Basic information

2016/2231(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part See also 2015/0114(NLE) **Subject** 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.30.02 Financial and technical cooperation and assistance 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries **Geographical area** Mongolia	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	SCHOLZ Helmut (GUE/NGL)	05/10/2016
	Shadow rapporteur KELAM Tunne (PPE) BENIFEI Brando (S&D) TANNOCK Timothy Charles Ayrton (ECR) KYUCHYUK Ilhan (ALDE) MESZERICS Tamás (Verts /ALE) CASTALDO Fabio Massimo (EFDD)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
European External Action Service	MOGHERINI Federica

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
05/12/2016	Vote in committee		
12/12/2016	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0383/2016	Summary

15/02/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0033/2017	Summary
15/02/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/02/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2016/2231(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Amendments and repeals	See also 2015/0114(NLE)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 107-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/07638

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE592.260	18/10/2016	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE594.032	15/11/2016	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0383/2016	12/12/2016	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0033/2017	15/02/2017	Summary

Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part

2016/2231(INI) - 15/02/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 619 votes to 63, with 15 abstentions, a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part.

Parliament stressed that the EU and Mongolia have many converging positions regarding most major international challenges. It appreciated the friendly and constructive relations between the EU and Mongolia. Recognising Mongolia's specific geographical position between China, Russia and the countries of Central Asia and North-East Asia, with its importance for stability within the region, Members stressed the democratic transformation of country and of the challenges that exist in the areas of sustainable development and economy, finance, good governance, fighting corruption, social security and environmental protection and political polarisation.

Parliament recognised that the democratic transformation which commenced in the 1990s is continuing consistently and acknowledged the tangible progress made in terms of socio-economic reforms.

Parliament went on to highlight certain aspects of the draft framework agreement on partnership and cooperation:

Institutional framework and diplomatic representation: Parliament began by emphasising the need to **further enhance the parliamentary dimension of EU-Mongolia relations**. It regretted the absence from the PCA text of articles that would establish a Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (PCC) under the PCA to undertake democratic scrutiny of the implementation of the agreement and encouraged negotiations, therefore, on a **new protocol** to

remedy the situation. Members were concerned at the fact that diplomatic relations with Mongolia are currently still being run from the EU Delegation to China. They urged the Council and the VP/HR to turn the European Union Liaison Office in Ulaanbaatar into a **fully-fledged EU Delegation**.

Democracy, the rule of law, good governance and human rights: whilst welcoming Mongolia's efforts to consolidate democratic progress and the rule of law, Parliament encouraged Mongolia to address the outstanding challenges of respect for independence of the judiciary. It recommended that the country strengthen its cooperation with the EU, the OSCE and the UN on dealing with corruption. It also recommended that Mongolia, in accordance with the already ratified Convention on the Rights of the Child, **legally ban corporal punishment**.

Parliament called for the respect for freedom of the media and freedom of expression in Mongolia and encouraged the Mongolian Parliament to codify such fundamental rights explicitly and to implement them under strong scrutiny.

Parliament commended the project supported by the EU in support of LGBTI rights in Mongolia even though it is worried by the ongoing discrimination and harassment committed against the LGBTI community.

Sustainable development: Members welcomed the substantial progress made by Mongolia in economic development and poverty reduction. They encouraged Mongolia in its efforts to achieve sustained economic growth, but expressed concern at the sharp slowdown in GDP growth, which in 2011 stood at record levels (17.3 %) but was only 2.3 % in 2015. Parliament welcomed the fact that EU development assistance to the country for 2014-2020 has been more than doubled – standing at EUR 65 million, in comparison with the 2007-2013 figure of EUR 30 million. It encouraged Mongolia's participation in **regional programmes financed** by the EU.

The resolution noted that in 2014 extractive industries in Mongolia accounted for 17 % of GDP and 89 % of the country's total exports. It welcomed, in this context, the active participation of Mongolia in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which aims to make this sector more accountable and transparent.

Trade and economic relations: Parliament noted that the EU has become Mongolia's third-biggest trading partner, and that Mongolian goods already enter the EU market virtually tariff-free under the current Generalised Scheme of Preferences. It noted that European investment in Mongolia has so far remained limited, and encouraged the EU and Mongolia to intensify their trade and investment relations.

