Basic information

2002/2057(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Euro-Mediterranean relations: meeting of Foreign Ministers, 22-23 April 2002, Valencia **Subject** 6.40.05 Relations with the Mediterranean and southern European countries	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	ESTEVE Pere (ELDR)	28/05/2001

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
13/02/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	SEC(2002)0159	Summary
14/03/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/03/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
19/03/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0087/2002	
10/04/2002	Debate in Parliament		
11/04/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0178/2002	Summary
11/04/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/05/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2002/2057(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/5/16013

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0087/2002	19/03/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0178/2002 OJ C 127 29.05.2003, p. 0593-0644 E	11/04/2002	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	SEC(2002)0159	13/02/2002	Summary

Euro-Mediterranean relations: meeting of Foreign Ministers, 22-23 April 2002, Valencia

2002/2057(COS) - 11/04/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament approved a resolution drafted by Pere ESTEVE (ELDR, Spain) for the meeting of Euro-Mediterranean foreign ministers in Valencia on 22 April on the Barcelona Process. (Please refer to the document dated 19/03/02). Members proposed a reinforced Euro-Mediterranean political dialogue on subjects which should include the new ESDP, in the context of mutual security; conflict prevention; the threat of terrorism; the promotion of democracy; the fight against poverty; maritime and transport safety and drug-trafficking. Parliament deplored the serious violations of human rights observed in various partners in the Barcelona Process particularly those countries where the human rights situation had worsened after the signing of the relevant association agreement. It pointed out the incongruent situation where borders are closed between certain Mediterranean partners, since this goes against the spirit of the Process, which is seeking to establish a genuine free trade area. The MEDA programme should encourage initiatives to promote structural reforms in the economies of the partner countries in order to make these economies more complementary and encourage particularly trade in agriculture and energy. Parliament went on to call for the swift implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean regional water programme, which, with MEDA funding, should improve the management of drinking water resources, and irrigation management. On the Middle East conflict, it is vital for all the Mediterranean partners and the EU to be more closely involved with efforts to find solutions, given the potential of the Barcelona Process as a special instrument for dialogue and cooperation between the Union and the countries of the southern and eastern Mediterranean. With regard to the institutional arrangements, an annual summit of heads of state and governments is proposed, as a forum for debate and political impetus at the highest level. There should also be established a Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, which could operate in plenary assembly and in JPCs. A Euro-Mediterranean regional MEDA-LOCUS programme should be launched, to encourage cooperation at all levels between administrations, local bodies and civil society in line with the ropsoials put forward in the Euromed Pact in February 2002.

Euro-Mediterranean relations: meeting of Foreign Ministers, 22-23 April 2002, Valencia

2002/2057(COS) - 13/02/2002 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present a communication on the preparation of the Euro-Mediterranean Foreign ministers meeting in Valencia, 22-23 April 2002. CONTENT : the Ministerial meeting in Valencia takes place at a crucial time in Euro-Mediterranean relations. On the eve of decisions on the next enlargement of the Union, and following the turmoil caused by the events of 11 September 2001, the partners need to give a clear political signal of their mutual commitment to build a zone of stability and prosperity by deepening and strengthening the partnership begun at Barcelona in 1995. The Commission proposes the following recommendations be integrated in an Action Plan to be agreed at the meeting of Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers in Valencia in April 2002, based on the following elements: 1) Political security : - Ministers should reaffirm their strong commitment to deepening their political relationship. The political dialogue should be strengthened possibly through holding meetings at the level of Political Directors between the annual Foreign Ministers' meetings; - Ministers should stress their determination to enhance their work together to improve respect for human rights and democracy, on the basis of internationally agreed commitments and agree on a concrete set of actions to ensure progress in these fields; - Ministers should send a clear signal of their solidarity in the fight against terrorism and agree a series of concrete measures. 2) Freedom, Justice and Governance : - partners should finalise discussions and conclude a framework agreement providing for concrete co-operation measures on freedom, justice and governance focussing on judicial co-operation; the fight against drug trafficking; organised crime and terrorism; and dealing with matters related to migration, notably in the fight against illegal immigration, the equal treatment of legally established migrants and the facilitation of travel for those on normal business. 3) Social, Cultural and Human : - Ministers should agree in Valencia to create a Euro-Mediterranean Foundation to promote a dialogue between cultures and civilisations in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The Foundation would be funded by contributions from Member States, the Commission and Mediterranean partners. Ministers should also agree to the early adoption of proposals for participation in the Tempus programme. Preparations for participation should be undertaken during 2002 to ensure the success of the first call for proposals to be launched by the end of 2002. 4) Civil Society : - Ministers should agree to propose an analysis of the most cost-effective way of supporting and ensuring the further involvement of civil society at the earliest possible stage in the development of the partnership. 5) Economic and Financial : - Ministers should welcome the major progress made towards the establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean free trade area and recognise that its creation is now irreversible; - They should express strong political support to the Agadir Declaration as a key initiative towards liberalising South-South trade and achieving closer economic integration; the EU shouldconfirm its willingness to help the partners to conclude an agreement between them, if possible in the first half of 2002; - Ministers should welcome the technical decisions taken in the field of trade (rules of origin) which will strengthen regional integration among the Mediterranean partners and open further prospects for co-operation among enterprises in the partners and those in the EU and the rest of Europe; - Ministers should call for further efforts to achieve reciprocal liberalisation of trade in agricultural products. The Commission will shortly present a Communication on the creation of a new financial facility or European/international bank. Ministers should consider the recommendations contained in that Communication at their meeting in Valencia. - Ministers should support the development of regional strategies to link key infrastructures in the areas of transport, energy and telecommunications; - Ministers should stress the importance of national sustainable development strategies and should endorse the need to development environmental integration strategies for the different sectoral priorities of the partnership. 6) Institutional Agreements : - EU Member States should seek to find ways of accelerating ratification procedures for Association Agreements with the aim of completing ratification within a two year period; - The role of the Euro-Mediterranean Committee as the steering Committee for the partnership develops further in the association process, the Committee should focus its work more closely on acquis related business; - The dialogue on economic policy should be strengthened at both bilateral and regional levels.