

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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*Session document*

FINAL  
**A6-0066/2004**

6.12.2004

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## **REPORT**

on the proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)  
(COM(2004)0385 – C6-0073/2004 – 2004/0121(CNS))

Committee on Budgets

Rapporteur: Esko Olavi Seppänen

### ***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*I Cooperation procedure (first reading)  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*II Cooperation procedure (second reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position*  
*majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend*  
*the common position*
- \*\*\* Assent procedure  
*majority of Parliament's component Members except in cases*  
*covered by Articles 105, 107, 161 and 300 of the EC Treaty and*  
*Article 7 of the EU Treaty*
- \*\*\*I Codecision procedure (first reading)  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*\*II Codecision procedure (second reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position*  
*majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend*  
*the common position*
- \*\*\*III Codecision procedure (third reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the joint text*

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the Commission)

### ***Amendments to a legislative text***

In amendments by Parliament, amended text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the legislative text for which a correction is proposed, to assist preparation of the final text (for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a given language version). These suggested corrections are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION .....	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT .....	11
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS ON THE LEGAL BASIS .....	13
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS .....	15
PROCEDURE.....	22



## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

**on the proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)  
(COM(2004)0385 – C6-0073/2004 – 2004/0121(CNS))**

**(Consultation procedure)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM(2004)0385)<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to Article 308 of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0073/2004),
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Legal Affairs on the proposed legal basis,
- having regard to Rules 51 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets and the opinion of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (A6-0066/2004),

1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament if it intends to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
4. Calls for initiation of the conciliation procedure under the Joint Declaration of 4 March 1975 if the Council intends to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
5. Asks the Council to consult Parliament again if it intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
6. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> Not yet published in OJ.

Amendment 1

Proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia *and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)*

Title

Proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia, *Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus*  
*(to apply throughout the text)*

*Justification*

*"Western New Independent States (WNIS)" is not an appropriate way of describing countries that have been independent for 15 years.*

Amendment 2

Citation 1

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular *Article 308* thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular *Article 181 a* thereof,

*Justification*

*After the Treaty of Nice the treaty article covering loan guarantees has changed. This proposal would be blocked because the Commission presented it under the wrong article. In order to avoid a lengthy and unnecessary delay of the urgent adoption of this proposal, the rapporteur suggests this amendment so the Council can go ahead with the final adoption after receiving Parliament opinion. The Legal Affairs committee has delivered a positive opinion on the change of legal base*

Amendment 3  
Recital 5

(5) The lending mandate should be subject, ***on the one hand***, to appropriate conditionality consistent with EU high-level agreements on political and macro-economic aspects, ***and*** with other international financial institutions on sectoral and project aspects, ***and on the other, to*** appropriate work-sharing between the EIB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

(5) The lending mandate should be subject to appropriate conditionality consistent with ***European Union policies and*** EU high-level agreements on political and macro-economic aspects. ***The EIB and the Commission should ensure the necessary coordination*** with other international financial institutions on sectoral and project aspects. ***This may involve, in particular, appropriate work-sharing between the EIB, as an Institution of the European Union and its Member States,*** and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

*Justification*

*The lending mandates are subject to Regulations and to European Union Policy agreed under the normal procedures.*

*The EU should of course coordinate with international financial institutions but cannot put itself in a position where the EU lending mandate is explicitly subject to work-sharing with the EBRD. It cannot be excluded that an EU Institution, such as the EIB, could be given a mandate to act even if another financial body, like the EBRD, did not want to agree a particular scheme for "work-sharing".*

Amendment 4  
Recital 7

(7) Russia ***and the WNIS*** should be fully taken into account for the 2006 review of the EIB general mandate under Council Decision 2000/24/EC of 22 December 1999 granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects outside the Community (Central and Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries, Latin America and Asia and the Republic of South Africa).

(7) Russia, ***Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus*** should be fully taken into account for the 2006 review of the EIB general mandate under Council Decision 2000/24/EC of 22 December 1999 granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects outside the Community (Central and Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries, Latin America and Asia and the Republic of South Africa). ***Consideration should also be given to including***

*countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia at the time of this review.*

*Justification*

*As previously adopted by Parliament on a proposal from the ITRE and AFET committees. Armenia, Azerbadjan, Georgia, Kazakstahn, Kyrgistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan should not be excluded beforehand in the consideration of the next generation of EIB lending mandates*

Amendment 5  
Article 2

Eligible projects shall be economically viable and of significant interest to the European Union. Eligible sectors shall be environment as well as transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure on priority Trans-European Network (TEN) axes having cross-border implications for a Member State.

