


# Procedure file

Basic information		
INL - Legislative initiative procedure	<a href="#">1999/2184(INL)</a>	Procedure completed
Protection of the financial interests of the European Union using criminal law		
Subject 8.70.04 Protecting financial interests of the EU against fraud		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>CONT</b> Budgetary Control		21/09/1999
		PPE-DE <a href="#">THEATO Diemut R.</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>LIBE</b> Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs		
	<b>JURI</b> Legal Affairs and Internal Market		23/09/1999
		PPE-DE <a href="#">MAYER Hans-Peter</a>	
	<b>AFCO</b> Constitutional Affairs		

Key events			
16/11/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/01/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
10/01/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0002/2000</a>	
18/01/2000	Debate in Parliament		
19/01/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0013/2000</a>	Summary
19/01/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/10/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/2184(INL)
Procedure type	INL - Legislative initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Request for legislative proposal
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 47

Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/5/12236

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A5-0002/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 304 24.10.2000, p. 0007</a>	10/01/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		<a href="#">T5-0013/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 304 24.10.2000, p. 0079-0126</a>	19/01/2000	EP	Summary

## Protection of the financial interests of the European Union using criminal law

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The committee adopted a report by Diemut THEATO (EPP/ED, D) on introducing protection under criminal law of the Union's financial interests. It contained two main demands: firstly it called on the Commission to submit legislative proposals for a comprehensive legal and judicial framework for the protection of the Union's financial interests; secondly it called for the IGC to include in its work programme a discussion on the establishment of a European public prosecutor's office with responsibility for all offences affecting the Union's financial interests. On the first point, the committee wanted the Commission to put forward legislation laying down the offences, penalties and guiding principles relating to the protection of the Union's financial interests. It also wanted an "independent European agency" exercising, under the institutional authority of the Commission, powers to coordinate and monitor the legality of OLAF's investigative activities. ?

## Protection of the financial interests of the European Union using criminal law

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The European Parliament approved the resolution drafted by Mrs. Theato (EPP/ED, D) containing its recommendations to the Commission on introducing protection under criminal law of the union's financial interests. It calls on the Commission to: - submit to it by 30.06.2000 legislative proposals enabling a comprehensive legal and judicial framework for the protection of the Union's financial interests to be established and - include in its proposals a financial statement setting out the amounts chargeable to Section III, Part A of the budget, with a view to the necessary adjustments being made to the 2000 budget. The EP points out that the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, which was drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995, must be ratified by all the Member States before it can enter into force, and calls, therefore, on the Member States which have not yet done so to ratify it as at the earliest opportunity. The Parliament calls on the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) to include in its work programme a discussion on the establishment of a European Public Prosecutor's Office with responsibility for all offences affecting the Union's financial interests. It also draws the IGC's attention to the fact that the discussions on the powers, independence and status of such a Public Prosecutor's Office, and the applicable procedure and guiding principles, should be based on the proposals set out in the Corpus Juris and the comparative criminal law study which followed it, as well as the draft set out in the report of the Committee of Independent Experts. ?