



2015/2285(INI)

9.12.2015

AMENDMENTS

1 - 54

Draft opinion
Andrey Kovatchev
(PE571.628v01-00)

European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth Survey
2016
(2015/2285(INI))

Amendment 1
Julie Girling

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to ***strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;***

Amendment

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to ***mainstream the Union's environmental objectives into the process;***

Or. en

Amendment 2
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. ***Reiterates that*** the European Semester process ***was introduced*** to help achieve ***Europe 2020*** targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate ***the revised Europe 2020 strategy more*** firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and ***health*** in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for ***growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;***

Amendment

1. ***While in 2014, a quarter of the EU population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion, calls on*** the European Semester process to help achieve ***European*** targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the ***protection of the environment and universal access to healthcare*** in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for ***reduction of social and environmental inequalities and rise of the general quality of life;***

Amendment 3
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly *into the European* Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth *and investment* in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Amendment

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, *namely in the fields of climate change, energy, social exclusion and fight against poverty*; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly *in the* Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth, *investment and job creation* in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Aldo Patriciello

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial

Amendment

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment, *climate change, sustainable energy, biodiversity, food*

prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

safety and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Or. en

Amendment 5 **Nicola Caputo**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Amendment

1. Reiterates that the European Semester process was introduced to help achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; in this context, calls on the Commission to integrate the revised Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment, *climate* and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth, *job creation* and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Or. en

Amendment 6 **Soledad Cabezón Ruiz**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

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Amendment

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Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy;

Europe 2020 strategy more firmly into the European Semester and to strengthen the role of the environment and health in the process, acknowledging the substantial prospects for growth and investment in these areas as well as their contribution to the wider objectives of the strategy; ***recalls that expenditure on health services are investments towards healthier, safer, more productive and competitive societies'***;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Stresses the need for an assessment of climate, environmental, health and social impacts of austerity measures and of country specific recommendations as well as economic and structural reform plans, also to achieve more efficient coordination across policies;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Andrey Kovatchev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 b. Notes with satisfaction that many of the projects approved for financing by the European Fund for Strategic Investment are oriented towards infrastructure and innovation in the environment and the health sectors; underlines the importance

of mobilizing the full potential of the Investment Plan to help implement the structural reforms needed to transform our economy into a green, sustainable and resource efficient one;

Or. en

Amendment 9
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

I c. Asks the Commission to carefully monitor the application of funds from the European Fund for Strategic Investments in order to reach the political objectives of re-launching investment and modernising the economy and fostering economic and social convergence across the European Union;

Or. en

Amendment 10
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

I d. Takes note of the moderate economic recovery in the European Union. Highlights the importance of the "Investment Plan for Europe", an initiative aimed at kick-starting jobs and growth. Calls on the need to prioritize investment to areas such as education, clean energy, resource efficiency and research and innovation infrastructures for green technologies, enabling the

transition towards a sustainable growth model;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 e. Stresses that European Semester is one of the means to mainstream and integrate environmental concerns in other relevant policies, in line with the approach defined by Article 11 TFEU; reiterates therefore that the environmental dimension should play a full role, together with the economic and social dimensions, in the European Semester process to ensure that Member States return to higher growth levels while continuing their path towards the development of sustainable societies;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Estefanía Torres Martínez, Kateřina Konečná

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 f. Stresses the fact that moving towards a truly sustainable economy and that the greening of EU economies and putting at equal stand the Europe 2020 targets will contribute to achieving the Union's environmental goals, to restoring the European economy's competitive edge and to creating quality jobs; deplors the

fact that the lack of a European strategy for sustainable development during the crisis has kept growth in the EU well below its potential;

Or. en

Amendment 13
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 g. Underlines the need for increased involvement of EU Environment and Health ministers in the European Semester process at Council level;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 h (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 h. Underlines that moving towards a truly sustainable economy will contribute to achieving the EU's environmental goals, to giving back the European economy its competitive edge and to creating quality green jobs;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 i (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 i. Calls for increased and structured involvement of civil society such as environmental organisations, consumers organisations and independent patients organisations so as to safeguard the legitimacy and improve the effectiveness of the European semester process;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Estefanía Torres Martínez, Kateřina Konečná

