


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1994/2208(INI)	Procedure completed
Industrial restructuring and in the European Union and relocation		
Subject 4.15.05 Industrial restructuring, job losses, redundancies, relocations, Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF)		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		06/04/1995
		V HAUTALA Heidi	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	REGI Regional Policy		19/12/1995
		V SCHROEDTER Elisabeth	

Key events			
05/10/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	B4-0178/1994	
12/12/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
22/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0335/1996	
12/11/1996	Debate in Parliament		
13/11/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0594/1996	Summary
13/11/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
02/12/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/2208(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 143-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		B4-0178/1994	05/10/1994	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0335/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0005	22/10/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0594/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0094-0147	13/11/1996	EP	Summary

Industrial restructuration and in the European Union and relocation

At the end of a close vote, the Committee adopted the report by Mrs Heidi HAUTALA (Greens, FIN) on industrial restructuring and relocation within the EU (own initiative). Relocations are a complex problem. As the report underlines, they can be positive in creating jobs in certain sectors, but they can also have detrimental effects in removing employment from regions which have no alternative. The report therefore proposes a series of measures to limit the negative effects both inside and outside the Community. Within the EU, it was important that priority be given to sustainable development and that measures be taken to deter speculation, which undermines economic decision making. In order to prevent fiscal and social dumping, the report called for these areas to be harmonised, including the provision of uniform social cover prohibiting any derogation clause. In addition, a revision of transport pricing could significantly affect certain relocation decisions. As regards support through the Structural Funds, there should be an element of conditionality associated with long-term commitments on employment and local development. Lastly, with regard to relocation and restructuring, European Works Councils were needed to guarantee transparency of relocation. The report emphasized in general terms that existing Community policies, such as competition, industrial, trade and internal market policies, are not adequately coordinated. Outside the Community, the report stressed the need for social clauses to be incorporated into commercial agreements, on the basis of the ILO (International Labour Organization) Conventions. ?

Industrial restructuration and in the European Union and relocation

In adopting the report by Mrs Heidi HAUTALA (Greens, FIN), the European Parliament emphasized that business relocations can have a positive effect in creating employment in certain sectors, but that they can also have adverse effects when they remove employment from regions which do not have any alternative. Parliament therefore proposed a series of actions designed to limit the negative effects of such relocations both inside and outside the Community. Within the Community, it was important that priority be given to sustainable development and that measures be taken to deter speculation, which undermines economic decision making. In this respect Parliament stressed that the success of EMU will constitute a major step towards solving this problem. In order to prevent fiscal and social dumping, the European Parliament called for these areas to be harmonised, including the provision of uniform social cover prohibiting any derogation clause. As regards Community support via the Structural Funds, there should also be an element of conditionality associated with long-term commitments on employment and local development. Lastly, Parliament called for European Works Councils to be set up to guarantee transparency of relocation. Parliament emphasized in general terms that existing Community policies, such as competition, industrial, trade and internal market policies, are not adequately coordinated. Outside the Community the European Parliament stressed the need for social clauses to be incorporated in commercial agreements, on the basis of the ILO Conventions. It called on the Commission to investigate the consequences for relocations within the EU of greater freedom of movement for workers and greater mobility for their pension rights. ?