

Basic information	
1995/0355(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
European Year against Racism 1997 Subject 7.30.08 Action to combat racism and xenophobia	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs		OOSTLANDER Arie M. (PPE)
	Committee for opinion		Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		GREDLER Martina (ELDR)
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		ODDY Christine Margaret (PSE)
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	General Affairs	1830	1995-03-06
	General Affairs	1853	1995-06-12
	General Affairs	1847	1995-05-22
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	1808	1994-11-30
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	1859	1995-06-20
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	1885	1995-11-23
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1944	1996-07-23
	Social Affairs	1930	1996-06-03

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/11/1994	Debate in Council		
06/03/1995	Debate in Council		Summary
22/05/1995	Debate in Council		

12/06/1995	Debate in Council		
20/06/1995	Debate in Council		
23/11/1995	Debate in Council		Summary
13/12/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0653 	Summary
29/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/04/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
25/04/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0135/1996	
09/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		
03/06/1996	Debate in Council		Summary
23/07/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
23/07/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/08/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1995/0355(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 000
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/4/07664

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0135/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0004	25/04/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0222/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0014-0062	09/05/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0653 	13/12/1995	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0533/1996 OJ C 204 15.07.1996, p. 0023	24/04/1996	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0156/1996 OJ C 337 11.11.1996, p. 0063	12/06/1996	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Third pillar act 1996/0815 OJ C 237 15.08.1996, p. 0001 Summary

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 23/11/1995

Ministers discussed a draft joint action concerning measures to combat racism and xenophobia in the field of judicial cooperation. This is one of a series of measures proposed by the Spanish Presidency in response to the conclusions of the Cannes European Council and the report by the Consultative Commission on Racism and Xenophobia set up by the Corfu European Council in June 1994 and chaired by Mr Kahn. The text contains an obligation to take action, i.e. an undertaking by each Member State to ensure effective judicial cooperation in respect of offences based on certain types of behaviour, such as the public dissemination and distribution of tracts, pictures or other material containing expressions of racism or xenophobia and participation in the activities of groups, organisations or associations, which involve discrimination, violence, or racial, ethnic or religious hatred. Under the draft joint action, Member States would undertake to refer the provisions necessary for implementation of this joint action for adoption by their competent national authorities, and the Council would ensure that Member States had fulfilled that undertaking by the end of June 1997. After detailed discussion, particularly of the form the legal instrument should take, the Presidency noted that fourteen delegations could agree to the substance of the text of the joint action and that the United Kingdom delegation, which would prefer a resolution, could not agree to it. In these circumstances and given the seriousness of the phenomenon of racism and xenophobia in the European Union, the Presidency said that the matter would be referred to the General Affairs Council on 4 December 1995 and to the Madrid European Council.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 13/12/1995 - Legislative proposal

- OBJECTIVE: implementation in 1997 of a "European Year against Racism", the aim of which is to raise public awareness of the fight against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in the Community by various information campaigns and the promotion of solidarity. - SUBSTANCE: The objectives of the European Year against Racism are: . to raise public awareness and disseminate information on racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in Europe, . to highlight the threat posed by racism for the economic and social cohesion of the Community, . to make known the benefits of integration policies, . to encourage reflection on the measures required in this area, . to disseminate on a large scale the measures taken at national and European level to combat this phenomenon, . to promote solidarity between all members of society, . to involve the victims of racism in the process of European integration. - Actions which may be financed under the Year are given in the annex. These include: . the use of a common logo and slogan, . the organization of Community competitions and prizes, . the organization of local and mobile information campaigns aimed at promoting the results of integration and campaigns against racism in all its forms, . cooperation with the media on the contribution of immigrants and ethnic minorities to the development of the European Community, . the publication of national and Community information on events connected with the Year. - The Commission is responsible for the implementation of the Year. It will be assisted by an advisory committee comprising representatives of the Member States and chaired by the Commission itself. The European Year against Racism will be implemented in a way which is complementary to and consistent with other Community measures in this field (education, training, the fight against social exclusion) and with the activities of the Council of Europe. - The financial envelope for the Year is set at ECU 6 m (1996-1997). - A report on the implementation of the European Year is to be submitted to the Council and the European Parliament before 31.12.1998.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 24/04/1996 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee supports the Commission's Communication and the proposal to declare 1997 European Year against Racism. The Committee supports and allies itself with those forces which consider that the Treaty should include a non-discrimination clause and calls for a comprehensive strategy to counter racism and xenophobia both within the Community and on an intercontinental level. The Committee therefore agrees with the Commission's view on the inclusion of a non-discrimination clause in the Treaty and specific powers to combat racial discrimination. The Committee calls for the aim of prohibiting the distribution of racist material via the Internet to be set down as a Community action in the decision designating 1997 as European Year against Racism. To achieve this objective, the Commission is urged to establish a dialogue with the Council of Europe and other international institutions working on a basis of cooperation at all levels. The Committee agrees in principle with the proposal for a decision to designate 1997 as European Year against Racism, but would make the following points: - it considers the proposal's aims to be ambitious in comparison with the resources provided; - it supports the proposals concerning the promotion of supranational programmes against racism; - it calls for the following clause "Whereas restriction of the rights of free movement of third country nationals living in the EU contributes to racist and xenophobic attitudes" to be added; - it places particular emphasis on the use of education to cultivate and develop an anti-racist awareness, and on the use of the mass media to combat racism and for the exchange of information and best practice.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 03/06/1996

