

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1995/0261(CNS)	Procedure completed
EC/Mercosur agreement: interregional framework cooperation agreement		
Subject 6.40.10 Relations with Latin America, Central America, Caribbean islands		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	RELA External Economic Relations		20/07/1995
		PPE VALDIVIELSO DE CUÉ Jaime	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy		20/12/1995
		ELDR BERTENS Jan Willem	
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		11/12/1995
		PSE CAMPOS António	
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy		21/11/1995
		PPE ESTEVAN BOLEA María Teresa	
TRAN Transport and Tourism			
DEVE Development and Cooperation		24/11/1995	
	PPE FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN Fernando		
PECH Fisheries			
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2168	22/03/1999
	General Affairs	1883	21/11/1995
	General Affairs	1871	02/10/1995
	General Affairs	1853	12/06/1995

Key events			
23/10/1995	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0504	
15/12/1995	Legislative proposal published	05398/1996	Summary
29/02/1996	Committee referral announced in		

	Parliament		
23/04/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
23/04/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0118/1996	
21/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		
21/05/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0231/1996	Summary
22/03/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/03/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/04/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0261(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 130Y; EC before Amsterdam E 113; EC before Amsterdam E 228
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RELA/4/07659

Documentation gateway

Initial legislative proposal	COM(1995)0504	23/10/1995	EC	
Legislative proposal	05398/1996	15/12/1995	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0118/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0003	23/04/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0231/1996 OJ C 166 10.06.1996, p. 0016-0040	21/05/1996	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Decision 1999/279 OJ L 112 29.04.1999, p. 0065 Summary

EC/Mercosur agreement: interregional framework cooperation agreement

- OBJECTIVE: conclusion of an interregional cooperation agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay), of the other. - SUBSTANCE: . General principle: the agreement is concluded for an indefinite duration and aims to reinforce the existing links between the parties by laying down the conditions for establishing an interregional association and by intensifying the relations between the institutions of the two parties; . Democracy clause: the agreement is founded on the respect of democratic principles and human rights; . Main elements: - regular political dialogue at all levels: this will involve contacts, exchanges of information and meetings at the appropriate level between the different authorities of MERCOSUR and

the European Union; - commercial category: intensification of the relations in order to promote the increase and the diversification of exchanges and the subsequent and progressive liberalisation of these exchanges. The agreement will favour the creation of conditions to facilitate the setting up of the interregional association, taking into account the sensitivity of certain products, in conformity with the WTO. An economic and commercial dialogue is set up in order to reinforce this cooperation. Measures are provided covering cooperation on agro-food standards, industrial cooperation, the recognition of conformity, customs matters, and on statistics and intellectual property; - economic category: the parties will facilitate, in respect of their mutual interest, the reciprocal expansion of their economy and the encouragement of international competitiveness. The agreement consists of the regional treatment of all the cooperation activities. Economic cooperation will be the subject of a regular dialogue. In this context, measures are provided which deal with industrial matters, investment promotion, the areas of energy, transport and telecommunications, scientific and technological development and environmental protection. - reinforcing integration: cooperation between the parties aims to support the integration processes of MERCOSUR in all fields. EC systems for exchanging information and technical assistance are provided to this effect. Measures are also laid down to encourage cooperation between the institutions of the European Union and of MERCOSUR. - other areas of cooperation: the agreement includes provisions which seek to improve cooperation in training and education, culture and the fight against drugs. An evolutionary clause is provided for the purpose of expanding the scope of the cooperation, if necessary. - implementation of the agreement: a Cooperation Council is set up to supervise the smooth functioning of the agreement and this will meet at ministerial level at regular intervals. ?

EC/Mercosur agreement: interregional framework cooperation agreement

The REX Committee adopted the report by Mr Jaime VALDIVIELSO DE CUÉ. The Committee called for a favourable response from Parliament, all the more because the agreement which was signed on 15 December 1995 in Madrid was of key political and diplomatic significance. The agreement would provide support to the process of regional integration and was designed to give substance to the preparatory stage for a common strategy between the EU and MERCOSUR. The ultimate objective of this agreement was to create an interregional association of a political and economic nature, founded on closer political cooperation, on the gradual and mutual liberalisation of all exchanges, on investment and on more intensive cooperation. The rapporteur welcomed the fact that the agreement attached special importance to respect for democratic principles and human rights, one of the foundations of cooperation. However, he criticized the absence of any explicit reference to parliamentary dialogue. ?

EC/Mercosur agreement: interregional framework cooperation agreement

In adopting the report by Mr Jaime VALDIVIELSO DE CUÉ (PPE, E), the European Parliament approved the conclusion of a framework agreement between the Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Mercosur and its member countries, of the other part. This agreement would support the regional integration process and was designed to give substance to the preparatory stage for a common strategy between the Union and Mercosur. The report welcomed the fact that the agreement attached special importance to respect for democratic principles and human rights, one of the foundations of cooperation. However, it criticised the absence of any explicit reference to parliamentary dialogue. ?

EC/Mercosur agreement: interregional framework cooperation agreement

PURPOSE : to conclude an interregional framework cooperation Agreement between the Member States and MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) and its Party States (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay). **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Council Decision 1999/279/EC concerning the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the interregional framework cooperation agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and MERCOSUR and its Party States, of the other part. **CONTENT :** the Agreement is concluded for an indefinite duration and aims to reinforce the existing links between the parties by laying down the conditions to the setting up of an interregional association and by intensifying the relations between the institutions of the two parties. It is based on the respect of democratic principles and human rights and is characterised by the following elements : - regular political dialogue at all levels: this will involve contacts, exchanges of information and meetings at the appropriate levels between the different authorities of the MERCOSUR and its Party States and the European Union; - commercial aspects: intensification of the relations in order to promote the increase and the diversification of exchanges and the subsequent liberalisation and progress of these exchanges. The Agreement will favour the creation of conditions to facilitate the setting up of the interregional association, taking into account the sensitivity of certain products, in conformity with the WTO. An economic and commercial dialogue is set up in order to reinforce this cooperation. Information is provided covering co-operation on agro-food standards, industrial cooperation, the recognition of conformity, customs matters, and on statistics and intellectual property; - economic section : the parties will facilitate, in respect of their mutual interest, the reciprocal expansion of their economy and the encouragement of international competitiveness. The Agreement consists of the regional treatment of all the cooperation activities. Economic co-operation will be the subject of a regular dialogue. In this framework, measures are provided on industrial, investment promotion, in the fields of energy, transport, telecommunications, scientific and technological development and in environmental protection; - to reinforce integration : the cooperation between the parties aims to support the integration processes of MERCOSUR and its Party States in all fields. The EC's system for exchanging information and technical assistance make provision to this effect. Measures are also laid down in order to encourage cooperation between the institutions of the European Union and of MERCOSUR and its Party States. - other fields of cooperation : the Agreement includes provisions that seek to improve cooperation in training and education, culture and the combat against drugs. An evolutionary clause is provided for the purpose of expanding the scope of EC/MERCOSUR cooperation. - implementation of the Agreement : a Cooperation Council is set up to supervise the good functioning of the Agreement and will meet at ministerial level at regular intervals. **ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT:** 01.07.1999.?