


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2000/2231(INI)	Procedure completed
Report on fundamental rights in the European Union for 2000		
Subject 1.10 Fundamental rights in the EU, Charter		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs		06/06/2000
		PPE-DE CORNILLET Thierry	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	PETI Petitions		28/11/2000
		GUE/NGL GONZÁLEZ ÁLVAREZ Laura	

Key events			
06/10/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
09/10/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	11317/2000	Summary
20/06/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
20/06/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0223/2001	
04/07/2001	Debate in Parliament		
05/07/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0400/2001	Summary
05/07/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/03/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2231(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP P.F.
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document	11317/2000	09/10/2000	CSL	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	B5-0034/2001	04/04/2001	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0223/2001	20/06/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0400/2001 OJ C 065 14.03.2002, p. 0177-0350 E	05/07/2001	EP	Summary

Report on fundamental rights in the European Union for 2000

PURPOSE : to present the Union's second annual report on human rights in the European Union. **CONTENT** : this report examines closely the concrete activities led by the Union in view of conforming in principle to the respect and the protection of human rights in the Union. The main aspects highlighted in this report are: - the combat against racism and xenophobia : since the entry into force of the Amsterdam treaty, undebatable progress has been made in this area, notably, in relation to the reinforcement of judicial and police co-operation (Article 29) and the fight against discrimination (Article 13). In this field in particular, one notes a number of new measures which prohibit discrimination in the field of employment, education, social protection and access to care and services. In parallel, the work done by the Observatory on racist and xenophobic phenomenon is continued due to its official opening in Vienna in April 2000; - justice and security: the Tampere Summit of December 1999 highlighted in this regard, a particular importance on what concentrated entirely for the first time on the setting up of a Area of freedom, security and justice (AFSJ) by paving the way for actions to be carried out in this field. The Council in particular asked the Commission to set up a Scoreboard or a calendar indicating actions comprising step by step, the semestrial progress made by the Union in the various areas of AFSJ): asylum and immigration (definition of a European policy on asylum and immigration, in partnership with the countries where a majority of political asylum seekers come from, creating a common European asylum system based on the principles of the Geneva Convention, management of migratory movements); definition of a European Area for Justice (creation of an area or judicial systems and administrations of the Member states which do not make up the social and economic development of companies in particular); fight against criminality at Community level (in particular the combat against the treatment of human beings and the sexual exploitation of children); - combat social exclusion : in this framework a global strategy was defined at the Lisbon Summit of which its objectives were to modernise the European social model by investing in human resources. In this context, the Union set itself new challenges for the next ten years: to become a knowledge based economy, to be capable of sustainable economic growth accompanied by an improvement in qualitative and quantitative employment and a greater social cohesion. Four priority actions have been defined : development of an information society for all, life-long education/training, reinforcing the equality of opportunities in all aspects, modernisation of social protection systems; - children's rights : several projects have been launched in view of combatting against violence in relation to children and young people (DAPHNE programme), to combat against the sexual exploitation of children (STOP Programme) and to protect non-accompanied minors; - fundamental women's rights: many initiatives have been set up to better associated women with the economic and political life in particular through the application of Article 2 of the Treaty; by leading actions aiming to grant a better access for women to the working world and the new economy in the context of the Lisbon process and centres on an improvement of the presence of women in the decision-making process. Other initiatives had been implemented in view of protecting women against the violence due to concrete actions of sensitisation and the continuation of the STOP Programme. It should also be noted that the actions aiming to associate the candidate countries to various actions in these area in order make conscious the future partners of the Union about the importance of these issues and the essential character of the respect of human rights for all current members and future members of the European Union. ?

Report on fundamental rights in the European Union for 2000

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Thierry CORNILLET (EPP-ED, F) calling for the setting up of a permanent working group to monitor continuously the situation of fundamental rights in the EU. Instead of the traditional type of annual report on the human rights situation in the EU, the committee decided to draw up this year's report with reference to the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The resolution was limited to more general recommendations on improving fundamental rights in the EU, while specific cases of concern were mentioned in the accompanying explanatory statement, which has no particular status. Next year, however, the committee wanted to take the resolution and the explanatory statement listing specific cases in Member States as a whole. The report would then be drawn up by a working group under the committee's supervision and on the basis of observations by specialist bodies, NGOs and human rights and legal expert networks, and in cooperation with national parliaments. It would then be submitted to plenary for a yes or no vote. The recommendations contained in the report focused on ways of improving fundamental rights in areas such as police treatment, detention and prison conditions, the treatment of asylum-seekers, victims of trafficking in human beings, the protection of privacy, freedom of thought, conscience, religion and expression, the rights of citizens of third countries, discrimination and racism, national minorities, equality between men and women, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, the rights of children, the elderly and the disabled, working conditions and social protection, good administration and the right to a fair trial.?

Report on fundamental rights in the European Union for 2000

In adopting the report of Thierry CORNILLET (EPP-ED, F) on the situation as regards fundamental rights in the European Union, the European

Parliament voted by 246 to 141 votes with 50 abstentions (refer to previous document). Among the amendments adopted, one calls for the 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations to be amended. This would enable the waiving of diplomatic immunity in the case of the violation of human rights carried out by diplomats in their private lives. Another amendment calls for the establishment of a European day for the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU and the distribution to all children of the text of the Charter. Parliament is also calling for the EU countries which had not yet done to sign and ratify the European social charter which was revised in May 1996. Finally, Parliament is calling for any form of wide scale general or exploratory electronic surveillance to be prohibited in line with the European Convention on human rights. ?