Budapest Convention (2005) on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterways (CMNI): authorisation for Austria, Belgium and Poland to ratify or accede

2014/0345(NLE) - 16/07/2015 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Legal Affairs adopted the report by Pavel SVOBODA (EPP, CZ) on the draft Council decision authorising the Kingdom of Belgium and the Republic of Poland, respectively, to ratify, and the Republic of Austria to accede to the Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterways (CMNI).

The committee recommended that the European Parliament give its consent to the draft Council decision authorising Belgium and Poland, respectively, to ratify, and Austria to accede to the Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterways.

The Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterways was adopted by a diplomatic conference organised jointly by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine and the Danube Commission in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, and entered into force on 1 April 2005. It contributes to the internal market in the field of transport by harmonising contracts and inland navigation standards across Europe.

Eleven of the Member States are already parties to the Budapest Convention, whereas fifteen Member States have indicated that they do not have inland waterways covered by the convention.

Austria and Poland have expressed an interest in becoming parties to the convention. Members considered that their participation will foster the broad implementation of this legal instrument, with benefits for citizens and businesses.