

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2001/2019(INI)	Procedure completed
State of the Union's own resources for 2001		
Subject 8.70.01 Financing of the budget, own resources		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	PSE HAUG Jutta	15/03/2001

Key events			
15/03/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/06/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
25/06/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0238/2001	
04/07/2001	Debate in Parliament		
05/07/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0390/2001	Summary
05/07/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/03/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2019(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	BUDG/5/14557

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0238/2001	25/06/2001	EP	

State of the Union's own resources for 2001

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Jutta HAUG (PES, D) on the situation of the Union's own resources in 2001. The committee came back once more · as it simultaneously discussed Supplementary and Amending Budget (SAB No 4) · to the need to alter the own resources system so as to provide the EU with financial autonomy. With SAB No 4 the Member States would make savings of 11.6 billion euro by entering the balance of the 2000 budget in the budget for 2001. The report highlighted the downward trend in the share of Community GNP which was received by the EU budget. The resources collected by the Member States on behalf of the Union, and transferred to it, would be equivalent to 1.06% of their GNP in 2001 (the 1996 figure was 1.20%). The committee reiterated its view that the EU needed an autonomous source of revenue which was sufficient for its needs and was directly linked to the taxpayer. It backed efforts to introduce a Community tax as a direct form of revenue which would not involve any extra costs for the taxpayer and could strengthen the link between the EU and its citizens. It added that Parliament should be fully involved via the budget procedure in decisions concerning revenue.?

State of the Union's own resources for 2001

The European Parliament endorsed without amendment the resolution by Mrs Jutta HAUG (PES, D) on the EU's own resources in 2001. The Parliament supports the position expressed by the committee responsible (please refer to the previous text). However, it should be noted that the House deplores the fact that the Council has not exploited the opportunity afforded by the adoption of the new Decision to move towards financial autonomy for the European Union and full involvement of Parliament in the budgetary procedure, notably concerning the revenue side. The Parliament did, on the other hand, welcome the announcement by the Belgian Government that it will propose launching a debate in defining a new budgetary framework over the medium term, during the Belgian Presidency, which could lead to the discussion on the desirability of a European tax. Moreover, the House welcomes the efforts by the Commission and the Court of Auditors to discover anomalies, irregularities and instances of fraud and it insists that the Commission step up efforts to recover a higher volume of costs stemming from these and to reduce the scale of which these infringements of rules take place in order to avoid additional costs for the European taxpayer. Lastly, the Parliament supports the legal action by the Commission against US tobacco companies for cigarette smuggling, and deplores the fact that not all Member States have joined to the Commission's suit, which might result in a major loss of taxpayer's money in those Member States.?