EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 10/12/2014 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

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

BACKGROUND: in accordance with a Council Decision, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes was signed on behalf of the Union.

The objective of the Protocol is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling Tunisia to participate in certain Union programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol constitutes an economic, financial and technical cooperation measure which allows for access to assistance, in particular financial assistance, to be provided by the Union pursuant to those Union programmes. That framework applies only to those Union programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of Tunisia.

The Protocol should now be approved.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Council is called upon to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

For further details of the Protocol, *please refer to the Commission’s initial proposal dated 31/03/2014*.