

Basic information	
2006/2150(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
EC/Syria agreement: negotiations with a view to the conclusion of a Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement	
Subject 6.40.05.04 Relations with the countries of the Mashreq Geographical area Syria	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	AFET Foreign Affairs		DE KEYSER Véronique (PSE)
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	INTA International Trade		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner
	External Relations		FERRERO-WALDNER Benita

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/06/2006	Non-legislative basic document published	B6-0373/2006	Summary
06/07/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
05/10/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
11/10/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0334/2006	
25/10/2006	Debate in Parliament		
26/10/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0459/2006	Summary
26/10/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/10/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2150(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 134o
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/6/38255

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document		B6-0373/2006	19/06/2006	Summary
Committee draft report		PE376.327	23/06/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE378.695	21/09/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0334/2006	11/10/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0459/2006	26/10/2006	Summary

EC/Syria agreement: negotiations with a view to the conclusion of a Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2006/2150(INI) - 26/10/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report by Véronique **DE KEYSER** (PSE, BE) containing Parliament's recommendation to the Council on the conclusion of an EU-Syria Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement. (Please see the summary of 05/10 /2006.) The report adopted by 453 votes in favour to 11 against with 15 abstentions.

EC/Syria agreement: negotiations with a view to the conclusion of a Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2006/2150(INI) - 19/06/2006 - Non-legislative basic document

Mrs Véronique **DE KEYSER** (PES, B) made a proposal for a recommendation to Council on the negotiations with a view to the conclusion of a Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, and Syria, pursuant to Rule 114(1) of the Rules of Procedure.

In her proposal, Mrs De KEYSER called on the Council to step up its efforts towards the signing of the agreement, and to take account of the following recommendations:

- to be mindful of the fact that, while the draft accord between the European Union and Syria is modelled on the other Euro-Mediterranean association agreements in force, it also contains new provisions, relating inter alia to non-proliferation of weapons, the fight against terrorism, reduction of customs tariffs, and the right of establishment, which has made the negotiations more complex;
- to take account of the political signals emerging from the 10th Ba'th Party Regional Congress, the most visible of which is the introduction of a new and younger leadership;
- to take steps with the Syrian Government to ensure that it lifts the state of emergency, which would help the rule of law to progress, while respecting the spirit of Article 2 of the agreement.

At the same time, Parliament pointed out that Syria was currently in a period of transition which may lead it towards a social market economy, a more democratic political regime and greater respect for human rights. The future association agreement and the strengthening of relations between the European Union and Syria in permanent mutual respect may enable this development to be sustained.

The final conclusions of the International Independent Investigation Commission into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri are a decisive factor in the signing and ratification of the association agreement.