

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1998/2135(INI)	Procedure completed
The Euro as a parallel currency		
Subject 5.20.02 Single currency, euro, euro area		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	PPE STEVENS John C.C.	03/06/1998

Key events			
19/06/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/11/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
25/11/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0447/1998	
15/12/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0722/1998	Summary
15/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/04/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/2135(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ECON/4/10247

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0447/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0004	25/11/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0722/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p.	15/12/1998	EP	Summary

The Euro as a parallel currency

By adopting the report of Mr. John STEVENS (EPP,UK) the Committee underlined that the euro will be just another foreign currency in the four pre-in countries; as more and more companies start doing business in euro it will rapidly develop into an important parallel currency accounting for as much as 15% of these countries' money supply over the next three years. This parallel use of the euro is to be welcomed as it will undoubtedly tend to accelerate British, Danish, Greek and Swedish participation in EMU. The Committee therefore calls on the Member States concerned to ensure that there are no barriers to using euro in commercial and other transactions. It also calls the ECB to set up a committee to monitor this. On the other hand, the parallel use of the euro has its risks, more companies than ever before will face exchange rate risks, while at the same time the four currencies concerned may experience significantly greater volatility against the euro. To reduce these risks, the Committee urges the four countries' governments to ensure that their policy towards the euro is as clear as possible. As the only way to completely remove the risks inherent in the parallel use of the euro is by joining the EMU, the Committee calls on the "pre-ins" to do just that as soon as possible. ?

The Euro as a parallel currency

The Resolution, which concerns the use of the Euro as a parallel currency in non-participating states (the UK, Sweden, Denmark and Greece), was approved without debate. The Resolution, drafted by Mr. STEVENS (UK, PPE) also expresses support for the countries concerned to sign up to the Euro as soon as possible.?