Basic information

1998/2132(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Fight against drugs: Post-1999 Union's strategy. Report, European Council of Cardiff 1998 **Subject** 7.30.30.04 Action to combat drugs and drug-trafficking	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	D'ANCONA Hedy (PSE)	23/07/1998
Council of the European Union			

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
02/06/1998	Non-legislative basic document published	07930/2/1998	Summary
13/07/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
31/03/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
31/03/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0185/1999	
12/04/1999	Debate in Parliament		
13/04/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/07/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/2132(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/4/10221

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0185/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0008	31/03/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0256/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0025-0109	13/04/1999	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	07930/2/1998	02/06/1998	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	09737/1/1998	01/09/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	09740/1/1998	01/09/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	11901/2/1998	22/10/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	12083/1/1998	14/12/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	13268/1/1998	14/12/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	14062/1998	14/12/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	12996/2/1998	22/12/1998	
Document attached to the procedure	13269/3/1998	22/01/1999	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	N4-0132/1999	01/01/1999	Summary

Fight against drugs: Post-1999 Union's strategy. Report, European Council of Cardiff 1998

1998/2132(COS) - 01/01/1999 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: annual report by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) on the state of the drugs problem in the European Union. CONTENT: the report presents key emerging trends in drug use and the resulting problems in the EU as well as an overview of the drug situation (cannabis, amphetamines, ecstacy, synthetic drugs, cocaine, heroine, medicines), accompanied by a summary of key epidemiological indicators that permit comparisons in the areas of prevalence, consequences, characteristics and patterns of demand and supply (general population surveys, demand for treatment, deaths linked to drug use, police arrests, drug use in prison, the drug market). The report notes that the trend to multiple drug use, including alcohol and diverted medicines, as well as the increasing profile of amphetamines, requires rapid and sensitive assessment and service planning that is flexible and responsive. Furthermore, the focus needs to be extended to incorporate the interpersonal, cultural and demographic substrata of both experimentation and problem substance use. Finally, the quality of data must be improved so that interventions can be more expeditiously targeted and more sensitively evaluated. The report also examines other aspects, such as: - drug demand reduction (prevention, early intervention and at-risk groups, prevention of infectious diseases, substitution and treatment programmes, criminal justice policy, specific target groups...); - the nature and extent of drug use in Central and Eastern Europe; - national strategies (legislative measures, particularly with regard to the use of cannabis); - actions taken by the European Union (eg. Community action programme on the prevention of drug dependence, early warning system on new synthetic drugs...) - international action; - analysis of public spending on drugs. Although the EMCDDA is aware of the restrictions which exist in terms of resources, progressive improvement in collection and diffusion of information (by means of a variety of methods) remains crucial in order to achieve the objective of improved communication and cooperation.

Fight against drugs: Post-1999 Union's strategy. Report, European Council of Cardiff 1998

1998/2132(COS) - 02/06/1998 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: this Council report summarises drugs-related activities under the UK Presidency and makes proposals on the key elements of a post-1999 EU drugs strategy. CONTENT: action against drugs was a priority for the UK Presidency (January-June 1998). Particular attention in this area was given to: - elaboration of the key elements of a post-1999 EU drugs strategy and priorities for 1998/1999; - coordination of the EU input to the preparations for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs; - further implementation of regional initiatives in Latin America, the Caribbean and Central Asia. Other actions were carried out within the framework of the CFSP and with a view to strengthening customs cooperation. The Council report also explains future activities in this area: 1) Priorities 1998-1999: beyond strengthening cooperation between the competent national authorities in the fight against drugs, the report indicates that the main priorities in this area include: - institutional reinforcement of the EMCCDA (European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addition); - improvement of information exchanges relating to synthetic drugs; - effective implementation of all Community programmes related to drugs; - speedy ratification of the EUROPOL Customs Information System (CIS) and Naples II Conventions; - continuing rapid implementation of the recommendations of the High Level Group on Organised Crime; - enhancing controls on precursors; - studying the positive and negative impacts of the Internet on drug misuse and the effects of illicit drugs on driving. 2) Priorities 2000-2004: beyond continuing pursuit of the aforementioned priorities and assessment of their impact, priorities post-1999 include: - ensuring a balanced approach between demand reduction and supply reduction; - in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity, ensuring the approximation of Member States' drug laws and practices; - promoting the medical and socio-economic aspects of drug abuse (RDT); - emphasising the relationship between drug abuse and social disadvantage (poverty, unemployment, crime, exclusion etc.); - recognising the importance of a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary approach; - intensifying cooperation and ensuring an effective exchange of knowledge, information and experiences between Member States on demand reduction (including working exchanges); - taking full account of the opportunities offered by the Treaty of Amsterdam in the field of public health and drugs and of the incorporation of the acquis from the Schengen Convention. Priorities are also set out at an international level, notably in relation to the candidate countries and the countries of the ALA and MED zones.

Fight against drugs: Post-1999 Union's strategy. Report, European Council of Cardiff 1998

1998/2132(COS) - 13/04/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Hedy d'Ancona (PSE,NL) on the post-1999 EU drugs strategy, the European Parliament recommends to the Council that all initiatives relating to drugs be coordinated by one Commissioner. It calls for better use to be made of the work undertaken by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and for the facilitation of significant participation by the applicant countries in its activities. More generally, the Parliament wishes to be more closely involved with projects and decisions in this area. It concurs with the proposal to encourage more effective cooperation between the police, customs and law enforcement bodies so that assets gained through crime can be confiscated. It urges that funds thus gathered should be used for programmes and projects associated with drug abuse. Noting that the Council pays hardly any attention to prevention and information as instruments for demand reduction for drugs, the Parliament recommends that, in collaboration with the EMCDDA, the Member States plan actions in these areas and that a specific strategy be drawn up to this end. Finally, it wishes to see good use of EU funds for North-South cooperation for action against drugs, so as to assess whether the stated aims are actually being achieved.