

**Case T-18/10 Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and others v Parliament and Council (Inuit I) [2011]
ECR II-05599**

Facts: An association of Inuit hunters and trappers of seals, supported by several businesses processing and selling seal products, sought to challenge a Regulation which had been adopted by the European Parliament and Council preventing imports into the EU of seal products on the basis that these were obtained by cruel methods. The question at stake was whether the applicants had standing under Art. 263(4) TFEU.

Held: Within the meaning of the third limb of Art.263(4) TFEU, a regulatory act was considered to encompass all acts of general application apart from legislative acts. Consequently, legislative acts may form the subject matter of an action for annulment brought by a natural or legal person only if they are of direct and individual concern to them. As the contested measure was deemed to be a legislative act, the applicants would have to meet the test in Case 25/62 *Plaumann v. Commission* [1963] ECR 95 to have standing. While some of the applicants could be deemed directly concerned, they were not individually concerned, as the Regulation produced legal effects regarding categories of persons envisaged generally and in the abstract. Even if the applicants concerned were covered, in addition to the general prohibition, by the exception relating to products of Inuit origin, that would not be sufficient to distinguish them individually in the same way as the addressee of a decision.