

SIMULACIÓN DE LA CÁMARA DE LOS COMUNES BRITÁNICA

# RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SIMULATION

# organized by

**○**SESP

ASOCIACIÓN ESTUDIANTIL DE SIMULACIONES PARLAMENTARIAS



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# SICCOB

# Rules of Procedure of the Simulation of the British House of Commons

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# Chapter I. Of the members of the Parliament

# Section 1. Rights and duties of the members of the parliament

#### Article 1. Working language

In order to create a simulation where everybody can participate the only language of work will be Spanish in all the commissions, as well as in the plenary session; with the exception of the "Exiting the EU Select Committee (Brexit Sub-Committee)", which working language will be English.

#### Article 2. Duty of attendance

- 1. All SICCOB participants have the duty to attend all sessions.
- 2. If a participant does not attend a considerable number of sessions without the right justification, the organization reserves the right to expel him from the simulation and deny him the granting of credits, certificate of attendance and the like.

#### Article 3. The act of parliamentarian

The acceptance certificate of the parliamentarian is the one that gives them their rights and obligations that come from their parliamentary activity.

#### Article 4. Attendance and voting

Parliamentarians have the right to attend any of the meetings of each committee, but they can only speak and vote in which they are members.

#### Article 5. Right of access to information

Parliamentarians have the right to request information on a specific issue from the Speaker's Table. The Table should provide them with such information as far as possible.

#### Article 6. Guiding principles

Parliamentarians should exercise their office in accordance with the principles of integrity, honesty, transparency, selflessness, responsibility and respect for citizens and the institution. They must always act in the public interest and must avoid any conflict of interest. Their actions can never be influenced or compromised by the purpose of seeking or obtaining any type of particular benefit or that of third parties.

#### Article 7. Courtesy and reservation

Parliamentarians have the duty to behave with courtesy and to respect the rules of order and discipline established by these regulations; in addition, they must keep secret the actions and resolutions that have this character.

#### Article 8. Parliamentary immunity

Parliamentarians enjoy immunity in the exercise of their functions.

#### Article 9. Dress code

- 1. The attire of the parliamentarians must in any case be in accordance with the relevance of the event and the role played, and consequently, must be formal and conform to what is known as Western Business Attire or Western business attire.
  - a. Women's clothing: jacket suit (optional) and trousers or skirt; with blouse, shirt or dress and formal shoe. No jeans or trainers will be accepted. Party attire will not be accepted either.
  - b. Men's clothing: suit or jacket (optional) and trousers (without the latter being jeans under any circumstances), shirt, tie or bow tie, and formal shoes. No sports shoes or festive attire will be accepted.
- 2. If any of the participants have any doubt or problem regarding the clothing, please contact siccob@asespasociacion.com to solve it.





Section 2. The acquisition and loss of parliamentary status and the suspension of corresponding rights

Article 10. Access to full exercise of the status of Member of Parliament The person proclaimed elected accedes to the full exercise of the condition of parliamentarian once the following two requirements have been met:

- a. Collection of your accreditation and parliamentary act.
- b. Swear or promise of office.

Article 11. Causes of loss of parliamentary status

Parliamentarians lose their status for the following reasons:

- a. For the resignation presented to the Speaker's Table.
- b. By a final judicial decision annulling his election or proclamation.
- c. For a sentence of disqualification imposed by a final judicial decision.
- d. By decision of the SICCOB organization.

# Article 12. Organization of House of Commons groups

Each group names the members who will represent it, existing the positions of: Leader, Whip, Spokesman General and Spokesman in Commission.

- 1. The Leader will be the highest representative of the parliamentary group, thus being responsible for the political decision-making in the final instance, as well as the direction and management of the parliamentarians of their formation.
- 2. The purpose of the Whip shall be to promote and ensure the political cohesion of the parliamentary group so that party discipline is respected as far as possible.
- 3. The General Spokesperson will be in charge of expressing the opinion of his parliamentary group in the Plenary, as well as attending the General Meeting of Spokespersons when this is summoned by the Speaker.
- 4. The Commission Spokesman shall be responsible for expressing the opinion of his parliamentary group in the relevant committee.

#### Article 13. Condition and rights

- 1. Members of parliament who leave their group or who are expelled from their group must become non-attached members for the duration of the legislature, unless they rejoin the group of the Chamber of origin, with the prior and express consent of the corresponding spokesperson.
- 2. Non-attached parliamentarians have the rights granted to individual parliamentarians by the Rules of Procedure, without prejudice to the specificities set out therein. Each non-attached parliamentarian has the right to sit on a committee. The Speaker's table must decide on a case-by-case basis which committee to join.

