



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 5 September 2023
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NOTE

From: Spain
On: 17 August 2023
To: Delegations

Subject: Request by Spain for modification of Regulation No 1 determining the languages to be used by the European Economic Community

Delegations will find in the annex a note by the Spanish Delegation on a proposal for amendment of Regulation No 1, with a view to the General Affairs Council meeting of 19 September 2023.

On 17 August 2023, the Spanish Government asked the Presidency of the Council of the EU to launch the procedure for amending Regulation 1/1958 determining the languages to be used by the EU in order to include Catalan, Basque and Galician – Spanish languages which enjoy official status in Spain and are recognised as co-official languages by Article 55(2) of the Treaty on European Union – in these EU language arrangements.

The proposal to amend Regulation 1/1958 is presented below.

IM 009422 2023
17 August 2023

GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND COOPERATION

PERM. REP. SPAIN EU BRUSSELS SENT

Date 17 AUGUST 2023

A25 93739

For: Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Madrid, 17 August 2023

Notice is hereby given of the Spanish Government's decision to request that the Council include Catalan, Basque and Galician – Spanish languages other than Castilian which enjoy official status in Spain – in the language regime of the European Union, by amending Regulation No 1 (OJ 17, 6.10.1958, p.358) which governs that language regime, in accordance with Article 342 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, without prejudice to the provisions contained in the Statute of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

It would be appreciated if the established proceedings for making this amendment could be launched in the Council, and if the matter could be included on the agenda of the next General Affairs Council on 19 September 2023.

Please also provide timely updates on progress on this matter.

(Complimentary close)

José Manuel Albares Bueno
Minister for Foreign Affairs, the European Union
and Cooperation

cc Ms Thérèse Blanchet, Secretary-General Council of the European Union

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REGULATION No 1

determining the languages to be used by the European Economic Community

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY,

Having regard to Article ~~217 of the Treaty~~^{342 TFEU} which provides that the rules governing the languages of the institutions of the Community shall, without prejudice to the provisions contained in the rules of procedure of the Court of Justice, be determined by the Council, acting unanimously;

Whereas each of the four languages in which the Treaty is drafted is recognised as an official language in one or more of the Member States of the Community;

Whereas, in accordance with Article 55(2) TEU, the Treaties have been translated into Catalan, Basque and Galician,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The official languages and the working languages of the institutions of the Union shall be **Basque**, Bulgarian, **Catalan**, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, **Galician**, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish.

Article 2

Documents which a Member State or a person subject to the jurisdiction of a Member State sends to institutions of the Community may be drafted in any one of the official languages selected by the sender. The reply shall be drafted in the same language.

Article 3

Documents which an institution of the Community sends to a Member State or to a person subject to the jurisdiction of a Member State shall be drafted in the language of such State.

Article 4

Regulations and other documents of general application shall be drafted in the official languages.

Article 5

The Official Journal of the European Union shall be published in the official languages.

Article 6

The institutions of the Community may stipulate in their rules of procedure which of the languages are to be used in specific cases.

Article 7

The languages to be used in the proceedings of the Court of Justice shall be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 8

If a Member State has more than one official language, the language to be used shall, at the request of such State, be governed by the general rules of its law.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.
