


Basic information	
2006/2184(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure Asylum: practical cooperation, quality of decision making in the common European asylum system Subject 7.10.06 Asylum, refugees, displaced persons; Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	Procedure completed

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	PIRKER Hubert (PPE-DE)	13/03/2006
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	AFET	Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	DEVE	Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	FEMM	Women's Rights and Gender Equality	VERGNAUD Bernadette (PSE)	06/09/2006
	Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meetings
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)		2807	2007-06-12	
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
	Justice and Consumers		FRATTINI Franco	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
17/02/2006	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2006)0067 	Summary
06/07/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

08/05/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
14/05/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0182/2007	
12/06/2007	Debate in Council		
20/06/2007	Debate in Parliament		
21/06/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0286/2007	Summary
21/06/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
21/06/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2184(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/6/38484

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE380.869	15/01/2007	
Committee opinion	FEMM	PE380.707	24/01/2007	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE386.375	13/03/2007	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0182/2007	14/05/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0286/2007	21/06/2007	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2006)0067 	17/02/2006	Summary	

Asylum: practical cooperation, quality of decision making in the common European asylum system

2006/2184(INI) - 17/02/2006 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to strengthen practical cooperation between Member States on asylum management.

CONTENT : this communication comes as a response to the European Council's call for intensified practical cooperation between EU Member States in the field of asylum. The adoption of the Asylum Procedures Directive in December 2005 marked the completion of the first stage of the Common European Asylum System. Now the EU will step up cooperation on asylum and by 2010 aims to have a fully harmonised common system. More specifically, it sets out how practical cooperation between Member States can support the realisation of the goals set at Tampere and in the Hague Programme. The Hague Programme – endorsed by the European Council as the EU's workplan for Justice and Home Affairs until 2010 - set three objectives for practical cooperation on asylum:

1) The establishment of a **Single Procedure** for all applications for international protection : single Procedure activities should be aimed at:

- identifying where changes need to be made in Member States' administrative practice in order to implement the 1st stage instruments;
- assessing how quality and efficiency of asylum systems can be improved through including all possible grounds for protection in one decision;
- identifying best practice in managing resources in a Single Procedure, including through costing comparisons and twinning exercises.

The results of these activities will inform the preparation of legislative action, notably to ensure that, at a minimum, the guarantees agreed as applicable to claims for refugee status in the Asylum Procedures Directive extend to applications for subsidiary protection.

2) A common approach to **Country of Origin Information (COI)** (the information used to make decisions on asylum claims) : Cooperation on COI should have three main objectives in the short to medium term:

- the establishment of common guidelines on the production of COI;
- the establishment of a 'common portal' to Member States COI databases as well as other relevant information;
- a pragmatic solution to the translation difficulties facing Member States in dealing with COI from different sources.

The result of these activities should lead in the longer term to the future development of an EU COI database.

3) How the EU should address particular pressures on asylum systems and reception capacities caused for example, by the geographic position of a Member State : **Actions to address particular pressures:**

- amendment of European Refugee Fund so that Member States can access funds quickly and with a minimum of bureaucratic process for emergency actions;
- streamlining of the procedure for accessing more rapidly the funding for urgent actions contained in the ARGO programme;
- setting up of expert teams to address reception and processing issues for sudden arrivals of large numbers at the external border of the EU.

Longer term options include a comprehensive assessment of particular pressures which have occurred in the past and the setting up of a network of Member State information officers in selected third countries.

The first wave of practical cooperation will encourage Member States to present projects in concert with other like-minded Member States or as an individual venture to the benefit of the 25, which will contribute to the achievement of the Hague objectives. The support and sustainability of the programme of activities put forward in this Communication needs to be assured. However it is clear that existing financial opportunities, through the ARGO Programme and the Community Actions of the ERF do not provide the flexibility or increased funding needed to complete the ambitious mandate set in the Hague Programme. The Commission therefore intend to make proposals to amend the ERF and the ARGO Programme to ensure that delivery of the Hague priorities can be supported.

Asylum: practical cooperation, quality of decision making in the common European asylum system

2006/2184(INI) - 21/06/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted the resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Hubert **PIRKER** (EPP-ED, AT) on practical cooperation and quality of decision-making in the common European asylum system. (Please refer to the summary of 08/05/2007.) The report adopted by 460 votes in favour to 63 against with 5 abstentions, with amendments.