Basic information

2024/0052(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU/Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway Agreement: EEA financial mechanism 2021-2028; EU/Norway Agreement: Norwegian financial mechanism 2021-2028; additional Protocol to EEC/Norway Agreement; additional Protocol to EEC/Iceland Agreement **Subject** 6.40.01 Relations with EEA/EFTA countries **Geographical area** Iceland Liechtenstein Norway	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	ZOVKO Željana (EPP)	30/09/2024
	Shadow rapporteur MORENO SÁNCHEZ Javier (S&D) VAN DIJCK Kris (ECR) KARLSBRO Karin (Renew) MARZÀ IBÁÑEZ Vicent (Greens/EFA)	

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade		

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
PECH Fisheries		

Council of the European Union	
European Commission	Commission DG: Secretariat-General — Commissioner: ŠEFČOVIČ Maroš

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/03/2024	Preparatory document	COM(2024)0097	Summary
18/09/2024	Legislative proposal published	10005/2024	Summary
07/10/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/03/2025	Vote in committee		
21/03/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A10-0036/2025	
02/04/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0052/2025	Summary
02/04/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/05/2025	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/05/2025	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2024/0052(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 175-p3 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/10/00360

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE767.917	03/03/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0036/2025	21/03/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0052/2025	02/04/2025	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	10005/2024	18/09/2024	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2024)0096	04/03/2024	
Preparatory document	COM(2024)0097	04/03/2024	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency

Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
ZOVKO Željana	Rapporteur	INTA	28/01/2025	Mission of Norway to the EU
ZOVKO Željana	Rapporteur	INTA	18/12/2024	Mission of Norway to the EU

Other Members

Transparency

Name	Date	Interest representatives
CHRISTENSEN Asger	04/09/2024	Danish Fishers Producer Organisation

Final act

Decision 2025/0962
OJ OJ L 20.05.2025

EU/Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway Agreement: EEA financial mechanism 2021-2028; EU/Norway Agreement: Norwegian financial mechanism 2021-

2028; additional Protocol to EEC/Norway Agreement; additional Protocol to EEC/Iceland Agreement

2024/0052(NLE) - 02/04/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 528 votes to 121, with 32 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of (i) the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 - April 2028, (ii) the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 - April 2028, (iii) the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway and the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland

Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the agreements and protocols.

As a reminder, the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement allows Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to participate fully in the single market. As provided for in the Agreement, and since its entry into force in 1994, these three countries have therefore financially contributed to the alleviation of economic and social disparities in the EEA. In addition, Norway has contributed through a separate financial mechanism.

As the most recent financial mechanisms expired in 2021, the Commission opened negotiations in 2022 with Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway on an agreement on their future financial contributions. In parallel, a review of the Protocols to the Agreements between the European Economic Community (EEC) and Iceland and Norway related to imports into the European Union (EU) of certain fish and fishery products, was opened.

The negotiations were concluded at the negotiators' level in November 2023 with the initiating of:

- an agreement between the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period from May 2021 to April 2028;

- an agreement between Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian financial mechanism for the period from May 2021 to April 2028;

- an additional protocol to the agreement between the EEC and Norway; and

- an additional protocol to the agreement between the EEC and Iceland.

The EEA Financial Mechanism for the period from May 2021 to April 2028 and the **Norwegian Financial Mechanism** for the period from May 2021 to April 2028 will contribute to reducing economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area and to strengthening relations between the EEA EFTA States and the beneficiary States. The EEA Financial Mechanism Agreement and the Agreement with Norway will contribute financially to economic and social cohesion within the EEA to the tune of EUR 3.268 billion over the period from May 2021 to April 2028.

The **Protocols with Iceland and Norway** will provide for new concessions for the period May 2021-April 2028. Flexibility will be provided concerning the carry-over of unexhausted quotas at the end of the period. Norway will also renew the fish transit arrangement for EU vessels landing catches in its territory.

EU/Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway Agreement: EEA financial mechanism 2021-2028; EU/Norway Agreement: Norwegian financial mechanism 2021-2028; additional Protocol to EEC/Norway Agreement; additional Protocol to EEC/Iceland Agreement

2024/0052(NLE) - 18/09/2024 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028, the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028, the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway and the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland.

