Procedure file

Basic information

INI - Own-initiative procedure	2000/2038(INI)	Procedure completed
Progress achieved in implementing the CFSP, Common foreign and security policy Subject 6.10 Common foreign and security policy (CFSP)		

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	PPE-DE BROK Elmar	22/09/1999
	Committee for opinion	**Rapporteur for opinion**	**Appointed**
	BUDG Budgets	PSE HAUG Jutta	19/07/2000

Key events

18/02/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/11/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
14/11/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0340/2000	
29/11/2000	Debate in Parliament		
30/11/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0536/2000	Summary
30/11/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/08/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/2038(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55; Rules of Procedure EP P.F.
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Committee dossier	AFET/5/12379

Documentation gateway

Supplementary non-legislative basic document		05990/2000	15/05/2000	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0340/2000 OJ C 228 13.08.2001, p. 0004	14/11/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0536/2000 OJ C 228 13.08.2001, p. 0019-0165	30/11/2000	EP	Summary

Progress achieved in implementing the CFSP, Common foreign and security policy

PURPOSE : to present the annual report from the Council on the main aspects and basic options in regard to the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) in 1999. CONTENT : in conformity with point 40, section H, of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 on the budgetary discipline and the improvement of the budgetary procedure, the Council is presenting a document to the European Parliament which sets out the main aspects and basic options in regard to the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including their financial implications for the Union's budget. This third report, like the two preceding reports, focuses on the following points: 1) presenting a description of CFSP activities (joint strategies, joint actions and decisions concerning their implementation, declarations and political dialogue approaches); 2) creating an additional chapter relating to external relations of the Union in the annual report on the progress of the European Union; 3) presenting the main priorities of the Union on the subject of external relations in 2000. The report highlights the fact that the entry into force in 1999 of the Amsterdam Treaty, which laid the foundations of a more effective CFSP, was the main achievement of 1999, along with the creation of the post of High Representative (Mr Javier SOLANA) and the establishment of a management unit and rapid alert system. Amongst the important meetings held in 1999, the report cites the European Councils in Cologne and Helsinki which together established the main principles and modalities for the Union to deal with military and non-military crises in the context of a strengthened Common European policy in the field of security and defence. In 1999, the EU adopted two common strategies for Russia and Ukraine with the aim of laying the foundations of a strategic partnership. In the Balkans, the Kosovo crisis attracted attention throughout the year with intense efforts in view to finding a negotiated solution to inter-ethnic conflict. The Stability Pact for South East Europe was launched in 1999 to contribute towards reinforcing peace in the region. Furthermore, the Union has given its broad support to democratic forces in the Former Yugoslav Republic and has continued to exert pressure on President Milosovic to convince him to opt for more democratic values. In other regions of the world, the Union maintained a constructive engagement as in, for example, South Asia against the Kaboul regime, in Indonesia by launching an arms embargo with a view to supporting the process in East-Timor, in Africa where many initiatives have been taken to restore human rights and democratic principles (Ethiopia, Erithrea and Congo), in the Middle East, with the appointment of a special Union representative to this region (Mr. Miguel Moratinos). In the field of disarmament, the Union continued its efforts to achieve the objective of the total elimination of anti-personnel land mines in the world and adopted a first report on the application of the code of conduct concerning arms exports. With regard to the budget, expenses are generally linked to the sending of special envoys from the Union to regions at risk. These relate in particular to the Balkans which attract most of the Community financial efforts with assistance to Bosnia (EUR 16 million), former Yugoslavia and Kosovo (special envoy from the Union: EUR 500 000, as well as support to UNMIK: EUR 910 000) and Albania (EUR 2.6 million). The other main priorities were the Stability Pact for South East Europe as well as the Royaumont Process (assistance to promote good relations with neighbouring countries in the region) for a total of EUR 5 million; the Middle East Peace Process (around EUR 3 million); the Great Lakes Region and the Congo (more than EUR 2.2 million) and Russia (around EUR 9 million with a view to financing a disarmament programme). It should also be noted that additional financial assistance has been provided in order to continue the disarmament effort and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world. As regards the initiatives foreseen for the year 2000, the report clearly outlines the continuation of actions already under way in the regions with a greater emphasis on the situation in the Balkan region, Eastern Europe and Russia. A particular priority will be given to the development of the Union's abilities in terms of managing civil and military crises. Furthermore, another objective highlighted in the report aims to overcome the bilateral trade differences which affect the positive overall relations with the Union and the United States in 2000. Lastly, this document states that new efforts will be made in order to increase contacts with civil society and international organisations and actors. ?

Progress achieved in implementing the CFSP, Common foreign and security policy

The committee adopted the report by Elmar BROK (EPP-ED, D) expressing strong support for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) as a key element in ensuring peace and freedom and protecting the EU's values and interests. The report underlined the importance of democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights as factors for security and economic development. In particular it welcomed the EU's attempts to achieve the ultimate abolition of capital punishment and the elimination of torture. There was support for enlargement which, the committee felt, would lead to continental stability and security. However, thorough internal reform of the EU was seen as a prerequisite for enlargement. The common European security and defence policy (CSDP) was seen as a fundamental element of the CFSP and as an important step towards European integration. Member States were urged to draw up a calendar for the abolition of the Western European Union (WEU), with its residual functions being absorbed by the EU's new institutional framework that would emerge from the forthcoming Intergovernmental Conference. On specific issues there was broad support for EU policy in the Balkans and a welcome for the new course being followed by the Yugoslav government. Nevertheless the report argued that the EU's new foreign policy priorities should not be financed at the expense of other important tasks. Consequently the ceiling of the financial perspective should be raised to meet the new financial challenges involved in the reconstruction of Yugoslavia. The committee expressed broad support for EU policy towards Russia, Ukraine, the Caucasus and Afghanistan. However, it felt that the EU should extend its commitments in Asia and expressed concern at the lack of any substantial progress on the EU-China dialogue on human rights. It also regretted the emergence of differences between Member States regarding North Korea. The committee also called for the EU to give greater importance to Africa and deplored the persistent inability of the

EU to play a constructive role in bringing peace to the Middle East. The report also underlined the importance of Parliament's role in the CFSP and the CSDP and called for the national parliaments of Member States and - under certain conditions - candidate countries and non-EU NATO countries to be involved in the development of these policies. Finally, it welcomed the steps that had been taken to reform the organisation of external relations, but called for the office of the CFSP High Representative to be integrated into the Commission. ?

Progress achieved in implementing the CFSP, Common foreign and security policy

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mr Elmar BROK (EPP/ED, D) on the Common Foreign and Security Policy by 411 votes to 58 with 55 abstentions. The resolution follows closely the decision of the committee repsonsible, therefore, please refer to the previous document. In addition, the Parliament adopted an amendment that calls on the Council and the Member States to take the initiative at the United Nations to propose the formation of an ad hoc International Tribunal on Iraq to investigate the responsibility of Saddam Hussein's regime in human rights abuses.?