



Staten-Generaal



Opening up closed doors:
Making the EU more transparent for its citizens



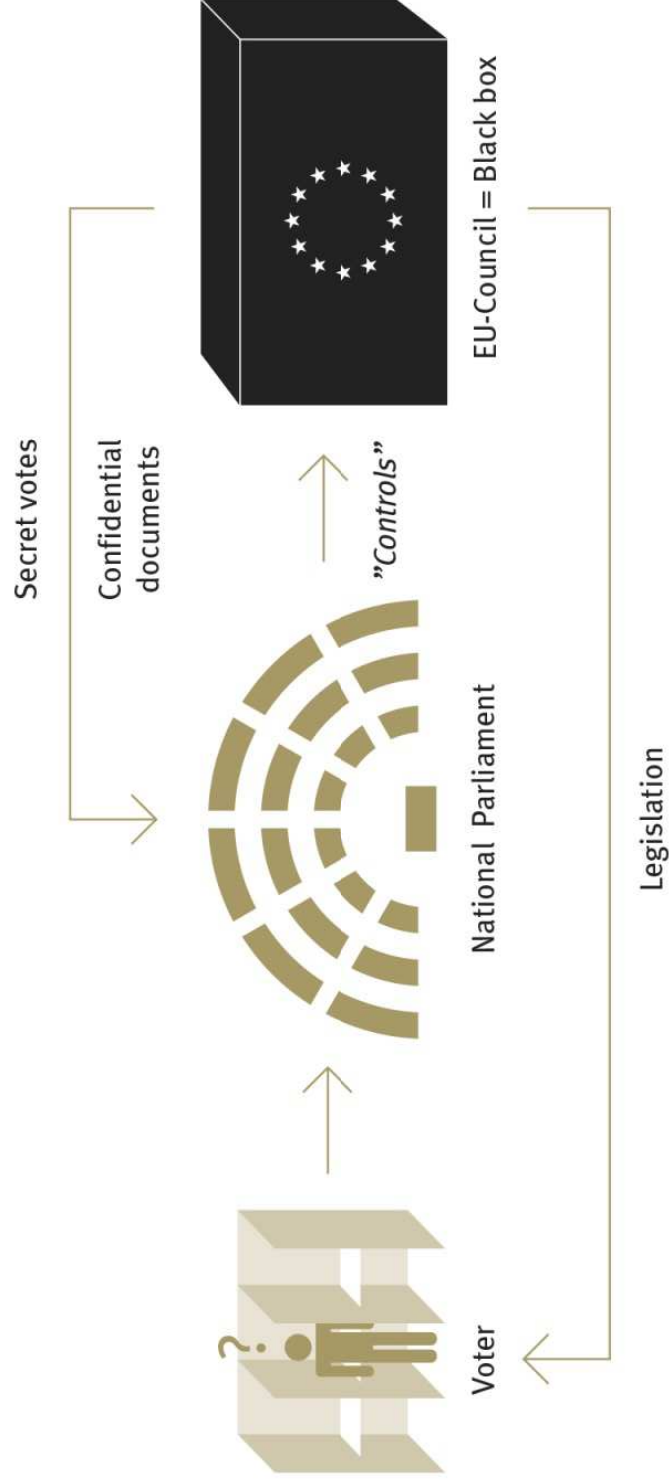
Transparency in EU political decision-making

