

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	<a href="#">2001/0231(CNS)</a>
Procedure completed	
Visas: exemption of visa requirement for Romanian nationals	
Amending Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 <a href="#">2000/0030(CNS)</a>	
Subject 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas	
Geographical area Romania	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>LIBE</b> Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)</a>	<a href="#">2396</a>	07/12/2001
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	<a href="#">Justice and Consumers</a>		

Key events			
07/10/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0570	Summary
22/10/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/11/2001	Vote in committee		
29/11/2001	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0622/2001</a>	Summary
07/12/2001	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary
07/12/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/12/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/0231(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation

	Amending Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 <a href="#">2000/0030(CNS)</a>
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 062-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/5/15265

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2001)0570 OJ C 025 29.01.2002, p. 0495 E	08/10/2001	EC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0622/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 153 27.06.2002, p. 0029-0233 E</a>	29/11/2001	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

Final act
<a href="#">Regulation 2001/2414</a> <a href="#">OJ L 327 12.12.2001, p. 0001</a> Summary

## Visas: exemption of visa requirement for Romanian nationals

**PURPOSE:** To remove visa derogations for Romanian nationals. **CONTENT:** Council Regulation No 539/2001 is a list of all third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the EU's external borders. Also listed in the Regulation are those nations whose nationals are exempt from that requirement. Romania is listed in Annex II of the Regulation thus exempting it from any visa requirements. However, there is an asterix attached to Romania's entry in the Annex which effectively means that the application of a visa derogation to Romanian nationals is to be decided by the Council at a later stage. The Commission is obliged to offer a report on the visa situation with Romania plus a list of recommendations. Following just such an evaluation the Commission recommends an amendment to Regulation 539/2001/EC allowing the derogation from visa requirements for Romanian nationals to take effect as from 1 January 2002. This corresponds to Parliamentary wishes as well as confirming the Commission's line in its initial proposal for a Regulation.?

## Visas: exemption of visa requirement for Romanian nationals

The European Parliament approved the report for a proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation 539/2001/EC listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement.?

## Visas: exemption of visa requirement for Romanian nationals

**PURPOSE:** To exempt Romania from visa obligations as from 1 January 2002. **COMMUNITY MEASURE:** Council Regulation 2414/2001/EC amending Regulation 539/2001/EC listing the third countries whose national must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders of Member States and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement. **CONTENT:** Romania, although listed in an annex under Regulation 539/2001/EEC (which would ordinarily have entitled it to visa derogations), was nevertheless subject to restriction concerning entry visas for its citizens. An asterisk next to its entry in the annex effectively meant the usual visa requirements were suspended. In June 2001 the Commission presented a report to the Council in which it recommended that these restrictions be lifted. Justification to do so was based on Commission findings which noted a marked improvement in Romania's illegal immigration policy, its visa policy and the controls at its borders. The United Kingdom and Ireland have decided not to participate in the application of this Regulation. Hence the provisions of this Directive will not apply to Ireland or to the United Kingdom. In order to enact the Commission recommendations Directive 539/2001 has been amended including the deletion of the asterisk next to Romania's entry, which effectively frees it of any visa obligations. **ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 1 January 2002.?

## Visas: exemption of visa requirement for Romanian nationals

The Council endorsed the Mixed Committee's work on the lifting, with effect from 1 January 2002, of the visa requirement for Romanian nationals to cross EU borders, in line with the provisions relating to Romania in the Regulation listing the third countries whose nationals must

be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement. The lifting of the visa requirement for Romanian nationals will be effective from the twentieth day following publication of the relevant Decision in the Official Journal.?