


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2003/2015(INI)	Procedure rejected
Reform of the Conventions on drugs		
Subject 4.20.03 Drug addiction, alcoholism, smoking		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	V/ALE BUITENWEG Kathalijne Maria	21/01/2003

Key events			
23/12/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	B5-0541/2002	
13/02/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/03/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
08/04/2003	Debate in Parliament		
10/04/2003	Decision by Parliament	A5-0085/2003	

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/2015(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 134o-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure rejected
Committee dossier	LIBE/5/19112

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		B5-0541/2002	23/12/2002	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0085/2003	19/03/2003	EP	

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Kathalijne Maria BUITENWEG (Greens/EFA, NL) including a proposal for a recommendation of the European Parliament to the Council on the reform of the Conventions on drugs drawn up by Marco CAPPATO and 108 other signatories. Pointing out that the overwhelming majority of crimes and offences committed in the EU consisted of drug-related petty crime and organised crime connected with drugs, the committee agreed with the UN that there was an urgent need to fight drug dependence and the crime connected with it. However, it added that research and evidence-based assessment were needed in order to determine whether the policies pursued on the basis of the UN Convention on drugs were effective. The EU representatives due to attend the UN Ministerial Conference in Vienna in April 2003 were urged to call for a detailed evaluation of how effective the implementation of the Conventions actually was, to be followed up by a UN Conference in 2004 to debate the findings of that evaluation and possibly consider amending the Conventions. In this connection, the report pointed out that the Conventions included provisions for changes to be made, in particular the reclassification of the substances listed as well as amendment of the text itself. The committee also made a number of other recommendations, including a call for medical studies to be carried out into the consequences of long-term drug abuse involving cannabis, heroin and psychotropic and other drug substances. In addition, it stressed that all drugs should be classified in accordance with the scientific evidence of risk to human health. Finally, it called on the Member States to take specific measures to prevent drug marketing on the Internet. ?