


Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	1994/2080(COS)
Procedure completed	
Satellite communications: the provision of and access to space segment capacity	
Subject 3.30.03.06 Communications by satellite	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	PPE HOPPENSTEDT Karsten Friedrich	07/09/1994
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Key events			
10/06/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1994)0210	Summary
26/09/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/12/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
19/12/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0121/1994	
15/02/1995	Debate in Parliament		
17/02/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0068/1995	Summary
17/02/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
06/03/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/2080(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/3/05628

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(1994)0210	10/06/1994	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0121/1994 OJ C 043 20.02.1995, p. 0004	19/12/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0068/1995 OJ C 056 06.03.1995, p. 0159-0180	17/02/1995	EP	Summary

Satellite communications: the provision of and access to space segment capacity

In its communication, the Commission states that greater development of and access to the space segment are essential if Europe is to optimise its potential for participating in the development of new satellite communications technologies and maintain its position on the world market. The Commission therefore feels that action should centre on: - guaranteeing direct access to the space segment throughout the European Union, including the special space segment provided by international satellite telecommunications organizations. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission will use every means at its disposal to abolish current restrictions, especially by applying the provisions of the Treaty and competition rules; - joint action by the Member States to reform the international satellite telecommunications organizations, especially EUTELSAT, and adapt these organizations to new regulatory and market requirements; - joint management of the space segment, which qualifies as a common Union resource, especially as regards future applications for orbital positions filed with the International Telecommunications Union and related radio-frequency coordination and allocation procedures; - measures to allow comparable and effective access in third countries in parallel to the liberalization of the Union market; - including satellite-based services in the trans-European network programmes as a matter of priority, especially as regards new technologies.?

Satellite communications: the provision of and access to space segment capacity

The committee adopted the draft resolution, the first part of which deplored the fact that the Commission had failed to enclose a draft resolution with its communication, as it had done with its communication on satellite navigation services. The draft therefore called on the Commission to enclose a draft resolution with this communication and with other pre-legislative communications so that the institutions involved in the legislative process, i.e. the European Parliament and the Council, could state their position on drafts submitted on an equally footing. At the same time, the draft resolution called on the Member States to act on the basis of a common position and take steps within international satellite telecommunications organisations, such as INTELSAT, IMMARSAT and EUTELSAT, which would help to ensure that space segment capacities are allocated in a non-discriminatory manner. The Member States were called on to adopt a balanced common approach which would allow orbital resources and the concomitant frequencies to be managed efficiently. The draft felt that the principle of free access to the satellite sector should apply equally to public corporations under full or partial control of the national telecommunications authorities and private operators. Finally, the draft suggested the possibility of setting up a central supervisory body in charge of controlling space segment capacity suppliers in Europe, be they telecommunications agencies, consortia involving telecommunications agencies or purely private operators, in order to guarantee access to the space segment and fair competition.?

Satellite communications: the provision of and access to space segment capacity

Adopting the report by Mr HOPPENSTEDT, the European Parliament called on the Member States to take steps to ensure that satellite transmission capacities were allocated in a non-discriminatory manner. In its resolution, the European Parliament: - called on the Member States to lobby organisations such as Intelsat, Inmarsat and Eutelsat to ensure that space segment capacities were allocated fairly and to adopt a balanced common approach which allowed orbital resources and frequencies to be managed efficiently; - called on the Commission to take account of both cultural and economic pluralism in order to preserve and strengthen diversity in the radio-broadcasting and personal communications sectors; - stressed that the principle of free access to the satellite sector should apply equally to public corporations and private operators; - felt that there might be cause to set up a central supervisory body in charge of controlling space segment capacity providers in Europe. Parliament deplored the fact that the Commission had failed to table a draft resolution together with its communication and called on it to enclose draft resolutions with pre-legislative communications in the future.?