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 j (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 j. Emphasises that in order that the Member States boost their employment by exploiting the employment potential of the green economy, action is required on three main fronts: boosting labour demand in eco-industries through adequate levels of investments, anticipating and managing skills needs in both green and greening sectors, and ensuring job quality for high-, medium-, and low-skill occupations; from the point of view of labour market policy, enhanced attention should be dedicated to devising adequate training programmes to tackle specific skill shortages, and to considering the dynamic interaction between skills supply and age structure of the workforce in green and traditional industries;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Julie Girling

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Stresses that if the *upcoming strategy on a circular economy* and the *reform of waste legislation* are to *become a reality and* the European economy *is to be turned* into a circular model, it is essential to integrate recommendations to this effect into the European Semester process;

Amendment

2. Stresses that if the *reform of waste legislation* and the *action plan on the circular economy* are to *advance the transition of* the European economy into a circular model, it is essential to integrate recommendations to this effect into the European Semester process;

Or. en

Amendment 18
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Stresses that *if the upcoming* strategy on a circular economy and the reform of waste legislation *are* to become a reality and the European economy is to be turned into a circular model, it is essential to integrate recommendations to this effect into the European Semester process;

Amendment

2. Stresses that *the delayed* strategy on a circular economy and the reform of waste legislation *have* to become a reality and the European economy is to be turned into a circular model; it is *therefore* essential to *urgently* integrate recommendations to this effect into the European Semester process; *recommends that circular economy's principles should be integrated in country specific recommendations;*

Or. en

Amendment 19
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Stresses that if the upcoming strategy on a circular economy and the reform of waste legislation are to become a reality and the European economy is to be turned into a circular model, it is essential to integrate recommendations to this effect *into* the European Semester process;

Amendment

2. Stresses that if the upcoming strategy on a circular economy and the reform of waste legislation are to become a reality and the European economy is to be turned into a circular model, it is essential to integrate recommendations to this effect *in* the European Semester process *to boost competitiveness, create jobs and generate sustainable growth*;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment 21
Andrey Kovatchev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Considers it important that the change towards a new economic model based on a circular economy and inspired by the universally applicable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) needs to be properly reflected in the priorities of the Annual Growth Survey and the Country Specific Recommendations;

Or. en

Amendment

2 a. Reiterates the need for a fiscal framework that is in accordance with the 'polluter pays' principle, providing the

right signals for investment in resource efficiency, the modernisation of production processes and the manufacturing of more repairable and durable products;^{1 a}

^{1 a} See European Parliament resolution of 9 July 2015 on resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy

Or. en

Amendment 22
Julie Girling

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that *reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;*

Amendment

3. Stresses that *moving towards a truly sustainable economy will help contribute towards the achievement of the Union's environmental goals, and boost competitiveness, economic growth and job creation;*

Or. en

Amendment 23
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving *long-term growth and will* enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving *a sustainable system of secure energy and resource supplies for the Union which could at the same time* enhance the competitiveness of the EU; *stresses the need to eliminate infrastructural, tax and*

regulatory barriers to the single energy market; calls on the Commission to issue recommendations to Member States in order to effectively tackle implementation obstacles to the energy the Energy Union, detected under the monitoring process of the European Semester;

Or. en

Amendment 24
Tibor Szanyi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that *reducing* external resource and energy dependence *is key to achieving* long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that *steps further the Energy Union, the reduction of* external resource and energy dependence *and a move from nuclear and fossils to renewable energies are keys to achieve* long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Or. en

Amendment 25
Soledad Cabezón Ruiz

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence *is* key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence *through energy efficiency and the promotion of renewable sources of energy are* key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Or. en

Amendment 26
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that ***strongly*** reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU, ***as well as social cohesion and justice***;

Or. en

Amendment 27
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU; ***reiterates therefore the need to eliminate any obstacles that would prevent the creation of a true Single Energy Market, by diversifying external energy supplies, upgrading EU's energy infrastructure, investing in greater energy interconnections and renewable sources of energy and completing the EU internal energy market as key priorities of EU's Energy Union strategy; Calls therefore on the Commission to continue to assess Europe's performance regarding the 2030 Climate and Energy goals as well as Member States' national energy plans, thus supporting measures against energy fragmentation and the creation of "energy islands"***;

