



Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2006/2036(INI)	Procedure completed
The transitional arrangements restricting the free movement of workers on European Union labour markets		
Subject		
2.30 Free movement of workers		
4.15.04 Workforce, occupational mobility, job conversion, working conditions		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	PPE-DE ÓRY Csaba	27/10/2005
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion		

Key events			
16/03/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/03/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
22/03/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0069/2006	
04/04/2006	Debate in Parliament		
05/04/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
05/04/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0129/2006	Summary
05/04/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2036(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	EMPL/6/32577

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE367.932	01/02/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE370.273	03/03/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE370.249	08/03/2006	EP	

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A6-0069/2006	22/03/2006	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T6-0129/2006	05/04/2006	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2006)2095	11/05/2006	EC	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2006)2311	30/06/2006	EC	

The transitional arrangements restricting the free movement of workers on European Union labour markets

The committee adopted the own-initiative report drawn up by Csaba ÖRY (EPP-ED, HU) in response to the Commission paper on the transitional arrangements restricting access for workers from eight of the 'new' Member States to labour markets in several of the 'old' Member States. Pointing out that 2006 has been declared 'European Year of Workers' Mobility', MEPs stressed that the free movement of workers is one of the four fundamental freedoms of the EC Treaty, as well as an expression of solidarity between the old and new Member States. They called for the transitional measures in force to be abolished, "given that there are no signs of strain on the labour markets of the Member States which have opted for openness without restrictions" and that fears of massive migration have proved groundless. They added that the transitional periods were a major contributory factor to higher levels of illegal work and "sham self-employment", and would increasingly lead to "regionally acute wage pressure", unfair working conditions and exploitation of migrant workers.

The report said that Member States should abolish national rules which contradict the 'status quo clause' of the Accession Treaty, which stipulates that workers from the new Member States should not face greater restrictions than applied before the accession treaties were signed. It also called on the Member States to enforce the preference rule whereby, when a post is vacant, nationals of the new Member States have priority over non-EU nationals. Labour law should also be strictly enforced so as to guarantee that all EU workers are treated equally, that there is fair competition among businesses and that social dumping is prevented.

The Commission was urged to: intensify cross-border joint action by the Member States' labour inspectorates; consider setting up a corresponding European cooperation network (a 'social Europol'); produce standardised statistics, in conjunction with the Council, on intra-EU migration by January 2009; set up systematic monitoring of migration of workers within the EU; and provide the funds necessary to finance these actions.

The transitional arrangements restricting the free movement of workers on European Union labour markets

The European Parliament adopted the own-initiative report drawn up by Csaba ÖRY (EPP-ED, HU). (Please refer to the summary dated 21/03/2006).