

Basic information	
1994/0196(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates Repealed by 2016/0050(COD)	
Subject 3.20.04 Inland waterway transport	

Key players					
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed	
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		VAN DER WAAL Leen (EDN)	15/11/1994	
	Former committee responsible		Former rapporteur	Appointed	
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		VAN DER WAAL Leen (EDN)	15/11/1994	
	Former committee for opinion		Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
	Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meetings	Date
		Transport, Telecommunications and Energy		1834	1995-03-14
		Transport, Telecommunications and Energy		1893	1995-12-08
Agriculture and Fisheries		1944	1996-07-23		

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
08/09/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0359 	Summary
24/10/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/02/1995	Vote in committee		Summary

14/02/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0023/1995	
02/03/1995	Debate in Parliament		
18/10/1995	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0474 	Summary
08/12/1995	Council position published	08423/2/1995	Summary
01/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
25/04/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
25/04/1996	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0128/1996	
08/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
12/06/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0281 	
23/07/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
23/07/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/09/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/0196(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Amendments and repeals	Repealed by 2016/0050(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 075
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/07382

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0023/1995 OJ C 068 20.03.1995, p. 0013	14/02/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0082/1995 OJ C 068 20.03.1995, p. 0039-0041	02/03/1995	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0128/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0005	25/04/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0218/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0014-0046	09/05/1996	Summary
Council of the EU				

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Council position	08423/2/1995 OJ C 356 30.12.1995, p. 0066	08/12/1995	Summary	
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(1994)0359  OJ C 280 06.10.1994, p. 0005	08/09/1994	Summary	
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1995)0474  OJ C 020 24.01.1996, p. 0007	18/10/1995	Summary	
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)0158 	26/01/1996	Summary	
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0281 	12/06/1996		
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0045/1995 OJ C 102 24.04.1995, p. 0005	25/01/1995	Summary

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Directive 1996/0050 OJ L 235 17.09.1996, p. 0031 Summary

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 14/03/1995

The Council agreed on its common position concerning the proposal for a directive on the harmonisation of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway in the Community. The common position will be formally adopted at a meeting in the near future. This initiative is to be seen in the context of Directive 91/672/EEC of 16 December 1991 on the reciprocal recognition of national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway. The common position provides for a single national boatmaster's certificate. This would be issued on the basis of harmonised conditions. The model for it would be determined at Community level and it would be mutually recognised by the Member States.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 08/09/1994 - Legislative proposal

1) OBJECTIVE: to harmonize the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for inland waterways between the Member States in order to combat distortions of competition between carriers and increase safety on inland waterways. 2) CONTENT: 1. The directive includes the distinction made when Directive 91/672/EEC was adopted, between certificates for Community waterways (Group B) and individual certificates for waterways in the Community and maritime zones (Group A). 2. Certain terms used in the directive are defined. 3. Scope of the directive: national certificates may be maintained for isolated networks under certain circumstances. 4. The validity of certificates which meet the minimum requirements of the directive is extended to all the Member States of the Community. 5. In order to obtain a certificate, boatmasters must: * be at least 21 years of age (with some exceptions); * have the required physical and mental aptitude; * have at least four year's professional experience as a member of the bridge crew on an inland waterway vessel; * have passed an examination on their professional knowledge, the main subjects of which are listed in Annex II; * comply with specific conditions governing the carriage of dangerous substances; * comply with specific conditions governing radar navigation. 6. A refusal to issue or a decision to withdraw a certificate must be justified. 7. The Commission may take the measures needed in order to adapt the specimen boatmasters' certificate contained in Annex I and the professional skills needed in order to obtain the certificate, as listed in Annex II. Composition and role of the committee to assist the Commission in this function. Source: European Commission - Info92 - 10/95

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 09/05/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The recommendation for second reading by Mr Leen van der WAAL (I-EDN, NL) on the harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterways in the Community adopted by Parliament accepted the amendment to the scope of the directive made in the common position, the main import of which was that the issue of the transport of dangerous goods would be dealt with in a separate directive. At the same time, Parliament: - called for examinations in knowledge and skills carried out by the Member States to be organized on the basis of equivalent procedures; - considered that, in order to obtain certificates, the minimum professional experience required could be reduced by two years at the most (rather than three, as provided for in the common position) if the applicant was the holder of a recognized diploma or could provide proof of professional experience acquired on a sea-going vessel; - considered that examinations of boatmasters over the age of 65 should be held at three-year intervals (rather than on a yearly basis). Lastly, with a view to harmonizing examination syllabuses and procedures, Parliament asked the Commission to ensure that the competent authorities of the Member States consult each other at least once a year on examination requirements and regulations.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 25/01/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

In confirming its general endorsement of the proposal for a directive, the ESC urged the Commission to take steps to ensure the timely mutual recognition and harmonisation of certificates in general, including those required to sail sea-going vessels and pleasure craft. As regards the minimum age for obtaining the certificate, since a boatmaster was always responsible for crew management, and bearing in mind the provision of Article 7(1), the ESC felt that a minimum age of 21 years should be regarded as more appropriate.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 18/10/1995 - Modified legislative proposal