Amendment 28
Aldo Patriciello

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU;

Amendment

3. Stresses that reducing external resource and energy dependence is key to achieving long-term growth and will enhance the competitiveness of the EU; ***underlines the economic advantages of a bigger commitment in this sense;***

Or. en

Amendment 29
Nicola Caputo

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester to support green jobs creation and to include recommendations that can contribute to efforts to foster green employment and reduce ecological footprints;

Or. en

Amendment 30
Andrey Kovatchev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. Stresses that greening the economy and investing in more efficient healthcare systems will enhance Europe's competitiveness, increase security of supply and improve the health and well-being of European citizens; notes in this regard that short-term fiscal implications of structural reforms should be taken into account along with their long-term environmental, economic and social effects;

Or. en

Amendment 31

Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 c. Considers that European Semester should also incorporate reporting on renewable energy and energy efficiency on the basis of legally binding targets set in Union legislation;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Julie Girling

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

4. Stresses the role of market-led greening of EU economies and stronger investment in proven green technologies in achieving the Europe 2020 targets for sustainable

Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and biodiversity;

growth and the 2030 climate and energy targets; calls, therefore, on the Commission to orient new investment towards investments which could contribute to sustainable development;

Or. en

Amendment 33
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to ***include in the process policies*** addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and biodiversity;

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the ***Europe 2020 Strategy and the 2030*** Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to ***issue country recommendations and to consider policy measures*** addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and biodiversity, ***incorporating steps to more effectively reach those goals;***

Or. en

Amendment 34
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as ***a vehicle*** to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption,

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as ***an instrument*** to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and

and biodiversity;

consumption, and biodiversity;

Or. en

Amendment 35
Daciana Octavia Sârbu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and biodiversity;

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, ***food security, nutrition,*** and biodiversity;

Or. en

Amendment 36
Tibor Szanyi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and biodiversity;

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to use the European Semester as a vehicle to fulfil EU commitments emanating from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to include in the process policies addressing climate change, sustainable production and consumption, ***food safety and labelling,*** and biodiversity;

Or. en

Amendment 37
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 a. Reiterates the need to phase out subsidies that are harmful to air quality, water quality and soils quality by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to environmental taxation;

Or. en

Amendment 38
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 b. Stresses that the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy and the European Semester must tie in closely with the new sustainable development agenda; reiterates the necessity to extend the EU's planning horizon beyond 2020 in order to implement the SDGs by introducing an integrated strategy for a sustainable Europe in a globalised world, with a time horizon of at least 2030;

Or. en

Amendment 39
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 c. Urges the Commission to better take account, in the process of the European Semester, of social and environmental indicators, assessing convergence across the EU and progress towards a more sustainable society, proposing measures to reach such goals in a more effective and timely manner;

Or. en

Amendment 40

Julie Girling

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to monitor health outcomes and measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 41

Soledad Cabezón Ruiz

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the

5. Considers it important to assess the necessary sustainability of healthcare

framework of the European Semester **and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach; calls on the Commission to develop** tools to monitor health outcomes and measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing **divergences and health inequalities between** and within Member States.

systems in the framework of the European Semester; **calls on the Commission to put in place initiatives supporting the values and principles endorsed by Member States (universality, access to high quality healthcare, equity and solidarity) together with** tools to monitor health outcomes and measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing **inequalities between European citizens'** and within Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 42
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to monitor health outcomes and measure access to **high-quality** healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

Amendment

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach **as well as the focus on disease prevention and health promotion**; calls on the Commission to develop tools, **together with all stakeholders**, to monitor health outcomes and measure access to **high quality** healthcare **and that the long-term health and fiscal impacts of measures targeting prevention and immunisation programmes are taken into account in country specific recommendations** with the aim of reducing **social** divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 43
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an **outcome-based** approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to **monitor health outcomes and** measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

Amendment

5. Considers it important to assess the **equality and** performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an **equal and sustainable access-based** approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to **increase transparency of the costs in medical research, development and production as well as** measure **universal** access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 44
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers it important to assess the performance of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to monitor health outcomes and measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States.

