



How to find voting information in the European Parliament

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This note describes how to find information about votes in the European Parliament's website.

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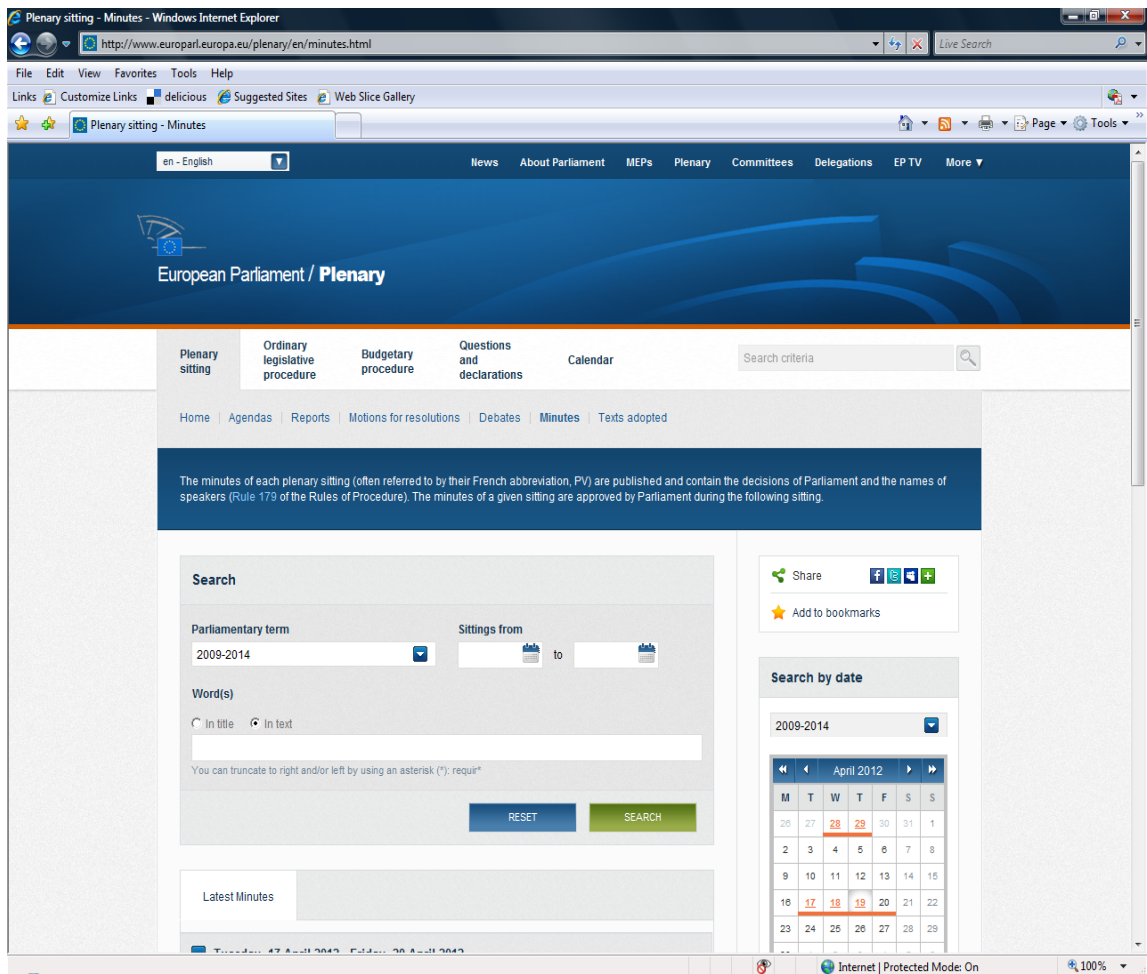
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1 Voting or “division” lists

“Division” or voting lists in the European Parliament can be found on the European Parliament’s website as long as the vote was recorded individually, i.e. by “roll-call vote”.