# Section 3. Temporary exclusion from the exercise of Parliament's role

#### Article 14. Causes

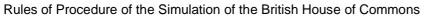
It may be temporarily excluded from the exercise of parliamentary office:

- a. The member of the House of Commons whom the Speaker or Speaker of the Plenary must call to order for the fourth time in the same meeting.
- b. The member of the House of Commons who, once the sanction imposed has been carried out, repeats the offence.
- c. A member of the House of Commons who causes an uproar in the Chamber or at the venue.

Article 15. Misuse of parliamentary status

- 1. A parliamentarian who fails to comply with the provisions of the Rights and Duties of Parliamentarians section of Chapter I may be temporarily excluded from the exercise of the legislative function.
- 2. Political groupings reserve the right to expel members of parliament.







## Article 16. Effects of temporary exclusion

Temporary exclusion from the exercise of parliamentary office entails the loss of allowances and indemnities, and the suspension of rights and duties inherent in parliamentary activity but does not affect its prerogatives or other rights and duties.

# Chapter II. Functions and Bodies of Parliament

# Section 1. The Board of Spokespersons

Article 17. Members and rules of procedure

- 1. The Board of Spokespersons is made up of the general spokespersons of each political party in the House of Commons and is chaired by the Speaker or President of the Plenary. The chairman of each committee may also be required to attend.
- 2. Non-attached parliamentarians shall have the right to attend the Board of Spokespersons, but their presence shall not be required to conduct the sessions.
- 3. The Board of Spokespersons is convened by the Speaker or President of the Plenary, on his own initiative or at the request of a parliamentary group.
- 4. The function of the Board of Spokespersons may be merely organizational in order to carry out the ordinary communicative tasks with the Presidency of the Plenary.

# Section 2. The Speaker's table

#### Article 18. Functions of the Speaker's table

The Table is the collegiate governing body of the House of Commons and is composed of the President and Vice-President. It is the Table's function the following:

- a. The Table acts under the direction of the Speaker or President of the Plenary and represents the House of Commons in the acts it attends.
- b. To take the decisions required by parliamentary procedures in the event of doubt or a regulatory gap.
- c. To adopt the decisions and measures required for the organization of parliamentary work.
- d. To decide on the conformity and, if appropriate, the processing of all parliamentary documents and pleadings, in accordance with the rules laid down by these Rules of Procedure.
- e. Implement this Regulation and draw up appropriate proposals for amendments.
- f. Fulfill any other function entrusted by these regulations and the organization of SICCOB.

Article 19. The extraordinary functions of the Speaker or President of the Plenary Session

- 1. The Speaker or President of the Plenary shall perform the same duties as the committee chairmen with the exception of the hierarchical over them.
- 2. The Speaker or President of the Plenary may occupy the seat of a committee chairman, on a temporary basis, at his discretion with all the rights inherent to the committee chairman except for the right to vote.
- 3. The Speaker or President of the Plenary is the representative of the House; establishes and maintains the order of the discussions and conducts the debates with impartiality and attention to the respect due to the House of Commons; fulfills and enforces the Rules of Procedure, and exercises all other functions conferred upon him by the laws and these Rules of Procedure.

#### Article 20. The functions of the vice-presidency

In case of absence or request of the Speaker or President of the Plenary, the vice-president, in consecutive order, must replace him with the same rights, duties and attributions. They must also perform any other function entrusted to them by the President.

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# Section 3. The commissions

#### Article 21. The commissions

SICCOB consists of the following six legislative commissions: Exiting The EU Select Committee (Brexit Subcommittee); Safety Committee; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee; Education Committee; Health and Social Security Committee and Culture, Sport, Media and Digital Media Committee (Disinformation Subcommittee).

Article 22. Composition of committees

- 1. The commissions are made up of the members appointed by the SICCOB organization.
- 2. The different parliamentary groups participate in all committees in proportion to their members and, in any case, have the right to have at least one representative, with the exception of the non-attached group.
- 3. In committees where there is no proportional representation because the number of their members does not allow it, the system of voting weighting must be applied both for the adoption of resolutions and for the exercise of initiatives of the House of Commons.

#### Article 23. Attendance and publicity of the sessions

The sessions of the commissions are public.

- 1. The sessions of a committee may only be secret if it so decides by a two-thirds majority, on the initiative of the Speaker's Table, a parliamentary group or a third of its members.
- 2. The Speaker's Table must take the necessary steps to facilitate the presence in the rooms where the session is held of persons whose work or responsibility requires it.

Article 24. Sharing of work between committees

- 1. The committees process the initiatives entrusted to them by the Bureau of the House of Commons.
- 2. The Speaker's Table, on its own initiative or at the request of the committees concerned, may agree, after hearing the Table of the respective committees, that one or more committees shall report beforehand on a question which falls within the principal competence of another committee.

Article 25. Working rules

- 1. The functioning of the committees, except in the specific cases governed by these rules, is governed by the general rules of Chapter 3.
- 2. Committees cannot meet at the same time as the House of Commons Plenum.

