



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 29 May 2012**

**10426/12**

**PE-RE 7**

**NOTE**

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from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND OPINIONS adopted by the European Parliament at its part-session in Strasbourg from 21 to 24 May 2012

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At the above mentioned part-session, the European Parliament adopted 24 acts as follows:

- 6 legislative resolutions;
- 15 resolutions; and
- 3 other acts.

This note contains a summary of those acts which are relevant to the Council.

## 1. Ordinary legislative procedure

### First reading

#### a) Issuance of euro coins

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 22 May 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the issuance of euro coins*

The European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading;
- called on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intended to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text.

#### b) Bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 23 May 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 302/2009 concerning a multiannual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean*

The European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading;
- approved the statement by Parliament annexed to this resolution;
- called on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intended to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text.

#### c) Double-hull or equivalent design requirements for single-hull oil tankers

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 23 May 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the accelerated phasing-in of double-hull or equivalent design requirements for single-hull oil tankers*

The European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading, taking into account the recommendations of the Consultative Working Party of the legal services of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission;
- called on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intended to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text.

## 2. **Consultation procedure**

- a) (i) Denominations and technical specifications of euro coins intended for circulation  
*European Parliament legislative resolution of 22 May 2012 on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 975/98 of 3 May 1998 on denominations and technical specifications of euro coins intended for circulation*
- (ii) Common system for taxing financial transactions  
*European Parliament legislative resolution of 23 May 2012 on the proposal for a Council directive on a common system of financial transaction tax and amending Directive*

For each of these acts the European Parliament:

- approved the Commission proposal as amended;
- called on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, in accordance with Article 293(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- called on the Council to notify Parliament if it intended to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
- asked the Council to consult Parliament again if it intended to substantially amend the Commission proposal.

## 3. **Consent procedure**

- a) Fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for by the EU-Mozambique Fisheries Partnership Agreement  
*European Parliament legislative resolution of 23 May 2012 on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Mozambique*

The European Parliament:

- consented to conclusion of the protocol;

- called on the Commission to forward to Parliament the minutes and the conclusions of the meetings of the Joint Committee provided for in Article 9 of the Agreement, as well as the multiannual sectoral programme provided for in Article 3 of the new Protocol and the corresponding annual evaluations; called on the Commission to facilitate the participation of representatives of Parliament as observers in the meetings of the Joint Committee; called on the Commission to submit to Parliament and the Council, within the last year of application of the new Protocol and before the opening of negotiations for its renewal, a full evaluation report on its implementation, without imposing unnecessary restrictions on access to this document;
- called on the Commission and Council, in the context of their respective competences, to keep Parliament immediately and fully informed, at all stages of the procedures related to the new Protocol and its renewal, pursuant to Article 13(2) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 218(10) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

#### **4. Other procedures**

##### a) European Union's internal security strategy

*European Parliament resolution of 22 May 2012 on the European Union's Internal Security Strategy*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Commission and Council to prioritise the fight against corruption in the context of the EU security agenda, and to allocate the appropriate resources, considering that the Stockholm Programme (4.1) listed corruption among the transnational threats that continued to challenge the internal security of the Union and required a clear and comprehensive response (para 13);
- urged the Vice-President/High Representative and the Commission to present their proposal – planned for 2011 – on the implementation of the solidarity clause, which should not duplicate existing initiatives, but, rather, define the framework for the use and coordination of available EU and national instruments, including the CSDP, in the situations referred to in Article 222 TFEU; was of the view that only with the full spectrum of possibilities opened up by the implementation of the solidarity clause among all Member States would the EU be ready to prevent – and react to, in a safe and coordinated manner – any given threat targeting the security of one or more Member States (para 28).

b) An EU approach to criminal law

*European Parliament resolution of 22 May 2012 on an EU approach to criminal law*

The European Parliament:

- welcomed the existence of a Council Working Party on Substantive Criminal Law and asked the Council to provide Parliament with specific information on how it related to other Council working groups dealing with criminal law provisions in policy areas other than justice and home affairs (para 14);
- called for an inter-institutional agreement on the principles and working methods governing proposals for future EU substantive criminal law provisions and invited the Commission and the Council to establish an inter-institutional working group in which these institutions and Parliament could draw up such an agreement and discuss general matters, where appropriate consulting independent experts, with a view to ensuring coherence in EU criminal law (para 15).

c) Strengthening the rights of vulnerable consumers

*European Parliament resolution of 22 May 2012 on a strategy for strengthening the rights of vulnerable consumers*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Commission and the Council to consider the reinforcement of the rights of vulnerable consumers as a key priority in the framework of the ongoing review of the proposal for a Regulation on a consumer programme 2014-2020, and of the upcoming publication of the Consumer Agenda (para 17).

d) Internal market scoreboard

*European Parliament resolution of 22 May 2012 on the Internal Market Scoreboard*

The European Parliament:

- called for the Council to commit to reducing the transposition deficit further and to set tougher – but, at the same time, more realistic – transposition and implementation goals for all Member States to fulfil (para 5).

e) EU and China: unbalanced trade?

*European Parliament resolution of 23 May 2012 on EU and China: Unbalanced Trade?*

The European Parliament:

- urged the EU to strengthen its economic, budgetary, fiscal and political governance to give it a credible and weighty voice on the international stage; called on the Council and the Commission to speak with one voice in order to prevent partnerships and bilateral agreements weakening the EU position; urged the Commission to cooperate closely with Member states when defining their commercial policies and their policies towards China; demanded that the EU implements a long-term strategy with regard to China, ensuring the operational coordination both between the EU institutions and between the EU and the Member States (para 37).

f) Situation in Ukraine, case of Yulia Timoshenko

*European Parliament resolution of 24 May 2012 on Ukraine*

The European Parliament:

- stressed that the current problems in relations between Ukraine and the European Union could only be solved on the basis of a clear willingness on the part of the Ukrainian authorities to carry out and implement the necessary reforms, in particular of the legal and judicial system, with the aim of full adherence to the principles of democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, minority rights and the rule of law; called for active and effective support in this reform process to be given by the institutions of the European Union and by the Council of Europe and its Venice Commission (para 2).

g) Fight against homophobia in Europe

*European Parliament resolution of 24 May 2012 on the fight against homophobia in Europe*

The European Parliament:

In the context of "*Homophobic laws and freedom of expression in Europe*":

– called on the Commission, the Council and the External Action Service to take note of these bans and condemn them, particularly in the context of home affairs, bilateral dialogue, and the European Neighbourhood Policy; further called on the Council of the European Union and the External Action Service to raise this issue in the relevant international fora, such as the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the United Nations (para 18).

h) Venezuela: possible withdrawal from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

*European Parliament resolution of 24 May 2012 on the possible withdrawal of Venezuela from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*

The European Parliament:

– supported regional human rights bodies as part of the international human rights system, and invited the EU institutions to intensify their overall support for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the IAHCR and the Convention (para 5).

i) Azerbaijan

*European Parliament resolution of 24 May 2012 on the human rights situation in Azerbaijan*

The European Parliament:

– called on the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, the Council and the Commission to monitor closely the situation concerning human rights and fundamental freedoms in Azerbaijan after the Eurovision Song Contest; called on the Council to consider the possibility of targeted sanctions against those responsible for human rights violations, should these persist (para 16).

j) Situation of North Korean refugees

*European Parliament resolution of 24 May 2012 on the situation of North Korean refugees*

The European Parliament:

– called on the Vice-President/High Representative and the Commission to raise the human rights situation in the DPRK and the issue of North Korean refugees in the PRC during all high-level EU-China talks and as part of the EU-China Dialogue on Human Rights (para 9).