Basic information

2007/0123(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EC/Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement See also 2013/0262(NLE) See also 2014/0190(COD) **Subject** 6.40.03 Relations with South-East Europe and the Balkans **Geographical area** Montenegro, from 06/2006	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	VERNOLA Marcello (PPE-DE)	20/03/2007

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2824	2007-10-15
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2828	2007-11-13
Agriculture and Fisheries	3006	2010-03-29

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations	FÜLE Štefan

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
21/06/2007	Preparatory document	COM(2007)0350	Summary

21/09/2007	Legislative proposal published	11568/2007	Summary
20/11/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
10/12/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0498/2007	
11/12/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/12/2007	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0617/2007	Summary
13/12/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
02/12/2009	Additional information		Summary
29/03/2010	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
29/03/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/04/2010	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2007/0123(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	See also 2013/0262(NLE) See also 2014/0190(COD)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 217
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/6/50836

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE394.076	18/09/2007	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0498/2007	10/12/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0617/2007	13/12/2007	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	11568/2007	21/09/2007	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	11566/2007	27/09/2007	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2007)0350	21/06/2007	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2010/0224 OJ L 108 29.04.2010, p. 0001	Summary

EC/Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement

2007/0123(NLE) - 21/09/2007 - Legislative proposal

This text constitutes the final act in which the Council decides to approve, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) between the EC and their Member States, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part. (See Council document *11566/07*).

EC/Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement

2007/0123(NLE) - 21/06/2007 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) between the EC and their Member States, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

CONTENT: The Commission presents two proposals, which constitute the legal instruments for the signature and the conclusion of the SAA: (i) proposal for a Council Decision for the signature of the Agreement; (ii) proposal for a Council and Commission Decision for the conclusion of the Agreement.

Having concluded from the Commission's Feasibility Report of April 2005 that Serbia and Montenegro were sufficiently prepared to negotiate an SAA, the Council decided to authorise the Commission to negotiate an agreement. The negotiations were launched on 10 October 2005. Following a referendum in May 2006, the Montenegrin Parliament adopted a Declaration of Independence and Montenegro withdrew from the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro. Consequently, new Negotiating Directives for Montenegro were adopted and the SAA was initialled on 15 March 2007.

The Stabilisation and Association Agreement focuses on the following main elements:

- provision for political dialogue with Montenegro;
- provisions on enhanced regional co-operation, including the perspective of establishing free trade areas between the countries of the region;
- the perspective of the establishment of a free-trade area between the Community and Montenegro within five years of the entry into force of the Agreement;
- provisions on the movement of workers, freedom of establishment, supply of services, current payments and movement of capital;
- the commitment by Montenegro to approximate its legislation to that of the EC, notably in key areas of the internal market;
- provisions on co-operation with Montenegro in a wide range of fields, including justice, freedom and security.
- provision for the establishment of a Stabilisation and Association Council which supervises the implementation of the Agreement, of a Stabilisation and Association Committee and a Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee.

The SAA states that respect for international law principles, including full co-operation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) will constitute essential elements of this Agreement.

The Commission asks the Council to give its final approval to the text of the SAA and to engage the procedures for the signature and conclusion of this Agreement.

These procedures are different for the two European Communities (the European Community and the European Atomic Energy Community):

a) as regards signature, the EC Treaty provides for a separate Council Decision concerning the signing of the Agreement on behalf of the European Community; similar acts are not required under the EAEC Treaty;

b) as regards conclusion of the Agreement:

- the Council concludes the Agreement on behalf of the European Community, after having received the assent of the European Parliament, by virtue of Article 310 of the Treaty;

- the Council approves the Agreement on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community by virtue of the second paragraph of Article 101 of the EAEC Treaty and the Agreement is then concluded by the Commission.

EC/Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement

2007/0123(NLE) - 29/03/2010 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) with Montenegro.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council and Commission Decision (2010/224/Euratom) on the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Montenegro, of the other part.

CONTENT: under this Decision, the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Montenegro, of the other part, the Annexes and Protocols annexed thereto, as well as the joint declarations and the declaration by the Community attached to the Final Act, are hereby approved on behalf of the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.

Lisbon Treaty: it should be noted that as a consequence of the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon on 1 December 2009, the European Union has replaced and succeeded the European Community and from that date exercises all rights and assumes all obligations of the European Community. Therefore, references to “the European Community” in the text of the Agreement are, where appropriate, to be read as “the European Union.”

Main points of the Agreement: the Agreement aims to strengthen cooperation and to stimulate the integration process of Montenegro with the European structures.

The Stabilisation and Association Agreement focuses on the following main elements:

- provision for political dialogue with Montenegro;
- provisions on enhanced regional co-operation, including the perspective of establishing free trade areas between the countries of the region;
- the perspective of the establishment of a free-trade area between the Community and Montenegro within five years of the entry into force of the Agreement;
- provisions on the movement of workers, freedom of establishment, supply of services, current payments and movement of capital;
- the commitment by Montenegro to approximate its legislation to that of the EC, notably in key areas of the internal market;
- provisions on co-operation with Montenegro in a wide range of fields, including justice, freedom and security.
- provision for the establishment of a Stabilisation and Association Council which supervises the implementation of the Agreement, of a Stabilisation and Association Committee and a Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee.

Amongst the **general principles** on which the Agreement is based, on notes in particular:

- a safeguard clause;
- a clause relating to the implementation of international obligations, notably the full cooperation with ICTY;
- a specific clause as regards international and regional peace and stability, the development of good neighbourly relations, human rights and the respect and protection of minorities;
- a clause on the fight against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery constitutes an essential element of this Agreement;
- a clause concerning the movement of persons, goods, capital and services as well as the development of projects of common interest, notably those related to border management and combating organised crime, corruption, money laundering, illegal migration and trafficking, including in particular in human beings, small arms and light weapons, as well as illicit drugs.
- a specific clause stating the importance of the fight against terrorism and the implementation of international obligations in this area.

The Agreement makes reference to the European Union’s readiness to integrate Montenegro to the fullest possible extent into the political and economic mainstream of Europe and its status as a potential candidate for EU membership and fulfilment of the classic Copenhagen criteria as well as to the successful implementation of this Agreement, notably regarding regional cooperation.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: pending the completion of the procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement, the provisions of certain parts of this Agreement, in particular those relating to the free movement of goods as well as the relevant provisions on transport, are put into effect by means of Interim Agreements between the Community and Montenegro.

EC/Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement

2007/0123(NLE) - 13/12/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a legislative resolution drafted by Marcello **VERNOLA** (EPP-ED, IT) and gave its assent to the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Montenegro, of the other part.