

Procedure file

Basic information		
SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	1996/0173(SYN)	Procedure completed
Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999		
Subject		
2.80 Cooperation between administrations		
8.60 European statistical legislation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		
	Former committee responsible		
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		29/05/1996
		PPE LULLING Astrid	
	Former committee for opinion		
BUDG Budgets			04/09/1996
		ARE DELL'ALBA Gianfranco	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Environment	1978	09/12/1996
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	1960	11/11/1996
	Telecommunications	1941	27/06/1996

Key events			
26/03/1996	Additional information		Summary
27/06/1996	Debate in Council	1941	Summary
08/07/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0319	Summary
19/07/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
09/09/1996	Vote in committee		
09/09/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0274/1996	
20/09/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
20/09/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0500/1996	Summary

16/10/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0484	Summary
11/11/1996	Council position published	09984/1/1996	Summary
14/11/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
20/11/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		
28/11/1996	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0635/1996	Summary
09/12/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
09/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
18/12/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/0173(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 129D; Rules of Procedure EP 66_o-p4; Rules of Procedure EP 163
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ECON/4/08389

Documentation gateway

Document attached to the procedure	06933/1996	02/07/1996	CSL	
Legislative proposal	COM(1996)0319	08/07/1996	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0274/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0003	09/09/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0500/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0240-0264	20/09/1996	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0484 OJ C 343 15.11.1996, p. 0009	16/10/1996	EC	Summary
Council position	09984/1/1996 OJ C 372 09.12.1996, p. 0006	11/11/1996	CSL	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0635/1996 OJ C 380 16.12.1996, p. 0012-0018	28/11/1996	EP	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2003)0088	25/02/2003	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Decision 1996/715 OJ L 327 18.12.1996, p. 0034 Summary

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

On 26 March 1996 the Court delivered a ruling in case number C-271/94 (the European Parliament versus the Council of the European Union) on the decision concerning trans-European telematic networks, EDICOM (OJ C 180 of 22.06.96, p. 8 and 9). This ruling revoked Council Decision 94/445/EC of 11 July 1994. The effect of those Commission decisions already adopted on the basis of the decision now revoked was to be maintained until a new decision adopted on an appropriate legal basis came into force.

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

The Council reached political agreement, by qualified majority, on the common position. The German and the United Kingdom delegations did not rally to the Presidency compromise accepted by the other delegations.

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

This proposal is designed to replace Council Decision 96/445/EC on telematic networks for statistics relating to the trading of goods between Member States (EDICOM), annulled by the Court of Justice on 26 March 1996 on the grounds that it had an inappropriate legal basis, following the appeal lodged by Parliament. The Commission is now submitting as a 'new' proposal the original text of the proposal adopted before the entry into force of the TEU, but adopting as legal basis Article 129d(3) of the Treaty (in place of Article 100a) to enable the programme to continue. The text proposed by the Commission continues to refer to the establishment of the internal market, whilst the chosen legal basis concerns the establishment of the trans-European networks. Moreover, this proposal is identical in content to Council Decision 94/445/EC (EDICOM) and takes no account either of the discussions within the Council and the EP, or of relevant developments following the entry into force of the TEU, or of the adoption of the initial telecommunications guidelines for the ISDN and the TELECOM-TEN. For the record, the purpose of this measure is to support the application of the INTRASTAT Regulation as regards the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics on the trading of goods between Member States by means of increased use of telematic networks and by promoting the exchange of data between businesses and national and Community administrations. On the basis of this Europe-wide multiannual measure (1996-2000), it is possible to increase the level of harmonization of data and procedures by using standardized electronic forms and to reduce?

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In adopting the report by Mrs Astrid LULLING (PPE), Parliament approved the Commission proposal, while pointing out that the measures aimed at ensuring the interoperability of telematic networks between administrations fall within the framework of priorities adopted in relation to the guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks. ?

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

The Commission's modified proposal incorporates the amendment adopted by Parliament and emphasizes, in a new recital, that the measures aimed at ensuring the interoperability of telematic networks between administrations fall within the framework of priorities adopted in relation to the guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks. ?