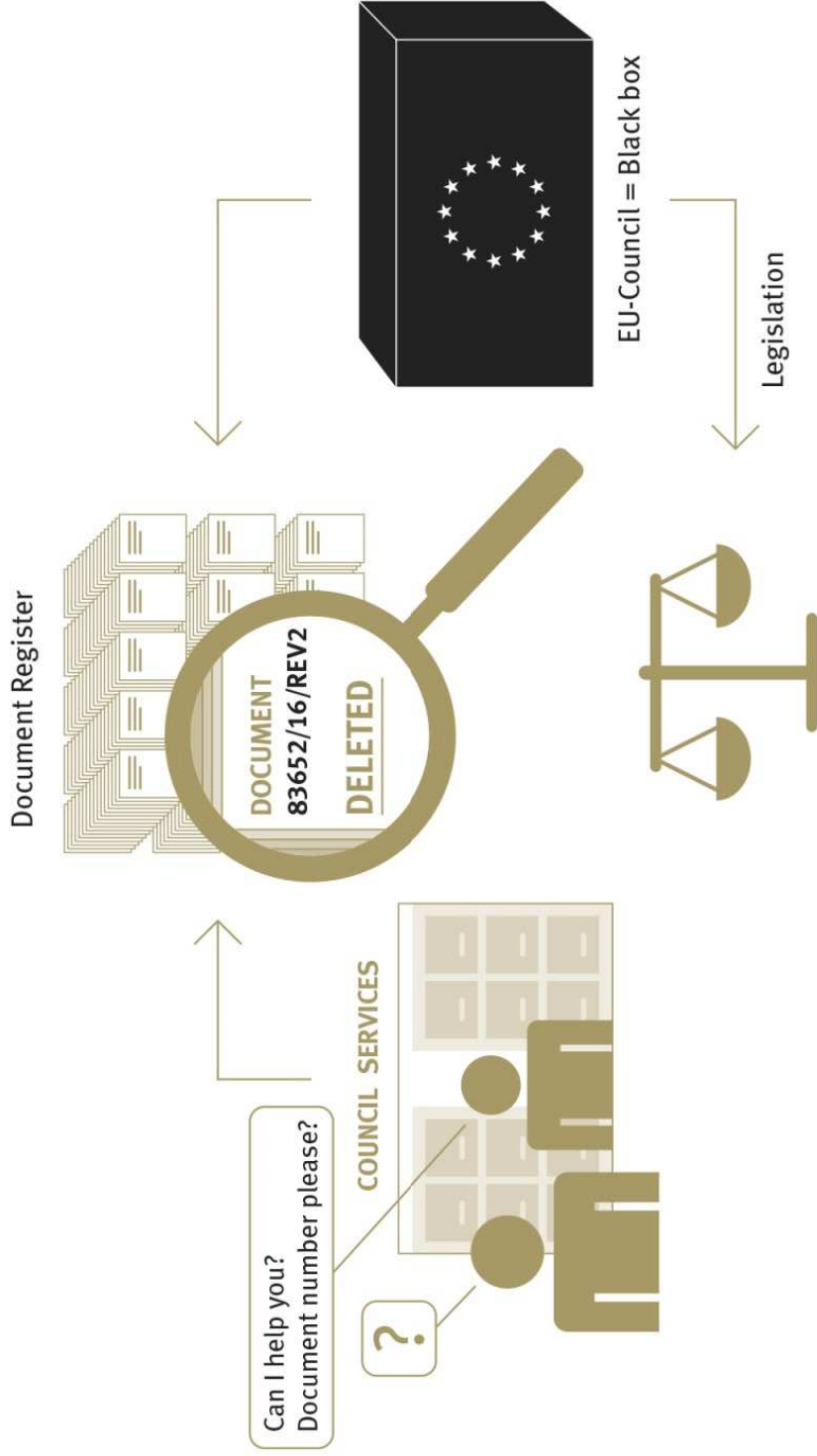
- Citizens should be able to know how their legislators vote and negotiate
- The Council is a legislator
- There is insufficient access to documents and voting records for parliaments and citizens
- National parliaments cannot perform their role



Examples

- Budget
- ESM and emergency support
- Brexit negotiations
- Negotiations on for instance “Data Retention Directive”







Four proposals to the Council

1. Legislative Council documents must systematically be made public without delay.
2. The Council must adopt more specific and detailed rules regarding reporting on legislative deliberations.
3. Informal but influential bodies must be formalized and, at the very least, start applying the Transparency Regulation internally, as foreseen in article 15(3) TFEU.
4. The negotiations on the Transparency Regulation must be reopened in order to align the regulation with the expanded requirements under article 15(3) TFEU.



Course of action

- We request the Council and other bodies like the Eurogroup and the EU-27 adopt the concrete measures listed above in a joint letter of participating COSAC delegations.
- Parliamentary debate and questions at the national parliaments
- We return to the issue of transparency at the next plenary COSAC to assess our progress.



More information? Contact us!

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Further information available:

- Position paper from the Dutch States-General
- Legal advice to the Dutch States-General