Basic information

1998/0915(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Airport transit arrangements **Subject** 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	LEHNE Klaus-Heiner (PPE)	24/09/1998
Council of the European Union			

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/07/1998	Legislative proposal published	10225/1998	Summary
18/09/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/10/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
27/10/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0408/1998	
19/11/1998	Debate in Parliament		
01/05/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0915(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.3-p2b
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	LIBE/4/10445

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0408/1998 OJ C 379 07.12.1998, p. 0005	27/10/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0696/1998 OJ C 379 07.12.1998, p. 0372-0388	20/11/1998	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	10225/1998	16/07/1998	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Airport transit arrangements

1998/0915(CNS) - 16/07/1998 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: Joint action on airport transit arrangements SUBSTANCE: The draft joint action (TEU Article K.3) aims to harmonise arrangements for airport transit in the Member States and exceptions to the requirement for an airport transit visa. In response to the need to control illegal immigration into the EU (the air route is a convenient way in for third country nationals wishing to take up residence illegally within the territory of the Member States), the draft joint action provides for some third country nationals to be issued with an airport transit visa (ATV) when passing through the international areas of Member States' airports. The countries whose nationals will be affected by these measures are listed in an annex to the draft joint action (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ghana, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria, Somalia, Sri Lanka and the Democratic Republic of The Congo). The proposal for joint action allows the Member States to require an ATV also from nationals of countries other than those listed. The ATV is issued by the Member States under conditions determined by them. There is provision for exceptions to the requirement for an ATV for crew members of aircraft and ships, holders of diplomatic, official or service passports and holders of visas issued by a Member State or an EEA State. An ATV will not be required for holders of a residence permit issued by a Member State or an EEA State or issued by Canada, the USA, Monaco, San Marino, the Swiss Confederation, Vatican City State or Japan which guarantees an unqualified right of return. If a Member State decides to suspend these derogations, it must inform the Council immediately. It may also suspend the ATV requirement for nationals of the countries listed in the annex, but only for important reasons of national policy and for a period not exceeding six months. There are provisions to enable some Member States which wish to do so to enter into closer airport transit harmonisation than is proposed in the joint action. The Council is to draw up an annual report on progress in the harmonisation of airport transit arrangements.

Airport transit arrangements

1998/0915(CNS) - 20/11/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Klaus-Heiner LEHNE (PPE, D) on airport transit arrangements, Parliament took the view that the joint action should be replaced by a Regulation within six months after the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty. It qualified the Council's statements regarding illegal entry into Community territory by third- country nationals by air. It considered that, in implementing the draft joint action, account should be taken of the provisions of the Geneva Convention and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. In Parliament's opinion, the conditions for issuing airport transit visas should be determined jointly by the Member States. It took the view that the transit visa requirement should not impede the airport transit of persons entitled to refugee status. More information should be provided to Parliament concerning the measures taken by the Council to implement the draft joint action.