#### Article 26. Notice and fixing of the agenda

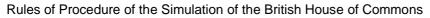
The commissions are convened by the respective president, on his own initiative, at the request of two parliamentary groups or the organization of SICCOB.

#### Section 4. The Plenary Session

Article 27. Call and agenda

- 1. The Plenum is the supreme body of the House of Commons and is composed of the proclaimed elected parliamentarians who have acceded to the full exercise of the status of members of the House.
- 2. The Plenary is convened by the Speaker or President of the Plenary on his own initiative or at the request of a parliamentary group.
- 3. The Prime Minister, on his own initiative, at the request of a political party or a fifth of the members of parliament, may disavow the Plenum.

Chapter III. PROCEDURE





#### Section 1. Dynamics

#### Article 28. Session

Each meeting scheduled in SICCOB's agenda is called a session to deal with the different agendas in the plenary or committees.

#### Article 29. Classes of sessions. Convening and agenda of extraordinary sessions

- 1. The House of Commons and its committees may meet in ordinary or extraordinary sessions.
- 2. Ordinary sessions are understood to be those scheduled by the SICCOB organization, with a determined workload.

#### Article 30. Publicity of sessions

- 1. Plenary sessions and committees are public by default.
- 2. Plenary sessions or commissions can only be secret if so, decided by the Plenary or the corresponding commission by a two-thirds majority, on the initiative of the Speaker's Table or the Government.

#### Article 31. Elaboration and modification of the agenda

- 1. The agenda for plenary and the commissions shall be drawn up by the Speaker's Table in accordance with the organization.
- 2. The agenda may be altered if the Speaker or President of the Plenary decides, on his own initiative, on the initiative of the Board of Spokespersons or two-thirds of the chamber.

Article 32. Rules of debate

- 1. Parliamentarians may only speak if they have first asked to speak and have been given the floor by the Bureau. Parliamentarians who have asked to speak in the same way may give their turn to each other.
- 2. With prior notification to the president, and for a debate or a specific procedure, any parliamentarian with the right to speak may be replaced by another person from the same group.
- 3. If the parliamentarian who has promoted an initiative is called by the president to present it, and he is not there, it is interpreted that he has renounced to speak, and the initiative of the parliamentarian in relation to which he should intervene decays.
- 4. The speaker may speak from the stand or from the seat at his or her election, unless otherwise indicated by the president.
- 5. The speaker may only be interrupted by the Speaker, to warn him that his time has run out, to ask him to return to the question or call him to order, to take him off the floor or to call a member of the House of Commons or of the public to order.
- 6. At the end of the time allotted, the president, after inviting the parliamentary twice to end his speech, must take him off the floor.
- 7. Members of the Cabinet may speak at their request in connection with the parliamentary initiative under discussion. This intervention by the Government generates a right of reply, for a time proportional to that used by the members of the Cabinet, unless the Speaker deems it inappropriate.
- 8. If the Speaker or vice-president of the House of Commons or of a committee wishes to take part in the debate, they must leave their place on the Table and not return to it until the item on the agenda in which they have spoken has been fully substantiated.

#### Article 33. Speaking times and duration of the interventions

- 1. If the Speaker or President of the Plenary does not state otherwise, it is understood that in each debate there may be one turn in favour of four minutes and one against of not more than three minutes.
- 2. If the debate is a full debate, the turns for and against are for a maximum of five minutes and then the other parliamentary groups may fix their position in speeches not exceeding three minutes.





- 3. Whoever is contradicted by a speaker has the right to reply only once for a maximum time of one minute. There may be a counter-reply of the same duration. A counter-reply cannot be replicated.
- 4. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 are without prejudice to the President's plenipotentiary powers to order the debate.
- 5. After the speaking turns reserved for groups, non-attached members, if they request it to the Speaker's Table before the debates, or from the Speaker or President of the Plenary, in the course of these, may speak to explain their vote.

#### Article 34. Allusions

- 1. The Speaker or President of the Plenary, when he considers that a Member of Parliament or a political grouping has been alluded to or mentioned directly in a speech, may, at their request, give them the floor, for a period not exceeding two minutes, so that, without going into the substance of the matter under debate, they respond strictly to the reference; if they exceed these limits, the President, after a call on the question, must withdraw the floor from them.
- 2. Allusions or references at the same meeting may be requested only by a note to the table or by raising the hand immediately after the intervention in which the reference was made, as indicated by the table. If the aforementioned person is not present, another person from the same group may reply on his or her behalf.

# Article 35. Coherence of debates

- 1. Speakers should be called to the question if they depart from it, either because of considerable digressions to the point in debate, or because they insist on points already discussed or voted on.
- 2. Any parliamentarian may request, during the discussion or before the vote, that rules or documents be read which he believes can illustrate the matters in question. The Speaker or President of the Plenary may deny readings that he considers inappropriate.

