Basic information

2001/2036(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Fight against fraud and protection of the Communities' financial interests. Annual report 1999 **Subject** 8.70.04 Protecting financial interests of the EU against fraud	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	CONT Budgetary Control	BÖSCH Herbert (PSE)	05/12/2000
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)		

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
08/11/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0718	Summary
27/02/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
27/02/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0078/2001	
28/02/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/03/2001	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0140/2001	Summary
14/03/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/12/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/2036(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	CONT/5/13987

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0078/2001	27/02/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0140/2001 OJ C 343 05.12.2001, p. 0106-0187	14/03/2001	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2000)0718	08/11/2000	Summary

Fight against fraud and protection of the Communities' financial interests. Annual report 1999

2001/2036(COS) - 14/03/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament voted to adopt the resolution drafted by Mr Herbert BÖSCH (PES, A) on the Commission's annual report on the protection of the Communities' financial interests and the fight against fraud. (Please refer to the previous document). It should also be noted that the European Parliament calls on the Commission once more to make proposals, on the basis of Aricle 280 of the current Treaty, which would allow for the early appointment of a European Public Prosecutor whose jurisdiction would be limited - initially - to criminal offences committed against the EU's financial interests by members and employees of the EU institutions and who would have the task of heading the relevant OLAF investigations. The Commission's proposals should also cover issues including cooperation between the EU institutions and national judicial authorities and the use of OLAF's powers to bring proceedings. Moreover, the House also welcomed the fact that a number of Member States had now joined the action being brought by the Commission against the big American tobacco companies. In view of the differences that exist between Member States on ways of notifying irregularities and frauds, the Commission is urged to develop a standard methodology which classifies irregularities by degrees of gravity, in order to obtain a precise picture of the extent of the problems to be resolved. Lastly, Parliament should have ready access to OLAF reports in order that it can carry out its tasks of monitoring and controlling the budget.

Fight against fraud and protection of the Communities' financial interests. Annual report 1999

2001/2036(COS) - 08/11/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the 1999 annual report from the Commission on protecting the Communities' financial interests and the fight against fraud.
CONTENT : 1999 marked an important milestone, and establishing the new Anti-Fraud Office was a major priority for the Commission that meant not only assigning staff but also laying down a new anti-fraud strategy aiming to forge closer partnership with the Member States. This report for 1999 not only gives an account of OLAF's "non-operational" activities but, like previous reports, records the measures taken by other Commission Directorates-General adn services to protect Community financial interests and crack down on fraud. As in the previous years this report makes a distinction between "fraud" and "irregularities" on the basis of the Member States' regulation reporting activities. Broadly speaking, the rate of established or suspected frauds and irregularities is comparable to previous years. The only significant new trends, in terms of cases reported and amounts involved, concerned structural measures (Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund); this reflects greater efforts made by the Member States to inspect and detect. The report sets out the main events of 1999, highlighting recent trends whereever possible. First, there is a presentation of the reforms of anti-fraud strategy and of developments in the horizontal legal arsenal (first and third pillars) for the protection of the Community's financial interests, referring particularly to protecting the euro against counterfeiting, in the sectoral regulations (own resources, customs and indirect taxation, agricultural and structural expenditure, and direct expenditure administered by the Commission and in cooperation with the Member States and non-member countries, including the candidate countries. The report also contains a chapter which describes the current position regarding protection of the Community's

financial interests in terms of Article 280 of the EC Treaty and lays the basis for a new modus operandi within existing structures (e.g. Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Fraud Prevention) to be established in 2001, in time for the next report.