall require a decision by the general meeting taken by a majority which may not be less than two thirds of the votes cast, unless the law applicable to public limited-liability companies in the Member State in which an SE's registered office is situated requires or permits a larger majority.

2 A Member State may, however, provide that where at least half of an SE's subscribed capital is represented, a simple majority of the votes referred to in paragraph 1 shall suffice.

3 Amendments to an SE's statutes shall be publicised in accordance with Article 13.

Article 60

1 Where an SE has two or more classes of shares, every decision by the general meeting shall be subject to a separate vote by each class of shareholders whose class rights are affected thereby.

2 Where a decision by the general meeting requires the majority of votes specified in Article 59(1) or (2), that majority shall also be required for the separate vote by each class of shareholders whose class rights are affected by the decision.

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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\(a\)](#)