Eligible projects shall be economically viable and of significant interest to the European Union. Eligible sectors shall be environment, as well as transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure, ***including nuclear safety***, on priority Trans-European Network (TEN) axes having cross-border implications for a Member State.

*Justification*

*A priority that should be stated. Stimulating, through further loans, greater efforts to address the alarming conditions under which highly radioactive materials are stockpiled, i.a. on the Kola Peninsula, and raising the safety level in nuclear energy production are urgent and particularly important tasks.*

Amendment 6  
Article 3

1. The overall ceiling of the credits opened shall be EUR 500 million.
2. The EIB shall benefit from an exceptional Community guarantee of 100%, which shall

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cover the total amount of the credits opened under this Decision and all related sums.

3. Projects financed by loans to be covered by the guarantee shall satisfy the following criteria:

- (a) eligibility in accordance with Article 2;
- (b) co-operation, and where appropriate co-financing, **by the EIB** with **other international financial** institutions in order to ensure reasonable risk-sharing and appropriate project conditionality.

The EIB and the EBRD shall **share the work appropriately**.

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3. Projects financed by loans to be covered by the guarantee shall satisfy the following criteria:

- (a) eligibility in accordance with Article 2;
- (b) co-operation **with other international financial institutions**, and where **possible and** appropriate, **bearing in mind the task of the EIB to support EU policies**, co-financing, with **these** institutions in order to ensure reasonable risk-sharing and appropriate project conditionality.

**Appropriate work-sharing between** the EIB and the EBRD, shall **be pursued**.

#### *Justification*

*The EU should of course coordinate with international financial institutions but cannot put itself into a position where the EU lending mandate is explicitly subject to work-sharing with the EBRD. It cannot be excluded that an EU Institution, such as the EIB, could be given a mandate to act even if another financial body, like the EBRD, did not want to agree a particular scheme for "work-sharing".*

#### Amendment 7

##### Article 4

Individual countries shall become eligible under the ceiling as and when they fulfil specific conditionality consistent with European Union high level agreements with the country in question on political and macro-economic aspects. The Commission shall determine when an individual country has fulfilled the specific conditionality and shall notify the EIB thereof.

Individual countries shall become eligible under the ceiling as and when they fulfil specific conditionality consistent with European Union **policies and** high level agreements with the country in question on political and macro-economic aspects. The Commission shall determine when an individual country has fulfilled the specific conditionality and shall notify the EIB thereof **after having informed the European Parliament and the Council and stated its reasons**.

*Justification*

To only mention "high-level" agreements seems strange as it is not clear what "high-level" means. Conditionalities are also part of political policy-making under the normal procedures and/or regulations.

Amendment 8  
Article 4 a (new)

*Article 4a*

***The EIB is invited to prepare feasibility studies on the possible inclusion in the general mandate, as from 2007, of countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia regions.***

*Justification*

*As previously adopted by the Parliament following proposals from the ITRE and AFET committees.*

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Commission has put forward a proposal for a Council decision on granting a Community guarantee for European Investment Bank (EIB) lending activities in Russia and the "Western New Independent States" (WNIS), namely Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

The activities of the EIB in these countries are linked with the political process and with conditionalities. No loans will be signed unless they are in line with the "Neighbourhood Policy" and with appropriate conditionalities, to ensure that EIB loan operations are consistent with, and reinforce, the EU's general policies in the given country.

It should be noted that, in the spring, the Parliament was already consulted on a modification of the general mandate and, in its report, suggested that Russia and the WNIS should be included under the general mandate. Despite a broadly supported final proposal by the Irish Presidency this was in the end blocked by only two or three countries in the Council. This was of course lamentable, especially considering that the extension of lending activities to the East, already existing for practically all regions in the world, was apparently used as a bargaining chip in internal Council negotiations.

This is the reason why the Commission has now re-consulted the Parliament concerning Russia and the WNIS in a new proposal.

The rapporteur regrets the attitude of the Council and has to stress, again, that it would have been far easier to simply include these actions under the general lending mandate, at least on a provisional basis until its planned revision in 2006.

The rapporteur wishes to underline that the main political justification for these aspects are of course linked to the fact that real decisions on the ground are needed, perhaps especially in the field of environment and nuclear security, where there is a large unmet credit demand and where the loan guarantees could make a difference.

Notwithstanding the institutional aspects and the stubborn reluctance of Council to pay much attention to the Parliament's opinions in this area, he therefore considers that an approach which will ensure this guarantee facility and not risk another stalemate should be adopted.

