


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1998/0077(CNS)	Procedure completed
EC/Estonia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 63 1 and 2 of the Agreement)		
Subject 6.40.02.02 Relations with northern Europe and the Baltic States		
Geographical area Estonia		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	RELA External Economic Relations		04/06/1998
		I-EDN VAN DAM Rijk	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		25/06/1998
		V WOLF Friedrich	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2173	26/04/1999
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2115	20/07/1998

Key events			
04/03/1998	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0118	Summary
20/07/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/10/1998	Legislative proposal published	04214/1998	
16/11/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/11/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
24/11/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0472/1998	
12/01/1999	Debate in Parliament		
13/01/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0012/1999	Summary
26/04/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/0077(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 235; EC before Amsterdam E 228-p2/3-a1; EC before Amsterdam E 087
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RELA/4/10520

Documentation gateway					
Initial legislative proposal		COM(1998)0118	04/03/1998	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		04214/1998	28/10/1998	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0472/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0006	24/11/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0012/1999 OJ C 104 14.04.1999, p. 0037-0058	13/01/1999	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Decision 1999/609 OJ L 144 09.06.1999, p. 0016-0019 Summary

EC/Estonia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 63 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

OBJECTIVE: to define the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council between the European Union and the Republic of Estonia on the implementation of the provisions of the Europe Agreement on competition provisions applicable to undertakings.

SUBSTANCE: the competition provisions of the Europe Agreement concluded between the European Communities and Estonia (see procedure file AVC95130) form part of the fundamental provisions of the agreement. Their actual implementation through the adoption of the rules proposed in this proposal for a decision is a prerequisite for the smooth development of trade relations between the parties. To this end the proposal: - lays down procedures for cooperation between the two parties' competition authorities, - confirms the principles embodied in the block exemption rules in force in the Community, - provides for a consultation procedure within the Association Council should disagreement arise between the authorities referred to above. The proposal also makes provision, in accordance with Article 2(1) of the Decision of the Council and the Commission of 19 December 1997 on the conclusion of the Europe Agreement (98/180/EC/ECSC/Euratom), concerning the position that the Community should adopt in the Association Council. It is to be laid down in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the Treaties establishing the three Communities. The legal basis for the position to be adopted by the Community in the Association Council with regard to rules of the implementation of the competition provisions applicable to undertakings is therefore Articles 87, 235 and 228 of the EC Treaty and Article 65 and 66 of the ECSC Treaty. ?

EC/Estonia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 63 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

The Committee endorsed unanimously the report Mr van DAM (I-EDN,NL) recommending to the plenary the approval of the Commission's proposals concerning the position to be taken by the Community, within the Association Council established by the Association Agreement

with Estonia on the rules for the implementation of the provision in that Agreement that the parties shall conduct a competition policy and apply public aid in accordance with identical basic principles (consultation procedure). The Association Agreements were signed in June 1995 and entered into force on 1 February 1998, following their ratification by the European Parliament and the parliaments of all Member States. The Draft Decisions of the respective Association Councils as proposed by the Commission lay down fundamental principles of competition policy, the competent competition authorities, procedures for consultation and information in cases of mutual interest and cooperation between authorities. The Association Agreements lay down that the Association Council for each country shall adopt the necessary implementing provisions by the end of 1997. Although this deadline expired at the beginning of the year, the rapporteurs take the view that it is crucial that the European Parliament delivers its opinion as quickly as possible, so that the timetable for introduction of competition rules in the Baltic States can be brought into line with the timetable for the other associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe. ?

EC/Estonia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 63 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

The report of Rijk van Dam (NL, I-EN) supporting the proposed agreement covering competition policy and trade with Estonia was approved unamended by the European Parliament. ?

EC/Estonia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 63 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

PURPOSE : To adopt the necessary rules for the implementation of the European Agreement between the European Communities and the Republic of Estonia concerning competition provisions to undertakings. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Decision 1999/372/EC, ECSC, Euratom. CONTENT : The rules relating to the competition provisions of the European Agreement establishing an Association between the Communities and Estonia (see procedure 1995/0130/AVC) are part of the main provisions of this agreement. Their effective implementation will be by means of the adoption of the rules provided for in the present Decision 1/1999 of the Association Council between the EC and Estonia which determines the harmonious development of commercial relations between the parties. To this effect, the decision : - defines the co-operation procedures applicable between the competition authorities of the two parties; - confirms that the principles contained in the block exemption regulations in force in the Community shall be applied in full; - provides a consultation procedure in the Association Council in case of disagreement between the aforementioned authorities. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 28.04.1999. ?