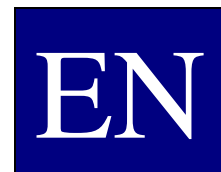




**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 10 March 2010
7367/10 (Presse 57)

Council adopts positions at first reading on rights of ship and bus and coach passengers

The Council today adopted its positions at first reading on two proposals for regulations aimed at improving the rights of ship passengers ([14849/09](#)) and of bus and coach passengers ([5218/10](#)). It also adopted the corresponding statements of the Council's reasons ([14849/09 ADD 1 REV 1](#) and [5218/10 ADD 1](#)). The positions will now be transmitted to the European Parliament, which intends to examine them in parallel at second reading.

Both proposals lay down rules, adapted to their specific field of application, on non-discrimination and assistance to disabled persons or persons with reduced mobility. With regard to all categories of passengers, the texts contain in particular provisions on passengers' rights in the case of delays or cancellation, information to be provided to passengers and handling of complaints. In addition, the proposal on bus and coach passengers' rights provides for compensation for death or injury as well as for loss of or damage to luggage in the event of accidents.

The two proposals form part of a general EU policy to ensure equal treatment of passengers, irrespective of the mode of transport chosen, while reinforcing passenger rights, with particular attention paid to non-discrimination against persons with disabilities or reduced mobility. Similar legislation has already been adopted for passengers travelling by air or by rail.

Political agreement had been reached on the ship passengers' rights regulation on 9 October 2009, and on the bus and coach regulation on 17 December 2009.

P R E S S

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