Basic information	
2000/2123(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Enlargement and regional policy **Subject** 8.20.26 Enlargement's regional point of view	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/07/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/09/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0250/2000	
04/10/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0417/2000	
04/10/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
22/06/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2123(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	RETT/5/12789

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0250/2000 OJ C 178 22.06.2001, p. 0008	14/09/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0417/2000 OJ C 178 22.06.2001, p. 0068-0112	04/10/2000	Summary

Enlargement and regional policy

2000/2123(INI) - 04/10/2000

The European Parliament, having regard to the contributions of the Committee on Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism, recalls that the European Union must respond appropriately to an elargement which will increase considerably the number of disadvantaged regions. Therefore, the Commission

is called upon to revise the criteria governing the award of structural aid with the aim of ensuring that both the candidate countries and the current Member States receive appropriate support for their disadvantaged regions. As for the candidate countries, they are urged to press on with the process of decentralisation and regionalisation and to continue regional cooperation, with due account taken of the development and strengthening of local authorities. Consequently, the Commission is called upon to launch interregional and crossborder cooperation. Furthermore, candidate countries must therefore strengthen the administrative capacities with responsibility for regional policy implementation and to step up preparatory training and knowledge transfer. With regard to the financial perspective, the European Parliament expresses its concern that the existing financial perspective is not sufficient to meet the challenges of regional policy and economic and social cohesion arising from an enlarged Union. Therefore, the Parliament calls on the Commission to submit an annual progress report to the European Parliament and the Council, drawn up on a regional basis, outlining whether or to what extent funding has been properly used in the enlargement countries. Finally, the Parliament urges the Commission to scrutinise critically the implementation of the pre-accession programmes in particular ISPA. In addition, the Commisison should analyse the impact of enlargement on employment, cohesion and economic migration.