Basic information

1997/0909(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
ODYSSEUS programme 1998-2002: mutual assistance concerning immigration, border controls and asylum **Subject** 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas 7.10.06 Asylum, refugees, displaced persons; Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 7.10.08 Migration policy	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	ZIMMERMANN Wilmya (PSE)	15/09/1997

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	BRINKHORST Laurens Jan (ELDR)	02/09/1997
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	PALACIO VALLELERSUNDI Ana (PPE)	23/09/1997

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2075	1998-03-19

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
09/07/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0364	Summary
15/09/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/11/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
17/11/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0366/1997	
20/11/1997	Debate in Parliament		

19/03/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
19/03/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/03/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/0909(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.8-p2 Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.3-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/4/09228

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0366/1997 OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0011	17/11/1997	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0586/1997 OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0239-0251	21/11/1997	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0364	09/07/1997	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2001)0018	08/01/2001	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Justice and Home Affairs act 1998/0244
OJ L 099 31.03.1998, p. 0002-0007

ODYSSEUS programme 1998-2002: mutual assistance concerning immigration, border controls and asylum

1997/0909(CNS) - 21/11/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mrs Wilmya ZIMMERMANN (PSE, D), the European Parliament has approved the draft joint action, stressing the need to comply with the relevant provisions of the Amsterdam Treaty and calling for: - exchange actions under the programme to be carried out in complementarity and in coordination with other Community training measures and taking into account the prevailing rules on data protection, - specialized training measures under ODYSSEUS also to target officials responsible for administrative decisions, - the programme to fund exchanges (with names withheld) of files or other documents, the processing of which would serve as an example, - research and studies on ways of improving the dissemination of information in the areas to which the programme relates, and assessment of national, Community or Union legislation in force in the fields covered by ODYSSEUS, - close cooperation regarding asylum and the procedures relating to the rights of asylum seekers, including their right to information and access to documents, - projects in the field of immigration also to cover access to employment and non-remunerated activities, combating trafficking in human beings, and combating organized crime in connection with trafficking in illegal immigrants. As regards project funding, Parliament calls for measures to be co-financed by Member States. It also amends the level of financing initially provided for by the Commission (which thus becomes co-financing). Finally, Parliament asks to be kept fully informed of the decisions on co-financing taken by the committee provided for by the programme.

ODYSSEUS programme 1998-2002: mutual assistance concerning immigration, border controls and asylum

1997/0909(CNS) - 09/07/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: joint action introducing a programme of training, exchanges and cooperation in the field of asylum, immigration and crossing of external borders. The programme (Odysseus) has the following purposes: - to develop cooperation between administrations responsible for the implementation of these policies in the Member States, - to improve mutual knowledge of working methods in this field. CONTENT: the Odysseus programme is established for a period of 5 years from 1997 to 2001 and covers not only training, exchanges and cooperation but also detection of false documents (it incorporates the Sherlock programme which deals with this subject). It concerns the fields of asylum, immigration and crossing of external borders. An annual programming of Odysseus defines the priorities for measures to be taken in consideration of the following: . Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, . the existence of current Community legislation, . the existence of legislative proposals under discussion in this field, in order to anticipate their coming into force by appropriate cooperation between administrations, . priorities set by the Council in the field of Justice and Home Affairs, . any other cooperation requirements. The general objective of the programme is to extend existing cooperation in these fields between Member States and to step up cooperation with the countries which have applied for accession. - Actions to be taken: this comprises work experience placements focusing on theoretical and practical knowledge, visits to other Member States by officials and research with a view to the use for teaching purposes of miscellaneous material, documents and databases or directories used by the administrations of the Member States. -Structure of the programme: . in the field of asylum, actions mainly concern coordinated application of the Dublin Convention determining the State responsible for examining applications for asylum and close cooperation between the competent national administrations of the Member States (particularly coordinated application of procedures and other legal instruments, conditions for reception of asylum seekers, etc.); . in the field of immigration, projects mainly concern admission of third-country nationals to the Community, conditions relating to their entry and travel within the Union, residence rules, etc. and combating illegal immigration; . in the field of crossing of external borders, actions concern the practical organisation of checks (particularly the security of identity documents). Specific subprogrammes will comprise measures involving applicant countries. - Financing criteria: projects must involve at least 3 Member States and may also involve States applying for accession. The level of Community finance is to be 60% of the cost of the actions (under certain circumstances this may be increased to 80%). -Management of the programme: the Commission is to manage the programme in accordance with the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977. It is also responsible for monitoring and evaluating projects. A draft annual programme is to be drawn up by the Commission. It will be assisted by a committee consisting of representatives of the Member States, which will mainly decide on the annual programme and on the division of the appropriations available among fields of action. - Report: a report to the European Parliament and the Council is to be drawn up annually on the action taken. - Funding: ECU 14 million (including ECU 5 million from the Sherlock programme).