Basic information

2014/0118(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement See also 1995/0132(AVC) **Subject** 6.40.15 European neighbourhood policy **Geographical area** Tunisia	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	PANZERI Pier Antonio (S&D)	18/12/2014
	Shadow rapporteur PREDA Cristian Dan (PPE) FOTYGA Anna (ECR)	

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs		

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

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
INTA International Trade		

Council of the European Union

European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	European External Action Service	-- --
	Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations	-- --

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
31/03/2014	Preparatory document	COM(2014)0203	Summary
10/12/2014	Legislative proposal published	16160/2014	Summary
15/04/2015	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/09/2015	Vote in committee		
17/09/2015	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0254/2015	Summary
07/10/2015	Decision by Parliament	T8-0337/2015	Summary
07/10/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/10/2015	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/10/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/11/2015	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2014/0118(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	See also 1995/0132(AVC)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 212 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/00412

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE557.253	02/07/2015	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0254/2015	17/09/2015	Summary

Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0337/2015	07/10/2015	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	16160/2014	10/12/2014	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	16159/2014	11/03/2015	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2014)0202	31/03/2014	
Preparatory document	COM(2014)0203	31/03/2014	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2015/2025
OJ L 297 13.11.2015, p. 0001 Summary

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 31/03/2014

PURPOSE: the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of that country in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to it.

BACKGROUND: as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the gradual opening up of certain European Union programmes and agencies to ENP partner countries is one of many measures to promote reform, modernisation and transition in the European Union's neighbourhood. The Commission has expanded on this in its Communication "on the general approach to enable European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries to participate in Community agencies and Community programmes". The Council endorsed this approach in conclusions on 5 March 2007.

The Council, on 18 June 2007, issued directives to the Commission to negotiate Framework Agreements with Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, **Tunisia** and Ukraine, on the general principles for their participation in Community programmes. To date, Protocols have been signed with Armenia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco and Ukraine.

In December 2013, Tunisia expressed its interest in participating in the broad range of programmes open to partner countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy. The text of the Protocol negotiated with Tunisia is attached and the subject of this proposal. It is now appropriate for the European Union to conclude the protocol.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 212 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) and Article 218(7) thereof.

CONTENT: this is a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol. This Protocol contains a Framework Agreement on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. It contains standard conditions that should be applied to all European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries with whom such protocols are to be concluded.

Objectives: the protocol seeks to define the financial and technical rules permitting Tunisia to participate in certain EU programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol sets out principles for economic, financial and technical cooperation measure and allows Tunisia to **receive technical assistance**, in particular financial assistance, from the European Union pursuant to the European Union programmes.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 26/10/2015 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2015/2025 on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

CONTENT: by this Council Decision, the **Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement** establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

The objective of the Protocol is to **lay down the financial and technical rules enabling Tunisia to participate in certain Union programmes**.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol constitutes an economic, financial and technical cooperation measure which allows for access to assistance, in particular financial assistance, to be provided by the Union pursuant to those Union programmes. That framework applies only to those Union programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of Tunisia.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 26.10.2015.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 07/10/2015 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 605 votes to 59, with 34 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Protocol. This Protocol shall enable Tunisia to participate in programmes such as Erasmus+ other programmes aimed at developing ‘people-to-people’ contacts.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 10/12/2014 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to it.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with a Council Decision, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes was signed on behalf of the Union.

The objective of the Protocol is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling Tunisia to participate in certain Union programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol constitutes an economic, financial and technical cooperation measure which allows for access to assistance, in particular financial assistance, to be provided by the Union pursuant to those Union programmes. That framework applies only to those Union programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of Tunisia.

The Protocol should now be approved.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Council is called upon to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

For further details of the Protocol, *please refer to the Commission's initial proposal dated 31/03/2014*.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 31/03/2014 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of that country in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to it.

BACKGROUND: as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the gradual opening up of certain European Union programmes and agencies to ENP partner countries is one of many measures to promote reform, modernisation and transition in the European Union's neighbourhood. The Commission has expanded on this in its Communication "on the general approach to enable European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries to participate in Community agencies and Community programmes". The Council endorsed this approach in conclusions on 5 March 2007.

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CONTENT: this is a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol. This Protocol contains a Framework Agreement on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. It contains standard conditions that should be applied to all European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries with whom such protocols are to be concluded.

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EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

2014/0118(NLE) - 17/09/2015 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the report by Pier Antonio PANZERI (S&D, IT) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

The committee recommended that Parliament **gave its consent to the conclusion of the Protocol.**

It justified its recommendation by noting that Tunisia was the birthplace of the Arab Spring. Thus far, it was the only country in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region to survive this social and political experiment.

Over recent years, the Tunisian economy had deteriorated markedly, both domestically and in the international arena, especially in terms of its trade with Europe, which remained its main partner. In light of this, it was vital for the Tunisian issue to become an EU priority, with the EU making concrete economic and investment commitments aimed at supporting the country's fragile transition to democracy.

Bearing this in mind, the EU should also increase cooperation through programmes such as Erasmus+ other programmes aimed at developing ‘people-to-people’ contacts. Tunisia should also be given the opportunity to join the missions and activities of the European Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).