

Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	2014/0118(NLE)	Procedure completed
EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement		
See also 1995/0132(AVC)		
Subject 6.40.15 European neighbourhood policy		
Geographical area Tunisia		

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed	
	 Foreign Affairs		18/12/2014	
		 PANZERI Pier Antonio		
		Shadow rapporteur		
		 PREDA Cristian Dan		
		 FOTYGA Anna		
	Former committee responsible			
	 Foreign Affairs			
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	 International Trade		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	Former committee for opinion			
	 International Trade			
Council of the European Union European Commission	Commission DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations	Commissioner FÜLE Štefan		

Key events			
31/03/2014	Preparatory document	COM(2014)0203	Summary
10/12/2014	Legislative proposal published	16160/2014	Summary
15/04/2015	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

15/09/2015	Vote in committee		
17/09/2015	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0254/2015	Summary
07/10/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
07/10/2015	Decision by Parliament	T8-0337/2015	Summary
26/10/2015	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/10/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/11/2015	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2014/0118(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
	See also 1995/0132(AVC)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 212
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/00412

Documentation gateway

Document attached to the procedure		COM(2014)0202	31/03/2014	EC	
Preparatory document		COM(2014)0203	31/03/2014	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		16160/2014	10/12/2014	CSL	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		16159/2014	11/03/2015	CSL	
Committee draft report		PE557.253	02/07/2015	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0254/2015	17/09/2015	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0337/2015	07/10/2015	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

[Decision 2015/2025](#)
[OJ L 297 13.11.2015, p. 0001](#) Summary

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

PURPOSE: the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Tunisia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of that country in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

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

BACKGROUND: as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the gradual opening up of certain European Union programmes and agencies to ENP partner countries is one of many measures to promote reform, modernisation and transition in the European Union's neighbourhood. The Commission has expanded on this in its [Communication](#) on the general approach to enable European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries to participate in Community agencies and Community programmes. The Council endorsed this approach in conclusions on 5 March 2007.

The Council, on 18 June 2007, issued directives to the Commission to negotiate Framework Agreements with Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia and Ukraine, on the general principles for their participation in Community programmes. To date, Protocols have been signed with Armenia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco and Ukraine.

In December 2013, Tunisia expressed its interest in participating in the broad range of programmes open to partner countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy. The text of the Protocol negotiated with Tunisia is attached and the subject of this proposal. It is now appropriate for the European Union to conclude the protocol.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 212 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) and Article 218(7) thereof.

CONTENT: this is a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol. This Protocol contains a Framework Agreement on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. It contains standard conditions that should be applied to all European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries with whom such protocols are to be concluded.

Objectives: the protocol seeks to define the financial and technical rules permitting Tunisia to participate in certain EU programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol sets out principles for economic, financial and technical cooperation measure and allows Tunisia to receive technical assistance, in particular financial assistance, from the European Union pursuant to the European Union programmes.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

PURPOSE: to conclude 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

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

BACKGROUND: in accordance with a Council Decision, 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes was signed on behalf of the Union.

The objective of the Protocol is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling Tunisia to participate in certain Union programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol constitutes an economic, financial and technical cooperation measure which allows for access to assistance, in particular financial assistance, to be provided by the Union pursuant to those Union programmes. That framework applies only to those Union programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of Tunisia.

The Protocol should now be approved.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Council is called upon to approve, on behalf of the Union, 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

For further details of the Protocol, please refer to the Commissions initial proposal dated 31/03/2014.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the report by Pier Antonio PANZERI (S&D, IT) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

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

It justified its recommendation by noting that Tunisia was the birthplace of the Arab Spring. Thus far, it was the only country in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region to survive this social and political experiment.

Over recent years, the Tunisian economy had deteriorated markedly, both domestically and in the international arena, especially in terms of its trade with Europe, which remained its main partner. In light of this, it was vital for the Tunisian issue to become an EU priority, with the EU making concrete economic and investment commitments aimed at supporting the country's fragile transition to democracy.

Bearing this in mind, the EU should also increase cooperation through programmes such as Erasmus+ other programmes aimed at developing people-to-people contacts. Tunisia should also be given the opportunity to join the missions and activities of the European Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

The European Parliament adopted by 605 votes to 59, with 34 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Protocol. This Protocol shall enable Tunisia to participate in programmes such as Erasmus+ other programmes aimed at developing people-to-people contacts.

EU/Tunisia Framework Agreement: participation of Tunisia in Union programmes. Protocol to the EC/Tunisia Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement

PURPOSE: to conclude 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2015/2025 on the conclusion of the 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Tunisia in Union programmes.

CONTENT: by this Council Decision, 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, on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia on the general principles for the participation of Tunisia in Union programmes is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

The objective of the [Protocol](#) is to lay down the financial and technical rules enabling Tunisia to participate in certain Union programmes.

The horizontal framework established by the Protocol constitutes an economic, financial and technical cooperation measure which allows for access to assistance, in particular financial assistance, to be provided by the Union pursuant to those Union programmes. That framework applies only to those Union programmes for which the relevant constitutive legal acts provide for the possibility of the participation of Tunisia.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 26.10.2015.