


# Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	<a href="#">2000/2007(INI)</a>	Procedure completed
Implementation of the common strategy with Russia		
Subject 6.40.04.02 Relations with Russian Federation		
Geographical area Russian Federation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>AFET</b> Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense		23/09/1999
		PPE-DE <a href="#">OOSTLANDER Arie M.</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>LIBE</b> Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs		11/04/2000
		PSE <a href="#">KESSLER Margot</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2406</a>	28/01/2002
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2356</a>	11/06/2001
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2327</a>	22/01/2001
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2316</a>	04/12/2000
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">2243</a>	14/02/2000

Key events			
21/01/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/02/2000	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2243</a>	
22/11/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
22/11/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0363/2000</a>	
04/12/2000	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2316</a>	
12/12/2000	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0561/2000</a>	Summary
13/12/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		

22/01/2001	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2327</a>	Summary
11/06/2001	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2356</a>	Summary
17/08/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		
28/01/2002	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2406</a>	Summary

### Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/2007(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	AFET/5/12345

### Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	<a href="#">A5-0363/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0008</a>	22/11/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	<a href="#">T5-0561/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0079-0176</a>	13/12/2000	EP	Summary

## Implementation of the common strategy with Russia

The committee adopted the report by Arie OOSTLANDER (EPP-ED, NL). While considering that the Common Strategy should be regarded as a unique opportunity to enter into a genuine long-term relationship with Russia and to strengthen common values, the committee also expressed criticism of certain Russian actions, notably over Chechnya. It therefore supported a "double track strategy" of condemning explicitly human rights violations and the disproportionate use of force as in the case in Chechnya, while collaborating with Russia in order to strengthen the rule of law and democratic structures of state. In particular it argued that no purely military solution to the Chechen conflict existed, and that war criminals should be brought to justice. Equally it supported the development of trade links and joint research science and technology projects with Russia, which should be a true strategic partner. There was particular support for the Northern Dimension (cooperation with North West Russia) which the committee felt had been underused. Furthermore the Kaliningrad enclave should become a pilot region for cross-border cooperation. The report said that the EU's Tacis support programme for Russia should be geared towards closer cooperative partnership rather than assistance, and wanted it to reinforce support for the achievement of a state based fully on the rule of law - partly by training civil servants in the field of justice and home affairs. It should also promote long-term economic benefits and help vulnerable groups. The report called for revision of Russian criminal law on money-laundering and a more effective implementation of legislation in this area. The EU was also urged to work with Russia to eliminate nuclear hazards - particularly on efforts to decommission obsolete nuclear submarines. Among other items, the committee wanted EU visa policies to be relaxed to make it easier for Russian students to study in the EU. It supported President Putin's tax reforms and his efforts to restore the authority of the state. It called for a proper balance between the legislative and executive powers, and stressed the need to crack down on organised crime and corruption which was endemic and was creating obstacles to Russia's economic development. Finally the committee welcomed the possibility of future Russian participation in EU-led operations and stressed the importance of studying Russian proposals aimed at increasing shared security on the continent, while maintaining full solidarity and common security within the framework of NATO.?

## Implementation of the common strategy with Russia

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mr Arie OOSTLANDER (EPP/ED, NL) by 491 votes to 19 with 35 abstentions. (Refer to the previous document). However, there was some criticism too of certain Russian actions, notably over Chechnya. Therefore, a "double track strategy" was supported. The Parliament expressed concern about the case of the journalist, Grigori Pasko, after the decision of the Military section of the Supreme Court to retry him before a Military court in Vladivostok on charges of espionage and high treason because of his reports on the dumping of nuclear wastes in the Sea of Japan by the Russian Navy. Lastly, emphasis was laid on the importance of Russia as a partner in the Balkans, and it is called to play a constructive role in the development and stabilisation of that region. ?

## Implementation of the common strategy with Russia

The Council took note of the Presidency's work plan regarding the implementation of the EU's Common Strategy on Russia, elaborated under

the responsibility of the Presidency. The Presidency aims to give special priority to a reinforced political and economic dialogue, the strengthening of civil society, the fight against organised crime, the environment, disarmament and non-proliferation as well as support for Russia's efforts to meet the requirements for WTO membership. The European Union's relations with Russia will also be further developed in the context of the Northern Dimension. In line with the conclusions of the European Council in Feira in June 2000, the Presidency will pay particular attention to the implementation of the Northern Dimension Action plan as regards i.a. the environment and nuclear safety, the fight against international crime, and the situation of Kaliningrad. A Foreign Ministers' Conference on the Northern Dimension will be held on 9 April 2001, in Luxembourg. In this context, the Presidency also underlined the continuing concerns of the EU with the situation in Chechnya in particular the humanitarian conditions of the refugees and the population as a whole. ?

## Implementation of the common strategy with Russia

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The Council approved a report of the European Council on the implementation of the Common Strategy of the EU in Russia. The report makes clear that the Union's efforts have been guided by the strategic goals as defined by the Common Strategy: - a stable, open and pluralistic democracy in Russia, governed by the rule of law and underpinning a prosperous market economy benefiting alike all the people of Russia and of the EU; - maintaining European stability, promoting global security and responding to the common challenges of the continent through intensified co-operation with Russia. In its review and evaluation the report focuses specifically on: - consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and public institutions in Russia, - integration of Russia into a common European economic and social space - co-operation to strengthen stability and security in Europe and beyond. - common challenges on the European continent. ?

## Implementation of the common strategy with Russia

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The Council took note of the Presidency's work plan on the implementation of the EU Common Strategy on Russia. The work plan places emphasis on the following objectives: - promoting the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and public institutions in Russia; - supporting economic and social reform by striving towards a common European economic space; - exploring the avenues for anti-terrorist co-operation and developing co-operation on Justice and Home affairs; - stepping up political dialogue and co-operation on security, conflict prevention and crisis management; - developing co-operation on non-proliferation and disarmament; - taking forward the discussion on Kaliningrad and possible consequences of EU enlargement for this region; - promoting dialogue and co-operation on environment, energy and nuclear safety issues; - continuing co-ordination of measures carried out by the Union and Member States to ensure the consistency and effectiveness of EU action regarding Russia. ?