Basic information

2019/0164(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU/Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Framework Agreement: participation of Palestinian Authority in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on Trade and Cooperation **Subject** 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.40.05.06 Relations with the countries of the Middle East **Geographical area** Palestine	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs		
	Shadow rapporteur GAHLER Michael (EPP) ARA-KOVÁCS Attila (S&D)	

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
European External Action Service	BORRELL FONTELLES Josep

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
02/08/2019	Preparatory document	COM(2019)0361	Summary
22/10/2019	Legislative proposal published	12669/2019	
24/03/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/10/2022	Vote in committee		
18/10/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0253/2022	

22/11/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0392/2022	Summary
22/11/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		
16/01/2024	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/01/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2019/0164(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p7 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 209-p1 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/9/01108

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE729.898	01/07/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE736.383	08/09/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0253/2022	18/10/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0392/2022	22/11/2022	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	12669/2019	22/10/2019	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2019)0361	02/08/2019	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2019)0362	02/08/2019	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Decision 2024/0375 OJ L 000 22.01.2024, p. 0000

EU/Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Framework Agreement: participation of Palestinian Authority in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on Trade and Cooperation

2019/0164(NLE) - 22/11/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 519 votes to 23 with 92 abstentions a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the general principles for its participation in Union programmes.

The European Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the Protocol.

The objective of the Protocol is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to participate in certain Union programmes.

The Palestinian Authority will contribute financially to the share of the general budget of the European Union corresponding to the specific programmes in which it participates. Projects and initiatives submitted by participants from the Palestinian Authority will be subject, as far as possible, to the same conditions, rules and procedures pertaining to the relevant Union programmes as are applied to Member States.

The specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of the Palestinian Authority in each programme, in particular the financial contribution payable, will be determined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commission and the competent authorities of the Palestinian Authority on the basis of the criteria established by the programmes concerned.

No later than three years after the date of entry into force of this Memorandum, and every three years thereafter, the Parties may review the implementation of this Memorandum in the light of the actual participation of the Palestinian Authority in Union programmes.

EU/Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Framework Agreement: participation of Palestinian Authority in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on Trade and Cooperation

2019/0164(NLE) - 02/08/2019 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the general principles for its participation 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 the act.

BACKGROUND: the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, was signed on 24 February 1997 and entered into force on 1 July 1997.

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 Council, on 5 March 2007, expressed support for the general and global approach outlined in the Commission's Communication of 4 December 2006 to enable ENP partners to participate in Community agencies and Community programmes on their merits and where the legal bases so allow.

The Joint Communication by the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on a new response to a changing Neighbourhood, endorsed by the Council conclusions of 20 June 2011, further emphasised the EU's intention to facilitate partner countries' participation in EU programmes.

In September 2018, during the EU-Palestinian Authority Joint Committee, the Palestinian Authority expressed its interest in signing a Protocol to a Framework Agreement for their potential full participation in a number of selected EU programmes. To date, similar protocols have been signed with Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, Tunisia and Ukraine, and a protocol with Egypt is under discussion.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council decide to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the general principles for its participation 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 the Palestinian Authority to participate in certain EU programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol sets out principles for economic, financial and technical cooperation and allows the Palestinian Authority to receive assistance, in particular financial assistance, from the European Union pursuant to the programmes. This framework applies only to these programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide the possibility of the participation of the Palestinian Authority.

No later than three years after the date of entry into force of this Protocol and every three years thereafter, the Parties may review the implementation of this Protocol on the basis of the actual participation of the Palestinian Authority in Union programmes.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the Palestinian Authority shall contribute financially to the general budget of the European Union corresponding to the specific programmes in which the Palestinian Authority participates. The specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of the Palestinian Authority in each programme, in particular the financial contribution payable, shall be determined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commission and the competent authorities of the Palestinian Authority on the basis of the criteria established by the programmes concerned.

Detailed provisions shall be adopted on financial control and auditing, administrative measures, penalties and recovery enabling the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office, and the Court of Auditors to be granted powers equivalent to their powers with regard to beneficiaries or contractors established in the Union.

EU/Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Framework Agreement: participation of Palestinian Authority in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on Trade and Cooperation

2019/0164(NLE) - 02/08/2019 - Document attached to the procedure

PURPOSE: signature and provisional application, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip , of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the general principles for its participation in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, was signed on 24 February 1997 and entered into force on 1 July 1997.

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 Council, on 5 March 2007, expressed support for the general and global approach outlined in the Commission's Communication of 4 December 2006 to enable ENP partners to participate in Community agencies and Community programmes on their merits and where the legal bases so allow.

Following its conclusions, the Council forwarded directives to the Commission for the negotiation of 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.

In September 2018, during the EU- Palestinian Authority Joint Committee, the Palestinian Authority expressed its interest in signing a Protocol to a Framework Agreement for their potential full participation in a number of selected EU programmes.

CONTENT : the Commission proposes that the Council decide to authorise, on behalf of the Union, the signature of the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the general principles for its participation in Union programmes is hereby authorised, subject to the conclusion of the said Protocol.

The objective of the Protocol is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling the Palestinian Authority 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 the Palestinian Authority to receive assistance, in particular financial assistance, from the European Union pursuant to the programmes. This framework applies only to these programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of the Palestinian Authority.

The signing and provisional application of the Protocol does not therefore entail the exercise of powers under the various sectoral policies, which are exercised when establishing the programmes.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the Palestinian Authority shall contribute financially to the general budget of the European Union corresponding to the specific programmes in which the Palestinian Authority participates. The specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of the Palestinian Authority in each programme, in particular the financial contribution payable shall be determined in Memorandum of Understanding between the Commission and the competent authorities of the Palestinian Authority on the basis of the criteria established by the programmes concerned.

Detailed provisions shall be adopted on financial control and auditing, administrative measures, penalties and recovery enabling the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office, and the Court of Auditors to be granted powers equivalent to their powers with regard to beneficiaries or contractors established in the Union.