The guarantee would apply for loans signed until 31 January 2007. The Commission states in a recital, that Russia and the WNIS should be fully taken into account for the 2006 review of the general lending mandate. This general external lending mandate of the EIB is laid down in a Council decision granting a guarantee for external lending<sup>1</sup>.

The Commission proposal would mean a 100% coverage of the aggregate amounts of these loans through the Guarantee Fund mechanism, the payments to which are coming from the EU budget.

The rapporteur would like to point out that the external lending capacity of the EU is an important foreign policy tool/development tool and that it is, properly used with agreed political conditionalities, a powerful tool in the overall capacity of the EU to contribute to development and security in our immediate neighbourhood.

The rapporteur notes that, even with the current proposal, the EU has no guarantee structure for any lending to the countries of the South Caucasus and central Asia. This is despite the

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 2000/24/EC and as amended in Decisions: 1999/786/EC, 2000/688/EC, 2000/788/EC and 2001/777/EC.

fact that EU has equipped itself with lending capacity (lending mandates) for practically every country in the world (with the obvious exception of rich countries like the US, Canada, Norway etc).

The rapporteur reiterates the Parliament's position that consideration should be given to including these countries in the general lending mandate from 2007 and onwards. The Commission, the EIB and the Council are invited to take this into account in the revision of the general lending mandate scheduled to start in 2006.

Finally, the rapporteur notes in the Commission proposal excessively rigid formulations with regard to coordination with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The rapporteur fully supports work-sharing with this body, whenever appropriate, but considers that an EU regulation and the projects that flow from it cannot be formally subject to the opinions of the EBRD.

25.11.2004

## OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS ON THE LEGAL BASIS

Mr Janusz Lewandowski  
Chairman  
Committee on Budgets  
BRUSSELS

Subject: Legal basis of the proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS) (COM (2004) 0385 – 2004/0121(CNS))<sup>1</sup>

Dear Mr Lewandowski,

By letter of 12 November 2004, you asked the Committee on Legal Affairs pursuant to Rule 35(2) to consider whether the legal basis of the above Commission proposal was valid.

The committee considered the above question at its meeting of 25 November 2004.

The initiative is based on Article 308 of the EC Treaty. However, Mr Esko Seppänen, rapporteur for the committee responsible, believes that the initiative could be based on Article 181a of the EC Treaty.

According to settled case law, in the context of the organisation of the powers of the Community the choice of the legal basis for a measure must be based on objective factors which are amenable to judicial review. Those factors include in particular the aim and the content of the measure<sup>2</sup>.

The aim of the proposal is the granting of a Community guarantee for an amount of up to EUR 500 million to cover lending in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS) by the European Investment Bank (EIB) as a further development of the Decision on the Northern Dimension and in line with the Wider Europe - New Neighbourhood policy. The mid-term review of the EIB external lending mandate pursuant to Council Decision 2000/24/EC acknowledged the need for increased investment in Russia and the WNIS.

Article 308 of the EC Treaty allows the Community to adjust its powers in the light of the terms of reference and of the attainment of the objectives of the Treaty. In order to use this article as the legal basis for a piece of legislation the settled case law of the Court of Justice requires the following conditions to be met:

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<sup>1</sup> Not yet published in OJ.

<sup>2</sup> See, for example, the judgment of 23 February 1999 in Case C-42/97 [1999] ECR I-869, paragraph 36.

- the measure envisaged must seek to attain one of the objectives of the Community;
- the measure must be necessary for the attainment of this objective;
- the Treaty must not provide elsewhere for the powers necessary to this end.

However, Article 181a of the EC Treaty (added by the Nice Treaty) would seem to be applicable in view of the fact that the proposal in question is by way of being a measure for economic, financial and technical cooperation with third countries.

It should also be pointed out that the two provisions stipulate a different majority for decision-making in the Council. It follows that, in order to maintain the institutional balance laid down by the Treaty, Article 308 requiring unanimity in the Council with simple consultation of Parliament cannot be used instead of a provision requiring only a qualified majority in the Council and consultation of Parliament.

It may also be helpful to point out in passing that, in future, the matter will be settled by codecision pursuant to Article III-319 of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe.

At its meeting of 25 November 2004, the Committee on Legal Affairs, in the light of the above considerations and on a proposal from the draftsman for legal bases, Mr Medina Ortega, decided unanimously therefore<sup>1</sup> that the appropriate legal basis is Article 181a of the EC Treaty.

Yours sincerely,

Giuseppe Gargani

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<sup>1</sup> The following were present for the final vote: Andrzej Jan Szejna (acting chairman), Rainer Wieland (vice-chairman), Katalin Lévai (vice-chairwoman), Manuel Medina Ortega (draftsman), Maria Berger, Piia-Noora Kauppi, Antonio López-Istúriz White, Antonio Masip Hidalgo, Aloyzas Sakalas, Ingo Schmitt (for Theresa Villiers), Esko Seppänen, Daniel Stroz, Diana Wallis and Jaroslav Zvěřina.

