Arrangement with Norway on the modalities of its participation in the European Asylum Support Office

2013/0427(NLE) - 19/03/2014 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Arrangement between the EU and Norway on the modalities of its participation in the European Asylum Support Office.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Arrangement between the European Union and Norway on the modalities of its participation in the European Asylum Support Office was signed, subject to its conclusion.

It is now necessary to approve the Arrangement on behalf of the European Union.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 74 and Article 78 (1) and (2), in conjunction with point (a) of Article 218 (6) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: this proposed Decision invites the Council to approve, on behalf of the European Union, the Arrangement between the EU and Norway on the modalities of its participation in the European Asylum Support Office.

Main provisions of the Arrangement: the draft Arrangement provides for:

- the full participation of Norway in the activities of the Support Office,
- representation in the Support Office's Management Board as an observer and without voting rights,
- annual financial contributions of Norway, to the budget of the Support Office by an annual sum calculated in accordance with its GDP as a percentage of GDP of all States participating in the Support Office's work. Norway accepted provisions concerning a possible increased contribution if the Union contribution is increased.

Territorial provisions: the United Kingdom and Ireland shall participate in the Decision. Denmark, on the other hand, shall not take part in this Decision.

For further details as regards the provisions of this Arrangement and its impact on the Union budget, *please refer to the proposal of the Commission’s initial legislative proposal dated 10/12/2013*.