

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2001/0123(CNS)	Procedure completed
Research RTD, 6th EC Framework-programme 2002-2006: structuring the European Research Area		
Subject 3.50.02.01 EC, EU framework programme		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		19/02/2002
		PSE ZORBA Myrsini	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		11/07/2001
		V/ALE HUDGHTON Ian	
Council of the European Union	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		20/03/2002
		V/ALE GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF Friedrich-Wilhelm	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
European Commission	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2451	30/09/2002
	Research	2417	11/03/2002
	Commission DG Research and Innovation	Commissioner	

Key events			
30/05/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0279	Summary
03/09/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/01/2002	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2002)0043	Summary
11/03/2002	Debate in Council	2417	
28/05/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
28/05/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0206/2002	

11/06/2002	Debate in Parliament		
12/06/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0303/2002	Summary
30/09/2002	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
30/09/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/10/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/0123(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 166
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/15907

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(2001)0279	30/05/2001	EC	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2002)0043	30/01/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0206/2002	28/05/2002	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0693/2002 OJ C 221 17.09.2002, p. 0097	29/05/2002	ESC	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T5-0303/2002 OJ C 261 30.10.2003, p. 0151-0337 E	12/06/2002	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

[Decision 2002/835](#)
[OJ L 294 29.10.2002, p. 0044-0059](#) Summary

Research RTD, 6th EC Framework-programme 2002-2006: structuring the European Research Area

PURPOSE: to adopt a specific programme 2002-2006 for research, technological development and demonstration aimed at structuring the European Research Area. **CONTENT:** the present proposal for a decision is one in a series of five new proposals (CNS/2001/0122, CNS/2001/0124, CNS/2001/0125, CNS/2001/0126) concerning specific programmes which should be implemented under this framework programme. The new programme 'Structuring the European Research Area' (EUR 3 050 million) will attack a number of key structural weaknesses that are manifested across all fields of European research and which are likely to have progressively more important effects on the EU's capacity to meet the aspirations of its citizens as its economies and societies become more knowledge-based. ?

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Area

The positions expressed by Parliament and Council on the new framework programme demonstrate a high degree of convergence, with broadly similar positions expressed on the overall budget and its breakdown, programme structure, scientific and technological priorities, and means of implementation. For its part, the Commission has worked to encourage the process of convergence, in particular by modifying its framework programme proposals to take up a significant proportion of Parliament's amendments. It notes with satisfaction the substantial consensus on the underlying principles of the new framework programme that has been achieved through the efforts of Council and Parliament, in particular with respect to the priority to be given to the use of powerful new instruments, the strong focus of the thematic priorities, and the introduction of greater flexibility in the implementation of the programme. A sufficiently stable basis now exists for the Commission to come forward with amended proposals for the specific programmes. These take up the changes in the framework programme resulting from the first reading, and set out their detailed implications as regards the research to be conducted and its means of implementation. The objective is to assist the other institutions in their examination of the specific programmes, and their further negotiations, with the aim of reaching early agreement on the framework programme, rules of participation and specific programmes. The most extensive adjustments to the Commission's earlier proposals are to be found in the programme "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area", including the following: - adaptations to the structure and detailed research content of thematic priority 1 (to reflect its organisation in two sections, respectively on advanced genomics and its applications to health, and on combating major diseases) and thematic priority 6 (to reflect its organisation in three parts, respectively on sustainable energy systems, sustainable surface transport, and global change and ecosystems). More limited, but in some cases nevertheless substantial, amendments have been introduced in to the research content of other priority thematic areas. - adjustments to the initial policy-orientated research priorities under the heading "supporting policies and anticipating scientific and technological needs", along with some re-attribution of research activities in relation to the thematic priorities (notably as regards agriculture and marine ecosystem research). These take account of the modifications to content and the significant reduction in budget introduced following the first reading. - the description of the instruments (Annex III) has been refined and clarified, in the light of the debate leading up to the first reading. This reflects the principle of a smooth transition from "traditional" to "new" instruments in the implementation of the thematic priority areas, and the idea of a fourth instrument, in the spirit of the "escalier d'excellence". In implementing this specific programme, the Commission proposes to be assisted by a committee of Member States' representatives. The committee shall meet in different configurations, as appropriate, corresponding to the thematic priority areas of research. The modifications introduced in the programme "Structuring the European research area" relate mainly to the mobility and infrastructure actions, where additional detail and clarity has been introduced in the mechanisms and instruments to be adopted, while also taking account of the more limited budget attributed to these actions. As regards the Euratom programme on "Nuclear energy", the main changes relate to the fission part, with the introduction of a new thematic priority on radiation protection and activities on the safety of nuclear installations. In both these programmes, the descriptions of the instruments (Annex III) have been substantially updated, in line with the programme "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area". In all cases, the budgetary allocations have been revised in conformity with the common position of the Council.?

