Basic information

2000/0339(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Judicial cooperation: exchange programme for legal practitioners, Grotius II general and criminal **Subject** 7.40 Judicial cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	KESSLER Margot (PSE)	16/01/2001

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	WENZEL-PERILLO Brigitte (PPE-DE)	20/12/2000
JURI Legal Affairs and Internal Market	WUERMELING Joachim (PPE-DE)	06/02/2001
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	SÖRENSEN Patsy (V/ALE)	23/01/2001

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	2364	2001-06-28

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Justice and Consumers	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/12/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0828	Summary
15/01/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

20/03/2001	Vote in committee		
20/03/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0094/2001	
04/04/2001	Debate in Parliament		
05/04/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0194/2001	Summary
28/06/2001	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/06/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/07/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/0339(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M 034-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0094/2001	20/03/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0194/2001 OJ C 021 24.01.2002, p. 0257-0326 E	05/04/2001	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2000)0828	14/12/2000	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2003)0316	14/03/2003	
Follow-up document	SEC(2006)0333	07/03/2006	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2001/0512
OJ L 186 07.07.2001, p. 0001

Summary

Judicial cooperation: exchange programme for legal practitioners, Grotius II general and criminal

2000/0339(CNS) - 14/12/2000 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to present a Commission proposal for a Council decision establishing a second phase of the programme of incentives and exchanges, training and cooperation for legal practitioners (Grotius II - General and Criminal). CONTENT: On 31.12.2000, the multiannual financing programme, adopted through Joint Action on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union will expire. Against this background, Grotius II is expected to pursue the specific objectives of cooperation between legal practitioners, increasing the knowledge of the different legal and judicial systems and facilitating judicial cooperation between the Member States. The specific objectives of the programme are the following: - preparation of projects in the field of criminal judicial cooperation; - help in implementing the instruments adopted; - support for better mutual understanding on general topics of shared interest for the Member States; - local ad hoc projects with the aim of improving cooperation on the ground; - setting up networks between certain organisations and professions. Grotius II is renewed for the period 01.01.2001 to 31.12.2002 and may be extended beyond that date. The main provisions in the proposed Council decision relate to access to the programme, activities, implementation, manangement and its evaluation. With regard to the financing of the programme, the annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspective. The proportion of financial support from the Community budget shall not exceed 70% of the cost of the project. In certain cases however, measures can be financed to 100%, up to a ceiling of 10% of the total financial package allocated annually to the programme for each of the two categories. The financial reference amount for the implementation of the programme for the period 2001 to 2002 shall be EUR 4 million. Furthermore, the Commission shall undertake each year an evaluation of the actions carried out in implementing the programme for the previous year. In conclusion, each year the Commission shall report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the programme. The first report shall be presented before 31.07.2002.

Judicial cooperation: exchange programme for legal practitioners, Grotius II general and criminal

2000/0339(CNS) - 28/06/2001 - Final act

PURPOSE : to establish a second phase of the programme of incentives and exchanges, training and cooperation for legal practitioners. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2001/512/JHA establishing a second phase of the programme of incentives and exchanges, training and cooperation for legal practitioners (Grotius II Criminal). CONTENT : this Decision establishes, for general and criminal matters, the second phase of the Grotius cooperation programme. The programme is hereby renewed for the period from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002. The programme shall contribute to the general objective of provising citizens with a high level of protection in an area of freedom, security and justice. Within this framework, it i intended to stimulate mutual knowledge of legal and judicial systems and to facilitate general judicial and criminal cooperation between the Member States. The specific objectives of the programme are: - a preparation of projects in the field of criminal judical cooperation; - help implementing the instrument adopted; - support for better mutual understanding on general topics of shared interest for the Member States; - local ad hoc projects with the aim of improving cooperation on the ground; - setting up networks between certain organisations and professions. The applicant countries may participate in projects in order to familiarise themselves with the Union acquis in this area and help them prepare for accession. With regard to the financing of the programme, the financial reference amount for the implementation of this programme for the period 2001 to 2002 shall be EUR 4 million. As regards to the implementation of the programme, the Commission shall be responsible for the management and implementation of the programme, in cooperation with the Member States. Lastly, the Commission shall undertake each year an evaluation of the actions carried out in implementing the programme for the previous year. The Commission shall report each year to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the programme. The first report shall be presented before 31 July 2002. ENTRY INTO FORCE : the Decision shall take effect from 07/07/2001. It shall apply until 31 December 2002.

Judicial cooperation: exchange programme for legal practitioners, Grotius II general and criminal

2000/0339(CNS) - 07/03/2006

This Commission staff working document consists of a report on the ex post evaluation of Grotius II, Oisin II, Stop II, Falcone and Hippokrates Programmes and the interim evaluation of the AGIS Programme.

