

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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21 June 1982

DOCUMENT 1-328/82

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External  
Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the European  
Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-1102/81 - COM(81)  
31 final) for a regulation concluding a protocol to the  
Agreement between the European Economic Community and the  
State of Israel to take account of the accession of the  
Hellenic Republic to the Community

Rapporteur: Mrs M.J. PRUVOT

Or. It.

PE 78.575/fin.

1.2.2

English Edition



By letter of 3 March 1982 the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-1102/81) for a regulation concluding a protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel to take account of the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Community.

At its sitting of 10 March 1982 the European Parliament referred the proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee responsible and to the Political Affairs Committee for its opinion.

At its meeting of 1 April 1982 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mrs PRUVOT rapporteur.

It considered the Council proposal at its meetings on 19 May 1982 and 26 May 1982 and, at the second of these meetings, approved it without amendment.

It unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole.

The following took part in the vote: Sir Fred Catherwood, chairman; Mr van Aerssen, vice-chairman; Mrs Pruvot, rapporteur; Mr Almirante, Mrs Baduel Glorioso, Mr Blumenfeld, Mr Cohen (deputizing for Mr Pelikan), Mr Del Duca (deputizing for Mr Filippi), Mr Früh (deputizing for Mr Majonica), Mrs Lenz (deputizing for Mrs Moreau), Mr Gawronski, Lord Harmer-Nicholls (deputizing for Sir John Stewart-Clark), Mr Jonker, Lord O'Hagan, Mr Paulhan, Mrs Pauwelyn (deputizing for Mr Pininfarina), Mr Pasmazoglou, Mrs Poirier, Mr Radoux, Mr Rieger, Mr Sayn-Wittgenstein, Mr Seeler, Mr Stella, Mr Tolman (deputizing for Mr Mommersteeg) and Mr Welsh.

The Political Affairs Committee decided not to deliver an opinion.

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A

The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation concluding a protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel to take account of the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Community.

The European Parliament

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM(81) 31 final),
  - having been consulted by the Council (Doc. 1-1102/81),
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations (Doc. 1-328/82),
  - having regard to the result of the vote on the proposal from the Commission,
1. Stresses, in agreement with the Commission of the European Communities, the urgent need to adjust the cooperation agreement between the State of Israel and the European Community to take account of the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Community;
  2. Expresses its satisfaction that the Community has taken an overall initiative vis-à-vis its Mediterranean partners by adopting a general measure which should complement the action it has already taken under the Mediterranean policy;
  3. Draws the attention of the Council and the Commission to the need to give due consideration to the implications of the enlargement of the Community for its longstanding relations with the Mediterranean countries under the overall Mediterranean policy;
  4. Hopes that, in order to preserve the political substance and the economic content of the cooperation agreements concluded under the Mediterranean policy, the competent authorities of the EEC will, both during the current process of restructuring the Community and during the negotiations on the enlargement of the EEC, give proper consideration to the consequences that the Community's

decisions, taken in those circumstances, may have for the economic and trade relations which it has established in the Mediterranean, particularly with the State of Israel, approves the proposal for a regulation under consideration;

5. Instructs its President to forward to the Commission and the Council the proposal from the Commission as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution as Parliament's opinion.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Greece's accession to the EEC makes it necessary to review certain provisions contained in the agreements which the Community has concluded with most of the Mediterranean countries under its global Mediterranean policy.
2. Greece's accession has, in a way, introduced a new element as far as the European Community's regional homogeneity is concerned. Whereas, in the Community of Nine, the EEC's Mediterranean regions were relatively limited (the Italian Mezzogiorno and the French Midi), they now represent a considerably greater area of the Community's territory.
3. Global action is therefore essential in order to avoid any threat to the Community's trade with its Mediterranean partners as a result of Greek membership.
4. It was with this in mind that in February 1981 the Council of Ministers and the representatives of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, authorized the Commission to begin negotiations with the Mediterranean countries with whom preferential agreements had been concluded.
5. The negotiating mandate made it a basic principle that Greece should accept the 'acquis communautaire' as far as existing relations between the EEC and its Mediterranean partners were concerned.
6. Following a special study, the Commission of the European Communities concluded that Greece's accession to the EEC would not have any marked effect on trade relations between the Community and the Mediterranean countries.
7. For this reason the mandate which the Council gave the Commission was limited in scope in the sense that all the agreements introducing adjustments were to be confined to specific technical adjustments relating mainly to the changed Community quotas to be applied by Greece to take account of accession.
8. As a new Member State, Greece would therefore be required on joining to grant its own trading partners the same treatment they were accorded by the Community, subject to certain transitional measures depending on the particular circumstances of each individual partner.

9. The present proposals for regulations are thus essentially of a technical nature, dealing with the application of the transitional measures that Greece must apply to imports from Israel.
10. The regulations lay down basic quotas that Greece will be required to apply to the State of Israel for certain industrial products on which quantitative restrictions are already in force in the Nine Member States. Protective measures, where necessary, may be applied.
11. As regards the agricultural sector, the Community does not foresee any major impact on trade between the two parties following Greece's accession. The Israeli delegation to the Community has written a letter raising a number of points which it finds puzzling. However, Israel has accepted in principle the idea that Greece's accession should not for the moment endanger its trade with the Community.
12. In conclusion, the Committee on External Economic Relations approves the present proposals for regulations and welcomes the fact that the Community has taken global action towards its Mediterranean partners in revising the agreements with these countries to take account of Greece's accession.
13. However, the Committee on External Economic Relations stresses the need to give due consideration to the effects that enlargement entails and will entail for the Community's economic and trade relations with third countries of the Mediterranean region. It also considers it essential that the competent authorities of the Council and the Commission should bear in mind at all times the implications of the process of restructuring now going on in the EEC and those of enlargement in order to protect and safeguard the special relations that have been built up with the countries of this region of the world which are of major political and economic importance to the Community.