Basic information

1997/2234(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA: drugs in the Union. Annual report 1997 **Subject** 4.20.03 Drug addiction, alcoholism, smoking 7.30.30.04 Action to combat drugs and drug-trafficking 8.40.08 Agencies and bodies of the EU	Procedure completed

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	SCHAFFNER Anne-Marie (UPE)	28/10/1997

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	SIERRA GONZÁLEZ Angela del Carmen (GUE/NGL)	27/11/1997
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	EISMA Doeke (ELDR)	27/11/1997

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2055	1997-12-04

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/10/1997	Non-legislative basic document published	N4-0552/1997	Summary
24/10/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
04/12/1997	Debate in Council		
23/07/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
23/07/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0294/1998	
16/09/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/10/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/2234(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	LIBE/4/09359

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0294/1998 OJ C 313 12.10.1998, p. 0008	23/07/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0468/1998 OJ C 313 12.10.1998, p. 0048-0059	16/09/1998	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
OS	Non-legislative basic document	N4-0552/1997	07/10/1997	Summary

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA: drugs in the Union. Annual report 1997

1997/2234(COS) - 16/09/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Mrs Anne-Marie SCHAFFNER (UPE, F) on the 1997 annual report of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) in accordance with Article 52 of the EP rules of procedure, the European Parliament called on the EMCDDA in the short term to step up its efforts to standardise key items of data in the area of the reduction in the demand for drugs and drug-related health risks (e.g. drug-related deaths, infection rates, crimes committed by drug addicts). It welcomed the progress made by the EMCDDA since 1995 and called on the EMCDDA to make the improvements required to develop reliable and comparable methods, data systems and key indicators without delay. It called in particular on the Member States to make every effort to ensure the comparability of data transmitted to the EMCDDA. It also called on the EMCDDA to assess the various anti-drugs strategies implemented in the Member States and to submit that assessment to Parliament as an aid to decision-making. Similarly, the Monitoring Centre should draw up common definitions and indicators with a view to carrying out a cost-benefit assessment of the drugs policies and pilot projects carried out in the various EU Member States, taking account of socioeconomic and public order aspects as well as health aspects. At the same time, it does not wish the EMCDDA report to confine itself to a presentation of the state of the drugs problem and looks for comprehensive analyses to be made available to the institutions in question in the Member States. It regards it as essential that the EMCDDA should make a start on incorporating the applicant countries and Cyprus into the Reitox network give greater publicity to the summary of its annual report. The EMCDDA should also deal with the priority areas laid down in its constituent regulation and expand the information on legal issues in its publications; to this end it should prepare a CD-ROM containing the legal provisions adopted at European level on drugs. Parliament also called for an increase in the budget of the EMCDDA and for communication between Parliament and the EMCDDA to be stepped up. Finally, it called on the EMCDDA to provide reliable and comparable statistics and data for the purposes of the forthcoming EU action plan to combat drugs.

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction EMCDDA: drugs in the Union. Annual report 1997

1997/2234(COS) - 07/10/1997 - Non-legislative basic document

SUBJECT: presentation of the annual report by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) on the state of the drug problem in the European Union (1997). SUBSTANCE: the 1997 report by the EMCDDA assesses the dimensions of the drugs problem and the measures taken by the Member States to eliminate it. Its objective is to provide decision makers and others involved with a basic set of comparable data regarding the effectiveness of the policy and practices adopted. The 1997 report is concerned with 6 particular aspects: (1) consumption: in many countries, the consumption of 'new' drugs such as ecstasy, together with crack, cocaine, cannabis and amphetamines is constantly increasing. In general, only a small minority of people who have tried the drug have become habitual users. Health problems arise mainly from the use of heroin, for example, the demand for treatment, HIV infection and drugs related deaths. Combinations of drugs including medicines and alcohol is also on the increase. (2) demand reduction: measures seeking to reduce demand generally take five forms: prevention, outreach, treatment, rehabilitation and risk reduction. Prevention is the most effective particularly when organized close to its targets (neighbourhoods, schools, local associations). (3) synthetic drugs: the use of this type of drugs (LSD, amphetamines and ecstasy) has reached unprecedented proportions in recent years with the advent of phenomena such as 'raves' and 'house parties'. Most of the consumers are young, employed or students and relatively affluent. They are not concentrated among the marginalized or deprived. While the impact of these drugs in public health terms is limited, it should not be underestimated, given the constantly increasing use of these drugs. (4) national strategies: most Member States are seeking to achieve a balanced reduction in supply and demand for drugs and achieve coordination with a view to eliminating the problem. Differences in national legislation relate mainly to the severity of punishments, the implementation of legal provisions and enforcement practices. While there is no common policy in this field, the Union is seeking to analyse drug policy divergences and convergences between Member States. The appropriations earmarked for combating drugs also vary from country to country. (5) action taken by the European Union: Union action in this area really developed in the 1990s and in 1996. It was recognized as a common problem following a number of measures taken in the field of justice and internal affairs. In addition to measures to combat money laundering, a Community programme with a budget of ECU 27 m over 5 years has been launched, together with actions in third countries. (6) international environment: It is mainly at UN level that international action in this area is situated, involving a binding legal framework including three conventions which have been ratified or signed by all the Member States.