Basic information

1995/2124(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Regional planning: Europe 2000 plus. Report **Subject** 4.70.04 Urban policy, cities, town and country planning	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	REGI Regional Policy	FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN Fernando (PPE)	24/11/1994
Council of the European Union			

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/07/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1994)0354	Summary
23/05/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
23/05/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0147/1995	
16/06/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/06/1995	Debate in Parliament		
29/06/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/07/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/2124(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	REGI/4/06755

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0147/1995 OJ C 183 17.07.1995, p. 0003	23/05/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0331/1995 OJ C 183 17.07.1995, p. 0018-0039	29/06/1995	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1994)0354	29/07/1994	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0313/1995 OJ C 133 31.05.1995, p. 0004	29/03/1995	
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0965/1995 OJ C 301 13.11.1995, p. 0010	13/09/1995	Summary

Regional planning: Europe 2000 plus. Report

1995/2124(COS) - 29/07/1994 - Non-legislative basic document

The Commission "Europe 2000+" report summarizes studies made of the transnational and Community dimension of regional planning and lists the areas in which better use can be made of European territory by strengthening cooperation with the Member States. According to the Commission, the response to the advent of a more complicated and diversified European territory should be stronger cooperation on regional planning, especially by: - implementing large trans-European transport, energy, telecommunications and information networks; - finding a suitable response to economic disparities, marginalisation and urban social exclusion; - taking account of the prospects for sustainable development, by guaranteeing optimal exploitation of natural resources, preserving the environment and organizing a qualify of life framework (combined transport networks, reduction of adverse impact of transport in towns, transnational environmental projects); - cooperating on regional planning in transnational regions (e.g. the Alps) and rivers and seas. As far as changes to the key factors for organizing the European territory are concerned, the report distinguishes five variables which determine where people settle and businesses open: the housing density, the mobility of the population and jobs, investment flows, the quality of infrastructures, the environment and the quality of life. The report also identifies a trend towards dual purpose territories and a discrepancy between the low level of inter-regional mobility of the population and the high level of mobility of jobs, which follow capital as it moves, giving rise to the risk of serious economic and social distortions in the future. Finally, the report analyses changes in three types of specific zone: a) urban areas: social exclusion can only be combated by adopting inner city regeneration policies (e.g. Urban programme). The report also highlights the importance of small and medium-sized towns to the future equilibrium of the Community territory and the need for specific action in this area to counteract the mass exodus towards large cities; b) rural areas: the report stresses that small and medium-sized towns are instrumental to the viability of the countryside because they provide jobs and access to an extended range of public services (e.g. Leader programme); c) border regions: the report notes that cross-border cooperation should be stepped up over coming years: . in internal border regions, cooperation was initiated by the prospect of the single market and initiatives have been sustained by the Interreg programme. However, cross-border projects have not resulted in integrated regional planning programmes, which should be encouraged; . in external border regions, the report distinguishes between candidate countries, which have already started cooperating with the Community countries, and the eastern European countries, in which cooperation is being developed through support under the Phare programme.

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1995/2124(COS) - 13/09/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

This Additional Opinion supplemented the main Opinion containing the Economic and Social Committee's political message addressed to the Strasbourg Council meeting of 30 and 31 March 1995. The need for an EU spatial planning policy that respected certain principles and procedures, in

the interests of efficacy and openness, was incontrovertible. The ESC considered that the European Spatial Development Perspective should be tailored to regional trends and potentialities, and should respect the regions' geographical, socio-economic and cultural differences. Decisions should be coordinated at all levels (possibly by means of a code of conduct), with due respect for the subsidiarity principle. All the relevant players should work together in partnership, and account should be taken of the qualitative aspect of spatial development. While welcoming the setting-up of the CSD (Committee on Spatial Development), the ESC stressed that the CSD should cease to be an intergovernmental body and be made an advisory committee. The ESC reiterated its intention to be closely involved in the work of the CSD. The ESC called on the Commission to improve the coordination between the relevant Directorates-General, including the Directorate-General for Competition. Finally, the ESC considered that spatial planning policy should be accorded the political status it deserved and enshrined in the Treaty at the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference.

Regional planning: Europe 2000 plus. Report

1995/2124(COS) - 29/06/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Mr Fernandez Martin (PPE, E) on "Europe 2000+", the European Parliament called for the elements required in order to implement a European regional planning policy to be incorporated in the Treaty, mainly by: - jointly adopting guidelines guaranteeing the coherence and complementarity of various Community policies with a view to achieving the balanced and sustained development of Union territory and stronger economic and social cohesion; - strengthening the trans-European network policy by extending the networks to education and vocational training, research and the environment; - making provision for a legal framework designed to facilitate cross-border and interregional cooperation; - contributing towards the gradual enlargement of the Union. Parliament felt that a viable European area implied a long-term strategy for preserving the natural and cultural heritage which was inextricably bound up with the concept of sustainable development. It also stressed the need for interregional planning to protect and conserve limited water resources and called on the Commission to ensure that extremely remote regions were given the same status as urban areas, rural areas and border regions in future documents on specific areas.