8.2.2006

AMENDMENT 284 by Bernard Poignant and others

Report Evelyne Gebhardt Services in the internal market

Proposal for a directive (COM(2004)0002 - C5-0069/2004 - 2004/0001(COD))

The European Parliament rejects the Commission's proposal.

Or. fr

Justification

This proposal for a directive must be rejected.

The country of origin principle is unacceptable. It introduces a mechanism to circumvent laws established in the Member States, particularly in the areas of consumer rights and environmental protection, which are intended to protect users of services and the public interest. The principle encourages regulatory dumping and relocation to countries with the least demanding fiscal, environmental and social laws.

By setting up competition between the Member States' social systems, the directive runs the risk of deregulating workers' rights.

In addition, the scope of the directive includes, without prior harmonisation, social services and services of general economic interest which would become subject to deregulation. The objective of completing the internal market in services should not be pursued to the detriment of the special role of services of general interest.

A framework directive on services of general interest guaranteeing the sustainability of their role should be adopted in advance of the horizontal directive on the internal market in services.

A6-0409/2005