


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1995/2161(INI)	Procedure completed
Development of a security and defence policy - WEU		
Subject 6.10.02 Common security and defence policy (CSDP); WEU, NATO		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy		Appointed 22/06/1995
			PPE TINDEMANS Leo C.
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	INST Institutional Affairs		Appointed 25/09/1996
			PSE MANZELLA Andrea

Key events			
27/06/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/04/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
21/04/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0162/1997	
14/05/1997	Debate in Parliament		
14/05/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0234/1997	Summary
14/05/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
02/06/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1995/2161(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/4/06766

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0162/1997 OJ C 167 02.06.1997, p. 0003	21/04/1997	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0234/1997 OJ C 167 02.06.1997, p. 0046-0099	14/05/1997	EP	Summary

Development of a security and defence policy - WEU

If the EU really wants to preserve and strengthen stability on the continent of Europe it must establish a common foreign and security policy (CFSP) capable of preventive action as well as measures for the peaceful settlement of disputes. This was the conclusion of the Committee which adopted the report by Leo TINDEMANS (EPP, B) on new prospects for the EU's common security policy. To achieve these ends it was essential that Europe should speak with one voice. There was also a need to extend the concept of security as defined by the Lisbon European Council (four areas that could be incorporated into joint action). Mr TINDEMANS proposed a double concept of security. The external aspect, which came under the CFSP, would include the territorial integrity of the EU and its Member States and the protection of its citizens; conventional and nuclear arms control; border problems that might destabilize the EU for a variety of reasons (e.g. minorities, ethnic conflicts); combatting the inequalities between rich and poor countries (which had an impact on the movement of migrants and the rise of racism in the EU); and protection of the environment. Aspects of internal security that would come under the third pillar were the threats due to terrorism, organized crime and trafficking of all kinds. There was also the question of the economic and social crisis, which focused popular discontent on foreigners. The committee's proposals included the creation of a European corps of military and civilian units with special responsibility for maintaining and restoring peace. The treaties ought to include Petersberg-type missions to be carried out as a joint measure, even before the merger between the WEU and the EU. These could be adopted by qualified majority unless one or more Member States claimed the right of constructive abstention. Nevertheless all Member States should provide practical or financial support for this type of mission. This approach was intended to demonstrate the political solidarity of the EU Member States. An active concept of security implied anticipatory action by the EU. Hence the need to give practical effect to something the EP had called for long ago (14 June 1995): the creation of an analysis centre for preventive action and policy planning, which would be under the joint responsibility of the Council and Commission, with WEU input. ?

Development of a security and defence policy - WEU

In adopting the report by Mr Leo TINDEMANS (PPE, B) on the development of new prospects for the EU's common security policy, the European Parliament called for a new concept of 'security' which would meet the criteria defined by the Lisbon European Council (four areas could be incorporated into joint action: the procedures of the CSCE, disarmament policy, nuclear non-proliferation, control of technology transfer and arms exports). Parliament proposed that security should be defined as a double concept: 1) an external dimension, under the CFSP, which would include: . the territorial integrity of the EU and its Member States and the protection of its citizens; . conventional and nuclear arms control; . border problems which might destabilize the EU for a variety of reasons (such as minorities and ethnic conflicts); . combatting the inequalities between rich and poor countries (which had an impact on the movement of migrants and the rise of racism); . the protection of the environment.) an internal dimension, which would come under the Third Pillar and would include: . threats due to terrorism, organized crime and trafficking of all kinds, . the economic and social crises which focused popular discontent on foreigners, resulting in racism and xenophobia. As regards the means to implement these actions, security would be ensured: - externally, by means of conventional instruments of diplomacy and by confidence-building measures in the military sphere, development aid, peace missions, etc., - internally, by economic and social measures, cultural activities and by developing EUROPOL and police cooperation (including efforts to bring certain fields within the Community system). Parliament proposed, in particular, the creation of a European corps of military and civilian units with special responsibility for maintaining and restoring peace. It therefore called on the IGC to provide for: . the inclusion in the Treaties of a political solidarity clause and the principle of the integrity of borders, . Petersberg-type missions which could take the form of joint measures, . the creation of an Analysis Centre for preventive action and policy planning, which would be under the joint responsibility of the Council and the Commission, with support from the WEU. It also called for the operational structures of the WEU to be strengthened, prior to its ultimate merger with the EU. In conjunction with this, Parliament reflected generally on the regional aspects of common security, particularly with regard to the following: - relations with the CEE, recalling that the enlargement of NATO to include the countries of eastern Europe must not mean a new division within the continent of Europe, - relations with the Balkans, calling on the countries concerned to work towards the democratization of their institutions, - relations with the Baltic States, recalling that tensions are still possible in this region and that everything possible should be done to prevent a resurgence of these conflicts, - relations with the Near East and the Mediterranean, reaffirming Parliament's support for a security policy based on improved economic and social conditions and for the peace process. Finally, Parliament took the view that it would be appropriate to provide for Joint Councils which would bring together the Foreign Ministers and Defense Ministers of the Member States, particularly when undertaking Petersberg-type missions. ?