


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure	1998/0902(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Criminal matters: mutual assistance between the Member States		
Subject 7.40.04 Judicial cooperation in criminal matters		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs		18/03/1998
		I-EDN BUFFETAUT Stéphane	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2184	27/05/1999
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2166	12/03/1999
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2146	03/12/1998
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2116	24/09/1998
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2099	28/05/1998
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2075	19/03/1998

Key events			
15/01/1998	Legislative proposal published	05202/1998	Summary
29/01/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/03/1998	Debate in Council	2075	
30/03/1998	Vote in committee		
30/03/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0122/1998	
02/04/1998	Debate in Parliament		
03/04/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0216/1998	Summary
28/05/1998	Debate in Council	2099	
24/09/1998	Debate in Council	2116	
	Debate in Council		

03/12/1998		2146	
12/03/1999	Debate in Council	2166	
01/05/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/05/1999	Debate in Council	2184	

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0902(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	Treaty on the European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.6; Rules of Procedure EP 050
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		05202/1998	15/01/1998	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0122/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0015	30/03/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0216/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0200-0208	03/04/1998	EP	Summary

Criminal matters: mutual assistance between the Member States

OBJECTIVE: to draw up a Convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters. CONTENT: the purpose of this draft Convention is to facilitate and improve the efficiency of mutual assistance between the criminal authorities in the Member States in conjunction with the provisions of the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of the Council of Europe (1959), the Schengen legislation and the Benelux Treaty on extradition and mutual assistance (1962). The current draft authorises controlled deliveries, examination of witnesses using video-conferencing and facilitates the circulation of requests for mutual assistance. However, phone-tapping, house-searches and arrest are not included in its scope of application. The present draft Convention will need to be ratified by all 15 Member States in order to enter into force.?

Criminal matters: mutual assistance between the Member States

In adopting the report by Mr Stéphane BUFFETAUT (I-EDN, F) on the draft Convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters, Parliament wished to make the draft Convention more effective. To this end it stressed the fundamental importance of judicial cooperation in combating organized crime, the need to establish instruments which were consistent and easy to apply and the honest and efficient nature of the cooperation required. Parliament considered that there must be encouragement of mutual confidence between the Member States and judicial authorities in their European partners and accessibility. Parliament also took into account in its amendments the need for investigations and trials to be swift and fair, the needs of the defence, the elimination of obstacles to achieving European cooperation and the need to encourage direct communication between judicial authorities. Lastly, Parliament called on the Member States to give the European Court of Justice jurisdiction to interpret the Convention. ?