EC/Egypt Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement: accession of Croatia to the EU. Protocol

2016/0121(NLE) - 26/04/2016

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Arab Republic of Egypt, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Croatia to the European Union.

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: according its Act of Accession, Croatia undertakes to accede to the international agreements signed or concluded by the European Union and its Member States by means of a protocol to these agreements.

The Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Arab Republic of Egypt, of the other part, was signed on 25 June 2001. The Agreement entered into force on 1 June 2004.

On 14 September 2012, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the third countries concerned with a view to concluding the relevant protocols. The negotiations with the Arab Republic of Egypt were successfully concluded on 29 October 2015.

The Commission judges the results of the negotiations to be satisfactory and requests the Council to approve the Protocol on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

CONTENT: the Commission called on the Council to adopt a decision seeking to approve, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Arab Republic of Egypt, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union.

The text of the Protocol is attached to the proposal.