Amendment

5. Considers it important to assess the performance **and sustainability** of healthcare systems in the framework of the European Semester and supports a shift to an outcome-based approach; calls on the Commission to develop tools to **assess health promotion and disease prevention and enabling the long-term health and fiscal impacts of measures targeting prevention to be taken into account in country-specific recommendations and to** monitor health outcomes and measure access to high-quality healthcare with the aim of reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 45
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 a. Considering that well-functioning ecosystems are prerequisite for maintaining and improving public health, therefore calls for significant investment in research and innovation in environmental health.

Or. en

Amendment 46
Andrey Kovatchev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 b. Welcomes the renewed focus of the European Commission on promoting upward economic and social convergence through the progressive introduction of benchmarks and cross-examination exercises across policy or thematic areas and considers that it could strengthen the resilience of the Europe's economy to future crises;

Or. en

Amendment 47
Carlos Zorrinho

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 c. Stresses that a more comprehensive assessment of health systems within the European semester, not solely limited to the fiscal dimension (cost-effectiveness and sustainability of health systems), but also addressing access, effectiveness and quality of health systems, would provide a more accurate picture of the performance of health systems and strengthen the usefulness of the European Semester in the field of health;

Or. en

Amendment 48

Nicola Caputo

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 d. stresses that prevention policies for both communicable and non-communicable disease are crucial in order to reduce the costs of national healthcare and that cuts to preventive care measures in times of crisis can have long-term negative effects; highlights that the economic crisis should not affect the investments in preventive care measures; calls on the Commission to use the European Semester to promote the role of prevention in reducing the costs of national healthcare.

Or. en

Amendment 49

Soledad Cabezón Ruiz

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 e. Points out that that Country Specific Recommendations' (CSR) are binding conditions for bailout funding for those countries subject to economic adjustment programmes; recalls that in 2015 eleven countries have received recommendations relating to health (i.e. level of pharmaceutical spending, guidance on hospitals, recommendations on long-term care of ageing) despite the fact that the European Commissions' legal mandate does not permit direct involvement in the quality or accessibility of national healthcare systems; calls on the European Commission to assess the potential impact these recommendations are having with regards patients' rights to an universal, quality and sustainable health systems.

Or. en

Amendment 50
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 f. Highlights that European leadership in sectors of the green and blue economies can only be based on labour markets offering human capital with adequate skill-training; calls on the Commission to include in the country-specific recommendations investment needs in human capital in the areas of Science and Technology, making training and education systems more responsive to future labour markets' needs;

Or. en

Amendment 51
José Inácio Faria

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 g. Calls on the Commission to recommend Member States to revise policies that subsidize or incentivise the continued use of fossil fuels; calls on the Commission to ask Member States for fiscal strategies that reward development of sustainable policies and the circular economy while shifting away the tax burden from labour, ensuring growth-friendly tax systems and enhancing support to the green economy.

Or. en

Amendment 52
Estefanía Torres Martínez, Kateřina Konečná

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 h (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 h. Underlines the fact that ensuring equal access to health care contributes to social cohesion, to social justice, to tackle social exclusion and it contributes to a sustainable development as it adds to intergenerational solidarity and can correct negative population health externalities;

Or. en

Amendment 53
Estefanía Torres Martínez, Kateřina Konečná

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 i (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 i. Stresses the importance of the sustainability of the healthcare sector which plays an important role in the overall economy as it accounts for 8% of the total European workforce and for 10% of GDP in the European Union; for being able to provide equal access to healthcare services for the citizens, as health is an essential factor of stability, sustainability and further development of Member States and their economy;

Or. en

Amendment 54
Estefanía Torres Martínez, Kateřina Konečná

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 j (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 j. Calls both Member States and the European Commission, in this period of economic crisis, to avoid most damaging measures like short-term savings which will lead to high costs in the mid to long-term and instead to concentrate on further development of high-quality and high-efficiency health care systems.

Or. en