Basic information

1998/0300(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development **Subject** 6.40.05.08 Relations with Türkiye **Geographical area** Türkiye	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	MORILLON Philippe (PPE-DE)	23/09/1999

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy	MCMILLAN-SCOTT Edward (PPE)	25/11/1998
AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy	MORILLON Philippe (PPE-DE)	23/09/1999

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	JENSEN Anne E. (ELDR)	14/10/1999
BUDG Budgets	JENSEN Anne E. (ELDR)	14/10/1999
RELA External Economic Relations	SCHWAIGER Konrad K. (PPE)	26/01/1999

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2271	2000-06-13
General Affairs	2129	1998-11-09

	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2326	2000-12-28

European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
21/10/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0600	Summary
09/11/1998	Debate in Council		
14/12/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
24/03/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
24/03/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0161/1999	
24/11/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
24/11/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0071/1999	
01/12/1999	Debate in Parliament		
02/12/1999	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0130/1999	Summary
05/04/2000	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0169	Summary
13/06/2000	Council position published	07492/1/2000	Summary
06/07/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
10/07/2000	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
10/07/2000	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0206/2000	
05/09/2000	Debate in Parliament		
06/09/2000	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0357/2000	Summary
28/12/2000	Act approved by Council, 2nd reading		
22/01/2001	Final act signed		
22/01/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/02/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0300(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation

Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 179
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/5/12833

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0161/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0007	24/03/1999	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0071/1999 OJ C 194 11.07.2000, p. 0005	24/11/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0130/1999 OJ C 194 11.07.2000, p. 0014-0048	02/12/1999	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0206/2000 OJ C 135 07.05.2001, p. 0013	10/07/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0357/2000 OJ C 135 07.05.2001, p. 0078-0154	06/09/2000	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	07492/1/2000 OJ C 240 23.08.2000, p. 0025	13/06/2000	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0600	21/10/1998	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2000)0169 OJ C 311 31.10.2000, p. 0125 E	05/04/2000	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2000)1138	30/06/2000	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(2000)0734	23/11/2000	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2001)0200	10/04/2001	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date

Final act

Regulation 2001/0257
OJ L 039 09.02.2001, p. 0001 Summary

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 13/06/2000 - Council position

The Council has adopted, without modifications, the amended proposal by the Commission. Of the 40 proposals put forward by the European Parliament, the Council has thus accepted 21 fully, 10 partly, and 9 have been rejected. The reasons for this position have been developed in the explanatory memorandum of the Commission's amended proposal. Recitals and Articles related to the financial reference amount and comitology have been reformulated in accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission, and the Council Decision of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 06/09/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting the report drafted by Mr Philippe MORILLON (EPP/ED, F), the European Parliament has adopted the Council common position with a view to the adoption of a European Parliament and Council regulation regarding the implementation of measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. However, this text was subject to amendments which aim to: - exclude the development of nuclear power, especially in earthquake zones and; - respect minorities and protect the recognition of their cultural identity and support measures seeking to abolish capital punishment. The final amendment mentions the Kurdish problem and emphasises that initiatives should be launched by cooperation in an effort to resolve this problem.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 10/04/2001 - Follow-up document