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: there remains a need to alleviate economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area, and a **new mechanism for the financial contributions of the EEA EFTA States and a new Norwegian financial mechanism** should therefore be established.

On 20 May 2021, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an agreement on the future financial contributions of the EEA EFTA States to economic and social cohesion in the European Economic Area.

In addition, the special provisions on imports into the Union of certain fish and fisheries products originating in Iceland and Norway, set out in the Additional Protocols to their respective Free Trade Agreements with the European Economic Community, expired on 30 April 2021 and have been reviewed. Alongside the negotiations of a future financial contribution and as part of a comprehensive package deal, the Council therefore, on 20 May 2021, authorised the Commission to open negotiations on an agreement on market access for fish and fishery products originating in Iceland and Norway.

The Agreements and the Additional Protocols were signed, subject to the conclusion. It is now necessary to approve them on behalf of the European Union.

CONTENT: the draft Council Decision concerns the approval, on behalf of the Union, of: (i) the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028; (ii) the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028; (iii) the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway and the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland.

The EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028 and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028 ‘Norwegian Financial Mechanism’ will contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area and to the strengthening of relations between the EEA EFTA States and the Beneficiary States.

The EEA Financial Mechanism reflects the benefits drawn by the EEA EFTA States from their participation in the internal market and takes account of the aim of promoting the continuous and balanced strengthening of trade and economic relations between all Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement.

The EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism provide for consulting the Commission at a strategic level during the negotiations for the Memoranda of Understanding between the Donor States and the Beneficiary States. They also include arrangements for the Commission to provide assistance to the Beneficiary States in the consultations on the provisions for the implementation of the mechanisms. These safeguards will contribute to the efficient and timely implementation of the mechanisms, while taking full account of the needs of the Beneficiary States and of substantial difficulties that they may experience in the implementation of the financial mechanisms, including in relation to the common values and the principles of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights. In this regard, attention should be paid to the right of a Beneficiary State to be heard where measures such as the suspension of payments and the recovery of funds are concerned.

EU/Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway Agreement: EEA financial mechanism 2021-2028; EU/Norway Agreement: Norwegian financial mechanism 2021-2028; additional Protocol to EEC/Norway Agreement; additional Protocol to EEC/Iceland Agreement

2024/0052(NLE) - 04/03/2024 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the Union, the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 - April 2028, the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 - April 2028, the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway and the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland.

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: there remains a need to alleviate economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area, and a new mechanism for the financial contributions of the EEA EFTA States and a new Norwegian financial mechanism should therefore be established.

On 20 May 2021, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway on an agreement on the future financial contributions to be made by the EEA EFTA States towards improving economic and social cohesion in the European Economic Area. Formal negotiations were opened on 16 June 2022.

The negotiations were concluded at negotiators’ level with the initialling on 30 November 2023 of:

- the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on an EEA Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 – April 2028;

- the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021 – April 2028;

- the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway; and

- the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland.

CONTENT: the Commission invites the Council to adopt the decision on the conclusion of the Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism, the Agreement with Norway, the Protocol with Norway and the Protocol with Iceland.

In accordance with the Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Agreement with Norway, the EEA EFTA States will contribute financially to economic and social cohesion within the EEA to the tune of EUR 3 268 000 000 over the period from May 2021 to April 2028.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway will contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area and to the strengthening of their relations with the beneficiary States through financial contributions to the following thematic priorities:

a) European green transition;

b) democracy, rule of law and human rights;

c) social inclusion and resilience.

In parallel, the bilateral fish trade protocols with Iceland and Norway have also been reviewed. New concessions are granted for the period May 2021 - April 2028. The concessions are built on the previous protocols for the 2014-2021 period and are commensurate with the amount of the financial contributions. Flexibility is provided concerning the carry-over of unexhausted quotas at the end of the period. Norway will also renew the fish transit arrangement for EU vessels landing catches in Norway.

The Agreements and Protocols are to be applied provisionally as of the dates stipulated in their Articles, pending completion of the relevant procedures for their ratification or conclusion and entry into force.