

Measures include:

- Allowing whistleblowers to report straight to competent law enforcement or regulatory bodies (the Commission's strict "three step" system which obliged people to report first to their bosses unless they fulfilled one of the exceptions, is gone)
- Allowing anonymous reporting,
- Judges will be able to dismiss cases against whistleblowers, for example, on defamation, copyright, professional secrecy or compensation requests from third parties
- Legal Affairs MEPs agreed that the same protection measures must also apply to those assisting the reporting person, e.g. journalists.

Whistle-blower protection is fragmented or only partial across member states, with only 10 EU countries (France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Slovakia, Sweden and UK) providing comprehensive legal protection.

The text adopted this week will serve as the Parliament's negotiating mandate in the coming discussions with the Council. The Parliament plenary could adopt the Directive by March or April 2019.