Basic information

2010/2053(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Implementation of the Services Directive 2006/123/EC See also Directive 2006/123/EC 2004/0001(COD) **Subject** 2.40 Free movement of services, freedom to provide 8.50.01 Implementation of EU law	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	GEBHARDT Evelyne (S&D)	27/04/2010
	Shadow rapporteur HANDZLIK Małgorzata (PPE) LØKKEGAARD Morten (ALDE) CANFIN Pascal (Verts/ALE) HARBOUR Malcolm (ECR) SVENSSON Eva-Britt (GUE/NGL) SALVINI Matteo (EFD)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	AUCONIE Sophie (PPE)	19/10/2010
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	BENNAHMIAS Jean-Luc (ALDE)	21/04/2010
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
REGI Regional Development	HYUSMENOVA Filiz (ALDE)	03/06/2010

Council of the

Council configuration	Meetings	Date

European Union	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	3016	2010-05-25

European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Development	PIEBALGS Andris

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
20/05/2010	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/05/2010	Debate in Council		Summary
26/01/2011	Vote in committee		Summary
28/01/2011	Committee report tabled for plenary	A7-0012/2011	
14/02/2011	Debate in Parliament		
15/02/2011	Decision by Parliament	T7-0051/2011	Summary
15/02/2011	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/02/2011	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2010/2053(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Implementation
Amendments and repeals	See also Directive 2006/123/EC 2004/0001(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	IMCO/7/02934

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	EMPL	PE445.703	10/11/2010	
Committee draft report		PE452.694	10/11/2010	
Committee opinion	REGI	PE448.822	03/12/2010	
Committee opinion	ECON	PE454.448	16/12/2010	

Amendments tabled in committee		PE454.524	05/01/2011	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A7-0012/2011	28/01/2011	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0051/2011	15/02/2011	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2011)3792	22/06/2011	

Implementation of the Services Directive 2006/123/EC

2010/2053(INI) - 25/05/2010

The Council took note of information from the Commission on the state of play on implementation of the directive on services in the internal market (see document *9475/10*). Several delegations provided additional information regarding the progress made in implementing the directive into their national legislations.

Despite progress realised in recent months in several areas and Member States, as set out above, the key priorities identified in the previous assessment remain largely valid:

- in the case of Ireland and Portugal it is essential to finalise the drafting of the horizontal implementing laws. It is equally urgent to finalise the drafting of all required changes in existing legislation in the case of Austria, Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and Slovenia;
- in the area of the Points of Single Contact, urgent action is required in those countries where either the "**points of single contact**" (PSCs) are still missing or they are clearly insufficient in their functions (Greece, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia). Equally, most Member States need to step up efforts to allow for the completion of all procedures and formalities through the PSCs.

In addition, it is important to pursue and, in many cases, intensify efforts to register and train competent authorities for the use of the IMI application for services. To ensure the active use of the IMI system it is crucial that competent authorities are aware of their cooperation obligations.

The Council also took note of a Presidency report on the **mutual evaluation process** (see document *9327/10*). Mutual evaluation is based on the results of the screening of national legislation (i.e. the identification, assessment and, when required, modification of requirements affecting service providers) carried out by member states during the implementation period. At the end of the process, the Commission will issue a report to be presented to the Council and the European Parliament.

The services directive aims at eliminating obstacles to trade in services, allowing the development of cross-border operations, bringing down prices and improving quality and choice for consumers.

Implementation of the Services Directive 2006/123/EC

2010/2053(INI) - 15/02/2011 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the implementation of the Services Directive 2006/123/EC.

It begins by noting that the activities covered by the Services Directive account for **40% of EU GDP and jobs**. The objective of the Services Directive is to unlock the enormous economic and job-creation potential of the European internal market in services, estimated at 0.6-1.5% of EU GDP. Members note that the Services Directive makes it significantly easier for self-employed persons and small and medium-sized companies in particular to pursue their activities, develop new areas of business and also recruit new staff in other Member States. They draw attention to the unprecedented public and political debate on the Services Directive and the key role of the European Parliament in that negotiation. They consider that Parliament should provide effective monitoring of the process of implementation of the Directive by the Member States, and want the Commission to keep Parliament regularly informed of the state of transposition.

