

Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) 1994/2073(COS)	Procedure completed
Monitoring of the application of Community law. 11th annual report 1993	
Subject 8.50.01 Implementation of EU law	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		26/07/1994
		PSE VERDE I ALDEA Josep	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		30/08/1994
		GUE PAILLER Aline	
	PETI Petitions	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
29/03/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1994)0500	Summary
21/07/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/11/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
22/11/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0089/1994	
19/01/1995	Debate in Parliament		
20/01/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0027/1995	Summary
20/01/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/02/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/2073(COS)

Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	JURI/3/05577

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(1994)0500	29/03/1994	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0089/1994 OJ C 018 23.01.1995, p. 0004	22/11/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0027/1995 OJ C 043 20.02.1995, p. 0119-0122	20/01/1995	EP	Summary

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This eleventh report on the application of Community law, relating to 1993, came under the framework of the first year of operation of the internal market. The Commission noted that by the end of 1993 almost all of the 282 texts included in the White Paper on the internal market had been adopted, 263 were in force and 86% of the 222 directives that needed to be transposed into national law had been transposed. The Commission also emphasised the qualitative aspects of the transposition, by verifying the conformity of the measures adopted at national level, as well as codification, which aimed to ensure the transparency of Community law. The Commission also referred to the improved cooperation with the Member States: bilateral meetings, creation of specialised bodies, including the advisory committee for coordination in the field of the internal market, a programme for exchanges of Karolus officials, etc. Finally, the report summarised all these elements sector by sector, state by state, and listed the infringements (1 340 in 1993 compared to 1 545 in 1992) and the Court rulings that had not been implemented. ?

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The committee approved the report, which highlights the numerous delays in the application of the law in economically and politically important areas. Several sectors referred to in the White Paper are affected: insurance, public service contracts, company law, intellectual and industrial property and new technologies. In other sectors, such as the environment, agriculture and the social area, the rate of transposition is particularly unsatisfactory, hence the rapporteur's proposal to call on the Commission to step up collaboration with the national authorities and, where necessary, to institute infringement procedures (for example under Article 169 of the EC Treaty). He also called on the Union institutions to communicate and disseminate Community texts more widely among the public. This could be achieved by reorganising Community and national computer networks. In addition, work to codify Community law should be speeded up so that this law could be properly reformulated. As regards education, the report called for Community law to be made a compulsory subject, even more so than already, on university law and further training courses for magistrates and lawyers. Despite the judgments returned by the Court of Justice, some Member States failed to comply with the judgments, hence the call on the Commission to apply systematically the penalties for which provision is made in the event of non-compliance (Article 171 (2) of the EC Treaty).?

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Adopting the report by Mr VERDE I ALDEA (PSE, E), the European Parliament noted that Commission action under Article 169 of the EC Treaty had led to more or less the same number of infringement procedures as were instituted in the previous year (viz. 1,209 in 1993 compared with 1,216 in 1992), that the number of reasoned opinions had increased from 248 in 1992 to 352 in 1993 and that 44 actions had been brought before the Court of Justice in 1993, compared with 64 in 1992. It regretted that transposition was not entirely satisfactory, given that there were still numerous delays in sectors such as insurance, public service contracts, company law, intellectual and industrial property and new technologies. In addition, the rate of transposition in agriculture and the environment had fallen somewhat and the same applied to certain "health and safety" directives in the social area. In addition, some directives on the internal market had not been transposed completely, thereby adversely affecting how the market functioned. Parliament also regretted the delay in work to codify Community legislation and felt that efforts were needed here. On the same subject, it felt that official codification would not suffice and that Community law would need to be reformulated in accordance with the proper legislative procedures. At the same time, the European Parliament deplored the fact that certain states persisted in not complying with the judgments of the Court of Justice, some of which dated from 1981, and called on the Commission to impose penalties on these states. It was also concerned that preliminary ruling procedures took so long (average of 20.4 months in 1993), even though the jurisdiction of the Court of First Instance had been expanded. Over and above statistics on the application of Community law, the European Parliament called for improved transparency of European legislation and therefore called for the CELEX database to be reorganised so as to make Community texts clearer and allow all European citizens to consult them. It also called on the Commission to examine the cost of access to legislative documents and to ensure that access was more affordable for lawyers and magistrates. It also felt that Community legislation should be a compulsory subject on university law courses. Finally, it called on the Commission to compile information which could be included in its future annual reports in the fields of justice and home affairs.?

