Basic information

1996/2135(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Future financing of the European union in respect of enlargement **Subject** 8.20.40 Enlargement's financial point of view	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	CHRISTODOULOU Efthymios (PPE)	15/01/1996

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy	OOSTLANDER Arie M. (PPE)	02/07/1996
RELA External Economic Relations	WIERSMA Jan Marinus (PSE)	25/07/1996
REGI Regional Policy	SCHRÖDER Jürgen (PPE)	09/07/1996
CONT Budgetary Control	KJER HANSEN Eva (ELDR)	24/07/1996
INST Institutional Affairs	BRINKHORST Laurens Jan (ELDR)	25/07/1996

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
05/09/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
29/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0353/1996	
10/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		
12/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/01/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/2135(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/4/08085

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0353/1996 OJ C 380 16.12.1996, p. 0003	29/10/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0675/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0087-0134	12/12/1996	Summary

Future financing of the European union in respect of enlargement

1996/2135(INI) - 12/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report of Mr Efthymios CHRISTODOULOU (PPE, EL) on the funding of EU enlargement, the European Parliament called for close monitoring of the progress being made by the new applicant countries towards a social market economy. It noted that the impact of enlargement would be felt both on the CAP, where adjustments would be needed, and on structural expenditure. No decision on the procedure could therefore be taken before the financial implications were known. The CAP was in need of major new reform in order to ensure the implementation of a true European policy on the rural environment and on employment in this sector, and to prepare the EU for the accession of the CEECs. As regards the Structural Funds, Parliament noted that at the present time all applicant countries would be eligible for aid. Budget expenditure should therefore be increased, while at the same time taking account of the absorption capacities of the new applicants. Furthermore, this had to be achieved while efforts towards economic and social cohesion were under way within the current European Union. Parliament stressed the need for a redefinition of the priorities of the PHARE programme and for the provision of a new Community instrument which would also make use of interest rate subsidies. Parliament also took the view that too rapid accession, combined with substantial long-term derogations of financial significance, would interfere with the smooth operation of the single market, and that consequently careful preparations would be needed. In conclusion, Parliament called on the Commission to submit proposals defining the pre-accession periods which reflected the specific needs of each applicant country. The Commission was asked to draw up a detailed study based on realistic assumptions and on comparable and reliable statistics, which were still not available. In this way, once these preparations had been completed, accession negotiations could commence six months after the end of the IGC.