

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Transport and Tourism

2005/2082(INI)

31.1.2006

OPINION

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on International Trade

on Trans-Atlantic economic relations

Draftsman: Stanisław Jałowiecki

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on International Trade (INTA), as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- having regard to its resolutions of 13 January 2005 on transatlantic relations¹ and of 9 June 2005 on ensuring the success of the forthcoming EU-US summit in Washington DC on 20 June 2005²,

- having regard to the results achieved so far in cooperation between the United States and the European Union, which were analysed in an independent report marking the 10th anniversary of the New Transatlantic Agenda,

A. whereas the object of this opinion is not so much to analyse and assess EU-US cooperation, but rather to examine the effectiveness of the forms and methods used,

B. whereas in its resolutions on transatlantic relations it has already pointed several times – most recently in its resolution of 9 June 2005 – to the need for a transatlantic air transport agreement in particular,

1. Notes that the global challenges facing the European Union and the United States make it necessary to further intensify the cooperation between them, focussing on those areas which will strengthen the leading role of the EU and USA in the world;

2. Maintains, given that trade and tourism are vital to both sides, that the transatlantic partnership agreement to be concluded in 2007 must, without fail, also include a separate chapter on transport policy and a comprehensive transatlantic air transport agreement should be laid down without delay;

3. Considers that cooperation in the transport sector ***above and beyond traditional transport relations can be shaped*** more effectively in new areas not governed by outdated laws (e.g. Galileo) (*deletion*);

4. Recognises the need to facilitate tourism between the EU and the USA, which can, inter alia, bring the peoples of Europe and the United States closer together.

5. Stresses that, despite the proposals sometimes made, transatlantic relations do not require new and revolutionary initiatives in the form of a transatlantic treaty, but can be conducted under existing instruments in amended form, such as in particular the New Transatlantic Agenda, now 10 years old, which should be transformed into a transatlantic partnership agreement ***with a separate chapter on transport***, supplemented by (*deletion*) summits, ***meetings between the members of the US Congressional and European Parliament committees responsible for transport***, meetings between the US transport minister and the competent EU Commissioner, and Commission officials, together with cooperation between agencies responsible for air safety and the appropriate bodies of the federal

¹ P6_TA(2005)0007.

² P6_TA(2005)0238.

administration;

6. Stresses that in the long-term cooperation between the US Congress and the European Parliament should play a major role and should take the form of an on-going dialogue within the framework of a transatlantic assembly;
7. Considers that, while some of the blame for the difficulties in negotiating a definitive ***EU-US air transport*** agreement must lie with the US Administration, which wants ***nonetheless*** to resolve highly important issues through bilateral contacts, a similar attitude can also be seen on the part of some Member States; it is therefore necessary to harmonise internal EU action, since the success of external relations depends ***essentially on harmonisation to reconcile the different points of view*** (as also shown by the examples of Galileo and GSM).

PROCEDURE

Title	Trans-Atlantic economic relations
Procedure number	2005/2082(INI)
Committee responsible	INTA
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	TRAN 14.6.2005
Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary	
Drafts(wo)man Date appointed	Stanisław Jałowiecki 1.7.2005
Previous drafts(wo)man	
Discussed in committee	11.10.2005 23.1.2006
Date adopted	24.1.2006
Result of final vote	+: 34 -: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Inés Ayala Sender, Etelka Barsi-Pataky, Philip Bradbourn, Paolo Costa, Michael Cramer, Luis de Grandes Pascual, Christine De Veyrac, Arūnas Degutis, Armando Dionisi, Saïd El Khadraoui, Emanuel Jardim Fernandes, Roland Gewalt, Mathieu Grosch, Ewa Hedkvist Petersen, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, Georg Jarzembowski, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Eva Lichtenberger, Erik Meijer, Michael Henry Nattrass, Seán Ó Neachtain, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Josu Ortuondo Larrea, Willi Piecyk, Reinhard Rack, Renate Sommer, Marta Vincenzi, Corien Wortmann-Kool, Roberts Zīle
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Guy Bono, Elisabeth Jeggle, Anne E. Jensen, Rosa Miguélez Ramos, Jan Marinus Wiersma
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Zbigniew Zaleski
Comments (available in one language only)	...