




# Procedure file

Basic information		
SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	<a href="#">1997/0148(SYN)</a>	Procedure completed
Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included		
Subject 3.20.01 Air transport and air freight		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Transport and Tourism		29/10/1997
		I-EDN <a href="#">VAN DAM Rijk</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
	 Transport and Tourism		29/10/1997
		I-EDN <a href="#">VAN DAM Rijk</a>	
	Former committee for opinion		
	 Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN</a>	<a href="#">2160</a>	08/02/1999
	<a href="#">Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)</a>	<a href="#">2117</a>	24/09/1998
	<a href="#">Transport, Telecommunications and Energy</a>	<a href="#">2108</a>	17/06/1998

Key events			
09/07/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0246	Summary
15/09/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/03/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
17/03/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0089/1998</a>	
14/05/1998	Debate in Parliament		Summary
15/05/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0299/1998	Summary
15/06/1998	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0381	Summary
24/09/1998	Council position published	<a href="#">10029/2/1998</a>	Summary

22/10/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
24/11/1998	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
24/11/1998	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A4-0433/1998</a>	
03/12/1998	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0703/1998	Summary
08/02/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
08/02/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/02/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/0148(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 075; EC before Amsterdam E 084-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/10465

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(1997)0246</a> <a href="#">OJ C 267 03.09.1997, p. 0067</a>	09/07/1997	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	<a href="#">CES0105/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 095 30.03.1998, p. 0027</a>	28/01/1998	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0089/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0004</a>	17/03/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0299/1998 <a href="#">OJ C 167 01.06.1998, p. 0288-0297</a>	15/05/1998	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(1998)0381</a> <a href="#">OJ C 240 31.07.1998, p. 0017</a>	15/06/1998	EC	Summary
Council position	<a href="#">10029/2/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 360 23.11.1998, p. 0069</a>	24/09/1998	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1998)1708	14/10/1998	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A4-0433/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 398 21.12.1998, p. 0004</a>	24/11/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0703/1998 <a href="#">OJ C 398 21.12.1998, p. 0017-0034</a>	03/12/1998	EP	Summary

### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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### Final act

[Regulation 1999/323](#)

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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OBJECTIVE: to update the rules on computerized reservation systems (CRSs). SUBSTANCE: the European Commission proposes to update and widen the scope of the existing Code of Conduct which ensures transparency and non-discriminatory application of computerized reservation systems for air carriers and the CRS industry. The main amendment proposed concerns the inclusion of rail services to be supplied by CRSs to travellers and travel agencies, particularly as regards timetables and the possibilities of train connections from airports throughout the Union. The Commission also proposes that travel agencies should come within the scope of the Code of Conduct, in the same way as the air carriers and those who run the various existing CRSs in Europe, in order to ensure that the rule of neutrality and the rule of objectivity in granting information on available flights are respected in the direct relations between travel agencies and their customers. Finally, the Commission proposes to make binding a series of recommendations, laid down in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Code of Ethics, aimed at reducing the cost of running CRSs. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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On the whole, the Committee welcomes the Commission's proposed amendments to the code of conduct for the use of CRSs. However, on a number of detailed, but important points the Committee believes additional changes are required. In particular : the Commission should produce regular reports on the operation of the CRS code. it should monitor the effectiveness of the new rules dealing with unnecessary bookings, in cooperation with airline and travel agency representatives; the code should specify precisely the obligations of all the parties involved in the display of rail services in order to avoid argument and delay.?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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A Commission proposal seeking to amend Council Regulation 2299/89 on a code of conduct for computerised reservation systems (CRS) in the field of air transportation was welcomed by the Committee. These systems provide information concerning airline schedules and fares as well as other services to millions of EU air travellers. They also provide for the automatic confirmation of reservations and the automatic issuing of tickets and relevant vouchers. As there had been many complaints about the rules from airlines and consumer bodies, the Commission now proposes to revise the CRS. Main elements of the revision are: -travel agents will be brought directly under the scope of the code of conduct; -the scope of the present code will be extended to allow rail services (especially high speed trains) to be integrated into the systems' primary displays, and -the charging policy will be subject to stricter conditions. Rapporteur Rijk VAN DAM (I-EN, NL) had requested opinions on the Commission's proposal from the air carriers, the railways, the travel agents and consumers. He took the view that the proposed amendments to the code of conduct strike a reasonable balance between the interests of the various parties concerned. Nevertheless, the rapporteur had tabled a number of technical amendments to the Commission proposal, which were unanimously adopted.?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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Commissioner Marín said that the amendments proposed by the rapporteur could be accepted, except for the second part of Amendment No 8 for reasons of consistency and Amendment No 11 which, on the classification of flights, did not take account of a new classification proposed by the Commission as a result of recent advances in the aviation sector.

