Basic information

2003/2052(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Agriculture and agronomy research within the common agricultural policy CAP reform **Subject** 3.10 Agricultural policy and economies	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF Friedrich-Wilhelm (V/ALE)	20/05/2003

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
15/05/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
22/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0018/2004	
10/02/2004	Debate in Parliament		
11/02/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0085/2004	Summary
11/02/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/2052(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/5/19521

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0018/2004	22/01/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0085/2004 OJ C 097 22.04.2004, p. 0136-0228 E	11/02/2004	Summary

Agriculture and agronomy research within the common agricultural policy CAP reform

2003/2052(INI) - 11/02/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Friedrich-Wilhelm GRAEFE zu BARINGDORF (Greens /EFA, D) on agriculture and agricultural research. (Please see the document of 22/01/04.) Parliament believed that research into improving food quality and safety by strengthening links between consumers and producers (the 'fork-to-farm' approach) should remain a priority, but that additional research is needed. The complex interrelationships between nutrition, food quality, actual dietary behaviour and health will be an even greater priority of European research, with greater attention being devoted to the aspect that raw materials for food do not only come from agriculture but have for years increasingly been coming from the production of additives and substitute materials by means of pharmaceutical, synthetic and genetic-engineering processes. A public debate must be held on the purpose of research and the evaluation of findings when granting public funds for research. The Commission should guarantee public involvement in this debate within expert bodies. Parliament also observed that the costs of scientific research for the purpose of approval of veterinary medicines for less common animal species and active substances and plant protection products for use on crops which are not widely cultivated are sometimes unaffordable for the businesses concerned. It asked the Commission to investigate how a solution can be found to this problem by means of regulation and via the European research budget. Parliament went on to call for increased funding of on-farm research, with an emphasis on the diversification of agricultural activity and appropriate farming practices, in particular with regard to breeding. Organic farming and other low-input farming methods must be made a specific research priority, as part of which funding should also be provided for research into animal husbandry systems which respect animal welfare. Favourable conditions for biotechnology research should exist in the Union, so that such advanced research can develop successfully in the Union and return to the Union. Parliament stressed that biotechnology research is an essential element in the Lisbon strategy and can contribute to high-quality, sustainable agriculture. Finally, Parliament called on the Commission to submit a communication on the future direction, structure and funding of agricultural research in Europe. This communication should also take into account the importance of policy research for the further development of the common agricultural policy.