30.11.2004

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

for the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)  
(COM(2004)0385 – C6-0073/2004 – 2004/0121(CNS))

Draftsman: Dariusz Kajetan Rosati

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

The European Investment Bank's (EIB) mandate for lending outside the European Union is very significant: just over € 20 000 million for the period up to and including the year 2006. This mandate covers most parts of the world, with the Newly Independent States (NIS) or the 'post-Soviet space' as the most notable exception.

There is, however, a small window for lending to Russia. Under a special mandate, € 100 million can be lent for environmental projects in the westernmost parts of the country. This mandate is now fully exploited.

The EU enlargement on 1 May 2004 freed up a huge sum in the external lending mandate. Already a year ago, the Commission proposed a transfer of almost the entire sum to the non-Member countries in the Mediterranean region and to the Balkans. The special lending mandate would, however, become part of the general mandate, be increased to € 300 million, be less restricted in terms of the type of projects which could be supported and also cover 'the Western NIS' (Ukraine, theoretically also Moldova and with Belarus only formally included).

The Council gave its support, but preferred to keep the special mandate and to increase its ceiling to € 500 million. Parliament agreed with the Commission proposal on integration into the general lending mandate and favoured an increase to € 800 million. It also called for consideration to be given to the inclusion of South Caucasus and Central Asian countries in the next lending mandate after the year 2006.

The Council did, however, not change its position. It instead asked the Commission to prepare an additional proposal covering the special lending mandate which it wanted to keep. Parliament is now consulted on that proposal.

Everything suggests that once Parliament has given its opinion, Council will simply adopt the Commission proposal. Moreover, the fact that the Commission has abandoned its earlier proposal to integrate the special mandate into the general mandate has made it more difficult to insist on the € 800 million amount<sup>1</sup>. Finally, causing a delay in Council's decision would be counterproductive, since it would delay the possibility for the EIB to expand the lending to which Parliament attaches great importance.

For these reasons, your draftsman only presents amendments which make the proposed Council decision clearer and defends Parliament's position that the countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia should not be kept outside the scope of possible EIB lending indefinitely.

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<sup>1</sup> A lowering of the proportion of the loan portfolio which must be covered by the Guarantee Fund would be necessary in order to keep the operation neutral to the EU budget, but the EIB is warning that this would be too risky.



## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Text proposed by the Commission<sup>1</sup>

Amendments by Parliament

### Amendment 1 Title

Proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia **and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)**

Proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia, **Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus**  
*(to apply throughout the text)*

### *Justification*

*"Western New Independent States (WNIS)" is not an appropriate way of describing countries that have been independent for 15 years.*

### Amendment 2 Recital 5

(5) The lending mandate should be subject, **on the one hand**, to appropriate conditionality consistent with EU high-level agreements on political and macro-economic aspects, **and** with other international financial institutions on sectoral and project aspects, **and on the other, to** appropriate work-sharing between the EIB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

(5) The lending mandate should be subject **to** appropriate conditionality consistent with **European Union policies and** EU high-level agreements on political and macro-economic aspects. **The EIB and the Commission shall ensure the necessary coordination** with other international financial institutions on sectoral and project aspects. **This may involve, in particular**, appropriate work-sharing between the EIB, **as an Institution of the European Union**, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

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### *Justification*

*The lending mandates are subject to Regulations and to European Union Policy agreed under the normal procedures. The EU should of course coordinate with international financial institutions but cannot put itself into a position where the EU lending mandate is explicitly subject to work-sharing with the EBRD. It cannot be excluded that an EU Institution, such as the EIB, could be given a mandate to act even if another financial body, like the EBRD, did not want to agree a particular scheme for "work-sharing".*

### Amendment 3 Recital 7

(7) Russia **and the WNIS** should be fully taken into account for the 2006 review of the EIB general mandate under Council Decision 2000/24/EC of 22 December 1999 granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects outside the Community (Central and Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries, Latin America and Asia and the Republic of South Africa).