#### Article 36. Closure of debates

The Plenary by a simple majority of its members, or the organization, at the proposal of the Speaker or President of the Plenary, may agree to put an end to a discussion if it understands that an issue has already been sufficiently debated.

#### Article 37. Call to observe the Rules of Procedure

- 1. A Member of Parliament may, at any time during the debate, request the President to observe the Rules of Procedure. To this end, he or she must mention the article or articles the application of which he or she calls for. There need be no debate and the resolution adopted by the President, after consulting the President's Table, in relation to the allegation made must be complied with.
- 2. When a parliamentarian considers that the decision of the Speaker's Table is contrary to the rules of procedure, he or she may request the organization to review the matter and decide on it. This procedure shall be done by means of a written note addressed to the Speaker's Table. No appeal may be filed with the organization on matters that occurred in sessions prior to the present one at the time of the filing.
- 3. A Member of Parliament who believes that someone is not complying with the Rules of Procedure should not address the person directly in order to enforce it but should address the chairman of the committee or plenary, as appropriate.

# Section 2. The adoption of resolutions

#### Article 38. Quorum for the adoption of agreements

Agreement is understood as any decision on a specific issue taken jointly by the majority of parliamentarians during working sessions.

1. In order to adopt valid resolutions, the House of Commons must meet in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure, and with the attendance of an absolute majority of its members.





2. If, at the time of voting or after voting, there is no quorum as referred to in paragraph 1, the vote shall be repeated or postponed for such period as the chairman considers appropriate. If, after this period has expired, it cannot be validly carried out either, the matter must be submitted to the decision of the corresponding body at the next session, and it is deemed to have been rejected if no agreement can be reached at this session either.

# Article 39. Quorum for approval

Agreements are valid if they have been approved by the simple majority of the members present of the corresponding body, without prejudice to the special majorities established by law and these regulations.

#### Article 40. Majorities

- 1. A simple majority is understood to exist if positive votes outnumber negative votes, not counting abstentions, blank votes and invalid votes.
- 2. An absolute majority shall be deemed to exist if half plus one of the parliamentarians entitled to vote present during the vote are expressed in the same way.
- 3. A qualified majority is understood to exist if two-thirds of the parliamentarians with voting rights present during the session express themselves in the same way.

#### Article 41. Voting

Voting may not be interrupted for any reason. While they are taking place, the President does not give the floor and no Member of Parliament may enter or leave the Chamber or the room where they are being held. With the exception of interruptions made by the general director of SICCOB or any other member of the organization or Speaker that he has delegated for this purpose.

#### Article 42. Early voting

In the cases established by these regulations and in cases in which, due to their singularity or importance, the Speaker or President of the Plenary, after hearing the Meeting of Spokespersons, agrees, the voting on substantive matters must take place at a time that has been previously set and announced. If, at this time, the debate has not ended, another time must be set.

Article 43. Delegation of vote

- 1. Parliamentarians may delegate their vote in duly accredited cases of hospitalization, serious illness or prolonged incapacity. The Speaker's Table must establish the general criteria to delimit the cases that allow the delegation.
- 2. The delegation of vote must be made by means of a letter addressed to the organization, which must include the names of the person delegating the vote and the person from whom the delegation is received, as well as the debates and votes in which it must be exercised. The Speaker's Table, when admitting the request for processing, establishes the procedure for exercising the delegated vote, which may include telematic voting if possible and may be exercised with full guarantees.

# Article 44. Type of vote

Voting can be:

- a. By assent to the proposal of the president
- b. Ordinary
- c. Public by call
- d. Secret

#### Article 45. Approval by assent

The President's proposals are deemed to have been approved by assent if, once announced, they do not give rise to objection or opposition. Otherwise, an ordinary vote must be taken.





#### Article 46. Procedure to vote

- 1. Ordinary voting must allow to know the individual direction of the vote, and can take place, to the criteria of the presidency, for any of the following procedures:
  - Raising placards
  - Telematic methods
  - By acclamation
  - Through the procedure of raising hands; those promoting the initiative shall raise their hands first followed by those against, and finally those abstaining.
- 2. After the proposal for a particular voting procedure, the president shall hold a vote by acclamation, after which if there are any objections a vote should take place.

#### Article 47. Special votes

Votes can be public by roll call or secret, in any cases specified by these rules of procedure, or if it is agreed in a plenary or committee session, at the request of the president, of a. parliamentarian group, or a fifth of its members.

#### Article 48. Public vote by roll call

In a public vote by roll call, the vice-president shall call parliamentarians one by one, and they shall answer "yes", "no", or "abstention". The roll call shall proceed in alphabetic order. Government officials that are also senators, and members of the Board will be the last ones to vote.

#### Article 49. Secret vote

Secret voting can be cast:

- 1. Through ballots, if it is decided by the president, two thirds of the parliamentarians, or if it was specified in the proposal of secret vote.
- 2. In secret votes, parliamentarians are called by roll call to the Board to cast their ballot.

