Basic information

2000/2244(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Agreement EU/Croatia: negociations for a stabilisation and association agreement **Subject** 6.40.03 Relations with South-East Europe and the Balkans **Geographical area** Croatia	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	BALTAS Alexandros (PSE)	12/07/2000

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
External Relations	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
24/05/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0311	Summary
23/10/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/11/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
28/11/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0364/2000	
12/12/2000	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0562/2000	Summary
13/12/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		

17/08/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2244(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	AFET/5/12802

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0364/2000 OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0008	28/11/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0562/2000 OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0080-0184	13/12/2000	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2000)0311	24/05/2000	Summary

Agreement EU/Croatia: negociations for a stabilisation and association agreement

2000/2244(COS) - 13/12/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The resolution by Mr Alexandros BALTAS (PES, GR) was adopted by the European Parliament by 510 votes to 7 with 22 abstentions. (Refer to the previous document).

Agreement EU/Croatia: negociations for a stabilisation and association agreement

2000/2244(COS) - 24/05/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to report on the feasibility of negotiating a Stablisation and Association Agreement with the Republic of Croatia. CONTENT : the Commission communication of 26 May 1999 established a new framework for closer relations between the EU and the countries of South-Eastern Europe, to be developed through a progressive approach adapted to the specific situation of each country. This new context provides for a wide-ranging partnership, notably through a new category of agreements, the Stabilisation and Association Agreements (SAA). The opening of negotiations for a SAA depends upon the compliance by the specific country with the relevant political and economic conditions. Furthermore, it was decided that prior to considering the opening of negotiations for such an agreement, the Commission would report on the feasibility of this step. This report presents the recent political and economic developments in the Republic of Croatia and assesses the state of play in all sectors of possible cooperation with a

view to the opening up of a SAA. Although Croatia has managed to make significant progress, reforms are still required with regard to the political and economic aspects in areas such as democratic and institutional reform, and economic stabilisation and reform, the perspective of a future Stabilisation and Association agreement will depend on its capacity to fulfil its obligations under this new type of contractual basis. This will include political dialogue, regional cooperation; trade in goods; approximation legislation; cooperation in home and justice affairs and financial cooperation. Overall, in light of these considerations the Commission concludes that the new Government is committed to full democratisation and long-term stabilisation of the country and has already started serious work in finding appropriate solutions to earlier political shortcomings. These developments foster compliance with EU conditionality for enhanced relations within the framework of the Stabilisation and Association process. Substantial progress can be reported in politically sensitive areas such as refugee and displaced people return, full cooperation with International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, improved regional cooperation and democratisation of the media. Political stability will need to continue this important reform process. Furthermore, the first encouraging steps in the economic sector have also been taken, although the Croatian economy continues to face problems. As far as technical issues are concerned Croatia has started progressive harmonisation with European standards and has the capacity to ultimately fulfil the obligations of a future Stabilisation and Association Agreement. However, major efforts of further rapprochement with the EC acquis will be needed. These efforts should focus initially on full implementation of necessary refoms in trade related sectors of the internal market. On the basis of this report and in particular taking into account the considerable progress noted under the new Croatianleadership, the Commission considers that the conditions for the opening of negotiations for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the Republic of Croatia are met. Therefore, the Commission recommends to the Council to authorise the opening of the negotiations and will shortly present a proposal for negotiating directives for an Agreement with Croatia.