

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1996/0042(CNS) Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Community policy in the field of telecommunications and postal services	
Subject 3.30.03 Telecommunications, data transmission, telephone 3.30.09 Postal services, parcel delivery services	

Key players			
European Parliament Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Telecommunications	<a href="#">1949</a>	27/09/1996

Key events			
11/04/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0045	Summary
17/06/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/09/1996	Debate in Council	<a href="#">1949</a>	Summary
12/09/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/09/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/0042(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 235
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	ECON/4/07888

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(1996)0045</a> <a href="#">OJ C 192 03.07.1996, p. 0004</a>	11/04/1996	EC	Summary
Committee opinion	<b>ENER</b>	PE218.586/DEF	26/08/1996	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES1073/1996</a> <a href="#">OJ C 030 30.01.1997, p. 0018</a>	25/09/1996	ESC	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

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## Community policy in the field of telecommunications and postal services

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**OBJECTIVE:** the proposal for a Decision seeks to define and implement Community policy in the field of telecommunications and postal services and provide for monitoring as regards enforcement of legislation adopted under that policy. **SUBSTANCE:** the Treaty and a number of Council and EP resolutions and Directives call on the Commission to act in various ways with a view to determining measures serving to define and implement Community policy on telecommunications and postal services. The policy will aim not least to establish a regulatory framework enabling the internal market gradually to be completed, harmonize the general principles governing access to network infrastructure and the use to be made thereof, define universal service and lay down the means of financing it, improve coherence and cohesion within the EC, promote the development of new audio-visual services, interconnect networks and make them interoperable on a Community-wide scale, using the trans-European telecommunications networks in particular, and explore certain external policy aspects. In pursuing its work, the Commission will initiate analysis, draw up assessments and progress reports, consult industry and the public, frame legislative proposals, monitor the application of legislation, ensure that European standards are in place in good time, and guarantee the provision of sufficient frequency resources throughout the EU. A range of supporting activities will be undertaken in addition to these measures. Studies will thus be commissioned, and seminars and consultations of experts held with a view to analysing markets, technologies, objectives, and policies. Work will likewise be commissioned in order to determine what steps might be taken to foster cohesion and international cooperation, and tasks will be assigned to standards organizations and bodies responsible for allocating frequencies. ?

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The Committee endorses the Commission's objective. However, it thinks that the proposing of a Council Decision should be seen not only as an administrative exercise to fill in a legal vacuum but also as a means to stimulate good financial and management practice within the Commission. The Committee deems it highly important for the Commission to have financial resources for the relevant support actions. The Committee is of the opinion that, among the support activities, monitoring the application of Community legislation must get high priority. ?

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The ministers declared that they would prefer to see a directive adopted. This work was to be entrusted to the Permanent Representatives Committee, whose remit would be to reach agreement on a project that would represent a gradual move towards liberalisation by drawing up a timetable and by submitting proposals designed to help find dates agreeable to all parties.