

Eurodac system for the comparison of the fingerprints of applicants for asylum and certain other aliens for the effective application of the Dublin Convention

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The committee adopted a report by Mr Hubert PIRKER (EPP/ED, A) approving the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on 'Eurodac' subject to a number of amendments. One of these was aimed at ensuring that asylum seekers under the age of 18 years would not have their fingerprints taken (the draft regulation had set an age limit of 14 years, but the committee raised this to 18 years). Another amendment added the provision that as soon as someone has been granted refugee status, a subsidiary form of protection or other legal status his or her data are to be erased from Eurodac. Of the other amendments adopted by the committee, one changed the word "alien" into "third country national" and another was designed to prevent the data from being transferred to other public agencies, such as social security agencies.