


Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	2012/0268(NLE)	Procedure completed
EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation		
Subject 6.40.06 Relations with ACP countries, conventions and generalities 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas 7.10.08 Migration policy		
Geographical area Cabo Verde		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		26/11/2012
		PPE GABRIEL Mariya	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		S&D MORAES Claude	
		ALDE MICHEL Louis	
		Verts/ALE ŽDANOKA Tatjana	
		ECR KIRKHOPE Timothy	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	3260	07/10/2013
	General Affairs	3219	04/02/2013
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Migration and Home Affairs	MALMSTRÖM Cecilia	

Key events			
25/09/2012	Preparatory document	COM(2012)0557	Summary
22/04/2013	Legislative proposal published	14546/2012	Summary
21/05/2013	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
09/07/2013	Vote in committee		
17/07/2013	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A7-0267/2013	Summary
11/09/2013	Results of vote in Parliament		
11/09/2013	Decision by Parliament	T7-0363/2013	Summary

07/10/2013	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
07/10/2013	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/10/2013	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2012/0268(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 079-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/7/10744

Documentation gateway

Preparatory document	COM(2012)0557	25/09/2012	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal	14546/2012	23/04/2013	CSL	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	14759/2012	23/04/2013	CSL	
Committee draft report	PE510.649	21/05/2013	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A7-0267/2013	17/07/2013	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T7-0363/2013	11/09/2013	EP	Summary

Additional information

National parliaments	IPEX
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act

[Decision 2013/522](#)
[OJ L 282 24.10.2013, p. 0013](#) Summary

EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: Cape Verde is a stable and democratic country characterised by high standards of governance and respect for the rule of law and human rights. Cape Verde and the European Union enjoy excellent relations in the context of the EU-Cape Verde Special Partnership, a framework of mutual interests with a major political dimension.

On 5 June 2008 Cape Verde and the European Union signed the Joint Declaration on a Mobility Partnership which provides for the opening of a dialogue between the two parties on readmission. In this context the annex to the Declaration contains an undertaking by the Commission to submit a recommendation to the Council under Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement to authorise it to open negotiations on the conclusion of a readmission agreement with Cape Verde.

The negotiating directives for a European Union-Cape Verde Readmission Agreement were adopted by the Council on 4 June 2009. Negotiations were formally opened on 13 July 2009 in Brussels. Three rounds of official negotiations took place, with the last on 23 November 2011.

The draft text was submitted to wide consultation and was finally initialled in Brussels on 24 April 2012.

The Member States have been regularly informed and consulted at all (informal and formal) stages of the readmission negotiations.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 79(3) in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: the proposal constitutes the legal instrument for the conclusion of the readmission Agreement.

The proposed decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement sets out the necessary internal arrangements for the practical application of the Agreement. In particular, it specifies that the Commission, assisted by experts from Member States, will represent the Union within the Joint Readmission Committee set up by Article 18 of the Agreement. Under Article 18(5) of the Agreement, the Readmission Committee is to adopt its own rules of procedure. As for the other readmission agreements concluded by the Union thus far, the Union position in this regard is to be established by the Commission in consultation with a special committee designated by the Council. As regards other decisions to be taken by the Joint Readmission Committee, the Union position is to be established in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Treaty.

As regards its final content, the Agreement may be summarised as follows:

- the readmission obligations set out in the Agreement (Articles 2 to 5) are drawn up on a basis of full reciprocity, applying both to own nationals (Articles 2 and 4) and to third-country nationals and stateless persons (Articles 3 and 5);
- the obligation to readmit own nationals also includes former own nationals who have renounced, forfeited or been deprived of their nationality without acquiring the nationality of another State;
- the readmission obligation with regard to own nationals also covers family members (i.e. spouses and minor unmarried children), regardless of their nationality, who do not have an independent right of residence in the requesting State;
- the obligation to readmit third-country nationals and stateless persons (Articles 3 and 5) is linked to the following prerequisites: (a) the person concerned holds or held at the time of entering the territory of the requesting State a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State, or (b) the person concerned illegally entered the territory of the requesting State coming directly from the territory of the requested State. These obligations do not apply in respect of persons in airside transit or to whom the requesting State has issued a visa or residence permit before or after they entered its territory;
- Section III of the Agreement (Articles 6 to 12 in conjunction with Annexes 1 to 5) contains the necessary technical provisions regarding the readmission procedure (readmission application, means of evidence, time limits, transfer modalities and modes of transportation) and 'readmission in error' (Article 12). Some procedural flexibility is provided by the fact that no readmission application will be needed in cases where the person to be readmitted is in possession of a valid travel document or identity card and, in case of third-country nationals, a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State (Article 6(2) and (3));
- Article 6(5) of the Agreement sets out the 'accelerated procedure' which has been agreed for persons apprehended in the 'border region', i.e. within an area which extends up to 30 kilometres from the territories of seaports, including custom zones, and from international airports of Member States or of Cape Verde. Under the accelerated procedure, readmission applications have to be submitted within two working days, and replies have to be given within two working days;
- under the normal procedure, the time limit for replies is eight calendar days;
- the Agreement contains a section on transit operations (Articles 13 and 14 in conjunction with Annex 6);
- Articles 15, 16 and 17 contain the necessary rules on costs, data protection and the relation to other international obligations and existing EU directives. The agreement is without prejudice to other arrangements relating to areas other than readmission, such as voluntary return;
- the Joint Readmission Committee will be composed in accordance with Article 18, and have the tasks and powers set out there;
- in order to execute this Agreement in practice, Article 19 creates the possibility for Cape Verde and individual Member States to conclude bilateral implementing Protocols. The relation between the bilateral implementing Protocols and this Agreement is clarified by Article 20;
- the final provisions (Article 21 to 23) contain the necessary rules on entry into force, duration, termination and the legal status of the annexes to the Agreement.

Territorial provisions: the specific situation of the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark is reflected in the preamble, Article 1(d) and Article 21(2). The situation of Denmark is also mentioned in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement. The close association of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis is likewise reflected in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the proposal has no implications for the EU's budget.

EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

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

BACKGROUND: the negotiating directives for a European Union-Cape Verde Readmission Agreement were adopted by the Council on 4 June 2009. Negotiations were formally opened on 13 July 2009 in Brussels. Three rounds of official negotiations took place, with the last on 23 November 2011.

The draft text was submitted to wide consultation and was finally initialled in Brussels on 24 April 2012.

The Member States have been regularly informed and consulted at all (informal and formal) stages of the readmission negotiations.

It is now necessary to conclude the Agreement on behalf of the EU.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 79(3) in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: the proposal constitutes the legal instrument for the conclusion of the readmission Agreement.

The proposed decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement sets out the necessary internal arrangements for the practical application of the Agreement. In particular, it specifies that the Commission, assisted by experts from Member States, will represent the Union within the Joint Readmission Committee set up by Article 18 of the Agreement. Under Article 18(5) of the Agreement, the Readmission Committee is to adopt its own rules of procedure. As for the other readmission agreements concluded by the Union thus far, the Union position in this regard is to be established by the Commission in consultation with a special committee designated by the Council. As regards other decisions to be taken by the Joint Readmission Committee, the Union position is to be established in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Treaty.

As regards its final content, the Agreement may be summarised as follows:

- the readmission obligations set out in the Agreement (Articles 2 to 5) are drawn up on a basis of full reciprocity, applying both to own nationals (Articles 2 and 4) and to third-country nationals and stateless persons (Articles 3 and 5);
- the obligation to readmit own nationals also includes former own nationals who have renounced, forfeited or been deprived of their nationality without acquiring the nationality of another State;
- the readmission obligation with regard to own nationals also covers family members (i.e. spouses and minor unmarried children), regardless of their nationality, who do not have an independent right of residence in the requesting State;
- the obligation to readmit third-country nationals and stateless persons (Articles 3 and 5) is linked to the following prerequisites: (a) the person concerned holds or held at the time of entering the territory of the requesting State a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State, or (b) the person concerned illegally entered the territory of the requesting State coming directly from the territory of the requested State. These obligations do not apply in respect of persons in airspace transit or to whom the requesting State has issued a visa or residence permit before or after they entered its territory;
- Section III of the Agreement (Articles 6 to 12 in conjunction with Annexes 1 to 5) contains the necessary technical provisions regarding the readmission procedure (readmission application, means of evidence, time limits, transfer modalities and modes of transportation) and 'readmission in error' (Article 12). Some procedural flexibility is provided by the fact that no readmission application will be needed in cases where the person to be readmitted is in possession of a valid travel document or identity card and, in case of third-country nationals, a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State (Article 6(2) and (3));
- Article 6(5) of the Agreement sets out the accelerated procedure which has been agreed for persons apprehended in the border region, i.e. within an area which extends up to 30 kilometres from the territories of seaports, including custom zones, and from international airports of Member States or of Cape Verde. Under the accelerated procedure, readmission applications have to be submitted within two working days, and replies have to be given within two working days;
- under the normal procedure, the time limit for replies is eight calendar days;
- the Agreement contains a section on transit operations (Articles 13 and 14 in conjunction with Annex 6);
- Articles 15, 16 and 17 contain the necessary rules on costs, data protection and the relation to other international obligations and existing EU directives. The agreement is without prejudice to other arrangements relating to areas other than readmission, such as voluntary return;
- the Joint Readmission Committee will be composed in accordance with Article 18, and have the tasks and powers set out there;
- in order to execute this Agreement in practice, Article 19 creates the possibility for Cape Verde and individual Member States to conclude bilateral implementing Protocols. The relation between the bilateral implementing Protocols and this Agreement is clarified by Article 20;
- the final provisions (Article 21 to 23) contain the necessary rules on entry into force, duration, termination and the legal status of the annexes to the Agreement.