(7) Russia, **Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus** should be fully taken into account for the 2006 review of the EIB general mandate under Council Decision 2000/24/EC of 22 December 1999 granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects outside the Community (Central and Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries, Latin America and Asia and the Republic of South Africa). **Consideration should also be given to including countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia at the time of this review.**

### *Justification*

*As previously adopted by Parliament on a proposal from the ITRE and AFET committees. Armenia, Azerbadjan, Georgia, Kazakstahn, Kyrgistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan should not be excluded beforehand in the consideration of the next generation of EIB lending mandates.*

### Amendment 4 Article 2

Eligible projects shall be economically viable and of significant interest to the European Union. Eligible sectors shall be environment as well as transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure on priority Trans-European Network (TEN) axes having cross-border

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### *Justification*

*Stimulating, through further loans, greater efforts to address the alarming conditions under which highly radioactive materials are stockpiled, i.a. on the Kola Peninsula, and raising the safety level in nuclear energy production are urgent and particularly important tasks.*

### Amendment 5 Article 3

1. The overall ceiling of the credits opened shall be EUR 500 million.
2. The EIB shall benefit from an exceptional Community guarantee of 100%, which shall cover the total amount of the credits opened under this Decision and all related sums.
3. Projects financed by loans to be covered by the guarantee shall satisfy the following criteria:
  - (a) eligibility in accordance with Article 2;
  - (b) co-operation, and where appropriate co-financing, **by the EIB with other international financial** institutions in order to ensure reasonable risk-sharing and appropriate project conditionality.

The EIB and the EBRD shall ***share the work appropriately.***

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  - (b) co-operation ***with other international financial institutions***, and where ***possible and*** appropriate, ***bearing in mind the task of the EIB to support EU policies***, co-financing, with ***these*** institutions in order to ensure reasonable risk-sharing and appropriate project conditionality. ***Appropriate work-sharing between*** the EIB and the EBRD, shall ***be pursued.***

### *Justification*

*The EU should of course coordinate with international financial institutions but cannot put itself into a position where the EU lending mandate is explicitly subject to work-sharing with the EBRD. It cannot be excluded that an EU Institution, such as the EIB, could be given a mandate to act even if another financial body, like the EBRD, did not want to agree a particular scheme for "work-sharing".*

### Amendment 6 Article 4

Individual countries shall become eligible under the ceiling as and when they fulfil specific conditionality consistent with European Union high level agreements with the country in question on political and macro-economic aspects. The Commission shall determine when an individual country has fulfilled the specific conditionality and shall notify the EIB thereof.

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*To only mention "high-level" agreements seems strange as it is not clear what "high-level" means. Conditionalities are also part of political policy-making under the normal procedures and/or regulations.*

Amendment 7  
Article 4 a (new)

***Article 4a***

***The EIB is invited to prepare feasibility studies on the possible inclusion in the general mandate, as from 2007, of countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia regions.***

*Justification*

*As previously adopted by the Parliament following proposals from the ITRE and AFET committees.*



## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Proposal for a Council decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for certain types of projects in Russia and the Western New Independent States (WNIS)		
<b>References</b>	COM(2004)0385 – C6-0073/2004 – 2004/0121(CNS)		
<b>Legal basis</b>	Article 308 EC		
<b>Basis in Rules of Procedure</b>	Rules 51 and 35		
<b>Date of consulting Parliament</b>	24.6.2004		
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 15.9.2004		
<b>Committee(s) asked for opinion(s)</b> Date announced in plenary	AFET 15.9.2004		
<b>Not delivering opinion(s)</b> Date of decision			
<b>Enhanced cooperation</b> Date announced in plenary			
<b>Rapporteur(s)</b> Date appointed	Esko Seppänen 20.9.2004		
<b>Previous rapporteur(s)</b>			
<b>Simplified procedure</b> Date of decision			
<b>Legal basis disputed</b> Date of JURI opinion	25.11.2004	/	
<b>Financial endowment amended</b> Date of BUDG opinion		/	
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	23.11.2004	29.11.2004	2.12.2004
<b>Date adopted</b>	2.12.2004		
<b>Result of final vote</b>	for:	23	
	against:	0	
	abstentions:	2	
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Laima Liucija Andrikienė, Valdis Dombrovskis, Den Dover, Hynek Fajmon, Salvador Garriga Polledo, Dariusz Maciej Grabowski, Louis Grech, Catherine Guy-Quint, Anne Elisabet Jensen, Sergej Kozlík, Zbigniew Krzysztof Kuźmiuk, Janusz Lewandowski, Vladimír Maňka, Jan Mulder, Gérard Onesta, Giovanni Pittella, Wojciech Roszkowski, Kyösti Tapio Virrankoski, Ralf Walter, Marilisa Xenogiannakopoulou		
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg, Constanze Angela Krehl, Jean-Claude Martinez, Paul Rübig, Margarita Starkevičiūtė		
<b>Substitutes under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</b>			
<b>Date tabled – A6</b>	6.12.2004		A6-0066/2004
<b>Comments</b>	...		