



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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INFORMATION NOTE

from:	General Secretariat
to:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation - Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading (Brussels, 9 to 10 May 2012)

I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of Article 294 of the TFEU and the joint declaration on practical arrangements for the codecision procedure ¹, informal contacts have taken place between the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission with a view to reaching an agreement on this dossier at first reading, thereby avoiding the need for second reading and conciliation.

¹ OJ C 145, 30.6.2007, p.5

In this context, the rapporteur, Mr Vital MOREIRA (S&D, PT), presented a report, on behalf of the Committee on International Trade, in which he recommended to take over the Commission proposal without any amendments. This had been agreed during the informal contacts referred to above.

II. VOTE

When it voted on 10 May 2012, the plenary approved the Commission proposal without any amendments. This constitutes the Parliament's first reading position which is contained in its legislative resolution as set out in the Annex hereto.

The Parliament's position reflects what had been previously agreed between the institutions. The Council should therefore be in a position to approve the Parliament's position.

The act would then be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the Parliament's position.

Restrictions on imports of certain steel products from Russia *I**

European Parliament legislative resolution of 10 May 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation (COM(2011)0715 – C7-0396/2011 – 2011/0315(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2011)0715),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 207 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0396/2011),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 25 April 2012 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on International Trade (A7-0085/2012),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

POSITION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

adopted at first reading on 10 May 2012

with a view to the adoption of Regulation (EU) No .../2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure¹,

Whereas:

- (1) The Agreement on partnership and cooperation establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Russian Federation, of the other part², (hereinafter “the PCA”), entered into force on 1 December 1997.
- (2) Article 21(1) of the PCA provides that trade in certain steel products is to be governed by Title III of the PCA, with the exception of Article 15 thereof, and by the provisions of an agreement on quantitative arrangements.
- (3) On 26 October 2007, the European Community and the Government of the Russian Federation concluded such an Agreement on trade in certain steel products³, (hereinafter “the Agreement”).
- (4) On 22 October 2007, the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007⁴ in order to implement the Agreement.

¹ Position of the European Parliament of 10 May 2012.

² OJ L 327, 28.11.1997, p. 3.

³ OJ L 300, 17.11.2007, p. 52.

⁴ OJ L 300, 17.11.2007, p. 1.

- (5) The Agreement stipulates that in the event that the Russian Federation accedes to the World Trade Organization before the expiry of the Agreement, the Agreement will be terminated and, as a consequence, the quantitative limits will be abolished as of the date of accession.
- (6) On the date when the Russian Federation accedes to the World Trade Organization, the Regulation to implement the Agreement will no longer be necessary. Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 should therefore be repealed with effect from that date,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 is hereby repealed.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall take effect on the date on which the Russian Federation accedes to the World Trade Organization. In this regard, the Commission shall publish a notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union* indicating this date.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President