

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Directive	1993/1026(CNS) Procedure completed
Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)	
Repealed by <a href="#">2011/0254(NLE)</a>	
Subject 4.15.15 Health and safety at work, occupational medicine	

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>	<a href="#">1922</a>	13/05/1996

Key events			
20/07/1993	Legislative proposal published	COM(1993)0349	Summary
13/09/1993	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/03/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
15/03/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A3-0147/1994	
19/04/1994	Debate in Parliament		Summary
20/04/1994	Decision by Parliament	T3-0252/1994	Summary
08/07/1994	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0298	Summary
13/05/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary
13/05/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/06/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1993/1026(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
	Repealed by <a href="#">2011/0254(NLE)</a>
Legal basis	Euratom Treaty A 031; Euratom Treaty A 032
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/3/04879

Documentation gateway					
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES0220/1993</a> <a href="#">OJ C 108 19.04.1993, p. 0048</a>	25/02/1993	ESC	
Legislative proposal		COM(1993)0349 <a href="#">OJ C 245 09.09.1993, p. 0005</a>	20/07/1993	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A3-0147/1994 <a href="#">OJ C 128 09.05.1994, p. 0006</a>	15/03/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T3-0252/1994 <a href="#">OJ C 128 09.05.1994, p. 0131-0209</a>	20/04/1994	EP	Summary
Committee opinion	<b>EMPL</b>	PE207.921/DEF	03/05/1994	EP	
Committee draft report		PE206.575/A	03/05/1994	EP	
Modified legislative proposal		COM(1994)0298 <a href="#">OJ C 224 12.08.1994, p. 0005</a>	08/07/1994	EC	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

Final act
<a href="#">Directive 1996/29</a> <a href="#">OJ L 159 29.06.1996, p. 0001</a> Summary

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

This amended proposal for a directive laid down basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionising radiation. Changes were made in respect of : - the use of definitions, quantities and units, weighting factors for exposures and tissues; - the setting of stricter dose limits to take account of more recent estimates of the carcinogenic risk of exposure to ionising radiation and the concept of health detriment; - introduction of provisions on radiological protection in certain cases of occupational exposure to natural sources of radiation; - the banning of certain unjustified uses of radioactivity; - broadening of the protective measures to be taken in the event of a radiation accident; - introduction of the concept of 'dose constraint' for a given source; - changes to the radioactivity values specified by the conditions for authorisation/exemption laid down in the Directive. ?

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection adopted the report by Mr LANNOYE, highlighting the fact that basic standards need to be revised in order to take account of developments in scientific knowledge since the adoption of the two Euratom Directives 80/836 and 84/8467. The abolition of internal borders within the single market means that greater harmonisation and better environmental protection and working conditions are an absolute priority. Mr LANNOYE was convinced that a high level of harmonisation was essential. The most important amendments adopted were amendments 8 and 9 (severely curtailing practices for which no authorisation is required), amendment 13 (banning exports of radioactive substances), amendment 17 (making provision for protective measures for pregnant women) and amendments 31 and 32 (making substantial changes to the provisions in the Annexes to the proposal for a directive).?

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

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## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct.

## 80/836/Euratom)

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The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr LANNOYE on the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionising radiation.?

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

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The Commission has amended its proposal in the light of the amendments proposed by the European Parliament at first reading. Most of the amendments seek to improve the text by enhancing protection. - The Commission has improved the definition of the words "accident", "intervention" and "practice". - The Commission has also enhanced protection for pregnant and breastfeeding women by taking account of Directive 92/85/EEC which deals specifically with them. - It has also improved cases of exposure subject to special authorisation by making provision for the Member States to take steps to ban authorisations for workers subject to this type of exposure. - It has made considerable improvements to requirements for control zones (depending on the type and extent of the radiological risk in these zones, radiological monitoring must be set up in the surrounding area). Requirements must be implemented in controlled or monitored zones by qualified experts. - Finally, as regards the principle whereby each Member State must take action to ensure that the general public is suitably protected, the Commission considers that this protection must be "the best possible".?

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

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**OBJECTIVE:** to strengthen the existing provisions concerning protection against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation to ensure that the general public and workers enjoy the best possible protection against the harmful effects of such radiation. **COMMUNITY MEASURE:** Council Directive 96/29/Euratom laying down the basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation. **CONTENT:** the Euratom Treaty provides for the establishment within the Community of uniform basic standards to protect the health of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation. These basic standards were first laid down in 1959 and have been subsequently amended on several occasions to take account of developments in scientific knowledge in the field of radiation protection. The purpose of this Directive is to strengthen the existing level of protection and it provides, in particular, for the following: - reducing dose and exposure limits for workers and the general public, - maintaining technical consistency with the recommendations of international organisations such as the WHO, the IAEA, the OECD and the ICRP (International Commission on Radiological Protection), - adapting existing legislation to the new situation created by the completion of the internal market. More specifically, the scope of the Directive takes account of practices or activities which may result in a significant increase in the exposure of workers and members of the public to ionizing radiation from artificial or natural sources, which affects the level of radiation protection required. It also provides for appropriate protection measures where intervention is necessary. To ensure compliance with the standards, the Member States will be required to implement a system of declaration and prior authorisation for certain high-risk practices, or to simply prohibit these practices altogether. Provision is made for a system of radiation protection for practices, based on the principles of the justification of exposure, the optimisation of protection and dose limitation (implementation of the principle of "dose constraint" with a view to optimising radiation protection). These limits are determined according to the specific situation of the various groups of persons exposed, such as workers, trainees, students and the other members of the public (particularly pregnant and breastfeeding women). As regards workers, trainees and students, new measures have been taken with regard to exposure in the workplace, including the prior evaluation of hazards, the classification of workplaces and workers, the monitoring of areas and working conditions, and medical checks. Moreover, the Member States must identify activities involving significantly higher levels of exposure to natural radiation sources for workers and the general public and take appropriate protection measures for the activities deemed to be of concern. With regard to the operational protection of the population in normal circumstances, the Member States must establish a system of inspection to maintain strict control over radiation protection for the public and to ensure that the basic standards are respected. Finally, there are provisions to ensure that the Member States are better prepared for radiological emergencies, whether in their own country or in other Member States. In these cases, the Member States must cooperate with each other and, possibly, with other third countries involved so that they will be better prepared for such situations and can manage them more easily. **DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION:** 13 May 2000. After that date, the directives establishing the basic standards, as last amended by Directive 84/467/Euratom, will be repealed and replaced by this Directive. ?

## Public health: protection of public and workers against ionizing radiation (rev. Direct. 80/836/Euratom)

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The Council formally adopted the Directive laying down basic safety standards.