#### Article 50. Tie vote

In the event of a tie vote, another vote shall be held, and if it persists, the vote shall be suspended for a determined period by the Board. After this time, when entering and exiting the work room is allowed, the vote shall be held again. If the result is another tie, the proposal, article, amendment or particular vote is considered dismissed or rejected.

#### Article 51. Explanation of vote

- 1. After a vote or set of votes are held on a particular matter, notwithstanding what is expressed on paragraph 2, each parliamentarian group may explain their vote for a maximum of three minutes, when the expressed vote differs from their narrative or when they have not taken part in the debate.
- 2. Regarding bills and legislative proposals, the vote can only be explained after the last poll, unless the bill is divided in clearly differentiated parts in order to be discussed. In such a situation, parliamentarian groups can explain their stance after voting on each part.
- 3. If a parliamentarian casting a different vote than the rest of his or her group, they can explain their vote if the Board authorizes it previously.
- 4. Unaffiliated or independent members can request to the board to explain their vote if they have not taken part in the debate.

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# Section 3. Deadlines and submission of documents

#### Article 52. Deadlines and working days

Deadlines listed in these Rules of Procedure are expressed in working days, unless specified differently.

#### Article 53. Extension of deadlines

The Board of the House of Commons may stablish new deadlines different to those listed in these Rules of Procedure. Unless it is an exceptional case, extensions cannot exceed the time periods fixed.

#### Article 54. Submission of deadlines

- 1. Submission of documents in the general registry of the House of Commons must be done in the days and hours specified by the Board of the chamber.
- 2. Documents must meet all formal requirements specified by the Board of the House of Commons.
- 3. The sender and recipients must be expressed clearly in the documents submitted.

Section 4. The publications of the House of Commons and the publicity of the works

#### Article 55. Social Media

- 1. The media networks that are licensed to document in any space or session of the House of Commons are: *The Torygraph*", *The Warrior, The BBZ, The YTV, and Gossip Queen*!
- 2. Media access to plenary or committee sessions is revoked during secret sessions.
- 3. Media access to the parliamentarian groups' private rooms is determined by the groups themselves.
- 4. The collection and registration of sound and images of SICCOB and its participants is considered authorized. Rights to these data collected during the event are formally granted to ASESP -Asociación Estudiantil de Simulaciones Parlamentarias- for their use. Every participant in SICCOB accepts explicitly this point, and whoever wishes to revoke this transfer of image and sound rights shall notify it in a written document to the organizational team of SICCOB.

#### Section 5. Legislative procedure

#### Article 56. Subjects

- 1. Legislative initiative corresponds to political groups and members of the House of Commons, exercised through the submission of a draft law.
- 2. Draft laws can be introduced by a parliamentarian group signed by the general of spokesperson or its leader, or by a senator with the signature from another four members of the House.

#### Article 57. Requirements

- 1. Bills and draft laws must address a homogeneous, particular and material object, and must include an explanatory memorandum with enough background to take a stand on it.
- 2. Legislative initiatives must be forwarded to the Board of the House of Commons.

#### Article 58. Admission process

- 1. The Board of the House must verify if drafts and bills meet the requirements listed in these Rules of Procedure, and therefore determine whether they are admissible or not.
- 2. In those cases when a draft law or bill is declared ineligible, the Board shall notify it immediately to those who submitted the legislative initiative.





# Section 6. Amendments and debate of the whole

#### Article 59. Publication of legislative amendments.

The Board of the House of Commons, after determining the admissibility of the different draft laws and balls, assigns their discussion to the different committees and opens a period to introduce amendments of the whole.

#### Article 60. Amendments of the whole.

- 1. Following the publication of the draft laws in the working committees, parliamentarians and parliamentarian groups can submit amendments of the whole until September 29th at 23:59 hrs. through a written document to the Board of the plenary session, which decides whether it is admissible or not in accordance with the requirements established in these Rules of Procedure, and then publish it, if applicable.
- 2. Amendments of the whole are those that introduce a consistent alternative text with the material objective of the legislative initiative. They can only be submitted by the political groups, or by a parliamentarian with the signature of another four members of the chamber.

#### Article 61. Debate of the whole

- 1. Draft laws and bills are discussed in a debate of the whole in plenary session, where an overall assessment, its chance, its principles and criteria are determined. If any amendments of the whole have been introduced, they are also discussed.
- 2. Debates of the whole are initiated with the introduction of the bill for a time period of no longer than five minutes.
- 3. Debates of the whole develop in accordance with chapter 3 and the specific norms listed in this article.
- 4. Each of the amendments of the whole may have a speaker in favor and another against, with a total length of speaking time of five minutes, albeit both positions are combined in a single intervention. If no amendments of the whole are submitted, after the introduction of the legislative initiative political groups may express their stance for a maximum of two minutes' speaking time.
- 5. If amendments of the whole have been introduced, they are voted in order of submission right after the discussion has terminated.
- 6. If the plenary session accepts an amendment of the whole that promotes an alternative text, the president of the House of Commons shall ask for its publication as a bill and forwards it to a committee in order to have It discussed. This new draft law may not be subject to further amendments of the whole

#### Article 62. Application and processing

Any parliamentarian group may request the Board for the presence of an expert, a representative of a particular organization or any other person of interest for the development of the session. The Board may determine the convenience of the request and whether to accept it or not.

