



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

A7-0463/2013

16.12.2013

RECOMMENDATION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part, with the exception of Article 49(3) thereof (12399/2013 – C7-0425/2013 – 2012/0219A(NLE))

Committee on Foreign Affairs

Rapporteur: José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Members States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part, with the exception of Article 49(3) thereof

(12399/2013 – C7-0425/2013 – 2012/0219A(NLE))

(Consent)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Council decision (12399/2013),
 - having regard to the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Members States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part (13368/2012),
 - having regard to the request for consent submitted by the Council in accordance with Article 209(2) and Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a), of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (C7-0425/2013),
 - having regard to Rules 81 and 90(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (A7-0463/2013),
1. Consents to conclusion of the agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and of the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The EU-Central America Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement (PDCA) was signed on 15 December 2003 in Rome. In accordance with the then applicable "consultation" procedure, the Council consulted the European Parliament and the European Parliament approved the conclusion of the PDCA in 2004¹.

Following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, and the completion of the ratification procedure by Member States in December 2011, the Commission submitted a new proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the PDCA in 2012. Even though the text of the PDCA included in that proposal remains unchanged, the text of the proposal is not in the same wording as the text of the draft Council decision which was submitted to the European Parliament in 2004. Since any change to the draft proposal upon which consent has been given, requires the repetition of the consent procedure, the European Parliament must give its consent again.

The PDCA is designed to build on previous cooperation set out by the 1993 Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Central America. It commits the Parties to work towards an Association Agreement, which was signed in June 2012 following five years of negotiations. However, only the trade pillar of the Association Agreement applies now. For the rest, ratification by all EU Member States is needed and is still pending. Once the Association Agreement comes into force in its entirety, the PDCA will only apply to the extent that its provisions are compatible with the Association Agreement.

The text of the PDCA aims to:

- consolidate the political dialogue and economic cooperation process built up between the Parties under the San Jose Dialogue initiated in 1984 and renewed in Florence in 1996 and in Madrid in 2002;
- strengthen the programme of cooperation governed by the Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republics concerned;
- promote sustainable development in both regions through a development partnership involving all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in line with the principles set out in the Monterrey Consensus and the Johannesburg Declaration, and its Plan for Implementation;
- establish cooperation on migration issues and prepare the way for new initiatives for pursuing common goals and establishing common ground in areas such as regional integration, poverty reduction and social cohesion, sustainable development, regional security and stability, conflict prevention and resolution, human rights, democracy, good governance, migration, and the fight against corruption, illegal immigrants, counter-terrorism, drugs, and small arms and light weapons.

The Political Dialogue Title institutionalises and strengthens the San Jose Dialogue process. The Cooperation Title is based on current cooperation with broadened coverage to include new areas of cooperation such as human rights, migration and counter-terrorism.

¹ OJ C 103 E, 29.4.2004, p. 542.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	12.12.2013
Result of final vote	+: 43 -: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Hiltrud Breyer, Elmar Brok, Jerzy Buzek, Arnaud Danjean, Mário David, Mark Demesmaeker, Michael Gahler, Marietta Giannakou, Andrzej Grzyb, Anna Ibrisagic, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Tunne Kelam, Evgeni Kirilov, Paweł Robert Kowal, Eduard Kukan, Vytautas Landsbergis, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Krzysztof Lisek, Marusya Lyubcheva, Willy Meyer, Francisco José Millán Mon, Raimon Obiols, Ioan Mircea Pașcu, Alojz Peterle, Tonino Picula, Bernd Posselt, Hans-Gert Pöttering, Cristian Dan Preda, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, György Schöpflin, Werner Schulz, Marek Siwiec, Sophocles Sophocleous, Laurence J.A.J. Stassen, Davor Ivo Stier, Charles Tannock, Eleni Theocharous, Geoffrey Van Orden, Nikola Vuljanić, Sir Graham Watson, Boris Zala
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Ivo Vajgl
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Andrea Cozzolino, Ivari Padar