## Basic information

| | |
|---|---|
| **2001/0801(CNS)**<br><br>CNS - Consultation procedure<br>Recommendation | Procedure completed |
| Public health: drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents.<br>Recommendation<br><br>**Subject**<br><br>4.20.03 Drug addiction, alcoholism, smoking | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy | STIHLER Catherine (PSE) | 24/01/2001 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | |
| CULT Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport | ZISSENER Sabine (PPE-DE) | 25/01/2001 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| Health | 2319 | 2000-12-14 |
| Health | 2354 | 2001-06-05 |

### European Commission

| Commission DG | Commissioner |
|---|---|
| Health and Food Safety | |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27/11/2000 | Legislative proposal published | COM(2000)0736 | Summary |
| 14/12/2000 | Debate in Council | | |
| 18/01/2001 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 25/04/2001 | Vote in committee | | Summary |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 25/04/2001 | Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | A5-0150/2001 | |
| 15/05/2001 | Debate in Parliament |  | |
| 16/05/2001 | Decision by Parliament | T5-0263/2001 | Summary |
| 01/06/2001 | Modified legislative proposal published | COM(2001)0310 | Summary |
| 05/06/2001 | Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament | | |
| 05/06/2001 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 16/06/2001 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

## Technical information

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|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 2001/0801(CNS) |
| **Procedure type** | CNS - Consultation procedure |
| **Procedure subtype** | Legislation |
| **Legislative instrument** | Recommendation |
| **Legal basis** | EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 000 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | ENVI/5/14285 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | | A5-0150/2001 | 25/04/2001 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading | | T5-0263/2001<br>OJ C 034 07.02.2002, p. 0168-0222 E | 16/05/2001 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legislative proposal | COM(2000)0736 | 27/11/2000 | Summary |
| Modified legislative proposal | COM(2001)0310 | 01/06/2001 | Summary |

## Additional information

| Source | Document | Date |
|---|---|---|
| European Commission | EUR-Lex | |

Final act

EP/Council Recommendation 2001/0458
OJ L 161 16.06.2001, p. 0038 Summary

# Public health: drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. Recommendation

2001/0801(CNS) - 27/11/2000 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to present a proposal for a Council Recommendation on the drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. CONTENT : the proposed Council recommendation clearly sets out what Member States should do in order to formulate strategies and take actions to address the problems in their countries due to the inappropriate consumption of alcohol by children and adolescents. Firstly, Member States must strengthen efforts to develop and implement appropriate comprehensive health promotion policies targeted at children, adolescents and their parents, teachers and carers at local, national and European level. Member States must also: - strengthen and support efforts to develop and implement health promotion programmes in schools, to appropriately include the alcohol issue, taking into account existing experiences, for instance the concept of health promotion in schools; - support measures to raise awareness of the effects of alcoholic drinking, in particular on children and adolescents; - encourage youth organisations, sports organisations and other local community initiatives to include and integrate health education in relation to alcohol within their programmes of activitiy; - encourage the producers of alcohol beverages in their efforts to develop specific training for servers and sales persons with regard to the protection of children and adolescents; - encourage the production of advisory materials for parents to help them discuss alcohol issues with their children; - further develop initiatives addressed to the young people on the dangers of drink-driving; - take strict enforcement action as a matter of priority against the sale of alcohol to underage customers; - foster a multi-sector approach, to educating young people about the use and abuse of alcohol; - produce and disseminate and use evidence based information on the factors which motivate children to start drinking at a worrying level; - support the development of specific approaches on early detection and brief interventions concerning young people being alcohol dependent. With regard to good codes of conduct, the Member States should: - strengthen the enforcement of regulatory control with regard to the promotion, marketing and retailing of alcoholic beverages; - seek the agreement of manufacturers and retailers to apply the same high level of responsibility and standards with respect to marketing and promotion and retailing in Member States; - establish cooperation with producers and retailers of alcoholic beverages; - ensure that alcoholic beverages are not designed or promoted to appeal to children or adolescents; - create a system for ensuring the removal of products, which offend a code of conduct, from sale, and the cessation of inappropriate marketing or promotional practices.

