## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **1995/2119(COS)**<br>COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)<br>The European Union and Russia: the future relationship<br>**Subject**<br>6.40.04.02 Relations with Russian Federation<br>**Geographical area**<br>Russian Federation | Procedure completed |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy | LALUMIÈRE Catherine (ARE) | 22/06/1995 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy | STENIUS-KAUKONEN Marjatta (GUE/NGL) | 19/07/1995 |
| RELA External Economic Relations | KITTELMANN Peter (PPE) | 20/07/1995 |
| REGI Regional Policy | SCHIEDERMEIER Edgar Josef (PPE) | 13/11/1995 |
| LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs | MARINHO Luís (PSE) | 02/06/1995 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| General Affairs | 1922 | 1996-05-13 |
| General Affairs | 2047 | 1997-11-24 |
| General Affairs | 2041 | 1997-11-10 |
| General Affairs | 1864 | 1995-07-17 |
| General Affairs | 1883 | 1995-11-21 |
| General Affairs | 1871 | 1995-10-02 |
| General Affairs | 1943 | 1996-07-16 |
| General Affairs | 1996 | 1997-03-24 |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 31/05/1995 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(1995)0223 | Summary |
| 16/06/1995 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 17/07/1995 | Debate in Council | | |
| 02/10/1995 | Debate in Council | | |
| 21/11/1995 | Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council | | |
| 13/05/1996 | Debate in Council | | |
| 16/07/1996 | Debate in Council | | |
| 24/03/1997 | Debate in Council | | Summary |
| 10/11/1997 | Debate in Council | | |
| 24/11/1997 | Debate in Council | | |
| 04/02/1998 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 04/02/1998 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A4-0060/1998 | |
| 01/04/1998 | Debate in Parliament | | |
| 02/04/1998 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 04/05/1998 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

## Technical information

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| **Procedure reference** | 1995/2119(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** | AFET/4/06722 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A4-0060/1998<br>OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0004 | 04/02/1998 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T4-0207/1998<br>OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0139-0166 | 02/04/1998 | Summary |

**Council of the EU**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Document attached to the procedure | 06440/1996 | 26/04/1996 | |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(1995)0223 | 31/05/1995 | Summary |

# The European Union and Russia: the future relationship

1995/2119(COS) - 24/03/1997

The Council welcomed the successful EU-Russian Federation summit held in Moscow on 3 March 1997. The Council recalled that the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement provides a wide range of possibilities for strengthening political and economic relations. The entry into force of this agreement, which is expected to take place later in 1997, will give new quality to the relations between the EU and Russia. In order to take account of the discussions at the summit, the Council instructed COREPER to ensure that all necessary actions will be taken in cooperation with the Russian authorities to provide for the effective functioning of the agreement as from its entry into force. In particular, consideration will be given to the necessary measures to establish the institutions foreseen by the agreement. The Council underlines the potential for cooperation provided for by the PCA.

