Basic information

1995/0109(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC) **Subject** 3.20.06 Transport regulations, road safety, roadworthiness tests, driving licence	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism	FARASSINO Gipo (ELDR)	23/05/1995

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism	FARASSINO Gipo (ELDR)	23/05/1995

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	1903	1996-02-26
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	1893	1995-12-07
Agriculture and Fisheries	1944	1996-07-23

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/03/1995	Additional information		Summary
10/05/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0166	Summary
10/07/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
31/10/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
31/10/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0269/1995	
16/11/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
14/12/1995	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0708	Summary
26/02/1996	Council position published	12542/1/1995	Summary

14/03/1996	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	A4-0123/1996	
05/06/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
18/07/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0401 	
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	1995/0109(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 075
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/07639

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0269/1995 OJ C 323 04.12.1995, p. 0005	31/10/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0550/1995 OJ C 323 04.12.1995, p. 0076-0107	16/11/1995	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0123/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0005	25/04/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0311/1996 OJ C 181 24.06.1996, p. 0011-0016	06/06/1996	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	12542/1/1995 OJ C 120 24.04.1996, p. 0001	26/02/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary

Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0166 OJ C 021 25.01.1996, p. 0004	10/05/1995	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1995)0708 OJ C 054 23.02.1996, p. 0005	14/12/1995	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)0344	11/03/1996	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0401	18/07/1996	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0968/1995 OJ C 301 13.11.1995, p. 0022	13/09/1995	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Directive 1996/0047
OJ L 235 17.09.1996, p. 0001 Summary

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 26/02/1996 - Council position

The Council's common position incorporated the EP amendments covering: - the broadening of the provision enabling Member States to introduce markings, symbols or other security features on side 1 of the model licence; - the option of indicating, with the holder's agreement, information not directly related to the management of the driving licence (e.g. blood group or organ donation). However, compared with the Commission's proposal, the common position: - confirmed that no electronic and/or computerized device may be added to driving licences without prior agreement at Community level. The Commission will have to set up a working party to examine the feasibility, contents, conditions of access and confidentiality aspects of introducing electronic devices such as microchips. In the light of the working party's conclusions, the Commission will, if necessary, make a formal proposal; - removed the provision limiting the validity of the licence to ten years maximum, thereby allowing national administrations to determine the period of validity of the licences they issue; - added a space for host Member States to include additional information necessary for managing driving licences whose holders have changed their state of residence; - added a space for the issuing Member State to include information relating to licence management, road safety or other matters, subject to the written consent of the holder; - for technical reasons, moved the holders' photograph and the flag containing the symbol of the Member State from the right to the left of the card; - introduced an optional point allowing inclusion of a number for use in licence management and/or security.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 07/12/1995

The Council reached agreement on a common position on the proposal that Member States that so wished should be allowed to issue driving licences of a new Community model in the form of a credit card. The new model would be an alternative to the paper model provided for in Directive 91/439

/EEC on driving licences. Under the common position it could be issued from 1 July 1996, i.e. the date on which Directive 91/439/EEC would become applicable. The proposal is intended, *inter alia*, to respond to the requirements of those Member States that already issue plasticised licences (at present Denmark , Finland and Sweden use entirely plasticised models). Directive 91/439/EEC establishes the principle of the mutual recognition of national driving licences without the obligation to exchange them in the event of a change of residence and lays down minimum conditions for the issue of Community model licences. Apart from the matters concerning driving licences covered in Directive 91/439/EEC the common position provides for the possibility that Member States may show other information in a specific position on their licences subject to the explicit agreement of the holder, on the understanding that the inclusion of such particulars would not in any way affect the use of the model as a driving licence. The new model would also have a space for the possible introduction at a later stage, within a Community framework, of a microprocessor or an equivalent device. The common position will be adopted formally once the text has been finalised; it will then be sent to Parliament under the cooperation procedure.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 11/03/1996 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission approved the common position which maintained the proposal's objectives of harmonization and safety and incorporated Parliament's amendments adopted by the Commission.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 14/12/1995 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission incorporated three of the eight amendments adopted by the European Parliament at first reading and amended its proposal as follows: - the term "printed" was replaced by "listed" with reference to the information specific to the licence issued; - the option for Member States to include vital medical information at the holder's request (e.g. blood group, allergies etc.) and the holder's willingness to be an organ donor was added; - the provision allowing Member States to introduce markings, symbols or other security features on side 1 of the licence was broadened. However, the Commission did not incorporate amendments seeking to delete the words "European Communities model" on the licence and define the tax to be collected by the Member States.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 16/11/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

Adopting the report by Mr FARASSINO (ELDR, I), the European Parliament approved the proposal for the new model driving licence with the following amendments: - eventual introduction of a European penalty points driving licence system (the European Parliament called for the Commission to examine this possibility in an ad hoc working party); - optional personal information on the new licence at the holder's request in order to safeguard his or her life (e.g. blood group and other vital medical information such as allergies etc.); - an optional indication of the holder's willingness to donate organs; - the possibility of introducing technological innovations other than the microchip. It also called on Member States to undertake only to charge for the cost issuing the licence and not to levy any new tax. However, it rejected the idea of including the words "European Communities model" on the licence.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 26/02/1996

The Council formally adopted its common position.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 13/09/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The ESC wholeheartedly supported the Commission’s amendments as it considered them to be forward-looking and certainly consistent with the further development of the single market.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 23/07/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: to allow those Member States that so wish, according to their specific requirements, the possibility of issuing a new Community model driving licence, represented by a 'credit card'- format document, which will constitute an alternative to the paper model provided for in Annex I to Directive 91/439/EEC. The new provisions are designed, inter alia, to facilitate the free movement of persons and their possible establishment in a Member State other than that which had issued them a driving licence. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 96/47/EC amending Directive 91 /439/EEC on driving licences. SUBSTANCE: the Directive harmonizes the information, in the form of codes, entered in the driving licence, indicating the conditions under which the driver is authorized to drive (wearing of spectacles obligatory, modifications to vehicles, driving restricted to vehicles equipped with automatic transmission, etc.) and/or information referring to administrative procedures such as the issuing of duplicates or exchange of

the licence. The Directive also provides for the option, with the holder's consent, of entering information not directly related to the administration of the driving licence (such as indication of blood group, willingness to donate organs, etc.). Finally, it confirms that no electronic and/or computerized device may be introduced into the driving licence without prior agreement at Community level. DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE: 18 September 1996 DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION INTO NATIONAL LEGISLATION: 1 July 1996.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 10/05/1995 - Legislative proposal

The proposal for a directive seeks to introduce a new "credit card" type Community model driving licence, which will meet the requirements of Member States which issue this type of licence, Member States which control these licences and holders of these licences, respect the objectives of mutual recognition, open the way for technological progress and constitute an alternative to the model provided for in Annex I to Directive 91/439/EEC. If this proposal is adopted with effect from 1 July 1996, Member States (and EEA countries) will be able to switch directly from the current model (Directive 80 /1263/EEC) to the new "credit card" type model.

Driving licence, new Community model (amend. Directive 91/439/EEC)

1995/0109(SYN) - 06/06/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The report by Mr Gipo FARASSINO (ELDR/I) adopted by Parliament reinstated, in connection with the aims or advantages of the new credit card model driving licence, the reference to flexibility of use, increased security, and reduced risk of forgery. It also stipulated that reference to the Member State issuing a licence should be compulsory and that the words 'European Communities model' should be deleted. Finally, it reinstated the provision prohibiting Member States from levying annual taxes on driving licences and requiring them to undertake to charge only for the cost of issuing licences.