


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1999/2027(INI)	Procedure completed
Common strategy with the Russia Federation		
Subject 6.40.04.02 Relations with Russian Federation		
Geographical area Russian Federation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy		17/03/1999
		PPE SPENCER Tom	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2168	21/03/1999

Key events			
10/03/1999	Non-legislative basic document published	B4-0321/1999	
12/03/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/03/1999	Debate in Council	2168	
20/04/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
20/04/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0219/1999	
04/05/1999	Debate in Parliament		
05/05/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0408/1999	Summary
05/05/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
01/10/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/2027(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 134o-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		B4-0321/1999	10/03/1999	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0219/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0006	20/04/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0408/1999 OJ . 279 01.10.1999, p. 0164-0224	05/05/1999	EP	Summary

Common strategy with the Russia Federation

The Committee adopted the report by its chairman Tom SPENCER (EPP, UK) on the principle of a common strategy towards the Russian Federation. Such strategies are a product of the Amsterdam Treaty in areas where the member states have "important interests in common" and they seek to establish the political framework for the partnership to be developed between the two parties. The proposed common strategy with Russia would be the first, and its adoption is planned for the European Council summit in Cologne this June. The report expresses the hope for stronger cooperation between the EU and Moscow which will promote the rule of law and a democratic system in Russia. In the economic field the report calls on the EU to help the modernisation and development of the Russian economy and to seek to ensure that Russia's need to service its debt will not impede economic reform. The EU should endeavour to involve Russia in political initiatives of common interest in order to consolidate peace and security and should also strengthen cooperation in the fields of nuclear safety and environmental protection. A series of amendments were passed which, among other issues, call for strengthened cooperation against crime and state that all implementing decisions should be taken by qualified majority voting in Council. In a further amendment the Committee expressed the view that the quality of the common strategy with Russia is more important than its early adoption, and it therefore voted narrowly to advise the European Council to delay its adoption and to reconsider it at the next European Summit. In the meantime Parliament should be properly consulted on the contents of the common strategy. ?

Common strategy with the Russia Federation

The Parliament adopted its Resolution concerning the common strategy towards the Russian Federation, drafted by Mr. Tom SPENCER (EPP, UK). The Resolution stresses the importance of a common strategy towards Russia as a key partner of the EU. It expresses regret that Parliament was not consulted on the common strategy, but considers that any postponement of a decision on the common strategy in order to involve Parliament could send out a negative message to Moscow. ?