Basic information

2002/2146(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Research and technological development (RTD): activities of the Union. Annual report 2001 **Subject** 3.50.01 European research area and policy	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	PIÉTRASANTA Yves (V /ALE)	04/06/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	DYBKJÆR Lone (ELDR)	10/07/2002

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Research and Innovation	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/02/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2001)0756	Summary
01/07/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
03/12/2002	Vote in committee		
03/12/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0428/2002	
17/12/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0606/2002	Summary
17/12/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/02/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/2146(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	ITRE/5/16359

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0428/2002	03/12/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0606/2002 OJ C 031 05.02.2004, p. 0030-0096 E	17/12/2002	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2001)0756	22/02/2002	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	COM(2002)0306	02/09/2002	Summary

Research and technological development (RTD): activities of the Union. Annual report 2001

2002/2146(COS) - 17/12/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the report by Yves PIETRASANTA (Greens/EFA, France) on the Commission's 2001 annual report. Parliament noted that the framework programme had effectively contributed to the development of the European Union and hoped that the international role of Community research would be included among the objectives of the European research area, with particular reference to developing countries. The beneficial elements of the framework programme should be retained, since they can make a substantial contribution to the three main aspects of sustainable development: the environmental, economic and social. Parliament asked the Commission to provide information concerning the mapping of scientific excellence in Europe. Parliament stressed the significant role of the JRC under the sixth framework programme and the need to strengthen working relations between the European Parliament and the JRC. It pointed to the importance of the JRC's activities for public security, environmental and health protection, and protection against fraud, emphasising the development of alternatives to animal testing, the safety and quality of foodstuffs, and the monitoring of networks of excellence and integrated projects. The European Parliament highlighted the crucial importance of a gender perspective in the field of research and technological development. The serious under-representation of women in research positions demonstrates that the EU is still far from being able to use its human resources properly and, hence, from attaining its stated objective of becoming the 'most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world', as set out in the Lisbon Strategy. It regretted that women occupy only one in eight executive and leading positions in the academic world and urged Member States, to take action, including positive action, where necessary, with a view to attaining the preliminary goal of at least 40% female representation in all fields related to public research. The Commission must ensure that at least 40% of the members of the advisory groups and assessment and monitoring panels are women. Parliament went on to emphasise the huge importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all levels of the 6th framework programme, including gender training for administrators, and of setting specific targets to ensure that women researchers are equally represented in EU-supported research projects and programmes.

Research and technological development (RTD): activities of the Union. Annual report 2001

2002/2146(COS) - 22/02/2002 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the 2001 Annual Report on the research and technological development activities of the EU. CONTENT : This annual report covers a period which marked a turning point with the launch of two major political initiatives: the discussions on creation of a European Research Area (ERA) and the preparations of the new RTD Framework Programme for 2002 to 2006. At the same time, the Fifth Framework Programme accelerated to full speed in 2000. In its communication "Towards a European Research area", the Commission drew the alarming conclusion that the EU is losing ground to its main rivals in the research and development race. With the support of the Heads of State and Government at the Lisbon summit, the Commission consulted institutions, industry and scientists on a series of courses of action to make European research more dynamic by opening up activities at regional, national and European levels and coordinating them more closely to make more efficient use of the available resources. The Commission's actions were backed by the European Parliament, the Council and other institutions and by the opinion expressed by the scientific community and industry. The first steps have already been taken towards making a reality of the ERA, with work progressing on the introduction of a Community patent, benchmarking national research and innovation policies, mapping scientific excellence in Europe, networking national research programmes, evaluating the level of mobility amongst researchers in Europe and identifying the obstacles to mobility. The measures to implement the 5th RTD Research Programme in 2000 focused mainly on adaptation of the work programmes to the objectives of creating a European Research Area, particularly by reinforcing the concerted action and thematic networks. Boosted by a substantial increase in the total value of the contracts signed (around EUR 3.9 billion), the impact of the Community's research activities is becoming tangible within the EU and relations with the associated countries and other partners are growing closer. In the thematic programmes the average Community contributions to the shared-cost actions now stands at around EUR 1 300 000 per project. Participation of SMEs is growing strongly and the proportion of women involved is moving in the right direction at all levels of research. The socio-economic impact can be measured in terms of the knowledge built up and greater institutional competitiveness. The year 2000 was also marked by the preparations for the Framework programme for RTD for 2002-2006. One major milestone was the adoption, in October 2000, of the communication "Making a reality of the European Research Area: Guidelines for EU research activities (2002-2006)", which identified the new forms which Community activities could take. It proposes that the next Framework Programme contributes to the creation of the ERA by bringing real European added value to the RTD undertaken at national and regional levels, based on three main principles: -concentrating resources on a limited number of areas; -applying new methods of intervention capable of exerting a more structuring effect on the RTD activities conducted in Europe; -simplifying and streamlining management procedures. Discussions will draw on the deliberations sparked by several documents on numerous specific aspects of the strategy for thecreation of the ERA, such as the dialogue between science and society, infrastructure and human resources, and the international and regional dimensions. The European Research Advisory Body (EURAB) will play a key role in this debate, by giving independent advice to back up the efforts to develop Europe's research policy consistently and effectively.

Research and technological development (RTD): activities of the Union. Annual report 2001

2002/2146(COS) - 02/09/2002 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

The JRC's Annual Report for 2001 indicates that the year marked the onset of a period of profound change for the JRC. It involved a stronger orientation towards its customers and users, the concentration and focusing of activities, enhanced collaboration with the Member States, the opening up and networking with other organisations, and the monitoring and benchmarking of scientific quality. The number of JRC Institutes was reduced from eight to seven. The remaining Institutes were restructured, resulting in the creation of three new ones. Several new key elements are being introduced in the JRC operation in order to reinforce its role as a provider of scientific and technological support to Community policy-making and as a catalyst for scientific and research networking and integration in Europe. They include: -building up a significant number of mobile young scientific staff who work at the JRC for limited periods of time. -enhancing training capacity and integrating research training into its work programme. Special emphasis is put on the needs of the candidate countries in designing the research training programme. -promoting transparency and simplification in administrative procedures. -promoting staff exchanges with other Commission services. JRC activities focused on the three key areas: food, chemical products and health; environment and sustainability; and nuclear safety and safeguards, which were underpinned by JRC competencies in: technical foresight; reference materials and measurements; and public security and anti-fraud. Specific activities addressed a series of major themes, including: -climate change; -combating fraud, from cybersecurity to agriculture; -emissions and air quality - avoiding impacts on health and environment; -improving GMO detection and risk assessment; -future EU strategy on safety of chemical substances; -nuclear safeguards - detecting proliferation of nuclear materials, equipment or technology form peaceful applications to military use, and combating illicit trafficking; -nuclear safety - improving management and storage; -safety and quality of the food chain; -sustainable energy; -water quality - preventing pollution. With regard to the European Research Area, the JRC's strategy encompasses networking, research and training and mobility and support to the enlargement process. Training through research has been a key component of research integration, coordination and reference. These include the high Flux Reactor in Petten, the linear accelerator in Geel, and the bio-cyclotron and the reaction wall in Ispra. The report goes on to highlight the action taken in progressing support to enlargement, in strengthening international relations, and managing technology transfer.