

# Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	<a href="#">1998/2659(RSP)</a>	Procedure completed
Resolution on racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and on further steps to combat racial discrimination		
Subject 7.30.08 Action to combat racism and xenophobia		

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union			
Council configuration	Meeting	Date	
<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)</a>	<a href="#">2099</a>	28/05/1998	

Key events			
28/05/1998	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2099</a>	
18/12/1998	Debate in Parliament		
18/12/1998	Debate in Parliament		Summary
18/12/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0770/1998	
18/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/04/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/2659(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Debate or resolution on oral question/interpellation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Oral question/interpellation by Parliament		<a href="#">B4-0714/1998</a>	18/12/1998	EP	
Oral question/interpellation by Parliament		<a href="#">B4-0715/1998</a>	18/12/1998	EP	
Motion for a resolution		<a href="#">B4-1071/1998</a>	18/12/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T4-0770/1998	18/12/1998	EP	

## Resolution on racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and on further steps to combat racial discrimination

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The Committee had a discussion with Beate WINKLER, Director of the Vienna-based European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia. Ms Winkler said she was keen to support and maintain networks for combatting racism and xenophobia within the EU and emphasised the need to raise public awareness of the issue. MEPs then adopted a resolution by Michael ELLIOTT (PES, UK) on racism, xenophobia and antisemitism and further steps to combat racial discrimination. Annual debate on racism and xenophobia - In Mr ELLIOTT's resolution, the committee urges Member States who have not yet done so to ratify the Amsterdam Treaty within the first six months of 1999. It also calls on the Commission, immediately after the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty, to propose appropriate legislation on the basis of the provisions on non-discrimination set out in the new Article 13 of the EC Treaty, so as to prevent and combat discrimination on grounds of race, ethnic origin or religion, particularly in the fields of employment, education, health care, social security, housing and public and private services. It urges the EU institutions and Member States to ensure that their asylum and immigration policies are free from xenophobic tendencies, to secure in law - and bring into line with each other - the rights of asylum-seekers and immigrants in the various Member States and to support the good work carried out by local NGOs in providing legal assistance for asylum-seekers and immigrants and in promoting support for their integration. MEPs also backed the "mainstreaming" approach proposed by the Commission, but believed it was essential for one Commissioner to have prime responsibility for anti-racism measures. They urged that primary and secondary pupils and young people be invited to take part in the Commission's main activities, particularly on TV, on the Internet site installed on its Europa server for European Year Against Racism, and via the proposed prize for innovative anti-racist projects. Lastly, the committee called on the Commission, when drawing up binding legal rules, to take steps to ensure that they could actually be used in practice by the persons affected; this would include assistance in making use of the opportunities afforded by the law (e.g. by creating independent official bodies to grant the persons affected legal and financial aid to assert their rights, or by creating or extending opportunities for claiming compensation through the civil courts).