



Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2004/2195(INI)	Procedure completed
Recommendation on EU-India relations		
Subject 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries		
Geographical area India		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs		13/09/2004
		PSE MENÉNDEZ DEL VALLE Emilio	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Key events			
27/07/2004	Non-legislative basic document published	B6-0005/2004	
05/10/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
20/10/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0024/2004	
26/10/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/10/2004	Debate in Parliament		
28/10/2004	Results of vote in Parliament		
28/10/2004	Decision by Parliament	T6-0044/2004	Summary
28/10/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2004/2195(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 134o-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		B6-0005/2004	27/07/2004	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0024/2004	20/10/2004	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0044/2004 OJ C 174 14.07.2005, p. 0063-0179 E	28/10/2004	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2004)2832	11/11/2004	EC	

Recommendation on EU-India relations

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Emilio MENÉNDEZ del VALLE (PES, ES) on EU-India relations. Given India's geo-strategic importance, its status as the world's largest multicultural democracy and its emergence as the largest power in South Asia, MEPs wanted the Council to take the decision, at the 5th EU-India Summit, to upgrade the EU-India relationship to a Strategic Partnership. They urged the Council to focus in particular on:

- developing a strategic alliance with India for the promotion of an effective multilateral approach, supporting peace, security, human rights and democracy;
- strengthening cooperation - bilaterally and in UN fora - on conflict prevention and post-conflict political and economic reconstruction and rehabilitation;
- addressing global concerns such as non-proliferation and disarmament, terrorism and organised crime, and supporting India's application for "privileged country status" with Europol;
- cooperating in the field of security policy, this being all the more urgent since the US has decided to start exporting nuclear and other advanced technology to India again;
- the India-Pakistan dialogue, including the Kashmir issue, and the need to develop mutual trust and confidence between the two countries;
- examining ways in which the EU, with its significant experience of regional integration, could promote regional cooperation in South East Asia through the SAARC;
- working with India to promote cooperation on global environmental challenges;
- supporting the continuing dialogue on organisational and institutional reform of the UN;
- establishing an EU-India Centre for Indian Studies to strengthen cultural relations;
- supporting the European Parliament's efforts to enhance contacts and discussions with the Indian Parliament, including institutionalisation of regular meetings between the Lok Sabha and EP delegations.

Recommendation on EU-India relations

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on an own-initiative report drafted by Emilio MENÉNDEZ del VALLE ahead of the 5th EU-India summit on 8 November. Parliament recommended that the Council take the decision to upgrade the EU-India relationship to a Strategic Partnership. It called for a continued strong trade relationship with India. On security matters, Parliament called for strengthened cooperation on conflict prevention and post-conflict economic reconstruction and rehabilitation. Global concerns such as non-proliferation and disarmament, terrorism and organised crime also need to be addressed. Parliament proposed expanding the mandate of the EU-India Joint Working Group on Anti-Terrorism to cover security co-operation as a whole, focusing also on money laundering, cyber-terrorism and narco-terrorism. It also supported India's application for privileged country status with EUROPOL. It stressed that cooperation in the field of security policy is all the more urgent since the US has decided to start exporting nuclear and other advanced technology to India again for the first time since 1998.

Regarding the Kashmir issue, Parliament welcomed the dialogue between India and Pakistan and hoped it would have a fruitful conclusion. On other issues, Parliament called on the EU, with its significant experience of regional integration, to promote regional cooperation in South East Asia. It called for dialogue with India on cross-cutting issues such as good governance, environment, industrial policy, competition issues, defence equipment, and strategic sectors such as the information society, transport, energy, biotechnology and co-operation on space-related matters.

In the light of institutional reform at the UN, Parliament supports the continuing dialogue and calls for the coordination of positions in the preparation, negotiation and implementation of major multilateral conventions in the UN.

Finally, MEPs call for the enhancement of civil society contacts and cultural relations, specifically through the establishment of an EU-India Centre for Indian Studies.