


Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision 1988/0169B(COD) procedure) Directive	Procedure completed
Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation	
Subject 3.10.10 Foodstuffs, foodstuffs legislation 4.60.04.04 Food safety	

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2158	25/01/1999
	Social Affairs	2081	07/04/1998
	Energy	2035	27/10/1997
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2007	21/05/1997

Key events			
02/12/1988	Legislative proposal published	COM(1988)0654	Summary
27/07/1989	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
25/09/1989	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
25/09/1989	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A3-0029/1989	
10/10/1989	Debate in Parliament		
11/10/1989	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T3-0083/1989	Summary
15/11/1989	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1989)0576	Summary
24/11/1993	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
24/11/1993	Committee report tabled for plenary confirming Parliament's position	A3-0365/1993	
02/12/1993	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T3-0683/1993	Summary
27/10/1997	Council position published	10062/1/1997	Summary
06/11/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		

03/02/1998	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
03/02/1998	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0042/1998	
18/02/1998	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0078/1998	Summary
07/04/1998	Parliament's amendments rejected by Council		
15/10/1998	Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee		
08/12/1998	Final decision by Conciliation Committee		Summary
09/12/1998	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3632/1998	
20/01/1999	Report tabled for plenary, 3rd reading	A4-0008/1999	
25/01/1999	Decision by Council, 3rd reading		
28/01/1999	Decision by Parliament, 3rd reading	T4-0052/1999	Summary
22/02/1999	Final act signed		
22/02/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/03/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1988/0169B(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 100A
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1988)0654 OJ C 336 30.12.1988, p. 0007	02/12/1988	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0678/1989 OJ C 194 31.07.1989, p. 0014	31/05/1989	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A3-0029/1989 OJ C 291 20.11.1989, p. 0006	25/09/1989	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T3-0083/1989 OJ C 291 20.11.1989, p. 0038-0067	11/10/1989	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(1989)0576 OJ C 303 02.12.1989, p. 0015	15/11/1989	EC	Summary
Reconsultation		COM(1993)0570	10/11/1993	EC	
Committee final report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A3-0365/1993 OJ C 342 20.12.1993, p. 0003	24/11/1993	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament confirming position adopted at 1st reading		T3-0683/1993 OJ C 342 20.12.1993, p.	02/12/1993	EP	Summary

		0015-0033			
Council position		10062/1/1997 OJ C 389 22.12.1997, p. 0047	27/10/1997	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position		SEC(1997)2043	04/11/1997	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0042/1998 OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0005	03/02/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0078/1998 OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0084-0133	18/02/1998	EP	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading		COM(1998)0188	19/03/1998	EC	Summary
Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs		3632/1998	09/12/1998	CSL/EP	
Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading		A4-0008/1999 OJ C 128 07.05.1999, p. 0002	20/01/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading		T4-0052/1999 OJ C 128 07.05.1999, p. 0014-0066	28/01/1999	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission

[EUR-Lex](#)

Final act

[Directive 1999/3](#)
[OJ L 066 13.03.1999, p. 0024](#) Summary

Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation

The Commission proposal has been divided into two parts, giving rise to two common positions providing for the simultaneous adoption of: - a framework Directive laying down general provisions, - an implementing Directive establishing, without prejudice to the final positive list, an initial positive list of food and food ingredients that may be treated with ionizing radiation. The texts adopted have taken account of most of the amendments tabled at first reading. The common position on the implementing directive provides for the establishing of an initial positive list of foodstuffs which may be treated with ionizing radiation. This list is limited to dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings. ?

Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation

Adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mrs Undine Bloch von Blottnitz (Greens, D), Parliament amended the common position on a Community list of foods and food ingredients treated with ionizing radiation. Parliament called for the annex to include the categories of foodstuffs for which ionizing radiation was authorized, as well as the maximum overall average dose which might be imparted and the analytical test procedure to be applied. ?

Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation

Long-awaited legislation on the irradiation of food was approved yesterday 8 December by the joint Parliament/Council Conciliation Committee. The full House is expected to adopt the text in January at about the same time as the Council. The aim is to harmonize national laws so as to create a level playing field in this area of the single market. At present, according to the rapporteur, Undine-Uta BLOCH VON BLOTTNITZ (Greens, D), food irradiation is a commercial practice in only three Member States (France, Belgium and the Netherlands), while Germany and Sweden have banned it. The original Commission proposal was made in 1988. Parliament held a first reading in 1989, but the second reading was held up until February this year pending agreement in Council on a common position. The final compromise texts incorporate much of the substance of the 14 second-reading amendments adopted by Parliament. The legislation adopted involves two texts: 1. A framework directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning food and food ingredients treated with ionizing radiation. The directive lays down conditions for the manufacture, marketing, import and compulsory labelling of irradiated foodstuffs and for

the authorization of irradiation facilities; 2. An implementing directive establishing a Community list of foods and food ingredients treated with ionizing radiation. Initially, the list contains only one category of food (dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings). Other foods can only be added to the list via the codecision procedure. In the meantime, Member States may maintain existing restrictions. Council accepted Parliament's view that ionizing radiation should not be used as a substitute for hygiene or health practices or good manufacturing or agricultural practice. It also accepted a parliamentary amendment acknowledging that consumers may have cause for concern about the consequences of the use of food irradiation. Parliament was also keen to ensure that the methods used to test whether foodstuffs have been irradiated are effective. To meet this concern, the Council agreed that Member States must inform the Commission of the test methods used and that these methods must be standardized or validated.?

Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation

The Parliament approved the joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee for a Directive on the establishment of a Community list of foods and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation. The Parliament's Rapporteur was Ms. U. BLOCH von BLOTTNITZ (D, Green).?

Food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation

PURPOSE: to establish a Community list of foods and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation. COMMUNITY MEASURE: directive 1999/3/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. CONTENT: the implementing directive of framework directive 1999/2/EC establishes, without prejudice to the definitive Community positive list, an initial positive list of food and food ingredients, hereinafter referred to as "foodstuffs", that may be treated with ionising radiation. This list is limited to a single category of foodstuff (dried aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings). Other foodstuffs may be added to this list, but only as a result of a codecision procedure. In the meantime, the Member States may, under certain conditions, maintain existing restrictions. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20/03/1999. DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION: 20/09/2000.?