Parliament notes that transposition of the Services Directive is a major challenge for Member States, public administrations and local authorities. The Directive's impact on the economy, businesses and citizens cannot be evaluated until it has been properly transposed in all Member States.

Members invite the Commission to monitor closely the application of the Directive and to issue regular implementation reports, which should take into account the real medium- and long-term effects of the Directive on employment in the EU. After full transposition it is crucial that a comprehensive assessment should be carried out of the impact of the Services Directive.

The resolution sets out concrete proposals for Member States to improve the implementation of the Services Directive.

Evaluation process: Parliament calls on the Commission and Member States to work together in order to promote the development of the internal market for services on the basis of the mutual evaluation process that is provided for in the Services Directive. It considers that the evaluation process

is an important tool in determining how implementation of the Directive is progressing in Member States, but that the state of progress with the process does not yet allow its effectiveness to be evaluated. The process in question must examine whether the rules in force in Member States correspond to the specifications of the internal market and do not create new obstacles. Members want the Commission to carry out a thorough investigation of the potential of this new method in the context of the Single Market Act. They regret the fact that the European Parliament and national parliaments are not more involved in the mutual evaluation process.

Scope: Members recall that the Directive excludes a number of fields from its scope, including non-economic services of general interest, healthcare services and most social services. They note the discussions in some Member States on the services excluded from the scope of the Directive. The majority of Member States did not encounter significant problems during the implementation of the Services Directive with regard to its scope, and Parliament points out that such services were excluded because of their specific nature and that, in some cases, they may require a sectoral Community legislative framework. It notes that the Commission communication entitled 'Towards a Single Market Act' includes a commitment to bring forward, in 2011, a set of measures relating to services of general interest. Members consider that the additional measures needed to complete the internal market in services must be fully included in the discussion under way on the Single Market Act.

Points of single contact (PSCs): Parliament calls on Member States to develop the PSCs into comprehensive eGovernment portals for service providers wanting to set up a business or provide cross-border services. Member States are asked to continue improving the accessibility of PSCs, including by allowing procedures and formalities to be completed through PSCs remotely, by electronic means. They should also improve the quality of the information and procedures available to its users, in particular SMEs, including information and the completion of procedures under labour and tax law relevant to service providers such as procedures related to VAT and social security registration. All information given by PSCs should also available in languages other than national, taking into consideration especially the languages of neighbouring countries. The Commission should make a direct electronic link to the Member States' PSCs available to service providers in all the EU official languages.Members regret that the advice offered by **PSCs does not yet reach prospective service providers** and that information on how to contact PSCs is not widely known. They call on the Commission to earmark appropriate funds in its draft budget for 2012 to launch a major Europe-wide PSC promotion campaign to raise awareness of what PSCs can offer service providers. The Commission and Member States are asked to launch well-targeted promotion, information and training campaigns as soon as possible, and to improve the visibility and recognisability of the eu-go domain and to feature case studies of businesses using the PSCs and the benefits they have derived.

Administrative cooperation: Parliament draws attention to the importance of the provisions on administrative cooperation and mutual assistance, and welcomes the growing number of enrolments by the competent national authorities for monitoring of services through the internal market information system (IMI). It also considers it useful to establish cooperation within a European network formed by the Member States' public authorities and to set up an interchange of information on the reliability of service providers, with a view to eliminating additional controls applied to cross-border activities.

Lastly, Members underline the need to develop training schemes for the officials of national and regional administrations responsible for monitoring services. They recognise the efforts Member States have already made to that effect and call on Member States to consolidate the national IMI networks by continuously monitoring their practical working and ensuring adequate training. Since the sustainable success of IMI depends on adequate investment at Community level, Parliament calls on the Commission to set up a multiannual programme for that purpose and to bring to bear all the resources required for its smooth operation.