Amendment 2
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Report
Dariusz Rosati
European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2015 priorities
2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

3a. Considers it regrettable that no overall reference is made to the Europe 2020 goal of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; stresses that social and employment policies should not be looked at merely from a cost perspective, but also from the perspective of long-term benefits; calls, therefore, for the relevant social and environmental targets to be mainstreamed in the new assessment framework so as to ensure that country-specific recommendations (CSRs) are addressed to all countries that are not making progress in combating poverty, providing decent jobs that lead to quality employment, preventing early school leaving, fostering lifelong learning and resource efficiency and preventing climate change;

Or. en
Amendment 3
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 33 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

33a. Welcomes the reduction in unemployment rates in the Union; points out, however, that unemployment levels remain high, and asks the Member States to take a holistic approach to implementing effective active labour market policies, targeting both the employability of jobseekers and a more inclusive labour market, including additional support measures for both jobseekers and employers; stresses the need to address the problems of skills mismatch and skills obsolescence, as a means of tackling long-term unemployment, and believes that greater coordination of these policies is necessary at national and European level; calls, therefore, for stronger measures to support and further develop effective vocational education and training, and cooperation between educational institutions, businesses, employers’ organisations and other relevant stakeholders, and to address the need to improve the effectiveness of public and private employment services in order to tackle skills mismatches on the labour market and facilitate job-seeking in the Union;

Or. en
Amendment 4
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 34 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

34a. Points out that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have warned of the social (in-work poverty) and economic (depressed internal demand) problems related to the wage devaluation that has occurred in recent years; stresses, in this connection, that an adequate wage policy is vital for maintaining internal demand, and that wage increases should therefore be better adapted to changes in productivity; maintains that there must be a reference to the importance of increasing wages, especially in countries where wages are below the poverty threshold, but that it must be made without undermining the subsidiarity principle; recalls that minimum wages differ substantially between Member States, and reiterates its request for a study on this issue, including an analysis of the differences in purchasing power between Member States; encourages the Member States to set minimum wages in accordance with national legislation and practices and to consider their impact on in-work poverty, household income, aggregate demand and job creation;

Or. en
Amendment 5
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 40 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

40a. Considers that the 2015 recommendations have focused almost exclusively on the labour market, and have not addressed the challenges of reduced services and the quality of services offered to those in need; recalls the need to invest in early intervention and prevention and in high-quality, accessible and inclusive services, including education from an early age, family and community support, social services and healthcare; highlights the fact that increased demand for services could also lead to significant job creation in the social sector, if addressed effectively, and that the health and social care sectors represent crucial areas for investment in pursuit of sustainable economies; invites the Commission to report on progress in developing initiatives, as part of the Europe 2020 Strategy, for investment in the health and social care sectors with regard to quality employment;

Or. en
Amendment 6  
Thomas Händel  
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Report  
Dariusz Rosati  
European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2015 priorities  
2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 41 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

41a. Considers that, although the Commission has acknowledged that ‘poverty and marginalisation have increased’, with one in four people now experiencing poverty, it is regrettable that there is no reference in the CSRs to the poverty target of the Europe 2020 strategy; calls for a comprehensive strategy for fighting poverty, based on access to decent jobs leading to quality employment, services and the activation of minimum income and social protection, in accordance with the subsidiarity principle; points out that education, and hence empowerment for employment, is one of the main anti-poverty tools; stresses the need to recognise the growth in personal indebtedness as a situation that increases personal and general economic vulnerability;

Or. en

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Amendment 7
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Report
Dariusz Rosati
European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2015 priorities
2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 42 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

42a. Notes with concern the rapid increase in extreme forms of poverty such as homelessness in many Member States; calls for CSRs to be addressed to all Member States on social inclusion strategies, including on combating extreme forms of poverty such as homelessness; agrees with the Commission that the Member States must tackle homelessness and the risk of homelessness through comprehensive strategies based on prevention, housing-led approaches, the review of regulations and practices in relation to eviction and the availability of genuinely affordable housing offering stability, and an end to the criminalisation of homeless people; calls for improvements in the transnational exchange of best practices and mutual learning, and acknowledges the role of the Employment and Social Innovation (EASI) programme in this context;

Or. en
Amendment 8
Thomas Händel
on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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2015/2210(INI)

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 42 b (new)

42b. Takes note of the Commission’s recommendation to reform healthcare systems so that they meet their objectives of providing universal access to high-quality care – including affordable access to medicines, especially those that are life-saving – and securing respect for the rights of health staff; observes that, as a consequence of the crisis, some Member States have failed to ensure full public health coverage;

Or. en