

## Representation of Economic Interests within Legislation of the European Union

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**Introduction.** Current global economy dictates certain rules of conduct which can coincide with (or be implemented into) legal rules. Article 11 of the Treaty of the European Union (EU) has created a conceptual framework for interest representation<sup>1</sup>, i.e., lobbying. However, there is no general framework for the EU member states. Accordingly, the impact of special economic interests on their particular jurisdiction within the EU is unmeasured. The author defines laconic legal criteria for the implementation possibilities of economic interests in modern democratic society.

**Aim.** The aim of the research is to demonstrate the need for a thorough legal framework for economic interest representation within the EU,

**Material and Methods.** The research field consists of legal and political EU documentation. The used methods include: descriptive – for textual description of the conditions, logical – for the structural representation of the research content, inductive – for general conclusions from individual premises and legal-technical – for the reasoning of legal merits.

**Results.** The EU's legal framework for the representation of economic interests lacks a long-term approach to lobbying. Lobbying entails legal actions in order to influence policies and decisions of the EU institutions. The legal value of lobbying is to participate in the democratic legislation and government processes. In order to encourage the use and avoid the misuse of special economic interests for legislation proposals, the EU will face the need of creating a universal EU wide legal structure for lobbying.

**Conclusions.** The EU has its origins in the need for peaceful economic and democratic cooperation between sovereign states which means that private interests are of utmost importance in policy making. Lobbying in the context of law does not mean ubiquitous permissiveness, but a weighing of individual's interests against the interests of the society. The author proposes the advancement of the current legal framework with two criteria. Firstly, the sustainable growth criteria for lobbying proposals compared to the alternative of not realising the proposal. Secondly, the economic interest representation

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<sup>1</sup> Treaty on European Union, P.22. Available: [http://europa.eu/eu-law/decision-making/treaties/pdf/consolidated\\_versions\\_of\\_the\\_treaty\\_on\\_european\\_union\\_2012/consolidated\\_versions\\_of\\_the\\_treaty\\_on\\_european\\_union\\_2012\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu/eu-law/decision-making/treaties/pdf/consolidated_versions_of_the_treaty_on_european_union_2012/consolidated_versions_of_the_treaty_on_european_union_2012_en.pdf) [Accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2015].