Basic information

1996/2153(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Energy: Europe and Asia cooperation strategy **Subject** 3.60.15 Cooperation and agreements for energy 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	HOLM Ulf (V)	02/10/1996

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets		
RELA External Economic Relations	HINDLEY Michael J. (PSE)	10/10/1996
DEVE Development and Cooperation		

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Energy	2009	1997-05-27

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
18/07/1996	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1996)0308	Summary
20/09/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/04/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
16/04/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0134/1997	
15/05/1997	Debate in Parliament		
16/05/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		

27/05/1997	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
02/06/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/2153(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	ENER/4/08128

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0134/1997 OJ C 150 19.05.1997, p. 0002	16/04/1997	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0258/1997 OJ C 167 02.06.1997, p. 0226-0234	16/05/1997	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1996)0308	18/07/1996	Summary

Energy: Europe and Asia cooperation strategy

1996/2153(COS) - 18/07/1996 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: The Commission communication proposes a strategy for strengthening energy cooperation between Europe and Asia. It follows the line taken at the Essen Summit (December 1994), which invited the Commission to propose concrete initiatives to this effect, within the framework of the new Asia strategy, and is a follow-up to the White Paper entitled 'An Energy Policy for the European Union' introduced by the Commission in December 1995. SUBSTANCE: The strategy proposed by the Commission is based on the following observation: given the demographic growth taking place in Asia, demand for energy could double by 2005. This will have repercussions for Europe in three areas: on security of supply (Europe will be dependent on the outside world for 55% of tis requirements in 2005 and 75% in 2015); on the European energy industry (Asia currently represents half the world market); and on the global environment (protective measures implemented in Europe will have only limited effect unless action is taken simultaneously in Asia). On the basis of this observation, the Commission has set three objectives: 1) strengthening the security of supplies of Asia and Europe; 2) participating in Asia's energy markets; 3) protecting the global environment. The implementation of this strategy will first require the creation of an ongoing dialogue on energy policies with the Asian authorities. The Community would intervene on several different levels: information on European solutions; (b) assistance for adaptation of institutional frameworks; (c) assistance to companies and energy operators. Priority will be given to the electricity, natural gas and coal sectors, energy efficiency and the energy supply of rural areas, in particular by an increase of new/renewable energies.

Energy: Europe and Asia cooperation strategy

1996/2153(COS) - 16/05/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

When it adopted the report by Mr Ulf HOLF (V, S) on Europe-Asia cooperation strategy for energy, the European Parliament criticizes the insufficient analysis of the current energy situation in the countries of Asia and recalls that, by 2005, Asia could be consuming 28% of the world's energy. It therefore welcomes the initiative taken by the Commission to establish a dialogue on energy policy with the countries of Asia but takes the view that that dialogue should cover Europe as a whole (and not simply the Union) with a view to establishing a global strategy to protect mankind and the environment. Parliament takes the view that the Commission must undertake to initiate a separate dialogue with each country and each trading entity in Asia and conclude treaties which will lead to a verifiable strategy to cut CO2 emissions. Calling on the Commission to ensure a better coordination of energy policy internally, it expects proposals as to how energy projects in Asia could be financed and expects the USA, Japan and the OECD Member States to coordinate closely their policies on Asia. For Parliament, participation in Asian energy markets and increased energy supplies must not constitute the focus of cooperation between Europe and Asia. On the contrary, protection of the global environment must be given priority, together with the development of energy services. The Commission must also extend its cooperation to embrace training and research as well as to transport, promoting the export of non-polluting technologies. The Union must above all promote research and the development of renewable energies in Asia (wood, water, waste-matter, solar energy and wind energy) while minimizing the impact on the environment and indigenous communities. Furthermore, efforts must be made to ensure maximum safety in the development of nuclear energy. At the same time, Parliament fears that the economic development of such countries will result in their large-scale production of motor vehicles and refrigerators, etc., which can be particularly damaging to the environment. Everything must therefore be done to produce goods which are greener and less harmful to the environment. As regards the diversification of energy sources, Parliament would prefer electrification (especially in rural and urban peripheral areas). Finally, Parliament calls on the Commission to draw up a Green Paper on energy cooperation in Asia in order to initiate a debate on this subject (in particular with the countries of Central Asia) and hopes that, for the attainment of these various objectives, additional funding will be provided.