

Procedure file

Basic information		
ACI - Interinstitutional agreement procedure		Procedure completed
2004/2025(ACI)		
Budget 2004: Solidarity Fund, mobilisation for natural disasters		
Subject		
3.70.11 Natural disasters, Solidarity Fund		
8.70.60 Previous annual budgets		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		09/03/2004
		PSE WYNN Terence	
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		
European Commission	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2574	30/03/2004
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Budget		

Key events			
09/03/2004	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2004)0168	Summary
17/03/2004	Vote in committee		
17/03/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0195/2004	
29/03/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/03/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0196/2004	Summary
30/03/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2004/2025(ACI)
Procedure type	ACI - Interinstitutional agreement procedure
Procedure subtype	Mobilisation of funds
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(2004)0168	09/03/2004	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0195/2004	17/03/2004	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0196/2004 OJ C 103 29.04.2004, p. 0029-0137 E	30/03/2004	EP	Summary

Final act

[Decision 2004/323](#)
[OJ L 104 08.04.2004, p. 0112-0112](#) Summary

Budget 2004: Solidarity Fund, mobilisation for natural disasters

PURPOSE: Offering aid worth EUR 21.9 million to Malta, France and Spain in the wake of natural disasters. **PROPOSED ACT :** European Parliament and Council Decision. **CONTENT:** Following Maltese, French and Spanish requests for aid from the Solidarity Funds the European Commission is proposing to offer these countries a total of EUR 21.917 million to help fund measures in the wake of regional disasters. The aid will seek to reimburse the costs of the emergency services, the cost of re-location, water and electricity and the cost of repairing basic infrastructure. - In the case of Malta, serious storms and floods had a direct impact on its economy and in particular its fish farming activities at sea as well as severe damage to basic infrastructure throughout the islands of Malta and Gozo. The total cost of direct damage is estimated at EUR 30 172 million. Financing from the Solidarity Fund will help to cover some of the emergency costs incurred as a result of the storms and subsequent flooding. In accordance with the Solidarity Fund's provisions, therefore, the Commission proposes offering aid to Malta totalling EUR 961.000. - In the case of France, a state of emergency was declared following severe flooding in the southern Rhone river valley. Fifty three communes were badly effected and in particular three departments along the Rhone River, namely Le Gard, Vaucluse and Bouches du Rhone. The 53 communes to which the application relates have a total resident population of 295.000 inhabitants. Total direct damage is estimated at EUR 785 million. Financing from the Solidarity Fund will help contribute to the costs associated with the emergency services. In accordance with the provisions setting up the Solidarity Fund the Commission proposes funding for France totalling EUR 19.625 million. - In the case of Spain the Spanish authorities are seeking funding to help cover the costs of forest fires. The application itself is limited to those fires in provinces neighbouring Portugal (located mainly in the west of Extremadura, as well as one fire each in Andalusia and Castilla y Leon). The total direct damage is estimated at EUR 53.231 million. The Commission proposes that a part of the funding for the fires can be derived from the "neighbouring country" criterion of the Solidarity Fund Regulation. Thus, in accordance with the Fund's provisions the Commission proposes offering aid to Spain totalling EUR 1 331 million. In order to reach a speedy decision on the proposals outlined above, the Commission has made a preliminary draft amendment to Budget No 5 to the budget for 2004, (BUD/2004/2023) reflecting the total cost of aid being offered to the countries above and amounting to a total of EUR 21.917 million.?

Budget 2004: Solidarity Fund, mobilisation for natural disasters

PURPOSE : to provide aid to Malta, France and Spain in the wake of natural disasters. **LEGISLATIVE ACT :** Decision 2004/323/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund in accordance with point 3 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 7 November 2002 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the financing of the European Union Solidarity Fund, supplementing the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure. **CONTENT :** to recall, the European Parliament created a European Solidarity Fund to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by disasters. Malta submitted an application to mobilise the Fund on 10 November 2003, concerning a disaster caused by storm and flooding. Spain submitted an application on 1 October 2003 concerning a fire-related disaster. France also submitted an application on 26 January 2004 concerning a disaster caused by flooding. The Interinstitutional Agreement of 7 November 2002 allows the mobilisation of the Fund within the annual ceiling of EUR 1 billion. The cases of the storm and flooding in Malta in September 2003, the forest fire in Spain in the summer of 2003 and the flooding in southern France in December 2003 fulfil the criteria for mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund. Therefore, this Decision states that for the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2004, the European Union Solidarity Fund shall be mobilised to provide the sum of EUR 21916995 in commitment appropriations. **ENTRY INTO FORCE :** 30 March 2004.?

Budget 2004: Solidarity Fund, mobilisation for natural disasters

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Terence WYNN (PES, UK) and approved the decision to mobilise the Solidarity Fund to provide the sum of EUR 21 916 995 in commitment appropriations.?