Territorial provisions: the specific situation of the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark is reflected in the preamble, Article 1(d) and Article 21(2). The situation of Denmark is also mentioned in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement. The close association of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis is likewise reflected in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the proposal has no implications for the EU's budget.

EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs adopted the report by Mariya GABRIEL (EPP, BG) on the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

Members recommend that the European Parliament consents to the conclusion of the Agreement, considering that it is a very important step forward in relations between the European Union and an ACP country (the Cape Verde) in respect of justice and home affairs.

EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation

The European Parliament adopted by 563 votes to 80, with 36 abstentions, a resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

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

EU/Cape Verde Agreement: readmission of persons residing without authorisation

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Decision [2013/522/EU on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorization.](#)

BACKGROUND: in accordance with Council Decision 2013/77/EU, the Agreement between the European Union and Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation was signed, on behalf of the Union, subject to its conclusion.

The Agreement should now be concluded on behalf of the EU.

CONTENT: this Decision approves, on behalf of the EU, the Agreement between the European Union and Cape Verde on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation.

It establishes the technical rules regarding the application of the Agreement. The Commission, assisted by experts from Member States, shall represent the Union in the Joint Readmission Committee established by the Agreement.

Main provisions of the Agreement:

- reciprocity clause: the readmission obligations set out in the Agreement are drawn up on a basis of full reciprocity, applying both to own nationals and to third-country nationals and stateless persons;
- obligation to readmit family members: the obligation to readmit own nationals also includes former own nationals who have renounced, forfeited or been deprived of their nationality without acquiring the nationality of another State. The readmission obligation also covers family members (i.e. spouses and minor unmarried children), regardless of their nationality, who do not have an independent right of residence in the requesting State;
- prerequisites: the obligation to readmit third-country nationals and stateless persons is linked to the following prerequisites: (a) the person concerned holds or held at the time of entering the territory of the requesting State a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State, or (b) the person concerned illegally entered the territory of the requesting State coming directly from the territory of the requested State. These obligations do not apply in respect of persons in airside transit or to whom the requesting State has issued a visa or residence permit before or after they entered its territory;
- technical provisions regarding the readmission procedure: the Agreement contains the necessary technical provisions regarding the readmission procedure (readmission application, means of evidence, time limits, transfer modalities and modes of transportation) and 'readmission in error'. Some procedural flexibility is provided by the fact that no readmission application will be needed in cases where the person to be readmitted is in possession of a valid travel document or identity card and, in case of third-country nationals, a valid visa or residence permit issued by the requested State;
- accelerated procedure: the Agreement sets out the accelerated procedure which has been agreed for persons apprehended in the border region, i.e. within an area which extends up to 30 kilometres from the territories of seaports, including custom zones, and from international airports of Member States or of Cape Verde. Under the accelerated procedure, readmission applications have to be submitted within two working days, and replies have to be given within two working days, with the time limit for replies being eight calendar days;
- transit operations: the Agreement contains a section on transit operations;
- other technical provisions: these are provisions on costs, data protection and the relationship to other international obligations and existing EU directives. The agreement is without prejudice to other arrangements relating to areas other than readmission, such as voluntary return;
- Protocols: in order to execute the Agreement in practice, Cape Verde and individual Member States may conclude bilateral implementing Protocols.

Territorial provisions: the specific situation of the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark is reflected in the Agreement. The situation of Denmark is also mentioned in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement. The close association of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis is likewise reflected in a joint declaration attached to the Agreement.

It should be noted that the Agreement is linked to the visas. These Agreements will enter into force simultaneously.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: the Decision enters into force on 7 October 2013. The date of entry into force of the Agreement will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union by the General Secretariat of the Council.