I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 1984, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission decided to deposit their historical archives at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence where they are made available to the public.

2. On 16 August 2012 the Commission published its proposal to amend the Council Regulation (EEC/Euratom) No 354/83 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives. The Commission proposal will make it obligatory for all EU institutions to deposit their paper historical archives at the European University Institute in Florence. The purpose of the deposit of the historical archives of the institutions at the EUI is to provide access to these archives from a single location, to promote their consultation and to stimulate research into the history of European integration and the European institutions.
3. Furthermore, the proposal clarifies the rules on data protection applicable to the institutions' archives deposited in Florence.

4. The proposal is based on Article 352 TFEU requiring unanimity in Council after having obtained the consent of the European Parliament.

II. EXAMINATION OF THE PROPOSAL

5. The Working Party on Information discussed the proposal at its meetings on 14 September, 02 and 26 October 2012, 14 January 2013 and 15 February 2013 and agreed on a modified text. The text has also been revised by the lawyer linguists.

6. The European Parliament consented to the text transmitted by the Council.¹

7. All member states have finalised their national proceedings and have lifted their scrutiny reservations.²

III. CONCLUSION

8. In the light of the above, Coreper/Council is invited to

   a) Adopt the text of the proposed Regulation, as set out in 6867/13 INF 27 ARCH 4 OC 95+COR1.

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¹ P7_TA(2013)0193