


Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) 2001/2182(COS)	Procedure completed
Conflict prevention: regional integration and cooperation, short-term prevention	
Subject 6.10.05 Peace preservation, humanitarian and rescue tasks, crisis management	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	V/ALE LAGENDIJK Joost	28/05/2001
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	DEVE Development and Cooperation	GUE/NGL MODROW Hans	25/06/2001
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Development	2429	30/05/2002
	Development	2352	31/05/2001
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	External Relations		

Key events			
11/04/2001	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2001)0211	Summary
31/05/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
06/11/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
06/11/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0394/2001	
12/11/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/12/2001	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0702/2001	Summary
13/12/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/05/2002	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		

25/07/2002

Final act published in Official Journal

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/2182(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/5/15223

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document	COM(2001)0211	11/04/2001	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0394/2001	06/11/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0702/2001 OJ C 177 25.07.2002, p. 0214-0291 E	13/12/2001	EP	Summary

Conflict prevention: regional integration and cooperation, short-term prevention

PURPOSE : to present an initiative to improve EU's civilian intervention capacities. **CONTENT:** this Communication on conflict prevention contains a comprehensive review of all the recent initiatives undertaken by the Community to promote peace and stability. The communication proposes a consolidated and realistic approach of the EU to conflict prevention. It recommends a series of concrete proposals in order to gain more from Community actions and programmes with the aim to improve the integration of conflict prevention objectives into the EU's external action. This communication is a follow-up to the joint report on conflict prevention which had been prepared by the Commission and the High Representative/Secretary General of the Council for the Nice Summit in December 2000. It is the Commission's contribution to the elaboration of the European Programme for Conflict Prevention which could be adopted by the European Council at Göteborg. The Commission's Communication pursues four main objectives: 1) A more systematic and co-ordinated use of Community instruments, in particular of external co-operation programmes; 2) Improve the efficiency of actions by developing specific methods to identify and fight against the root causes of conflicts at an early stage instead of only addressing the symptoms at times of acute crises; 3) Improve the capacity of the EU to react quickly to nascent conflicts; 4) Promote targeted international co-operation on conflict prevention with all the EU's principal partners. The most efficient instruments to deal with the underlying causes of conflict (such as poverty, social inequality, ethnic and regional tensions, weakness of socio-political structures, exploitation and illicit trades and the competition for natural resources) remain the EU's programmes of aid and co-operation. In view of this and based on a consolidated approach, the Commission proposes a systematic integration of conflict indicators and the objective of prevention into the programming of Community external aid programmes. Moreover, the Communication puts forward a series of recommendations for specific actions. These are targeted at preventing nascent conflicts from developing in the long term and at improving the capacity of the EU to react in emerging crises situations. These recommendations can be found in the annex to this text. ?

Conflict prevention: regional integration and cooperation, short-term prevention

The committee unanimously adopted the report by Joost LAGENDIJK (Greens/EFA, NL) on the Commission communication. It welcomed the Commission's proposals but felt that more specific measures were needed. It called for a comprehensive approach to peace-building, involving humanitarian assistance, development cooperation, trade policy, the restoration of law and order, the creation or re-establishment of administrative structures, inter-ethnic dialogue, the eradication of poverty, measures to combat organised crime and drug trafficking, effective controls on arms exports and education. All actors of civil society should be involved as far as possible in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process, and specialist NGOs should play a key role with support from the Commission and in close conjunction with action taken by the Council. Continued use must be made of the knowledge and expertise available from the academic Conflict Prevention Network (CPN). MEPs also revived an old suggestion by Parliament for a European Civil Peace Corps to be set up to carry out purely civilian tasks (training and deployment of civilian specialists, arbitration, mediation, confidence-building between warring parties), and for resources to be earmarked to finance this Corps. Although conflict prevention is an essential goal of the EU's external policy, as stated at the Gothenburg European Council in June 2000, the committee pointed out that numerous obstacles were created by the fragmentation of policy among the "pillars" of the EU system and that the Commission had not addressed this issue sufficiently. It urged the Commission to strengthen its delegations and ensure that conflict prevention was mainstreamed in EU programmes. Lastly, it advocated maximum cooperation with other multilateral institutions operating in this area, especially the UN, and called on the Member States to work towards a reform of the UN with the aim of making it more democratic and participatory. ?

Conflict prevention: regional integration and cooperation, short-term prevention

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Jan Joost LAGENDIJK (Greens/EFA, NL). (Please refer to the previous text).?