


Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	1994/2075(COS)	Procedure completed
Mobile and personal communications in the European Union. Green paper		
Subject 3.30.05 Electronic and mobile communications, personal communications		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		Appointed 07/09/1994
			PPE AREITIO TOLEDO Javier
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
Council of the European Union	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy		Appointed 05/10/1994
			FE MALERBA Franco E.
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		

Key events			
25/04/1994	Additional information		Summary
27/04/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1994)0145	Summary
14/09/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/04/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
19/04/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0097/1995	
19/05/1995	Debate in Parliament		
19/05/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0275/1995	Summary
19/05/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/06/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/2075(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	ECON/3/05608

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(1994)0145	27/04/1994	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1007/1994 OJ C 393 31.12.1994, p. 0064	14/09/1994	ESC	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR0179/1994 OJ C 210 14.08.1995, p. 0045	28/09/1994	CofR	
Document attached to the procedure		COM(1994)0492	23/11/1994	EC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0097/1995 OJ C 151 19.06.1995, p. 0003	19/04/1995	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0275/1995 OJ C 151 19.06.1995, p. 0361-0473	19/05/1995	EP	Summary

Mobile and personal communications in the European Union. Green paper

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Mobile and personal communications in the European Union. Green paper

This Green Paper on a common approach in the field of mobile and personal communications in the European Union aimed to define the broad guidelines of the policy to be implemented in this sector at European level. After having analysed the developments in technology, market trends, the European environment and the global context, the Commission recommended that the principles of the European policy on telecommunications be extended to the sector of mobile and personal communications. In concrete terms, this extension would include: - the abolition of exclusive and special rights that existed in the sector, subject, where necessary, to the creation of adequate conditions for the granting of licences; - the removal of any restrictions to the provision of mobile services both by independent service providers and via the direct provision of services by mobile network operators; - complete freedom for mobile network operators to use and develop their networks for the purposes set out in their licence or authorisation; - an unlimited combined supply of services via fixed and mobile networks within the framework of the overall timetable laid down by the Council resolution of 22 July 1993 with a view to the full liberalisation of public voice telephony services via the fixed network; - the extension, where possible, of the principles developed with regard to mutual recognition and granting of licences; - rapid and accelerated mutual recognition of type approval of mobile terminal equipment; - enhancement of the coordinated approach in the Union on frequencies and numbering, on the basis of the existing European framework; - extension of the principles of interconnection of mobile communications in the sector; - the development of mobile networks that ensured safety, protection of privacy and the environment, and compliance with the political objectives. In its communication of 23 November 1993, the Commission set out the results of the consultation process on the Green Paper and proposed specific actions with a view to implementing the resulting conclusions: 1). Priority measures for specific actions by sector: - introduction of competition: all special and exclusive rights should be abolished by 1 January 1996 and the rules on competition should apply in full to the sector; - preparation of a code of conduct for service providers; - guaranteeing access to the market for service providers; - promoting the availability of the necessary frequencies for the new digital services and promoting targeted programmes to support the entry into the market of new mobile technologies; - after 1 January 1998, enabling mobile network operators to provide public voice communication services through the fixed network and enabling fixed network operators to use radio-based technologies; - establishing at European level a licence for satellite-based personal communications services; 2). Priority actions for mobile and personal communications linked to the general telecommunications reform: - removal of restrictions on the use of alternative infrastructures within mobile networks, in accordance with the policy agreed in the context of the Green Paper on infrastructure; - regulation of interconnection through the rules in the Treaty on ONP and competition, within the framework of a directive on interconnection and proposals for the future adaptation of ONP, planned for 1 January 1998; - definition/amendment of the rules with a view to ensuring mutual recognition of equipment, licences and the protection of personal data and privacy, within the framework of the current proposals; 3). Additional actions required for the development of the general regulatory and technological environment: - establishment of timetables for standardisation, numbering and frequencies, and for the binding decisions concerning implementation by the Member States; - establishing an action programme covering issues such as the impact of mobile communication on health and safety and on employment trends and re-training; - actively supporting through Community research programmes, the development of advanced mobile communications systems, particularly the move towards a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS); - creating a European forum for mobile and personal communications services. ?

Mobile and personal communications in the European Union. Green paper

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs adopted the report by Mr ARETIO TOLEDO. The Members adopted various amendments to the resolution tabled by the Commission. The amendments called, in particular, for: - the abolition of exclusive and special rights before 1 January 1996; - fair competition between operators already established and newcomers to the market; - the establishment of a mandatory code of conduct establishing a fair trading relationship between network operators and service providers; - respect for the regulatory framework for interconnection of networks, which should be established at Community level; - an assessment of the environmental impact of the infrastructure facilities provided for mobile communications; - the removal of restrictions on European firms in third country markets, guaranteeing reciprocity and penalising unlicensed operators broadcasting from a third country. ?

Mobile and personal communications in the European Union. Green paper

In adopting the report by Mr Javier Areitio Toledo, the European Parliament welcomed the Commission's Green Paper and the proposals put forward. It acknowledged that mobile network operators should develop within a competitive environment which required the abolition of exclusive and special rights and the granting of authorisations on the basis of transparent procedures. However, it pointed out that the number of licences awarded should be commensurate with capacity to meet the general terms governing service authorisation and, in particular, public-service constraints. The EP emphasised the importance of the balanced trading relationship which should unite operators and service providers, and thus called for a code of conduct and measures to protect consumers' interests (making tariffs transparent and lower). It hoped that commercial agreements would regulate the issue of mobile network interconnection with fixed networks and highlighted the fundamental role, for mobile communications, of the availability of a sufficiently wide frequency spectrum so as to make it possible to plan investment. Finally, the EP strengthened the Commission's proposals with regard to the environmental impact of infrastructures, the aspects linked to defence and public order, communications privacy and the introduction of universal service requirements. ?