## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **1994/2128(COS)**<br>COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) | Procedure completed |
| Nuclear material and radioactive substances: illegal trafficking<br>**Subject**<br>3.60.04 Nuclear energy, industry and safety | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs | SCHULZ Martin (PSE) | 01/02/1995 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy | GAHRTON Per (V) | 21/02/1995 |
| ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy | ROBLES PIQUER Carlos (PPE) | 02/02/1995 |
| RELA External Economic Relations | | |
| ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection | GROSSETÊTE Françoise (PPE) | 20/12/1994 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| General Affairs | 1806 | 1994-11-28 |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 07/09/1994 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(1994)0383 | Summary |
| 28/11/1994 | Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council | | |
| 30/11/1994 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 21/02/1996 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 21/02/1996 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A4-0066/1996 | |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 20/06/1996 | Debate in Parliament | | |
| 04/07/1996 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 22/07/1996 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

| Technical information | |
|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 1994/2128(COS) |
| **Procedure type** | COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) |
| **Procedure subtype** | Commission strategy paper |
| **Legal basis** | Rules of Procedure EP 148 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | LIBE/4/05965 |

Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A4-0066/1996<br>OJ C 117 22.04.1996, p. 0003 | 21/02/1996 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T4-0379/1996<br>OJ C 211 22.07.1996, p. 0010-0015 | 04/07/1996 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(1994)0383 | 07/09/1994 | Summary |
| Document attached to the procedure | COM(1996)0171 | 19/04/1996 | |

# Nuclear material and radioactive substances: illegal trafficking

1994/2128(COS) - 07/09/1994 - Non-legislative basic document

The problem of the illicit traffic in radioactive substances is serious, complex and of immense geographical proportions and therefore requires a global response on the part of the Union. The purpose of this communication is to draw attention to the seriousness of this problem and suggest a number of ways of dealing with it in an efficient, coordinated manner, using the various instruments at the Union's disposal (Community pillars, CFSP and justice and internal affairs). A Union response should target the following objectives: 1) The operating conditions of the nuclear sector (i.e. safety controls on nuclear materials in countries affected by the traffic in dangerous substances) need to be improved. The Commission suggests that maximum use should be made of assistance programmes already under way, especially: - the assistance provided by the safety control directorate of Euratom; - the technical assistance provided under the TACIS programme, with the support of the Joint Research Centre; - the Moscow Centre of Science and Technology. In addition, industrial assistance provided by various donors and operators should be subject to exchanges of information and coordination. 2) Everything should be done to stop nuclear materials entering the territory of the Union at the Union's external borders. Consequently: - the Commission intends to strengthen customs cooperation in order to prevent and detect attempted smuggling; - the potential offered by the third pillar (justice and home affairs) should be explored and used to the maximum; - the safety control directorate of Euratom and the JRC will offer their services

to the national authorities facing this problem. 3) Cooperation between all the states involved is essential. The Commission considers that: - advantage should be taken of the potential for cooperation in extant agreements (partnership and Europe agreements) in order to find a common approach; - future agreements should, where applicable, include provision for such cooperation; - the possibility of making use of the joint action on non-proliferation already decided should be examined within the framework of the CFSP, as should any other action which might help to fight this traffic; - close cooperation should be maintained or introduced with third countries which could help in the fight against this traffic, especially the United States.

# Nuclear material and radioactive substances: illegal trafficking

1994/2128(COS) - 04/07/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Martin SCHULZ (PSE, D) on the Communication from the Commission on the illicit traffic in radioactive substances and nuclear materials, Parliament took the view that a policy focussing on cooperation and controlled disarmament offers the best guarantee for peace and called on the European Union to develop programmes with the aim of converting military nuclear materials into less dangerous materials. It took the view that a comprehensive picture of trade in radioactive and nuclear substances of all kinds could be built up and called on the Commission, by means of a regulatory instrument, to initiate the necessary procedures ensuring a harmonized approach to the legal traffic of nuclear materials as well as to the monitoring procedures and techniques relating thereto. It also called on the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference to develop a clear legal basis for this within the framework of environmental policy and to clear the way for comprehensive Euratom monitoring of all stocks and all shipments of nuclear materials on the territory of the European Union. As regards prevention, the report called for the stepping-up of technical assistance to improve the monitoring of the security of nuclear materials in the CIS and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It called on the Council to draw up a report comparing the standard of physical protection in the Member States with the US systems, which are regarded as rigorous; it also called on the Commission to draw up a detailed analysis of the funding needed by Euratom safeguards and not to go ahead with the cuts in appropriations provided for in the preliminary draft budget. As regards the fight against crime, the report called on the Member States to develop and expand Europol without delay and to harmonize their legislation in this field. It took the view that the Member States should step up cooperation between their own secret services and that investigations must be carried out to establish how far government agencies of third countries are themselves involved in the illicit traffic in nuclear or radioactive substances. Parliament also called on the Commission to investigate the dispute between the German Government and Euratom, the German Government claiming that Euratom safeguards had been notified of an imminent movement of nuclear materials on 27 July 1994, while Euratom declared it had not been warned until 10 August 1994 when 400 grammes of plutonium were seized at Munich airport.