- Open www.europarl.europa.eu
- Select English and then, at the top of the screen, click on “**plenary**”. On the next screen under the menu headed “plenary sittings” click on **minutes**. This will bring up the following search screen:



To find the date of the vote you are looking for type in words in the title or text of the resolution. NB the word search box will assume that words typed in next to each other are a phrase. If you are not looking for an exact phrase use AND between your terms.

For example:

- European External Action service – will retrieve this exact phrase.
- European AND Service will retrieve records with both the words European and service in them but not necessarily together.

The default search is the current Parliamentary term 2009 – 2014. If you are looking for something further back select 2004-2009 from the Parliamentary term drop down box. You can also search between a range of dates using the “sittings from” boxes.

You get a list of results which look like the screen below. Scroll down until you see the item you want with the word “vote” after it. Do not click through on the hyperlinked title. Instead make a note of the date the vote took place. On the right hand side of the results screen is a calendar (see below). Find the date of the vote on the calendar and click on it.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/minutes.html#sidesForm>. The search interface includes a 'Parliamentary term' dropdown set to '2009-2014', 'Sittings from' date pickers, and a search box containing 'multiannual financial'. The search results are displayed in a list format with columns for the title, date, and document ID. The first result is 'Innovative financial instruments in the context of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (Rule 138) (vote)' dated 26-10-2012. On the right side, there is a 'Search by date' section with a calendar for October 2012. The calendar shows the 25th and 26th highlighted in red. Below the calendar is an RSS feed for 'Minutes'.

Results screen showing date of vote and calendar on right hand side

This brings up a window with links to each item of the minutes for that day. At the bottom of this are links to Word and pdf documents including “results of votes” and “roll-call votes”. (See example below).

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the European Parliament's website. The page is titled "Minutes - Thursday, 21 January 2010 - Contents". The main content area is titled "Minutes" and lists the following items:

1. Opening of the sitting
2. EU-Tunisia relations (debate)
3. Debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law (debate)
 - 3.1. Recent attacks on religious minorities in Egypt and in Malaysia
 - 3.2. Human Rights violations in China notably the case of Liu Xiaobo
 - 3.3. The Philippines
4. Announcement by the President
5. Calendar of part-sessions
6. Approval of the minutes of the previous sitting
7. Voting time
 - 7.1. Recent attacks on religious minorities in Egypt and in Malaysia (vote)
 - 7.2. Human Rights violations in China, notably the case of Liu Xiaobo (vote)
 - 7.3. The Philippines (vote)
 - 7.4. European Strategy for the Danube Region (vote)
8. Explanations of vote
9. Corrections to votes and voting intentions
10. Implementing measures (Rule 88)
11. Decisions concerning certain documents
12. Written declarations included in the register (Rule 123)
13. Forwarding of texts adopted during the sitting
14. Dates of forthcoming sittings
15. Adjournment of the session

At the bottom of the page, there are links to download the minutes and results of votes in Word and PDF formats:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Minutes Final edition (139 kb) | Minutes Final edition (110 kb) | Results of votes Final edition (158 kb) | Roll-call votes Final edition (353 kb) |
| Minutes Final edition (206 kb) | Results of votes Final edition (125 kb) | Roll-call votes Final edition (300 kb) | |

Window with links to minutes for 21 January 2010.

Click on the hyperlink to bring up the minute you are interested in.

You should now see a screen like this:

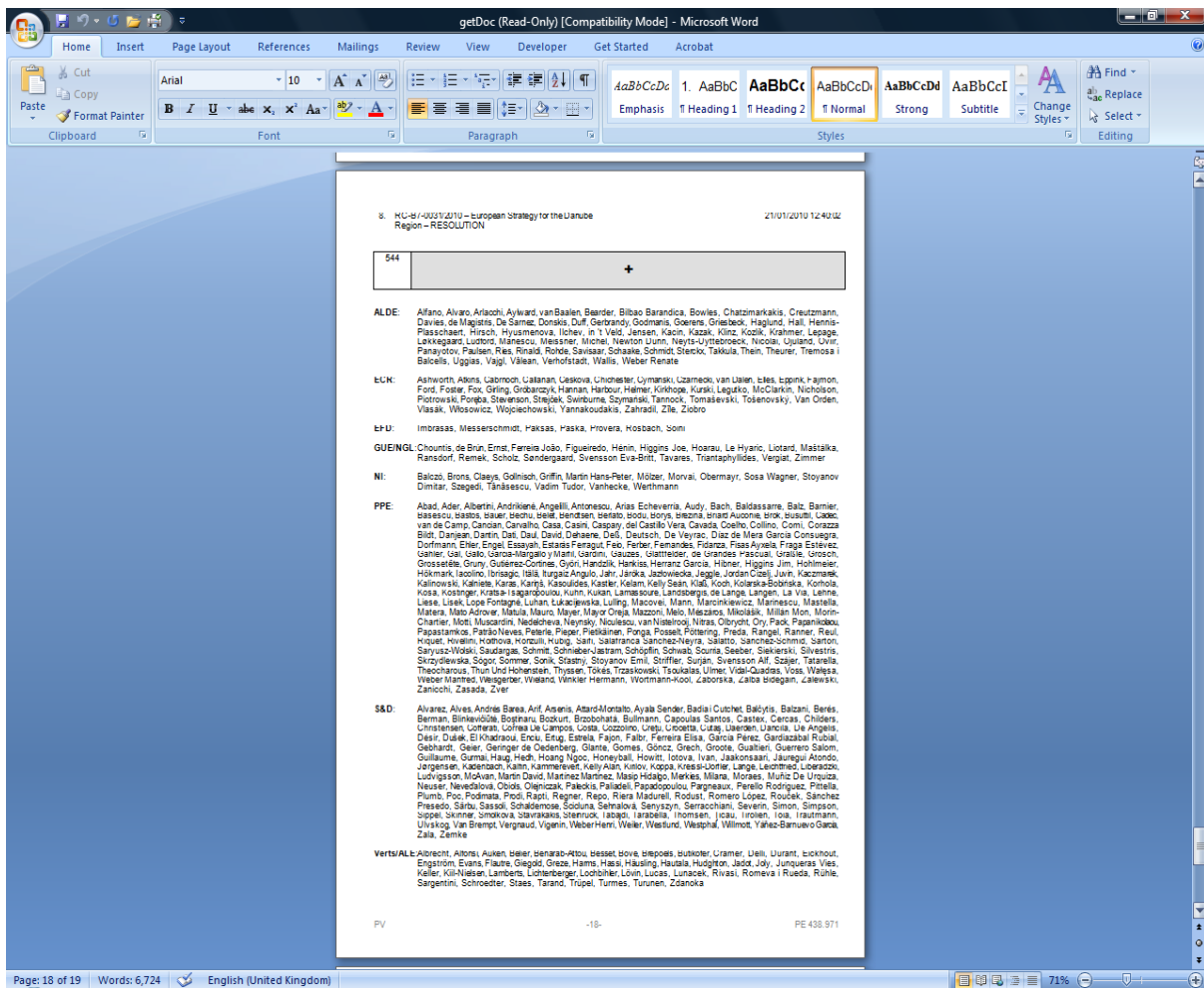
The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the European Parliament website. The page title is "Minutes - Thursday, 21 January 2010 - European Strategy for the Danube Region (vote) - Windows Internet Explorer". The URL is "http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+PV+20100121+ITEM-007-04+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN". The page content includes the European Parliament logo, navigation links (Index, Previous, Next, Full text), and a table of contents for the document "RC-B7-0031/2010". The table lists "Texts tabled", "Debates", "Votes", and "Texts adopted". The "Texts tabled" section is highlighted, showing "RC-B7-0031/2010". Below this, the "Minutes" section is displayed, titled "Thursday, 21 January 2010 - Strasbourg" and "Final edition". The main content area shows the title "7.4. European Strategy for the Danube Region (vote)" and a list of motions for resolution. The text is in English and includes hyperlinks to various documents and resolutions. The page is updated as of 3 February 2010.

