Basic information

2002/2258(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
The evolution of the agricultural incomes in the European Union **Subject** 3.10.01 Agricultural structures and holdings, farmers	

Key players

	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
European Parliament	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	GAROT Georges (PSE)	27/11/2002

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/01/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
22/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0022/2004	
10/02/2004	Debate in Parliament		
11/02/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0084/2004	Summary
11/02/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/2258(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	AGRI/5/19032

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0022/2004	22/01/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0084/2004 OJ C 097 22.04.2004, p. 0136-0224 E	11/02/2004	Summary

The evolution of the agricultural incomes in the European Union

2002/2258(INI) - 11/02/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Georges GAROT (PES, France) on agricultural incomes in the EU. (Please see the summary of 22/01/04.) Parliament felt that market regulation and price stabilisation are a means of ensuring the coherence of the new CAP based on fixed and decoupled direct support for production; They are essential to the stability of incomes with a view to dealing with the farm price fluctuations which may result from changes in weather conditions, world price trends and supply crises. It is essential, in this connection, that guaranteed and fixed-ceiling institutional prices within certain production volumes based on the needs of the internal market act as a CAP-wide safety net in future. Instruments to regulate supply should be maintained and even extended in a flexible manner. All the available instruments should be used to respond to fluctuations in farm incomes as a result of climatic conditions or disasters, as is the case for example in Australia, the United States and Canada. In order to act as a safety net, these guaranteed institutional prices should be set on the basis of production costs. The level of these prices should avoid providing an attractive outlet leading producers away from the market, and being used as an argument for bringing market prices down within specific sectors. Parliament also felt that the establishment of sectoral contracts should be encouraged in order to promote product quality and ensure a fairer distribution of added value among partners. Parliament went on to state that the transformation of intervention schemes into mere safety nets is only possible and sustainable if there is an adequate external protection designed to safeguard the three components (economic, social and environmental) of the European agricultural model. Crisis management systems should be established, which may be implemented as a last resort whenever market prices remain below safety-net levels for significant periods.