






# Procedure file

Basic information	
NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	2009/0174(NLE) Awaiting final decision
EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol	
See also <a href="#">1995/0132(AVC)</a>	
Subject 6.40.05.02 Relations with the countries of the Great Maghreb and Maghreb	
Geographical area Tunisia	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Foreign Affairs	 <a href="#">BROK Elmar</a>	22/09/2014
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 <a href="#">PANZERI Pier Antonio</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
	 <a href="#">Foreign Affairs</a>		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
11/11/2009	Preparatory document	<a href="#">COM(2009)0620</a>	Summary
02/12/2009	Additional information		Summary
03/09/2012	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">10641/2012</a>	Summary
03/07/2014	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
02/12/2014	Vote in committee		
04/12/2014	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A8-0049/2014</a>	Summary

13/01/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/01/2015	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T8-0003/2015</a>	Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2009/0174(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
	See also <a href="#">1995/0132(AVC)</a>
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 217
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting final decision
Committee dossier	AFET/8/00038

Documentation gateway					
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">COM(2009)0621</a>	11/11/2009	EC	Summary
Preparatory document		<a href="#">COM(2009)0620</a>	11/11/2009	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">10641/2012</a>	03/09/2012	CSL	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">10639/2012</a>	03/09/2012	CSL	
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE539.613</a>	15/10/2014	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A8-0049/2014</a>	04/12/2014	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T8-0003/2015</a>	13/01/2015	EP	Summary

Additional information	
National parliaments	<a href="#">IPEX</a>

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

**PURPOSE:** to conclude a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

**PROPOSED ACT:** Council Decision.

**CONTENT:** on 23 October 2006 the Council authorised the Commission, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, to negotiate with Tunisia a protocol amending the agreements concluded between the European Community and third countries, in particular the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the new Member States to the EU.

The Treaty concerning the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union entered into force on 1 January 2007 ([AVC/1995/0132](#)).

Pursuant to Article 6(2) of the Act annexed to the Treaty of Accession, the accession of the new Contracting Parties to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement shall be agreed by the conclusion of a protocol to that Agreement.

The negotiations with Tunisia have since been completed to the satisfaction of the Commission. Tunisia marked its agreement in an exchange of letters which was concluded on 25 June 2009.

The accession of the new Member States to the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement is to be agreed by a simplified procedure,

whereby the protocol is to be concluded by the Council, acting unanimously on behalf of the Member States, and by the third country concerned. This procedure is without prejudice to the Community's own competences.

The text of the protocol negotiated with Tunisia is attached. The most important aspects of the protocol are the provisions for the accession of the new Member States to the EU-Tunisia Association Agreement, and the inclusion of the new official languages of the EU, to take account of the enlargement of the EU.

The European Parliament will be called upon to give its assent to this protocol.

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

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On 11 November 2009, the European Commission adopted the proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of a protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

On the same day, the Commission presented a proposal for a Decision on the signature, on behalf of the European Community, of this Protocol. Its content is identical to that of this present proposal (please refer to the summary of the initial proposal).

With the present proposal, the Commission proposes that the Council authorises the signature and the provisional application, on behalf of the European Community, of the Protocol to the agreement between the European Union and Tunisia.

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

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The Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force on 1 December 2009, amended the EU's two core treaties, the Treaty on European Union (TEU) and the Treaty establishing the European Community (EC Treaty). The latter was renamed the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

These changes had various consequences for many ongoing procedures. First of all, the articles of the TEU and of the old EC Treaty that constitute the legal basis of all the proposals founded on those Treaties were renumbered in accordance with the table of equivalences mentioned in Article 5 of the Lisbon Treaty.

In addition, some proposals underwent a change to their legal basis going beyond a mere change to their numbering, and this resulted in changes to the type of procedure.

The Lisbon Treaty also introduced new concepts of decision-making procedure. The old "codecision procedure" was extended to new areas and renamed the "ordinary legislative procedure". A new "consent procedure" replaced the old "assent procedure". New interinstitutional procedures were also set up for the adoption of certain non-legislative acts, for example the conclusion of some international agreements.

The ongoing proposals concerned by these changes were formally modified by the Commission in a Communication published on 2 December 2009 ([COM\(2009\)0665](#)).

In the case of the proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of a protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union, the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty had the following impacts:

- the old legal basis - Treaty/EC/Art. 310, Art. 300(2) 1st para, Art. 300(3) 2nd para; Act/Accession/Bulgaria-Romania/Art.6(2) - became Art. 217, Art. 218(6)(a). Please note that the numbering of the old legal basis corresponds to the consolidated version of the Treaty that was applicable immediately before the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, and may differ from the references in the original Commission proposal;
- the proposal, which had previously fallen under the old assent procedure (AVC), was classified as an interinstitutional non-legislative procedure (NLE).

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

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**PURPOSE:** to conclude a protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union

**PROPOSED ACT:** Council Decision.

**ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:** the Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

**BACKGROUND:** the protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union was signed on behalf of the Union and its Member States on subject to its possible conclusion at a later date

The Protocol should now be concluded.

**CONTENT:** this proposal invites the Council to adopt a decision concluding the protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the EC and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union was signed on behalf of the Union and its Member States.

The President of the Council shall, on behalf of the Union and its Member States, give the notification provided for in the Protocol.

The content of the Protocol is in accordance with that proposed by the Commission (please see the summary of 11/11/2009).

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

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The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the report by Elmar BROK (EPP, DE) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of a protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament gave its approval to the conclusion of the Protocol.

## EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Agreement: accession of Bulgaria and Romania. Protocol

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The European Parliament adopted by 568 votes to 55, with 65 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of a protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

The European Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Protocol.