This screen gives you hyperlinks to the texts of the resolutions tabled and adopted (see below under “resolutions and amendments”). Make a note of the number given under “texts tabled” in the top left hand corner, in this case RC-B7-0031/2010. Other formats you will encounter are A7-0112/2011 or B7-0296/2011.

Now go back to the previous screen.

Not every vote is a roll call vote¹ (i.e. with the names of MEPs recorded). Go to the attachments “roll-call votes” at the bottom of the minutes (it doesn’t matter whether you use the Word or PDF version). Click to open up the document. Scroll down to the list of contents and look to for your reference number (e.g. RC-B7-0031/2010). If it is listed in the contents then there was a roll-call vote. You may find there were several votes listed. The most useful vote will normally be the last one, on the overall text of the resolution. If the question is ‘how did the parties/ an individual vote on a certain measure?’ this is the best answer.

Scroll down to the relevant page for the vote you are looking for. You will see a screen like this:



Names of MEPs are grouped by political group² in “for” “against” or “abstained” (“+”, “-”, “0”) sections. The total number of those voting in each section is given in top left hand corner before the list of names. The roll-call vote does not give the nationalities of the MEPs voting.

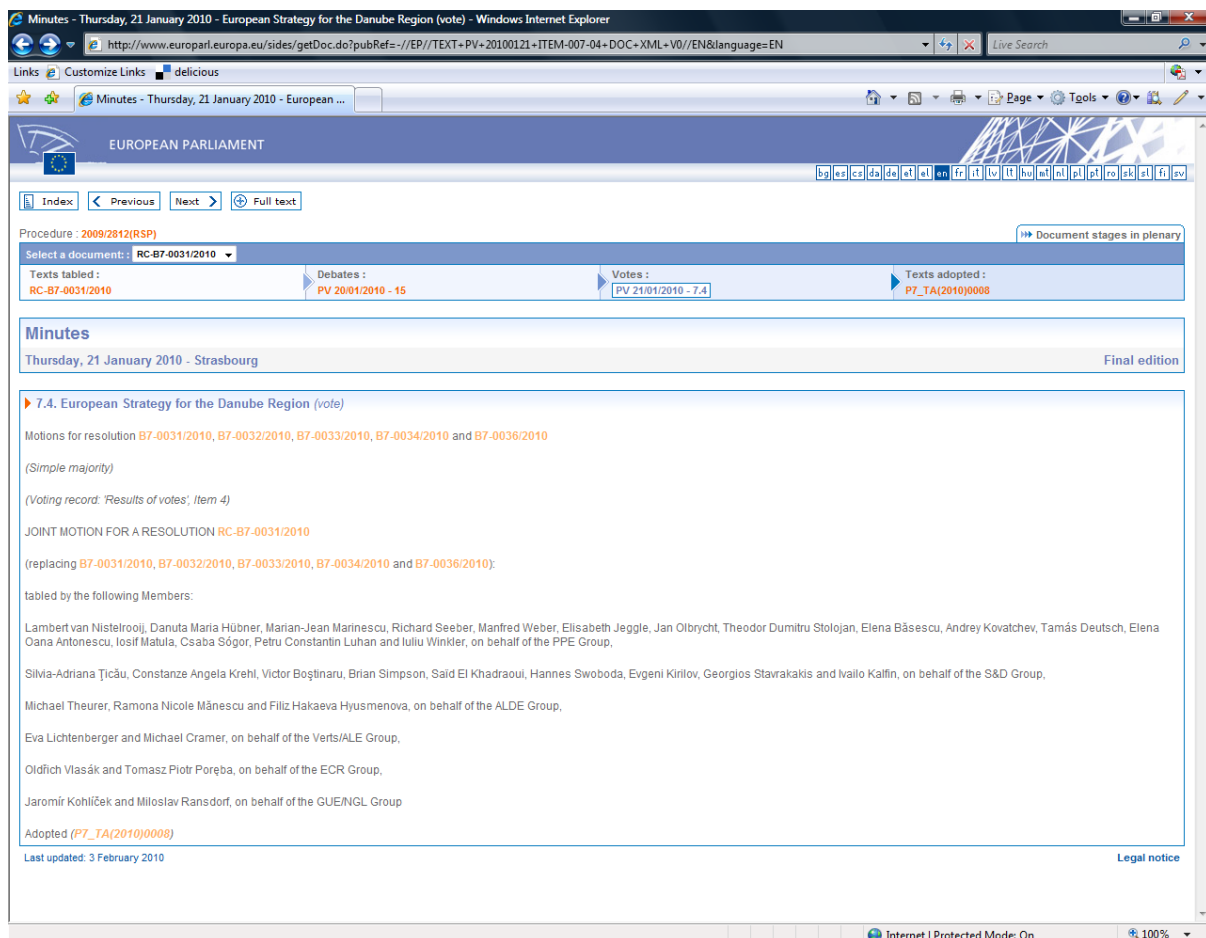
¹ Roll call votes are only held if requested by a political group or at least 40 Members the evening before the vote. An electronic vote is not individually recorded and therefore produces no division list. For further information on voting see “[how Plenary works](#)” on the European Parliament’s website.