#### Section 7. Amendments to articles

#### Article 63. Requirements and admissibility

- 1. Parliamentarians and political parties hold the authorities to introduce amendments to specific articles at any time. Were they to be accepted, an immediate discussion about them shall be celebrated; notwithstanding the power of the Board to direct the debate.
- 2. There may be deleting, modification and addition amendments. In the latter two, the amendment shall include a concrete text proposed as a modification or addition, and it shall be congruent with the material object presented in the legislative proposal. There may also be editorial amendments, aimed at improving the law's accordance with the legislative technique.
- 3. Each additional, transitional, derogatory or final disposition is deemed as an article in the legislative procedure.





- 4. Amendments to the explanatory memorandum shall be discussed at the end of the process, when the committee considers whether to include the memorandum as a preamble to the law.
- 5. When voting amendments, they will proceed in order of disruptiveness: first, deleting amendments will voted, following by modification amendments and finishing with addition amendments.

# Section 8. Processing in committees

#### Article 64. Reporting and verdict of the committees

- 1. Debate in the committees is initiated by the mandate of discussion of the draft bill by the plenary session of the House of Commons. Notwithstanding the president's proposed groupings of articles, the debate will proceed in an *article by article* basis, discussing articles and amendments; and those amending will hold the right to speak, as well as the rest of the members of the commission.
- 2. The board of the committee may admit transactional amendments introduced in written form by a member of the committee during the elaboration of an opinion, if they aim at combining the intentions of the already introduced amendments and the text of the draft law, entailing therefore the removal of those amendments that are addressed. New amendments may also be introduced if they are signed by two parliamentarian groups there present. Likewise, technical or editorial amendments may be in order, as they aim at fixing technical, terminological and grammatical mistakes.
- 3. In directing the works in each committee, the president and the board shall perform those tasks and roles specified for them in these Rules of Procedure.

# Article 65. Reservation of amendments

If a parliamentarian group differs from what is agreed to in a committee, they may put forward particular votes supporting the rejected text. If the specific amendments are rejected by the committee, the amenders may reserve it to defend them in a plenary session.

# Section 9. Final Processing in the Plenary Session

#### Article 66. Debate

- 1. Once the draft bill is decided upon in the committees, a final debate in plenary session is initiated by the intervention of one of the parties or parliamentarians proposing it. The spokesperson may present the works of the committee for a period of five minutes at maximum. These interventions do not generate a right to reply.
- 2. If no amendments are reserved, the president, after hearing the stance of the political groups, shall have a vote on the whole of the verdict of the commission, notwithstanding the right of the political groups to ask for a separate vote on some points of the verdict. Likewise, this right shall not undermine the authority of the president to accelerate the process.
- 3. If any amendments have been reserved, political groups have a maximum of five minutes to explain their stance on the decision of the committee, and if applicable, defend the amendments globally.
- 4. Subsequently, parliamentarian groups have three minutes each to explain their position on the amendments defended by the other groups.
- 5. In the meantime, the Board may admit technical amendments; as well as transactional amendments between those being presented and the text of the committee decision, entailing the removal of those amendments being addressed. The amendments introduced to the draft may also be presented if the Board deems it convenient.

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Article 67. Vote

- 1. Once the discussion is over, the vote is taken article by article. The voting order would be the following, if applicable: reserved amendments, transactional amendments, amendments introduced by accord of all the parliamentarian groups, and finally, technical amendments. Finally, the opinion of the committee is put to vote.
- 2. The Speaker or president of the House of Commons may sort and group voting procedures at his or her discretion.

Section 10. Withdrawal of bills and draft laws

#### Article 68. Withdrawal procedure

The government and proponents, respectively, of a bill may request its withdrawal through a written document addressed to the Board, before initiating the voting process in the plenary or committee session.

Section 11. Processing of legislative initiatives in a single reading

#### Article 69. Requirements

- 1. A bill may be processed in a single reading by the plenum or a committee, if the character of the draft or the simplicity of the formulation permits it. Processing in a single reading shall be approved of by the board of the plenary session, at the request of the government, the Board of the House of Commons, hearing the Board of spokespersons or under its initiative.
- 2. Law propositions signed by all parliamentarian groups may be processed in a single reading procedure in a committee or plenary session, in accordance with paragraph 1. Once the petition to have a single reading procedure is processed, the Board of the chamber shall order the publication and remittance of this proposition to the government.
- 3. The debate of legislative initiatives in a single reading follows the norms established for debates of the whole; finally, the whole of the initiative is put under a single poll.