# The European Union and Russia: the future relationship

1995/2119(COS) - 02/04/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Mrs Catherine LALUMIERE (ARE, F) on relations between the EU and Russia, Parliament points out that Russia has an integral place in the history and culture of Europe. The EU's strategy towards Russia should therefore be one of its priorities for future action, concentrating on consolidating Russian society, developing partnership, strengthening security on the basis of balanced cooperation and opening up European markets to Russian products. 1) Consolidating Russian society: the EU should give its full support to the process of political and economic reform in Russia so as to reduce the negative phenomena (corruption, mafia practices, etc.) which have accompanied the transition. Exchanges must be encouraged between people in leading roles in politics, administration, economic life and social affairs and assistance given to developing civil society. Cooperation must be developed with the Russian authorities on matters falling within the scope of the third pillar (justice and internal affairs: all kinds of trafficking, trafficking in human beings, money laundering, etc.) in order to fight crime more effectively. Russia is also called upon to ratify the additional Protocol 6 to the European Convention on Human Rights concerning abolition of the death penalty and to make official the moratorium on capital punishment which entered into force in August 1996. Parliament also calls on Russia to bring federal Russian laws into line with recognized international standards with regard to human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples. With regard to the TACIS programme in the next few years, the EU should accord an important place to: - carrying out projects in the area of education, safety and housing; - setting up and implementing a legal framework within which the rule of law can operate and which accords people and businesses greater legal certainty; - implementing a just and effective tax system; - strengthening media diversity. 2) Developing a partnership: Parliament calls for Euro-Russian projects to be developed in the industrial field, starting with the high technology sector (biology, computers, space, aeronautics, energy and telecommunications) so as to make Russia a fully-fledged partner in these frontier technology sectors. It calls on the Commission to coordinate its activities with the Russian Government to prevent illegal trafficking in fissile material and to improve the safety of Russian nuclear installations and possibly to close the particularly dangerous reactors. It calls on the Commission to intensify its efforts under the TACIS programme to diversify energy sources in the Russian Federation with the emphasis on promoting renewable energies and combating energy waste. It also calls for the Russian Parliament to ratify the European Energy Charter Treaty. It supports Russia's bid to join the WTO. It calls on the Member States to recognize Russia's cultural heritage through cultural cooperation programmes and joint cultural events and twinning arrangements between towns and regions. 3) Strengthening security: Parliament considers that the security of European peoples forms an indivisible whole and that this security depends to a very large extent on relations between the EU and Russia. At the outset, all the possibilities provided by the founding act on mutual relations between NATO and the Russian Federation must be used to help create a more stable, peaceful and undivided Europe, whereby the inviolability of existing borders, human rights and the rights of minorities are respected. The EU, WEU, NATO and the Russian Federation must then continue to develop close links between their parliamentary bodies, political leaders and military high commands and continue to cooperate in peace-keeping operations. Parliament hopes that the EU itself will develop security relations with Russia. It considers that, over and above security issues, there is a need to map out a new order for cooperation on a continental European scale following the events since 1989 and in connection with the EU's forthcoming enlargement to include the CEECs. This new structure must ensure that relations between the main political and economic actors on the international stage are as balanced as possible. Parliament stresses that reinforced partnership with Russia requires a concomitant reinforcement of the EU's common foreign and security policy. It calls for resolute cooperation with Russia in the context of the Council of Baltic Sea States and the Euro-Arctic, Barents Sea and Arctic Councils.

# The European Union and Russia: the future relationship

1995/2119(COS) - 31/05/1995 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: this communication sets out the strategy behind the future relationship between the EU and Russia, which will be geared to the following objectives: . stronger political and economic stability; . sustainable development, resulting in improved living conditions for the people; . stronger cooperation on regional and international questions. CONTENT: according to this communication, relations between the EU and Russia have never been fully exploited, especially given its proximity to the Union now that Finland is a member. The main cause of this relative failing is the slow process of political and economic transformation since the break up of the Soviet Union and, closer to home, events in connection with the war in Chechnya. The Commission therefore proposes that relations be strengthened on the basis of the following priorities: . Russia should be involved in the implementation of a European security structure; . democratic rules and institutions should be created; . economic reform should continue, focusing on the integration of Russia in an enlarged European Economic Area; . cooperation should be stepped up (including justice/home affairs, crime, crisis prevention); . an open dialogue should be instituted on all subjects of common interest (including security). In this context, the Commission proposes a series of initiatives, the most important of which are as follows: - security: in-depth discussion on the implementation of the future security structure in Europe within NATO; greater cooperation in the fight against illegal trafficking in fissile materials etc.; - political relations: in addition to implementing the EU/Russia partnership and cooperation agreement (not before 1997), the EU should approve the interim trade agreement. It must also continue to promote the restoration of democracy through TACIS democracy (especially in the context of legislative and presidential elections). Finally, efforts must be made so that Russia can join the Council of Europe (once the Chechnya conflict has been resolved); - economic relations: numerous points are still causing problems (especially the increase in Russian customs duty on certain goods, whether or not the most favoured nation clause will apply to mobile satellite services from 1996 onwards, the gradually opening of inland waterways to international inland waterway and maritime traffic at the end of 1996, the signature of an agreement on the trade in fissile materials by 1997). Nonetheless, a market economy has been introduced relatively quickly and efficiently (privatization) even if problems persist with social support and the reform of the financial markets. In the food and farming chain, food distribution has also improved but the restructuring of collective farms has hardly begun. Finally, priority also needs to be given to the education and research system. At the regional level, TACIS infrastructure and trans-European network projects need to be implemented (mainly in the Baltic zone), as do cross-border projects (ECOS-TACIS); - other forms of cooperation: these relate mainly to the environment and nuclear safety, information technologies and telecommunications and the development of human resources, transport and science, with priority being given to telecommunications and trans-European networks. The energy sector is also seen as a top priority in order to guarantee the rational and fair exploitation of resources.