

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2001/2196(INI)	Procedure completed
Spring Summit 2002: Lisbon process and the way to follow		
Subject		
4.10.10 Social protection, social security		
4.15 Employment policy, action to combat unemployment		
5.05 Economic growth		
8.40.14 European Council		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs		23/10/2001
		PSE BULLMANN Udo	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs		21/11/2001
		PPE-DE GARCÍA-MARGALLO Y MARFIL José Manuel	

Key events			
28/11/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/01/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
24/01/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0030/2002	
27/02/2002	Debate in Parliament		
28/02/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0079/2002	Summary
28/02/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/11/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2196(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 050; Rules of Procedure EP 54

Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/5/15477

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0030/2002	24/01/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0079/2002 OJ C 293 28.11.2002, p. 0020-0075 E	28/02/2002	EP	Summary

Spring Summit 2002: Lisbon process and the way to follow

With a view to the forthcoming Barcelona Summit, the committee adopted the own-initiative report by Udo BULLMANN (PES, D) calling for the Lisbon process to be speeded up and for closer coordination of economic, employment and structural policies in order to address the current economic downturn. It warned Member States against watering down the ambitious objective of a 70% overall employment rate which was agreed at the Lisbon summit in 2000. The report also underlined the need to invest more in human resources and to boost economic activity through liberalisation and the completion of the internal market. The environmental impact of economic policies should also be taken into account, and the "environmental mainstreaming" approach should be further developed. MEPs pointed out that in recent months job creation had come to a halt for the first time since the Luxembourg process was launched. To reverse this trend, Member States must reform their policies and accelerate their employment strategies. Greater efforts should be devoted to mobilising women and older workers, encouraging the use of new working arrangements, such as part-time work and teleworking, and easing the tax burden on lower paid jobs. The committee pointed out that greater labour mobility was essential to increase competitiveness but added that a sustainable working life required an improvement in the quality of jobs. It would like to see more investment in health and safety at work, equal opportunities and skills training, and in particular life-long learning. Social dialogue should be fostered in order to meet the social and labour market policy challenges facing Europe. MEPs also asked the Commission to take greater account of the employment and social implications of all EU policies and argued that it should establish at Community level a set of principles for good business practice when companies had to restructure. In addition, the Commission was asked to produce an assessment of the liberalisation of public services in terms of the impact on employment, regional cohesion and the quality of services. With demographic changes looming large over the next few decades, the report stressed the importance of a gradual and balanced reform of the current pensions system. As to the fight against poverty, it strongly recommended that the 2002 spring summit should adopt a clear target for 2010 as well as an EU definition of poverty. Lastly, MEPs called for Parliament to be fully involved in the open method of coordination through an interinstitutional agreement, saying this would give the procedure greater democratic legitimacy. ?

Spring Summit 2002: Lisbon process and the way to follow

The European Parliament voted 322 to 190 with 28 abstentions in favour of a resolution by Mr Udo BULLMANN (PES, D) calling for the Lisbon process to be speeded up and for closer coordination of economic, employment and structural policies in order to address the current economic downturn. (Please refer to the summary dated 24/01/02).?