

Procedure file

Basic information		
RSO - Internal organisation decisions	2000/2580(RSO)	Procedure completed
Decision setting up a temporary committee on the Echelon interception system		
Subject 8.40.01.06 Committees, interparliamentary delegations		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
05/07/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0301/2000	Summary
05/07/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/04/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2580(RSO)
Procedure type	RSO - Internal organisation decisions
Procedure subtype	Parliament organisation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 207-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Motion for a resolution		B5-0593/2000	05/07/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T5-0301/2000 OJ C 121 24.04.2001, p. 0036-0131	05/07/2000	EP	Summary

Decision setting up a temporary committee on the Echelon interception system

The European Parliament has adopted a decision to set up a temporary committee on the ECHELON interception system. The temporary committee will have the following powers: 1) to verify the existence of the communication interception system known as ECHELON, whose operation is described in the STOA report published under the title "Development of surveillance technology and risks of abuse of economic information"; 2) to assess the compatibility of such a system with Community law, in light of the following questions: - are the rights of the European citizens protected against activities of secret services? - is encryption an adequate and sufficient protection to guarantee citizens' privacy or should additional measures be taken and if so what kind of measures? - how can the EU institutions be made better aware of the

risks posed by these activities and what measures to be taken? - to ascertain whether European industry is put at risk by the global interception of communications; - possibly, to make proposals for political and legislative initiatives. Lastly, the Parliament decides that the temporary committee will have 36 members.?