The presidency noted that none of the delegations had any basic problems with the content of the draft resolution being proposed by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States, meeting in Council session, as submitted by the Permanent Representatives Committee. However the UK delegation was unable to consent because of its general position (linked to the BSE problem) as regards decisions to be taken by unanimous agreement. The presidency hoped that the text might be adopted as soon as possible as an 'A' item and looked forward to the Florence European Council formally declaring the European Year against Racism.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 06/03/1995

The Council heard a statement by Mr Jean KAHN, President of the Consultative Commission on Racism and Xenophobia, on the progress of the proceedings of that Commission and in particular its proposal for the establishment of a European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia. The Council asked the Consultative Commission to conclude its proceedings within the scheduled period so that the European Council in Cannes could define an overall strategy on this question. At the initiative of the Austrian delegation and as part of the campaign to combat racism and xenophobia, the Council agreed to look at the issue of the protection of national minorities. It instructed the Political Committee to present a report on this issue at its next meeting.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 23/07/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: implementation in 1997 of a 'European Year against Racism' the aim of which is to raise public awareness of the fight against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in the Community by various information activities and the development of solidarity. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Resolution of the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council (96/C.237/01) concerning the European Year against Racism (1997). SUBSTANCE: this Council Resolution (which does not constitute a basic Regulation within the meaning of the Joint Declaration of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on various measures to improve the budgetary procedure) seeks to set the main objectives of the European Year against Racism, namely: . to highlight the threat posed by racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism to respect for fundamental rights and to the economic and social cohesion of the Community; . to encourage reflection on the measures required in this area; . to promote the exchange of experience on good practice devised at local, national and European level to combat racism; . to disseminate information on such good practice among persons working to combat racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism; . to make known the benefits of integration policies, implemented at national level, in particular in the fields of employment, education, training and accommodation; . to turn to good account the experience of persons actually affected or likely to be affected by racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and promote their participation in society. - the Member States and the Commission are called on to implement at Community level the following measures, complementing the measures implemented at national, regional and local level: . the organizing of conferences to open and close the European Year; . the organizing of seminars on specific aspects of the fight against racism; . the preparation, translation and circulation of reports setting out the results of these seminars; . the promotion of information campaigns on the positive contribution to society of immigrants; . the exchange of information and experience to promote the transfer of good practice; . the publication of information on the European Year; . the design and promotion of a common logo and slogan for the European Year and their use in publicity for all the events connected with the Year. An annex gives details of the measures to be taken at Community level and at national level (in particular the use of the common logo and slogan for the European Year, organization of Community competitions and prizes highlighting the achievements in the fight against racism, organization of local information and public campaigns including cooperation with the media, etc.). - The Commission is responsible for the implementation of this year. It is to be assisted by an ad hoc working party composed of representatives of the Member States, for implementing the measures provided for at Community level. It is to implement the European Year in a way consistent with other relevant Community measures which they complement and with the activities undertaken by the Council of Europe, by involving the various organizations active in the fight against racism. - The Member States are called on to set up a national coordinating committee or an

equivalent administrative body that is representative of all the bodies active in this field and, where appropriate, of local and regional authorities concerning themselves with the European Year. - A report should be submitted to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation of this European Year not later than 31 December 1998.

European Year against Racism 1997

1995/0355(CNS) - 09/05/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Arie OOSTLANDER (PPE, NL) the European Parliament approved the proposal for a decision declaring 1997 "European Year against Racism" by 134 votes to 9, with 13 abstentions. The EP's amendments were aimed, in particular, at clarifying the goals to be met through the actions to be taken within the framework of the European Year against Racism. In this respect, actions were planned to: help promote understanding and recognition of other civilisations and their contributions to the culture of European countries; encourage social, cultural and religious organisations to play their part in fighting racism and promote social dialogue at European level; encourage migrants to make their own contribution to European art and culture; support training and educational projects (in schools, firms and churches) that raise awareness of racism. The EP also called for: the organisation of public debates aimed at a wide audience within the European Union; support for exchanges of experience among local and regional bodies wielding influence in the social, economic and housing spheres; support for minority groups combating discrimination against cultural minorities. Finally, the EP called for Community measures to be coordinated with the activities being developed by the Council of Europe.