# Public health: drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. Recommendation

2001/0801(CNS) - 16/05/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament approved the report by Mrs Catherine STIHLER (PES, UK) (by 445 votes for, 63 against and 21 abstentions) on the drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. Overall, the Parliament welcomed the Council's proposals, with a large number of amendments to beef up the draft recommendations, including: - systematic training for school nurses and doctors so they recognise psychological problems in children and adolescents; medical practioners to be made more aware of the most effective methods for combatting alcohol abuse; - retailers of alcoholic drinks to be made to share the responsibility for protecting young people, and in particular to be responsible for observing licensing restrictions on the sale of alcohol to young people; - underage consumers not to be targeted with misleading brand names or packaging; - soft drinks not to be more expensive than beer; - television advertising rules on alcoholic drinks to be harmonised throughout Europe; - visible information and warnings about alcoholic drinks to be displayed in sales areas, particularly supermarkets. Moreover, it should be added that there is a need t opromote efforts to use the potential of sport and the competitive spirit to combat alcohol abuse which is the fashion among young people and to promote healthy lifestyles. The report also requires the appropriate authorities, responsible for safety in pools, lakes rivers and at the sea side, to include in their warning notices to swimmers the dangers of swimming after consuming alcohol.

# Public health: drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. Recommendation

2001/0801(CNS) - 01/06/2001 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission has accepted in full the amendments relating to: - the new wording proposed which is more explicit and reflects the statements of the Commission's communication on road safety; - highlighting the need to promote research and data collection. It also makes sense to underline the need to enable young people to make informed choices and in this context to also mention the regional level; - the addition of the statement "support the study of alcohol consumption as one of the health determinaints on the basis of which the consequences at local, national, regional and Community level could be assessed and encourage in the content the development of data banks to address systematically all relevant issues with regard to

alcohol and health"; - student organisations should indeed be mentioned in the proposal together with youth and sport organisations; peer pressure, parental abuse and lack of self-esteem are important areas if concern; to help to eliminate negative images associated with alcohol-free alternatives is a valid aim; - strengthen the role of young people.

# Public health: drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents. Recommendation

2001/0801(CNS) - 05/06/2001 - Final act

PURPOSE : to adopt a Recommendation on the drinking of alcohol by young people, in particular children and adolescents. COMMUNIY MEASURE : Council Recommendation 2001/458/EC on the drinking of alcohol by young people, in particular children and adolescents. CONTENT : the text recommends that in formulating their strategies and taking action in the framework of a common approach across the Community, with the respect to young people and consumption of alcohol, Member States, with the support as appropriate of the Commission should inter alia: - promote research into all the different aspects of problems associated with alcohol consumption by young people, and disseminate to interested parties evidence-based information on the factors which motivate young people to start drinking; - support measures to raise awareness of the effects of alcohol drinking and foster a multi-sectoral approach to educating young people about alcohol, in order to help prevent the negative consequences of its consumption; - increase young people's involvement in youth health-related policies and actions; - further develop specific initiatives addressed to young people on the dangers of drink-driving; - take action as a matter of priority against the illegal sale of alcohol to underage consumers and, where appropriate, require a proof of age; - support notably the development of specific approaches on early detection consequent interventions at preventing young people becoming dependent. Member States should also: - encourage in cooperation with the producers and the retailers of alcoholic beverages and relevant non-governmental organisations, the establishment of effective mechanisms in the fields of promotion, marketing and retailing, to - ensure that producers do not produce alcoholic beverages specifically targeted at children and adolescents; - ensure that alcoholic beverages are not designed or promoted to appeal to children or adolescents; - develop specific training for servers and sales persons with regard to the protection of children and adolescents and with regard to existing licensing restrictions on the sale of alcohol to young people; - allow manufacturers to get pre-launch advice, in advance of marketing a product or investing in a product, as well as on marketing campaigns before their actual launch; - ensure that complaints against products which are not being marketed in accordance with the principles set out in the recommendation can be effectively handled, and that such products can be removed from sale and the relevant inappropriate marketing or promotional practices can be brought to an end; - urge the representative producer and trade organisations of alcoholic beverages to commit themselves to observe the principles described above.