#### Section 12. Impetus and control of the political and governmental activities

#### Article 70. Political Accountability

The House of Commons may claim political accountability of the prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the government through a motion of confidence of no confidence.

*Article 71.* Motion of no confidence against the prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- The motion of no confidence shall include a candidate for the presidency, who should have accepted the candidacy previously. The Board of the House determines the validity of the motion in accordance with the requirements posed by law and the present Rules of Procedure. Once accepted into process, the Speaker or president of the House shall inform the Prime Minister of the country and the spokesperson of the different parliamentarian groups. The president of the House shall summon a plenary session in order to debate exclusively the present motion.
- 2. Debate is commenced with the defense of the motion, that is exposed for a maximum of 20 minutes by one of the signatories of the motion; then, a member of government may intervene for a maximum of 15 minutes. Consequently, the candidate to occupy the presidency of the country may intervene for an unlimited period in order to explain the political agenda the government he intends to form shall have.
- 3. After a suspension stablished by the board, that shall not be longer than 24 hours, a spokesperson of each senatorial group may intervene, for a maximum of 10 minutes each.
- 4. The proposed candidate and the prime minister of the United Kingdom may be granted the word as many times as they required; notwithstanding the powers of the president of the House to accelerate the debate.
- 5. The board shall announce the exact time when the vote shall be held in advance.





Article 72. Motion of no confidence against a member of the government or public administration

- 1. Motion of no confidence shall include a candidate to replace the person removed from office, who shall accept the candidacy in advance. The Board of the House of Commons determines the validity of the motion in accordance with the requirements posed by law and the present Rules of Procedure. Once accepted into process, the president of the House shall inform the President of the country and the spokesperson of the different senatorial groups. The president of the chamber shall summon a plenary session in order to debate exclusively the present motion.
- 2. Debate is commenced with the defense of the motion, that is exposed for a maximum of 20 minutes by one of the signatories of the motion; then, a member of government may intervene for a maximum of 15 minutes. Consequently, the candidate to occupy the governmental position may intervene for an unlimited period of time.
- 3. After a suspension stablished by the board, that shall not be longer than 24 hours, a spokesperson of each senatorial group may intervene, for a maximum of 10 minutes each.
- 4. The board shall announce the exact time when the vote shall be held in advance.

#### Article 73. Initiative to hold specific debates

General debates about political and governmental activities may take place at the request of the Prime minister t of the United Kingdom or if the Board of the House approves the initiative of two parliamentarian groups.

Section 13. Control and recognition of executive orders

#### Article 74. Vote counting

- 1. The organizational team of SICCOB holds the right to employ a system of weighted voting at all times, in order to guarantee an accurate representative power of each senatorial group in the House of Commons.
- 2. Weighted voting shall be stablished in proportion to the number of parliamentarians who have accepted the *certificate of election*.
- 3. If a parliamentarian resigns, he also renounces to his or her *certificate of election* and to all rights originated from the status of Parliamentarian in the Model.

Article 75. Power of the organization team

- 1. The organizational team holds the right to modify these Rules of Procedure at all time with immediacy.
- 2. Modification of the present document or any future versions shall have effective power from the moment it is posted on the Plenary session Facebook group.

#### Article 76. Formulation requirements

- 1. Parliamentarians may formulate questions for the Prime Minister.
- 2. Questions shall be submitted to the Board of the House of Commons. If an oral response is required, the question shall only have the strict formulation relating to a particular fact, situation or information.
- 3. Questions including offensive words to the dignity or rights of a person shall never be admitted.
- 4. The Board shall determine if the written documents is in accordance with the present article and its admittance.

#### Section 14. Resolution proposals

#### Article 77. Introduction

1. Resolution proposals to prompt political and governmental action may be addressed to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or towards the citizens; they should be subscribed to a parliamentarian group or by a parliamentarian.





2. The resolution proposals must be presented to the board of the House of Commons, that will decide about its admission, orders, if applicable, its publication and, once the board of the spokespersons is heard, agrees its processing by the competent commission in the matter or the plenary session of the House of Commons.

# Article 78. Processing

- 1. The proposal of resolution is subject of a debate in which, after the group or parliamentarian author of the proposal, a member of each parliamentarian group that presented amendments can intervene and, then, a member of each group that has not intervened, will have the floor for two minutes.
- 2. The proposing party or parliamentarian will have a final turn of 2 minutes as maximum to defend the text that will be voted and those amendments that they accept or propose transactional amendments. The emending political party may veto the transactional proposal. New amendments may also be introduced if they are signed by all the parties or convenient parliamentarians. Finally, the proposal for the resolution as presented by the proposing party or parliamentarians will be voted. Any party or parliamentarian may ask for separate voting of the different parts of the proposal.
- 3. The Speaker or president of the House of Commons or of the commission may accumulate, to the effects of the debate, the proposals of resolution regarding the same question or questions which have a connection between them. In the same way, the parliamentarian groups may propose the accumulation of the voting of proposals of resolution regarding the same subject or with a substantially identical content and propose their blend or transaction between them and the amendments presented, the that the House of Commons adopt only one resolution. The person who has presented a proposal of resolution can veto the accumulation and ask for their proposal to be voted separately.

