Basic information

1998/2139(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Repercussions in the case of the MED programmes **Subject** 6.40.05 Relations with the Mediterranean and southern European countries	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	FABRA VALLÉS Juan Manuel (PPE)	22/04/1998

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/06/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/10/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
29/10/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0404/1998	
16/11/1998	Debate in Parliament		
17/11/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/12/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/2139(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/10245

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0404/1998 OJ C 379 07.12.1998, p. 0005	29/10/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0652/1998 OJ C 379 07.12.1998, p. 0018-0040	17/11/1998	Summary

Repercussions in the case of the MED programmes

1998/2139(INI) - 17/11/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The repercussions of the affair of the MED programmes caused Parliament on 31 March 1998 to postpone the discharge to the Commission for the 1996 financial year. These programmes were decentralised cooperation programmes with the Mediterranean countries up to 1996. In the implementation of these programmes wrongful payments amounting to at least ECU 10 million were established (for the period 1993-1996). In adopting the report by Mr Juan FABRE VALLÉS (EPP, E) Parliament reasserted its view that it was for the national judicial authorities to decide on any criminal proceedings. It therefore called on the Commission, for the third and last time, to forward the entire file, including new additional evidence of serious irregularities, on the MED affair to the judicial authorities in Belgium, France and Italy before 1 December 1998. Should the Commission fail to respond to this request, Parliament proposed examining the possibility of forwarding to the judicial authorities everything in the file at its disposal and, in the framework of the discharge procedure for 1996, of bringing proceedings against the Commission (pursuant to Article 175 of the Treaty). Parliament was convinced that the Commission had damaged its own credibility in disciplinary proceedings and expected it to assume full responsibility. The Commission was called on to exclude from new decentralised cooperation programmes with Mediterranean countries any operators who in the past had failed to honour their co-financing obligations. It was also called on to recover in full all the amounts incorrectly paid.