

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2002/2082(INI)	Procedure completed
Research in the candidate countries, measures to ensure their full involvement in the framework programme		
Subject 3.50.01 European research area and policy 8.20.17 Industry, research, energy and enlargement		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		Appointed
			23/01/2002
			PPE-DE ZIMMERLING Jürgen
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense		Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
			20/06/2002
			PPE-DE BÖGE Reimer
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		The committee decided not to give an opinion.

Key events			
13/06/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
08/10/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
08/10/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0349/2002	
20/11/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0547/2002	Summary
20/11/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/01/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2002/2082(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	ITRE/5/16304

Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0349/2002	08/10/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0547/2002 OJ C 025 29.01.2004, p. 0026-0181 E	20/11/2002	EP	Summary

Research in the candidate countries, measures to ensure their full involvement in the framework programme

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Jürgen ZIMMERLING (EPP-ED, D) on the state of research in applicant countries. The report said that the Commission must ensure that researchers in the applicant countries received fair treatment compared to their counterparts in the current Member States when it implemented the 6th Research Framework Programme. The committee also urged the Commission and Member States to encourage links between research and industry via co-financing, flexible career planning, private research entities and the funding of research through industrial associations in the candidate countries. The Commission should help to create a favourable financial environment so that the ability of SMEs to participate in the Programme was not diminished either by the need to obtain bank guarantees or by the burden of assuming a significant share of co-financing. The committee also called on the applicant countries to develop a research strategy of their own, either directly by way of assistance payments or indirectly by way of incentives, that would meet their requirements in the area of research. The report pointed out that twelve of the candidate countries were involved in the 5th Framework Programme and they, together with Turkey, would be taking part in the 6th Framework Programme. Moreover, some of the candidate countries were expected to become full members of the Union during the period covered by FP6. Good planning was therefore needed as economic uncertainty and restrictive budgetary policies in the applicant countries had placed national research systems under enormous strain. The committee noted that low public research funding and inadequate mechanisms for attracting private-sector funding had led to an impoverishment of the human research potential in these countries, with ageing research infrastructures and low researchers' salaries aggravating the problem. This had led to a substantial external and internal brain drain.?

Research in the candidate countries, measures to ensure their full involvement in the framework programme

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Jurgen ZIMMERLING (EPP-ED, Germany) on candidate countries' involvement in the Sixth Framework Programme. (Please refer to the document dated 8/10/02.) Parliament pointed out that there is often no clear relation between stated research priorities and the actual needs and capabilities of the candidate countries. There is a need for a new culture in science and technology governance, involving open procedures and regular evaluation of research output and socio-economic impact. There is also an urgent need to link research and educational institutions with each other.?