To recall, since January 2003, the five former Programmes established under Title VI (Grotius, Oisin, Stop, Falcone and Hippokrates), that ran from 1996 until 2002, were brought together into a single Programme - the AGIS Framework Programme (2003-2007).

The main objectives of this document are as follows:

- to present a summary of the main results and conclusions of this evaluation;
- to assess the main recommendations;
- to present concrete proposals for the next programming period and, notably, to draw conclusions relevant to the implementation of the Programmes that are to replace the AGIS Programme.

The Commission has already presented to the Council and the European Parliament proposals for Programmes to replace the AGIS Programme (the Security Programme and, to some extent, the Justice Programme) in the next programming period. It must be underlined that the recommendations both general and specific that are discussed in this paper can be fully implemented under the new legal framework.

As regards the former Title VI Programmes, the ex post evaluation was centred on the last 2 years of implementation – 2001 and 2002. The evaluation exercise therefore focused on STOP II, Oisin II and Grotius II, which are the so-called second generation of Programmes, as well as in Hippokrates (2001/2002) and Falcone (2001/2002).

In the case of the interim evaluation of the AGIS Programme, the analysis focused on the 2 first years of implementation – 2003 and 2004**,** where a majority of grant-aided projects was still ongoing.

In geographical terms, the study covered all the countries that participated in the Programme - Member States (then 15), candidate countries (now the new 10 Member States) and third countries.

The main overall conclusions of the evaluation are as follows:

- the former Title VI programmes as well as the AGIS programme have been useful programmes that have made a very positive contribution to increasing knowledge, understanding and trust among target groups, which are crucial factors for increasing cross-national co-operation in the area, and ultimately to creating an area of justice, freedom and security;
- all programmes have led to the implementation of effective projects that in most cases would not have existed without the financial support of the programmes, or would have existed in a different format, where less focus would have been on the transnational aspects. While most stakeholders recognise the need and the benefits arising from transnational co-operation projects, there are few alternative funding opportunities that allow similar projects to take place;
- the transnational element is strong in most of the projects that have been implemented. It has, however, been more predominant or better integrated under the AGIS programme, as compared to the former Title VI programmes. The main explanation for this could be the strengthened requirements concerning partnerships;
- the programmes have led to the creation and strengthening of many formal and informal networks and this can be said to be one of their main merits. For the former Title VI programmes, it can be concluded that sustainable benefits do arise from these networks and that networks are generally found to be useful beyond the scope and lifetime of projects.
- the programmes were generally not found to be demand driven, in the sense that policy priorities and objectives do not determine the portfolio of projects. Objectives are broad and not clearly prioritised, allowing applicants to claim that most of their ideas match the programme objectives. Rather than being EU demand driven, most projects are thus supply driven, resulting from the specific interest of possible promoters;
- related to the previous point, Member States (programme committees) generally play a limited role in the formulation of specific objectives for annual work programmes, despite a specific AGIS Committee meeting every year being devoted to an examination of the annual work programme. Instead, the role of Member States' representatives in the committees is mainly found to be as advocates for national interests in the selection of particular projects.

The report concludes that the aim of the external evaluation and, even more so, of this paper is to feed into the implementation of the remainder of the AGIS Programme as well as the new programmes after 2006. The proposals from the Commission for new programmes from 2007 are compatible with the conclusions and recommendations of this document, as the former set quite a broad legislative framework and the latter pertain more to the policy use of the programmes and their implementation mechanisms.

As concerns the specific recommendations on implementing mechanisms, there is no doubt that they have to be applied during the next programming period.

Furthermore, the selection criteria for objectives and priority areas for the funding programmes need to be defined and agreed by all involved in the management of the programme. It is clear that founding documents, such as the Hague Programme and Action Plan, provide commonly agreed overall political objectives, which then need to be translated into concrete milestones for programme implementation. It is suggested that this is an iterative process between the Commission and the relevant management structures of the programmes, once views from relevant stakeholders have been collected and integrated.

In conclusion, all-embracing programmes as they currently exist would give way to much more specific ones, with outcomes, results and eventually impacts being more systematically disseminated and monitored.

Judicial cooperation: exchange programme for legal practitioners, Grotius II general and criminal

2000/0339(CNS) - 05/04/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament voted to endorse the report by Mrs Margot KESSLER (PES, D) concerning a Commission proposal to establish a second phase for the crime prevention training programme Grotius. However, the Parliament is calling for the incorporation of this programme into a single framework programme which will also include the Oisin and Stop programmes instead of waiting another two years as proposed by the Commission. (Please refer to the previous document).