PURPOSE : to establish a report on the activities financed under Council Regulation 257/2001/EC regarding the implementation measures to promote eocnomic and social development in Turkey. CONTENT : adopted in January 2001, Council Regulation 257/2001/EC aims to implement measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. With a total budget of EUR 135 million for a period of 3 years, the Regulation aims to provide financial support for measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. Since January 2001, only one project has been established in the planned indicative programme of the Regulation. It concerns a Regional Development Programme (GAP). The EU contribution to this project is EUR 43,5 million. The overall objective of the GAP Regional Development Programme is to improve the economic and social conditions of people living in the South-East of Turkey. The programme will support national objectives such as sustained economic growth, alleviation of regional disparities, increasing productivity and employment capacity in the region. The project has three components: - SME Component: training of staff for SME centres, provision of information, advice and training in various fields (management, finance, accounting, marketing, internet trade) for start-ups and entrepreneurs and potential Turkish and foreign investors; - Rural Development Component: in the South-East region of Turkey, many rural households have a subsistence livelihood, based on primitive agriculture and animal husbandry. To reduce poverty and alleviate those adverse conditions a Rural Development and micro Credit Component will be implemented. It will enhance the geographical coverage of income-generating opportunities, rural extension and advisory services, further processing and rural marketing, credit provisions, and improved environmental awareness in the GAP region; - Cultural Heritage Development Component: the primary target of the Cultural Heritage Component is the people living in the GAP Region as well as the local government and the municipalities in charge of protecting/safeguarding and preserving the local cultural endowment and finally the Ministry of Culture, offically responsible for documentation, maintenance and enhancement of the cultural heritage. The Programme in its totality will enhance the conditions for the reduction of socio-economic disparities affecting the South-East of Turkey. It will emphasise the human dimensions of development through operations at the grass roots level. For the 2002 financial year, similar initiatives are foreseen in other poor provinces of Eastern and South-eastern Turkey. With regard to the Development Programme, it was developed during the course of 2000. A feasibility study in the region was carried out by external experts in direct co-ordination with the EC Representation in Ankara, after which a Financing Proposal was drawn up. The MED Committee, on 5 December 2000, gave unanimously a positive opinion on the proposal. It should be added that projects have not yet started. Therefore no evaluations were carried out during the reporting period. Lastly, the overall partner for the project is the GAPRegional

Development Administration, which is attached to the Prime Ministry in Turkey. The GAP Regional Development Administration coordinates a multisectoral, integrated regional development project, the South-Eastern Anatolian Project called 'GAP'. For the implementation of the SME component of the programme, the GAP administration will sign a contract with the United Nations Development Programme's Resident Representation to a Turkey (UNDP-Turkey). For the Rural Development and Micro Credit Component the GAP Administration will sign a contract with the Development Foundation of Turkey (TKV). It is an indigenous, private, NGO and non-profit development organisation that was incorporated in 1969 for promoting rural and agricultural development projects among Turkey's rural poor. This association is well placed for and fully supports the gender-balanced approach to developemnt. TKV has played a pioneering role in devising and implementing environmental awareness programmes for duplication by government agencies.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 22/01/2001 - Final act

PURSPOSE : to implement measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey in the context of closer and stronger relations between Turkey and the EU. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Regulation 257/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding the implementation of measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. CONTENT: with a budget of ECU 135 million from 2000-2002, this aid will provide support to Turkey's efforts in the areas of economic and social development. More precisely, this aid will be used in the following areas: - modernising manufacturing, improving institutional and infrastructure capacity in Turkey (environment, transport, energy); - promotion of industrial cooperation (diversification in industry and the creation of SMEs); - cooperation in telecommunications, infrastructure, rural development and social services; - boosting the capacity of the Turkish economy (restructuring of the country's public sector and private initiative); - cooperation in protecting health; - regional and cross-border cooperation; - any form of cooperation seeking to defend and promote democracy, the rule of law, human rights and the protection of minorities; - cooperation on humanitarian issues; - all forms of assistance aimed at promoting the development of relations between the European Union and Turkey. Where appropriate, measures could be taken to underpin a structural adjustment programme, taking into account Turkey's particular economic and social circumstances, possible negative impact in social and employment terms and Turkey's levels of indebtedness and unemployment. Assistance is subject to compliance with the Community democracy clause. Thus, where an essential element for the continuation of assistance to Turkey is lacking, the Council, acting by qualified majority, may decide upon appropriate measures. Assistance will be in the form of non-refundable grants for technical assistance, training or other services, supplies and works. The beneficiaries of projects and operations may include not only the Turkish state but also associations, cooperatives etc. or any non-governmental organisation or member of the civil society. A financial contribution (or contribution in kind) from the Turkish partners will be sought within their means. Opportunities for co-financing with other providers of funds may also be sought. Management of this assistance will be undertaken by the Commission, in coordination with the Member States. It will be assisted by the MED committee, set up by Regulation 1488/96/EC (MEDA regulation). The Commission shall inform the MED Committee succinctly of any financing decision it intends to take with regard to projects and programmes equal to, or less than, EUR 2 million in value. The Commission will also be responsible for the regular evaluation of the assistance and the publication of annual reports on the actions financed. An final evaluation of the assistance will be required 3 years after the entry into force of the regulation, together with suggestions regarding the future of the aid. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 12/02/2001.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 23/11/2000 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

