

## MEPs' allowances – 2008 rates

### **General expenditure allowance**

€4,052 per month (halved in the case of Members who, for no valid reason, do not attend half the number of plenary sittings).

To cover: office management costs, telephone and postal charges, computer equipment (purchase and maintenance), and cost of travel within home Member State.

### **Travel allowance**

To cover cost of travel undertaken by Members within the European Union in order to attend official meetings of the European Parliament. It also covers associated expenses such as accommodation, meals and taxis.

If travelling by air:

- cost of economy class unrestricted normal fare between airport nearest to Member's residence and the airport of the place of work concerned (boarding pass must be presented)
- local travel costs between Member's residence and airport at €0.35 per km
- plus distance allowance

if travelling by train or private car:

- €0.73 per km for the first 500 km and €0.31 per km for the rest of the journey (rail ticket or personal travel declaration must be presented)
- plus distance allowance

(Distance allowance: 501-1000 km €119, 1001-1500 km €286, 1501-2000 km €381, 2001-2400 km €477, more than 2400 km €595)

### **Annual Travel Allowance**

Up to €4,000. To cover expenditure incurred in travelling anywhere in the world in performance of their duties (for purposes other than official meetings) – supporting documents must be presented.

### **Subsistence Allowance**

Flat rate allowance of €287 per day for each day of attendance at official meetings of Parliament bodies on which the Member serves, paid if the Member has signed the official attendance register. To cover accommodation, meals and all other expenses. (€139.5 plus accommodation/breakfast expenses for meetings held outside the EU.)

During plenary sessions in Strasbourg and Brussels, reduced by half in the case of Members who have not taken part in half of the roll-call votes.

### **Secretarial Assistance Allowance**

Up to €16,914 per month to cover the expenses arising from the engagement or employment of one or more assistants. The European Parliament pays this allowance either directly to the assistant(s), or to a paying agent.