² For a list of current political groups go to <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search.html> and click on the down arrow next to the search box for “political group”.

To find out how British MEPs voted it is necessary to go through the lists of names and pick out the surnames of the British MEPs. To find who these are go to the Search MEPs screen on the European Parliament website at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search.html> and click on the map of the UK.

2 Resolutions and amendments

To find the text of resolutions and amendments tabled and adopted, follow the instructions above to get to minutes page for the date you want, then click on the subject of the debate (in the example below, European strategy on the Danube). You will see hyperlinks to the text of motions for resolution plus a list of MEPs tabling them. At the bottom there will be a hyperlink to the text of the adopted resolution.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the European Parliament website. The page title is "Minutes - Thursday, 21 January 2010 - European Strategy for the Danube Region (vote)". The browser address bar shows the URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+PV+20100121+ITEM-007-04+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>. The page content includes navigation links (Index, Previous, Next, Full text), a document selection menu (RC-B7-0031/2010), and a table of contents (Texts tabled, Debates, Votes, Texts adopted). The main content area is titled "Minutes" and shows the date "Thursday, 21 January 2010 - Strasbourg". The subject is "7.4. European Strategy for the Danube Region (vote)". The text describes motions for resolution B7-0031/2010, B7-0032/2010, B7-0033/2010, B7-0034/2010, and B7-0036/2010, adopted by a simple majority. It lists the members who tabled the motion, including Lambert van Nistelrooij, Danuta Maria Hübner, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Richard Seeber, Manfred Weber, Elisabeth Jeggle, Jan Olbrycht, Theodor Dumitru Stolojan, Elena Băsescu, Andrey Kovatchev, Tamás Deutsch, Elena Oana Antonescu, Iosif Mătuța, Csaba Sógor, Petru Constantin Luhan, and Iuliu Winkler, on behalf of the PPE Group. Other members listed include Silvia-Adriana Ţicău, Constanze Angela Krehl, Victor Boştinaru, Brian Simpson, Said El Khadraoui, Hannes Swoboda, Evgeni Kirilov, Georgios Stavrakakis, and Ivaldo Kalfin, on behalf of the S&D Group; Michael Theurer, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, and Filiz Hakaeva Hyusmenova, on behalf of the ALDE Group; Eva Lichtenberger and Michael Cramer, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group; Oldřich Vlasák and Tomasz Piotr Poręba, on behalf of the ECR Group; and Jaromír Kohlíček and Milošlav Ransdorf, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group. The motion was adopted on 21 January 2010. The page was last updated on 3 February 2010.

Alternatively:

- Open www.europarl.europa.eu
- Select English and go to **plenary**. Under the menu “Plenary sitting” click on **texts adopted**. This leads you to a screen where you can search by date, words in title or text, or reference number.