This document constitutes an amendment to the original proposal of the Commission relating to a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding the implementation of measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. The European Parliament adopted three amendments to the common position at second reading and the Commission accepts the three amendments which relate to the following: - the exclusion of the development of nuclear power from the scope of the Regulation; - support for measures seeking to abolish capital punishment to the list of indicative areas for action; - acknowledgement of the Kurdish problem. In conclusion, the Commission draws the Council's attention to the need to change the reference period for financial assistance in the draft regulation as the earliest date for its adoption is in the last quarter of the year 2000. The Commission will therefore not be able to commit the funds in 2000. For that reason, the financial reference reflecting the legislative authority's wishes should be EUR 135 million for the period 2001-2003.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 21/10/1998 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: to implement measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey in the context of closer and stronger relations between Turkey and the EU. CONTENT: with a budget of ECU 135 million for a 3-year period (1999-2001), this aid will provide support to Turkey's efforts in the areas of economic and social development. More precisely, this aid will be used in the following areas: - modernising manufacturing, improving institutional and infrastructure capacity in Turkey (environment, transport, energy); - promotion of industrial cooperation (diversification in industry and the creation of SMEs); - cooperation in telecommunications, infrastructure, rural development and social services; - boosting the capacity of the Turkish economy (restructuring of the country's public sector and private initiative); - cooperation in protecting health; - regional and cross-border cooperation; - any form of cooperation seeking to defend and promote democracy, the rule of law, human rights and the protection of minorities; - cooperation on

humanitarian issues; - all forms of assistance aimed at promoting the development of relations between the European Union and Turkey. Where appropriate, measures could be taken to underpin a structural adjustment programme, taking into account Turkey's particular economic and social circumstances, possible negative impact in social and employment terms and Turkey's levels of indebtedness and unemployment. Assistance is subject to compliance with the Community democracy clause. Thus, where an essential element for the continuation of assistance to Turkey is lacking, the Council, acting by qualified majority, may decide upon appropriate measures. Assistance will be in the form of non-refundable grants for technical assistance, training or other services, supplies and works. The beneficiaries of projects and operations may include not only the Turkish state but also associations, cooperatives etc. or any non-governmental organisation or member of the civil society. A financial contribution (or contribution in kind) from the Turkish partners will be sought within their means. Opportunities for co-financing with other providers of funds may also be sought. Management of this assistance will be undertaken by the Commission, in coordination with the Member States. It will be assisted by the MED committee set up by Regulation 1488/96/EC (MEDA regulation). The projects financed will be selected by the Commission on the basis of a number of criteria, the most important of which are the effectiveness and viability of operations and equal opportunities for men and women. The necessary measures will be taken to emphasise the Community character of the aid provided. The Commission will also be responsible for the regular evaluation of the assistance and the publication of annual reports on the actions financed. An final evaluation of the assistance will be required 3 years after the entry into force of the regulation, together with suggestions regarding the future of the aid.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 02/12/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The Parliament adopted the report of Mr. Philippe MORILLON (EPP, F) on the Commission's proposal regarding measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey. The Parliament adopted a number of amendments, the most important of which are: - a reference in the recital to the 1997 Luxembourg Council's confirmation that Turkey was eligible to accede to the EU; - a reference to the Council's decision on 13/09/1999 allocating funds to Turkey; - a reference to the need for Turkey to ensure the sound management of public affairs and the closer involvement of civil society in that process; - reference to a number of resolutions adopted by the Parliament concerning the importance of respect for human rights in Turkey; - the amount included in this Regulation for the 2000-2002 period shall be regarded as the prime reference for the budgetary authority within the meaning of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 06.05.1999. This reference shall be part of the multiannual financial framework of the MEDA Programme. The financial framework wiull EUR 135 million for the 2000-2002 period. - the beneficiaries will also include the customs adminsitration; - a reference whereby if obstacles are placed to the implementation of projects, operations and measures, and particularly to cooperation seeking to defend and promote democracy, the rule of law, human rights and the protection of minorities, the Council, acting by qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission or the European Parliament, may decide to suspend all cooperation under this Regulation; - funding under this programme would also cover damage caused by the recent earthquakes, cooperation in the field of education and training and the protection, recognition of minorities' cultural identity and support for measuress seeking to abolish capital punishment, any form of cooperation seeking to resolve the Kurdish problem, measures to promote the social dialogue within Turkey and between Turkey and the EU, and the promotion of cooperation between public administrations with a view to the approximation of legislation and the training of staff, including customs officers; - funding would not cover the development of nuclear power, especially in earthquake zones; - special provision shall be made by the Commission to reduce the obstacles to small non-profit-making NGOs taking up grants; - on the basis of Decision 1999/468/EC, the Commission shall be assisted by a management committee composed of representative of the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission (in contrast to the MED Committee, in the Commission's original proposal); - the Commission shall submit an annual report on progress with regard to respect to democratic principles, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms and international law; - the specific contents to be covered in the report submittedby the Commission to the EP and the Council. The request of Mr. Pedro MARSET CAMPOS (GUE/NGL, Spain) for the report to be sent back to Committee was refused.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 30/06/2000 - Commission communication on Council's position