Research RTD, 6th EC Framework-programme 2002-2006: structuring the European Research Area

The committee adopted the report by Myrsini ZORBA (PES, GR) approving the programme under the consultation procedure, subject to a number of amendments designed to help to achieve the overall aim of making a tangible improvement in innovation performance, in the short, medium and long term, by stimulating better integration between research and innovation: - inter- and multidisciplinary should be explicitly promoted by concrete actions; - the key role played by universities and higher education institutions involved in research in building the European Research Area must be recognised. Measures should be taken towards creating a European Higher Education Area and synergies should be firmly established between the European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area; - a mechanism should be set up within the Commission's DG for Research to monitor and optimise researchers' mobility and to assess proposals to help the return of EU researchers who have temporarily emigrated from the Union. The same mechanism would also serve to monitor the mobility of researchers from the applicant countries with a view to the EU enlargement; - the programme should help to develop a positive attitude towards research and innovation among teachers and journalists and to encourage comprehensive debates with the participation of relevant stakeholders, for instance environmental associations, patients' organisations, and religious communities; - research aimed at military purposes should be specifically excluded from Community funding.?

Research RTD, 6th EC Framework-programme 2002-2006: structuring the European Research Area

In adopting by 525 votes for and 5 against, the report by Myrsini ZORBA (PES, GR), the Parliament approved this proposal subject to a number of non-binding amendments. The aim of the amendments is to help the EU to achieve the overall aim of making a tangible improvement in innovation performance, in the short, medium and long term, through better integration between research and innovation: - Inter-and multidisciplinary should be explicitly promoted by concrete actions; - Synergies must be firmly established between the European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area; - A mechanism should be set up within the Commission's DG for Research to monitor and optimise researchers' mobility; - The programme should help to develop a positive attitude towards research and innovation among teachers and journalists and make the general public more aware of the need for innovation; - Research aimed at military purposes should be excluded from Community funding.?

Research RTD, 6th EC Framework-programme 2002-2006: structuring the European Research Area

PURPOSE : to adopt a specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: "Structuring the European Research Area" (2002-2006). COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council decision 2002/835/EC. CONTENT : the Council adopted the decisions establishing the

five specific Programmes for Research under the 6th Research Framework 2002-2006 (EC and Euratom). One of the programmes ("Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area (EC)") was adopted by qualified majority with the Italian delegation voting against. Adoption of the Specific Programmes will contribute to the timely implementation of the new Framework Programme, as requested by the European Council, so as to promote the creation of a European Research Area and to strengthen innovation in the European Union. The five Specific Programmes cover the following themes: - Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area (EC): EUR 12905 million; - Structuring the European Research Area (EC): EUR 2605 million; - Joint Research Centre activities (EC): EUR 760 million; - Nuclear energy (Euratom): EUR 940 million; - Joint Research Centre activities (Euratom): EUR 290 million. The Specific Programmes establish programme management provisions, scientific and technological objectives and budgetary allocations for the different research activities to be financed under the Framework Programme. It is stipulated that no funding will go to research aimed at human reproductive cloning, modification of the genetic heritage of human beings or the creation of human embryos solely for the purpose of research or stem cell procurement. In addition, further elaboration on ethical issues is provided for in a statement for the Council minutes, namely that: - further provisions on the funding of research activities which involve the use of human embryos and human embryonic stem cells will be established before the end of 2003, on the basis of a new proposal from the Commission and in consultation with the European Parliament; - until then, the Commission will not propose to finance such research projects, unless they involve banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture; - proposals for research projects in these areas will be submitted to a regulatory committee.?