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Petition to the European Parliament

Petition to the European Parliament aims to introduce the institution of the petition that was created to enable even a single citizen of the European Union to make a claim against the proceedings of public administration authorities, which may have been incompatible with the European law. The accession of Poland to the European Union in 2004 gave the Poles the possibility of petition to the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament. In the first part, the article presents the way of handling the petitions, i.e. who, where and how can submit the petition, also how and where the citizens can receive information on the submitted petitions. Then, the article presents the manner of handling petitions, where the information regarding the admissibility of petitions can be found, as well as possible actions of the Committee on Petitions regarding the submitted petition, i.e. the possibility of submitting a petition to the appropriate Committee, issuing an opinion or organizing a fact-finding visit in a particular country where the breach of the EU law could have occurred, among others. Furthermore, the article describes some Polish cases handled by the Committee - one of the first - on the excise duty levied on cars imported from outside the territory, and one of the newest - on the construction plans of a strip mine in Lower Silesia. The summary is the presentation of information gathered in the article, and the possibilities arising from the submission of the petition to the European Parliament, as well as a progressive nature of this institution, while simultaneously indicating the necessity of promulgating among the EU citizens the possibilities of submitting the petition.

Keywords: petition, European Commission, European Union, European Parliament