To enable the Council to adopt its common position unanimously, the Commission added the following statement : "The Commission wishes to confirm - as already indicated in the Explanatory Memorandum to its amended proposal for a Regulation - that it has no intention of setting up a nuclear power project in Turkey". None of the delegations made any objection to this statement. The Commission, therefore, supports the Council's common position.

EC/Turkey relations: implementation of measures to promote economic and social development

1998/0300(COD) - 05/04/2000 - Modified legislative proposal

The modified proposal of the Commission for a Regulation regarding the implementation of measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey, accepted 31 of the 40 amendments put forward by the EP, either fully or partially. The 21 amendments accepted and incorporated as they stood add to the Commission's recitals and consolidate and add detail to certain provisions. These fully accepted amendments mainly relate to the specific wording of different articles in the proposed regulation. 10 amendments were accepted in part. They relate to comitology, the allocation of funds to Turkey, funding allocated only in part from the MEDA programme, the economic (rather than the political) development of Turkey, the net beneficiaries of co-operation and operations (public bodies and departments), referral (replace with 'pass on') of the Commission's indicative programme to the MED Committee, the facilitation of NGOs, new comitology provisions and finally, consultation of the EP in good time before it adopts

the Budget of the EU. The 9 amendments rejected are the following: -that projects and programmes financed must further Turkey's social and political development. The Commission rejects the word 'political' on the grounds of Article 177 of the Treaty and the title of the Regulation and its fourth recital. -that Turkey is eligible for accession to the EU on the basis of the same criteria as all applicant states. The Commission rejects this on the grounds that there are no conditions attached to eligibility. The criteria applied to all applicant countries are attached to accession itself, and the beginning of the negotiating process. -the possible suspension of co-operation on account of obstacles to the implementation of certain measures, human rights and the protection of minorities for exapmle. The Commission rejects this amendment for two reasons. First, there is no legal or institutional basis for any form of EP initiative to propose to the Council that cooperation be suspended. Second, it is only logical that the provisions be the same as those for the MEDA programme, in order to avoid having more than one procedure for a single country. -that aid to Turkey supports programmes to repair damage caused by the recent earthquakes. The Commission rejects this amendment on the grounds that post-earthquake reconstrucion does not fall within the scope of the proposed regulation for Turkey. -support for measures seeking to promote human rights, protection of minority and cultural identity, among others. The Commission rejects this on the grounds that it seeks to avoid sensitive issues. -support for the resolution of the Kurdish problem. The Commission rejects this on the grounds that the original wording allows funding for operations including those targeted at the Kurds and the Kurds' relations with other Turkish citizens. -that the Commission shall submit an annual report on progress with regard to respect for democratic principles, and human rights, among others. The Commission rejects this on the grounds that it already publishes an annual 'regular report'on all the applicant countries, including Turkey. -that the Commission shall regularly evaluate operations financed by the EU in order to establish whether the objectives have been achieved and to provide guidelines for improving the effectiveness of future operations. The Commission rejects this on the grounds that amendment 36 already provides for all programming and evaluation documents to be submitted to the EP and the Council. -that infrastructure capacity be improved in a number of areas, the environment and energy for example, but excluding the development of nuclear power. The Commission rejects this amendment as seeking to exclude nuclear power from the areas of activity funded by the EU, needlessly draws attention to the Akuya affair and furthermore, the Commission has no intention of setting up a nuclear power project in Turkey.