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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In adopting the report by Mr Rijk van DAM (I-EDN, NL) Parliament approved the Commission proposal amending the code of conduct for computerised reservation systems (CRSs) with regard to the obligation of subscribers, the inclusion of rail services within the scope of this code and the tariff policy. Parliament stressed that the consumer should not be misled and called for steps to be taken to ensure that there was no discrimination between air and rail transport products. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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The Commission's amended proposal accepted Parliament's amendments seeking to: - provide clarification on the inclusion of rail products in the principal display; - give a wider definition of the rail operator; - extend data protection to rail services included in the principal display; - reinforce the protection of personal data and allowing subscribers or small and medium sized airlines to purchase information which they were

not previously able to afford; - clarify the context in which a rail operator can be considered as a participating carrier; - avoid unnecessary passive bookings; - allow separate coupons for all sectors; - require CRS to designate the carriers on a non-discriminatory basis; - set out clearly the limits the booking fee should not exceed. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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The common position adopted by the Council corresponds largely to the amended proposal submitted by the Commission and takes on board most of the amendments (11 in total) adopted by the European Parliament. Some adjustments were introduced by the Council with a view to clarifying the application of the code in particular as regards the basis on which CRSs charge for the services they provide, the definition of financial arrangement and the provision of information concerning individual bookings in accordance with Community data protection legislation. The amendments included in the common position basically seek to: - enable an integration of rail services and specify the provisions on their integration; - strengthen the protection of personal data, while at the same time enabling subscribers or small and medium-sized airlines to purchase information which was not previously available to them; - ensure that billing information on magnetic data is not treated differently from other billing supports; - strengthen the principle that if the consumer contacts the air carrier directly either at its offices or through Internet he should not be misled and the identity of the carrier(s) in question should be clearly identified at all time; - clarify the context when a rail operator can be considered as a participating carrier; - avoid unnecessary passive bookings; - maintain the current display ranking. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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The Commission supports the common position which reflects the Commission's aim of making the necessary amendments to Regulation 2299/89/EEC in order to reinforce the rules applicable to subscribers, include rail options, regulate the situation for services distributed via the Internet and to clarify the principles for charging. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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The Committee on Transport and Tourism adopted the report by Rijk VAN DAM (I-EN, NL) on the Commission proposal seeking to amend Council Regulation 2299/89 on a code of conduct for computerised reservation systems (CRS) in the field of air transportation (cooperation procedure, second reading). These systems provide information concerning airline schedules and fares as well as other services to millions of EU air travellers. They also provide for the automatic confirmation of reservations and the automatic issuing of tickets and relevant vouchers. As there had been many complaints about the rules from airlines and consumer bodies, the Commission had proposed to revise the CRS. Main elements of the revision are that travel agents will be brought directly under the scope of the present code of conduct and that the scope of that code will be extended to allow rail services (especially high speed trains) to be integrated into the system's primary displays. The charging policy will be subject to stricter conditions. In its common position, the Council had incorporated most of the rapporteur's amendments. Therefore, no new amendments have been tabled. ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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Parliament adopted without debate the recommendation for second reading by Mr Rijk VAN DAM (I-EDN, NL) on a code of conduct for computerised reservation systems (CRSs). ?

## Transports: computerised reservation systems CRSs, code of conduct (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89). Report included

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PURPOSE: to update the rules for computer reservation systems (CRSs). COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation 323/1999/EC amending regulation 2299/89/EEC on a code of conduct for computer reservation systems (CRSs). CONTENT: the regulation extends the field of application of regulation 2299/89/EEC and alters its provisions in order to: - enable the integration of rail services into the CRS principle display and ensure that rail service operators distributing their services through CRSs are subject to conditions comparable to those imposed on air carriers; - including in the code's field of application systems which directly and electronically provide information to the consumer; - specifying the basis on which parent carriers should be charged for bookings they are required to accept from competing CRSs; - specifying the basis on which the CRSs set fees for the services which they provide to participating carriers and subscribers; - ensuring that third parties which provide services on behalf of a CRS are subject to the same obligations as the code imposes on that CRS. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 15/03/1999.?