


# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	<a href="#">1998/0076(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
EC/Latvia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 64 1 and 2 of the Agreement)		
Subject 6.40.02.02 Relations with northern Europe and the Baltic States		
Geographical area Latvia		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>RELA</b> External Economic Relations	GUE/NGL <a href="#">SEPPÄNEN Esko</a>	04/06/1998
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ECON</b> Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	V <a href="#">WOLF Friedrich</a>	25/06/1998
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2316</a>	20/07/1998
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2115</a>	20/07/1998

Key events			
04/03/1998	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0068	Summary
20/07/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/07/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/10/1998	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">04215/1998</a>	
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	<a href="#">A4-0443/1998</a>	
12/01/1999	Debate in Parliament		
13/01/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0011/1999	Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/0076(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 087; EC before Amsterdam E 235; EC before Amsterdam E 228-p2/3-a1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RELA/4/10519

Documentation gateway					
Initial legislative proposal		COM(1998)0068	04/03/1998	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">04215/1998</a>	28/10/1998	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A4-0443/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 398 21.12.1998, p. 0004</a>	24/11/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0011/1999 <a href="#">OJ C 104 14.04.1999, p. 0037-0057</a>	13/01/1999	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

Final act
<a href="#">Decision 2001/504</a> <a href="#">OJ L 183 06.07.2001, p. 0028-0032</a> Summary

## EC/Latvia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 64 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 Latvia 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 Latvia (see procedure file AVC95129) 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 (98/98/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/Latvia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 64 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

The Committee endorsed unanimously the report by Mr SEPPÄNEN (GUE/NGL,FIN) 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 Latvia 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/Latvia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 64 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

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The report of Esko Seppänen (EUL/NGL, Fin) supporting the proposed agreement covering competition policy and trade with Latvia was approved unamended by the European Parliament.?

## EC/Latvia Europe agreement: free competition and undertakings (art. 64 1 and 2 of the Agreement)

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PURPOSE : to conclude certain provisions relating to competition between the Community and Latvia in the framework of the Association Agreement. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Association Decision 5/2001 between the European Communities and their Member States, on the one hand, and Latvia on the other hand. CONTENT : the competition provisions of the Association Agreement concluded between the Community and Latvia (see AVC/1995/0129) form part of the fundamental provisions of this agreement. Their actual implementation through the adoption of the provisions provided in the present decision is a prerequisite for the smooth development of trade relations between the parties. To this effect, the Decision: - lays down procedures for cooperation between the two parties' competition authorities; - confirms the principles embodied in the block exemption rules in the Community; - provides for a consultation procedure within the Association Council should disagreement arise between the authorities referred to above. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 25 April 2001.?