COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/852

of 21 May 2019

determining the composition of the Committee of the Regions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) Article 300 of the Treaty sets out the rules for the composition of the Committee of the Regions.

(2) Council Decision 2014/930/EU ([1]) adapted the composition of the Committee of the Regions following the accession of Croatia. The number of members for each of Estonia, Cyprus and Luxembourg was reduced by one in order to address the discrepancy between the maximum number of members of the Committee of the Regions set out in the first paragraph of Article 305 of the Treaty and the number of members of the Committee of the Regions following the accession of Croatia.

(3) The preamble to Decision 2014/930/EU states that that Decision is to be revised in time for the mandate of the Committee of the Regions starting in 2020.

(4) On 3 July 2018, the Committee of the Regions adopted recommendations to the Commission and to the Council on its future composition.

(5) The current balance in the composition of the Committee of the Regions should as far as possible be maintained as it is the result of successive Intergovernmental Conferences.

(6) The withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union would result in 24 vacant seats in the Committee of the Regions. Therefore, the balance in the allocation of seats that existed before the adoption of Decision 2014/930/EU should be restored,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The number of members of the Committee of the Regions shall be as follows:

Belgium	12
Bulgaria	12
Czechia	12
Denmark	9
Germany	24
Estonia	7
Ireland	9
Greece	12
Spain	21
France	24
Croatia	9
Italy	24
Cyprus	6
Latvia	7
Lithuania	9

([1]) Council Decision 2014/930/EU of 16 December 2014 determining the composition of the Committee of the Regions (OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 143).

Luxembourg	6
Hungary	12
Malta	5
Netherlands	12
Austria	12
Poland	21
Portugal	12
Romania	15
Slovenia	7
Slovakia	9
Finland	9
Sweden	12.

2. In the event that the United Kingdom is still a Member State of the Union at the date of the application of this Decision, the number of members of the Committee of the Regions shall be that provided for in Article 1 of Decision 2014/930/EU until the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union becomes legally effective. From the date that the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union becomes legally effective, the number of members of the Committee of the Regions shall be that provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 26 January 2020.

Done at Brussels, 21 May 2019.

For the Council
The President
G. CIAMBA