EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 10/07/2000

The committee adopted the recommendation for second reading (under the codecision procedure) by Philippe MORILLON (EPP-ED, F) amending the Council's common position on a regulation involving measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. The committee essentially retabled three amendments that it had proposed at first reading, which had been rejected by the Council. The first of these sought to ensure that any measures aimed at improving infrastructure capacity should exclude the development of nuclear power, especially in earthquake zones. The committee argued that the amendment expressed Parliament's traditional position regarding protection of the environment and the prevention of any risk of nuclear accident. The two recent earthquakes in Turkey had shown that the construction of a nuclear power station in earthquake zones would increase the risks of a nuclear disaster. The second amendment sought to spell out rights and freedoms more clearly and made an explicit reference to capital punishment in Turkey, thereby reflecting Parliament's traditional position on this matter. The final amendment mentioned the Kurdish problem, on the grounds that it was essential to refer to the question of the Kurdish people and to specify which initiatives could be launched by cooperation in an effort to resolve the problem.