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

The common position of the Council closely follows the modified proposal. It also incorporates Parliament's sole amendment and endorses the Commission's interpretation that the aim is to emphasize the priority to be given to Edicom activities - which go back to 1993 - and to ensure that they are coordinated with other activities relating to the trans-European networks. In order to ensure that the activities undertaken could be continued rapidly the Council departed from the Commission's modified proposal as regards the following provisions, which formed part of the

policy agreement reached by it when adopting Decision 94/445/EC: - the duration of the Decision is set at three years so that the expiry date will still be 1999 as in the annulled Decision; - inclusion of a financial reference amount in accordance with the declaration of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 6 March 1995; - to ensure consistency with the three-year duration, there is simply provision for the Commission to submit a report on the Decision's implementation when the Decision actually expires. ?

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

The European Parliament approved the common position. ?

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

OBJECTIVE: to establish a multiannual action to ensure a satisfactory level of information on the trading of goods between Member States through increased use of automatic data processing and electronic data transmission. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 96/715/EC on inter-administration telematic networks for statistics relating to the trading of goods between Member States (EDICOM). SUBSTANCE: the EDICOM project seeks to facilitate the implementation of the INTRASTAT regulation for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics on trading of goods between Member States through increased use of telematic networks and encouraging the exchange of data between businesses, national and Community authorities. The project comes within the priorities selected for the guidelines on transeuropean telecommunications networks. This multiannual project lasts for three years (1996-1999) and should enable the development of harmonized data and procedures through the use of standardized electronic forms and should help to ease the task of businesses to provide information. The total funding for the implementation of EDICOM is ECU 30 million for the whole period. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 09/12/1996 ?

Statistics on the trading of goods between Member States: computer networks between administrations, EDICOM 1996-1999

This document consists of the report from the Commission on the implementation of the EDICOM programme (1997-1999). The purpose of this report is to provide information on the results of the actions undertaken in 1997-1999 in connection with the 1996 Edicom Decision, in accordance with Article 9 of the Decision. The main results at the completion of the programme were as follows: - the programme helped considerably in introducing the Intrastat system under suitable conditions; - in particular, it allowed the design, development and promotion of electronic Intrastat declaration forms distributed to more than 50 000 firms required to provide statistical information; - it allowed the infrastructure for collecting, processing, transmitting and disseminating statistical information to be modernised in the Member States and at Eurostat, with a notable positive impact on information quality, dissemination times and arrangements for access to statistics, especially the development of the Comext data base, which is now a reference tool at Eurostat; - it was involved in the work of standardising messages and promoting electronic data exchange resulting in a considerable improvements to data bases, their speedy availability and reduced costs of statistical production; - it allowed the computerisation of the management and dissemination of information related to the nomenclature, as well as the availability of such information to internal and external users; - it was involved in improving and harmonising statistical methods, thus contributing to better data quality; - it was involved, as part of the SLIM initiative, in adapting Intrastat rules to the needs of the internal market by ensuring a better balance between user requirements and the burden placed on information providers. On the basis of these results, the Commission (Eurostat) in 1999 proposed guidelines on the future of statistics on trade in goods in a strategic document which was the outcome of broad consultation with national administrations and professional circles. These guidelines recommended that statistical methods be adapted and that modernisation efforts be continued with a view to easing further the burden on firms, while boosting the effectiveness of the statistical system. In this context, a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council outlining a five-year work programme was adopted in 2001. The two main objectives of the programme were: - to encourage the organisation of the statistical network in the most modern, rational and effective manner possible and to adopt measures necessary for improving and harmonising the methods used, in order to produce statistics which are more reliable and less expensive for the information providers and administrations, become available more quickly and better satisfy the expectations of users; - to develop existing computer tools for the collection, production, transmission and dissemination of statistical data, taking into account the latest technological advances and seeking to optimise cost-effectiveness. The work has begun. In cooperation with the Member States the Commission will regularly review the actions financed under the Decision, in order to ascertain whether the stated objectives have been attained and to provide guidelines for improving the effectiveness of future actions.?