It encouraged further integration of Mongolia into the global and regional economy, within frameworks such as the Prairie Road, the Silk Road/'One Belt One Road' or the Trans-Eurasian Belt.

Parliament also stressed the importance of a stable business and legal environment for an increase in investment from the EU.

Regional and global challenges and cooperation: recognising the pivotal role Mongolia can play between the dynamic economies of China, Russia, South Korea and Japan and the Central Asian countries, and at the same time as an intermediary between Europe and the East Asian region, Parliament highlighted Mongolia's "third neighbour" foreign policy concept. This includes relations with the EU, balanced against constructive and intense relations with its influential strategic partners and direct neighbours Russia and China.

Lastly, it noted Mongolia's contribution to **UN peacekeeping** around the world and praised its role in bringing together academics from both Koreas, China and Russia, as well as for hosting reunions of families split by the division of the Korean peninsula.

Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part

2016/2231(INI) - 12/12/2016 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the own-initiative report by Helmut SCHOLZ (GUE/NGL, DE) containing a motion for a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part.

Members stressed that the EU and Mongolia have many converging positions regarding most major international challenges. They appreciated the friendly and constructive relations between the EU and Mongolia. Recognising Mongolia's specific geographical position between China, Russia and the countries of Central Asia and North-East Asia, with its importance for stability within the region, Members stressed the democratic transformation of country and of the challenges that exist in the areas of sustainable development and economy, finance, good governance, fighting corruption, social security and environmental protection and political polarisation.

The committee went on to highlight certain aspects of the draft framework agreement on partnership and cooperation:

Institutional framework and diplomatic representation: Members began by emphasising the need to **further enhance the parliamentary dimension of EU-Mongolia relations**. They regretted the absence from the PCA text of articles that would establish a Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (PCC) under the PCA to undertake democratic scrutiny of the implementation of the agreement and encouraged negotiations, therefore, on a **new protocol** to remedy the situation. The committee was concerned at the fact that diplomatic relations with Mongolia are currently still being run from the EU Delegation to China. It urged the Council and the VP/HR to turn the European Union Liaison Office in Ulaanbaatar into a **fully-fledged EU Delegation.**

Democracy, the rule of law, good governance and human rights: whilst welcoming Mongolia's efforts to consolidate democratic progress and the rule of law, Members encouraged Mongolia to address the outstanding challenges of respect for independence of the judiciary. They recommended that the country strengthen its cooperation with the EU, the OSCE and the UN on dealing with corruption. They also recommended that Mongolia, in accordance with the already ratified Convention on the Rights of the Child, legally ban corporal punishment.

Sustainable development: Members welcomed the substantial progress made by Mongolia in economic development and poverty reduction. They encouraged Mongolia in its efforts to achieve sustained economic growth, but expressed concern at the sharp slowdown in GDP growth, which in 2011 stood at record levels (17.3 %) but was only 2.3 % in 2015. The committee welcomed the fact that EU development assistance to the country for 2014-2020 has been more than doubled – standing at EUR 65 million, in comparison with the 2007-2013 figure of EUR 30 million. It encouraged Mongolia's participation in **regional programmes financed by the EU**.

Trade and economic relations: Members noted that the EU has become Mongolia's third-biggest trading partner, and that Mongolian goods already enter the EU market virtually tariff-free under the current Generalised Scheme of Preferences. They noted that European investment in Mongolia has so far remained limited, and encouraged the EU and Mongolia to intensify their trade and investment relations. The committee stressed the importance of a stable business and legal environment for an increase in investment from the EU.

Regional and global challenges and cooperation: recognising the pivotal role Mongolia can play between the dynamic economies of China, Russia, South Korea and Japan and the Central Asian countries, and at the same time as an intermediary between Europe and the East Asian region, Members highlighted Mongolia's "third neighbour" foreign policy concept. This includes relations with the EU, balanced against constructive and intense relations with its influential strategic partners and direct neighbours Russia and China.

Lastly, the committee noted Mongolia's contribution to **UN peacekeeping** around the world.