# Article 79. Institutional declarations

The House of Commons or the presidency can make declarations towards the citizens in relation to any question of interest for the State and the citizens.

#### Article 80. Government Informative Sessions.

- 1. The members of the government, by agreement of this or by personal request, may address the commissions to celebrate an informative session. To this end, the commissions might also agree the appearance of the members of the government.
- 2. The informative session is formed by the following phases: first the member of the government intervenes for a maximum time of 5 minutes. The political parties can intervene to make their positions clear or formulate a maximum of 5 questions. The government may answer in a maximum time of 3 minutes.

#### Article 81. Participation

- 1. Different entities, social groups and people of interest can intervene in session that have direct relation with their objectives, if a parliamentary group or 5 Members of the Parliament rise a petition.
- 2. Likewise, this initiative can be held by the Speaker or President of the House of Commons.

# Section 15. The order in the sessions

Article 82. Rules and calls to order

- 1. During the plenary sessions or the commissions' ones, the parliamentarians have the obligation of respecting the rules of order stablished by the present rules of procedure, avoiding causing disorder, accusing o recriminating each other , pronouncing inconvenient expressions against decorum, interrupting the speakers without authorization of the president and using the floor more time than it was authorized, as well as avoiding deliberately slowing down the development of the debates or obstructing the work.
- 2. The parliamentarian that violates the rules of order might be call to order by the president.





3. The list of part 1 is not exhaustive, therefore the president will the one who determines what actions deserve to be called to order.

#### Article 83. Discipline in the Chamber

- 1. The parliamentarian is under the disciplinary powers of the president and the chamber, in accordance with the present rules of procedure.
- 2. The president might expel one or more parliamentarians from the session due to the violation of the rules of procedure. In case the parliamentarian would refuse to leave the room, the president can ask the organization of SICCOB to expelled him by force.
- 3. The president may suspend or adjourn the session in case of racket or obstinate disobedience of one or more parliamentarians, without prejudice to apply the pertinent sanctions in the same session or the next one.
- 4. Before suspending or adjourn the session as a result of indiscipline, the president must warn the camera of the possibility of taking these measures.

# Section 16. Sanctions

#### Article 84. Absenteeism

The parliamentarian who, without sufficient justification o without the needed authorization, does not assist to 3 consecutive sessions of the commissions or the plenary session, indistinctly, might be deprive from their parliamentarian certificate.

#### Article 85. Discipline

- 1. The second call to order to a parliamentarian in the same session means:
  - a. a special mention in the records of the session.
  - b. the warning of withdraw the use of the floor, in case a third call to order was needed.
- 2. The third call to order to a parliamentarian in the same meeting will the privation of the right to use the floor for the time estimated by the President.
- 3. At the end of the meeting, previous authorization of the president, the person that has been called to order for the third time may use the floor justify himself. This exposition cannot be longer than a minute, and it might be done by the interest person or a person he delegated on.
- 4. If a parliamentarian receives more than three calls to order, he will be expelled from the room.
- 5. The accumulation of calls to order will disappeared at the end of the session.

Article 86. Expulsion from the Camera.

- 1. If the call to order is motivated by the offensive words towards the public institutions, towards other member of the House of Commons or to any other person, it might lead to their expulsion from the Camera for the rest of the meeting without the need of having 3 or more calls to order.
- 2. If there has been a rectification, they may withdraw the expressions the first part refers to and ask for them not to be kept on the record. It will be the Speaker or President of the House of Commons who will decide on this matter.

#### Article 87. Expulsion from the parliamentary group

In the case that a parliamentarian does not respect in a continuous way the party discipline or shares the sensitive information of the formation with other parties without the previous consent of its leaders, the maximum representatives of the group, understanding as such the Leader, Whip and General Spokesperson, may propose their expulsion of the formation in a motivated way and in writing to the Speaker, who will communicate its final decision to the formation within one hour period, since the written proposal was received. In the case that a parliamentarian is expelled from the formation, he will be part from that moment on of the Independent Group.





# Section 17. Negotiation of Brexit

Article 88. Competences of the European Union

The delegation of the negotiating team of the European Union, in charge of fixing along with the Government the terms of the exit of the United Kingdom of the European Union and sheltered under article 218 of the Treaty of Functioning of the European Union, will be empowered to assist to the sessions of the commission "Exiting the EU Select Committee" always is estimated relevant, having right to speak, but not to vote.