The amended proposal incorporates all the amendments adopted by the European Parliament. The amendments call for: - joint provisions for issuing inland waterway boatmasters' certificates to be laid down so that safety requirements in the inland waterway sector can gradually be strengthened; - examinations in knowledge and skills to be carried out by the Member States and organized on the basis of equivalent procedures; - the directive to apply to boatmasters of towed vessels and pushed barges; - Member States to retain the facility to issue a boatmaster's certificate to persons aged 18 and upwards; - professional experience to be validated by the Member State by entering it in a personal service record; - certificates of aptitude to be kept with the boatmaster's certificate; - not only for the boatmaster to be in possession of a certificate for the transportation of dangerous substances, but for the boatmaster or another member of the crew to have passed the examinations or to hold the certificate issued in accordance with the requirements of the ADN (marginalia 10135 and 210315); - the boatmaster also to have a Rhine radar navigation certificate in order to sail a vessel with the aid of radar; - Member States to consult at least once a year on examination requirements and regulations for the purposes of harmonization; - the requirements in Annex II to be strengthened by adding the following subjects: entering and leaving tidal ports; knowledge of ropes, cables, chains and closing devices; knowledge of control mechanisms (hydraulic/pneumatic); safety requirements.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 26/01/1996 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission considered that the common position represented an acceptable compromise and hoped that the European Parliament would approve it.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 23/07/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: Harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway in the Community. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 96/50/EC on the harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway in the Community. SUBSTANCE: The Directive is a follow-up to Directive 91/672/EEC on the reciprocal recognition of national boat masters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway. It provides for a single national boatmasters' certificate issued on the basis of harmonized conditions, a model for which is defined at Community level and which is mutually recognized by the Member States. Harmonization is essentially in four areas: - minimum age: an applicant must be at least 21 years old to obtain a certificate. However, Member States may still issue certificates to persons 18 years old or older; - physical fitness: compulsory medical examination to obtain a certificate; requirement of an annual examination for the holder of a certificate on reaching the age of 65 years; - professional experience: at least four years' professional experience validated by the competent authority by being entered in a personal service record, with schemes for possible reductions; - professional knowledge: an applicant must have passed, to the satisfaction of the competent authority, an appropriate examination of obligatory knowledge. DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE: 7 October 1996 DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION INTO NATIONAL LEGISLATION: 7 April 1998.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 02/03/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament approved the Commission proposal subject to 16 amendments seeking to clarify and strengthen the directive. In Parliament's opinion: - joint provisions should be laid down for issuing inland waterway boatmasters' certificates in order to respond to the need to gradually strengthen safety requirements in the inland waterway sector; - examinations in knowledge and skills set by the Member States should be organised on the basis of equivalent procedures; - the directive should apply to masters of towed vessels and pushed barges; - the Member States should retain the facility to issue boatmasters' certificates to persons aged 18 and upwards; - professional experience should be validated by a Member State by entering it in a personal service record; - certificates of aptitude should be kept with the boatmasters' certificate; - for the transportation of dangerous substances, not only should the boatmaster be in possession of a certificate, but the boatmaster or another member of the crew should have passed the examinations or should hold the certificate issued in accordance with the requirements of the ADNR (marginalia 10135 and 210315); - the boatmaster should also have a Rhine radar navigation certificate in order to sail a vessel with the aid of radar; - Member States should consult at least once a year on examination requirements and regulations for the purposes of harmonisation; - finally, the European Parliament strengthened the requirements of Annex II by adding the following subjects: entering and leaving tidal ports, knowledge of ropes, cables, chains and closing devices, knowledge of control mechanisms (hydraulic/pneumatic) and safety requirements.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 08/12/1995

The Council adopted a common position on the proposal for a directive on the harmonisation of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway in the Community following the political agreement reached at its meeting on 13 and 14 March 1995. The proposal comes under Directive 91/672/EEC on the reciprocal recognition of national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway.

Carriage of goods and persons by inland waterway: conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates

1994/0196(SYN) - 08/12/1995 - Council position

The Council incorporated certain amendments by the European Parliament, such as those stating that certificates were optional after 18 years of age and that the limitation on the validity of the certificate referred to the category of boat. However, the Council did not incorporate editorial amendments or amendments relating to Annex II specifying the knowledge required in order to obtain a boatmaster's certificate. The common position largely corresponds to the Commission's initial proposal. However, it does contain major amendments seeking to: - exclude waterways to which the Rhine navigation licence applies from the scope of the directive; - postpone the date by which certificates must be issued (18 months after the entry into force of the directive) - introduce limits regarding size and the number of passengers carried in order to exempt small boats from the directive; - reword the provisions regarding minimum age so as to enable Member States which issue boatmasters' certificates to persons aged 18 years and upwards to refuse to permit young skippers between 18 and 21 years of age from another Member State from carrying on the occupation of boatmaster in their territory; - increase the maximum reduction in the duration of professional experience required to three years; - require boatmasters aged 65 and over to undergo an annual medical examination for safety reasons; - replace the term "carnet de bord" by "livret de service" (does not affect the English version); - delete Article 9 on the transport of dangerous substances and article 11 on the withdrawal of or refusal to issue certificates; - add an article covering the transportation of passengers where either the boatmaster or another member of the crew must be in possession of a special certificate as proof of his/her having passed an examination of professional knowledge in the subjects referred to in Chapter C of the Annex.