Basic information

2002/2212(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
External borders: integrated management of borders of the Member States of the Union **Subject** 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	PIRKER Hubert (PPE-DE)	23/05/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	05/11/2002

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Justice and Consumers	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/05/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2002)0233	Summary
24/10/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/12/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
10/12/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0449/2002	
13/01/2003	Debate in Parliament		
15/01/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0013/2003	Summary
15/01/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/02/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/2212(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/5/16838

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0449/2002	10/12/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0013/2003 OJ C 038 12.02.2004, p. 0175-0263 E	15/01/2003	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2002)0233	07/05/2002	Summary

External borders: integrated management of borders of the Member States of the Union

2002/2212(INI) - 15/01/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted an own-initiative resolution drafted by Hubert PIRKER (EPP-ED, Austria) on integrated management of the external borders of the EU. The resolution was adopted by 384 to 111 with 47 abstentions. (Please refer to the summary dated 10/12/02).

External borders: integrated management of borders of the Member States of the Union

2002/2212(INI) - 07/05/2002 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : on the management of the European Union's external borders. CONTENT : The security of the external borders of the EU is an essential subject for European citizens. The EU already possesses an exact acquis communautaire in this area, but the main difficulty is the ability to organise between Member States all the operational synergies that are necessary. Moreover, in the context of expansion, citizens recall the necessity to improve the level of enlarged security of an enlarged EU. This is now a priority question. Four major needs have to be met: -ensure mutual confidence between the Member States which have abolished checks at their internal borders and thereby facilitate movement of travellers; -increase the effectiveness of the fight against illegal immigration, and trafficking in human beings and drugs, whilst respecting the right to asylum; -combating the threats posed by terrorism; -guarantee a high level of security within the EU after enlargement, in particular after the new Member States have been authorised to implement the Schengen acquis, which will consequently have an increase in the external land borders in a regional environment which is frequently more difficult. This Communication starts by taking stock of the situation and describing the acquis and existing operational practices, so as to lead to a diagnosis of the needs of the EU in the process of expansion. On the basis of this diagnosis it proposes the development of a common policy on management of the external borders of the EU, incorporating the components which are regarded as inseparable from each other. The Commission recommends structuring projects and ensuring continuity within a common policy of integrated management of external borders. This common policy should include at least five mutually interdependent components: -a common corpus of legislation; -a common co-ordination and operational co-operation mechanism. This involves the establishment of an External borders practitioners common unit involving those responsible for border guards service in the Member States and the representatives of various services whose functions also contribute to security at external borders.

The common unit should have a steering role to carry out integrated risk analysis, co-ordinate projects on the ground, encourage major convergence in the field of the staff and the equipment, exercise an inspection function and put forward emergency operational measures. Certain measures may require Treaty amendment in due time. In the medium term, the unit should explore the need for a security procedure at external borders, consisting of establishing exchanges and processing of information between the authorities concerned with security at borders, possibly setting up permanent contact points. -common integrated risk analysis; -staff trained in the European dimension and inter-operational equipment; -financial burden sharing between Member States in the run up to a European Corps of Border Guards. The first function of the latter would be the "common surveillance" of the most sensitive places, particularly maritime borders, before assuming checking functions at crossing border points. Democratic and jurisdictional control of these activities must be assured.