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Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

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PE 368.049v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-97

Draft report

Reino Paasilinna

A European Information Society for growth and employment
2005/2167(INI)

(PE 367.630v01-00)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 1

Recital A

- A. *whereas the EU cannot achieve the Lisbon targets unless the Member States take decisive action to implement fully the i2010 strategy,*

Or. en

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 2

Recital B

- B. *whereas a preliminary overview of the 25 National Reform Programmes shows that, broadly speaking, the Member States have taken up the challenge of R&D and innovation, and whereas the majority of Member States also regard eGovernment as being a good way of improving the effectiveness of public administration and public services,*

Or. fi

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Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 3
Recital E

- E. whereas the EU lags behind in ICT research, investing only EUR 80 per head as compared to EUR 350 in Japan and EUR 400 in the US, and the EU must therefore increase investment in research ***and innovation and urge Member States to increase their research and innovation spending*** in ICT to catch up,

Or. el

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 4
Recital G

- G. whereas the number of ***subscribers to*** broadband access lines has almost doubled in the past two years; whereas, however, remote and rural regions are less well served as roll-out is concentrated in densely-populated areas,

Or. fi

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 5
Recital G

- G. whereas the number of ***subscribers to*** broadband ***(deletion)*** has almost doubled in the past two years; whereas, however, remote and rural regions are less well served as roll-out is concentrated in densely-populated areas,

Or. en

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 6
Recital H a (new)

- Ha. whereas all citizens have the right to enjoy access to free-to-air media with a varied and high quality content,***

Or. de

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 7

Recital I

- I. whereas digital convergence has the potential to provide consumers with access to a great diversity of improved services and rich content, and thus, ***a secure infrastructure must be improved and strengthened and a favourable and secure environment created which*** stimulates the competitive deployment of these converging services,

Or. el

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 8

Recital K

- K. whereas the radio spectrum is a key resource for many essential services in society and, therefore, an effective and coherent use (***deletion***) can help the European Union meet its Lisbon goals ***if it ensures that services of general economic interest are adequately provided with spectrum and that it is adequately protected from interference, because this is the optimal way to stimulate*** growth, competitiveness and employment,

Or. de

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 9

Recital L

- L. whereas the realisation of the Lisbon goals requires ***clear, concrete commitments*** from the EU, from the Member States and from businesses (***deletion***),

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 10
Recital M

M. whereas it is essential for the Member States *to make further efforts to ensure a sufficiently flexible regulatory framework which supports the rights of the citizen, and which offers actions in this sector a good basis for marketing new inventions,*

Or. el

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 11
Paragraph -1 (new) (before the first paragraph)

-1. *Considers that freedom to access and use knowledge should be the main criterion, enabling the knowledge-based society to develop democratically and with the technological innovation it needs, as called for in Lisbon;*

Or. it

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 12
Paragraph -1 a (new)

-1a. *Considers that, unless the digital divide is overcome, enabling all citizens to gain access to, use and take part in the production of knowledge, there will be no knowledge-based society, but rather a cultural and industrial decline in the European Union as a whole;*

Or. it

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 13
Paragraph -1 b (new)

-1b. *Calls on the Commission to consider citizens not only as passive consumers of digital content, but also as producers of knowledge and to draw up a programme and a favourable legal framework to make them active participants in a knowledge-based society, thereby achieving the Lisbon objectives;*

Or. it

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 14

Paragraph 1

1. Urges the Commission to adopt a *clear*, innovative, *flexible* and forward-looking line in its reform of legislation on ICT, *which must be able to keep up with the pace of technological developments in the sector and at the same time not cause rigidity in the industry and market*;

Or. el

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 15

Paragraph 1

1. Urges the Commission to adopt a concrete, innovative and forward-looking line in its reform of legislation on ICT, which must be regarded as a considerably broader concept than it is in the Commission's communication *and which must include the rights of consumers and users*;

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni, Eva-Britt Svensson, Kartika Tamara Liotard, Ilda Figueiredo, Felekna Uca

Amendment 16

Paragraph 1 a (new)

- 1a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to take concrete steps to increase the number of female students in technical fields related to ICT in order to increase the number of women in ICT-related careers at all levels, and, in particular, in the development of technologies, hardware design and the production of software engineering*;

Or. en

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 17
Paragraph 3

3. Calls on the Member States to invest more heavily in the exploitation of ICT in public sector services ***such as health care and education, in which ICT can make it easier to respond to future social service needs and promote the development of pan-European services;***

Or. fi

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 18
Paragraph 3

3. Calls on the Member States to invest more heavily in the exploitation of ICT in public sector services, ***such as health, education, and government, and to cooperate in order to develop transnational services;***

Or. en

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 19
Paragraph 4

4. ***Given the fact that investment in ICT is essential to growth and productivity, urges the Member States and businesses to encourage higher investment in ICT in order to reduce the performance gap in comparison with our competitors (deletion);***

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 20
Paragraph 4

4. Notes that investment by European firms in ICT is too small in comparison to our competitors; recalls that ICT is ***one of the most important and critical factors*** in increasing productivity and competitiveness; ***calls on the Member States further to support policies which assist investors;***

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 21

Paragraph 4

4. ***Regrets to note*** that investment by European firms in ICT is ***still*** too small in comparison to our competitors; recalls that ICT is the most important single factor in increasing productivity and competitiveness;

Or. fi

Amendment by Erika Mann

Amendment 22

Paragraph 4 a (new)

- 4a. ***Acknowledges that ICT is one of the most important tools needed to turn developing countries into global powers;***

Or. en

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 23

Paragraph 4 a (new)

- 4a. ***Is, however, concerned that the Commission continues to define its strategy and formulate its policy on job-creation on the basis of little or no reliable statistical evidence; recalls that while headline growth continues in ICT, there has not always been similar growth in employment; recalls that employment rates in the EU are currently seven points below Lisbon targets; calls on the Commission to carry out in-depth statistical analyses of the effects of technological change on the ICT employment market in the EU;***

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 24
Paragraph 5

5. Notes that, in the interest of the growth and development of the EU, ***it is as important as the production of new knowledge concerning ICT to ensure*** widespread exploitation ***of existing knowledge and technology*** in all activities, all areas of activity, whether in public administration, in business, or in citizens' everyday life, in other words the emergence of a ubiquitous computing society (or 'ubiquitous society');

Or. el

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 25
Paragraph 5

5. Notes that, in the interest of the growth and development of the EU, one thing even more important than ICT is its widespread exploitation in all activities, all areas of activity, whether in public administration, in business, or in citizens' everyday life, in other words the emergence of a ubiquitous ***information*** society (***deletion***);

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 26
Paragraph 5

5. Notes that, in the interest of the growth and development of the EU, one thing even more important than ICT is its ***free and*** widespread exploitation in all activities, all areas of activity, whether in public administration, in business, or in citizens' everyday life, in other words the emergence of a ubiquitous computing society (or 'ubiquitous society');

Or. it

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni, Eva-Britt Svensson, Kartika Tamara Liotard, Ilda Figueiredo, Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 27
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. *Call on the Commission and Member States to ensure that women gain access to promising new employment opportunities in the ICT area, including by increasing their access to ICT literacy and skills at all levels, and also to ensure that women are not disadvantaged by the working conditions and organisational climate common within the global ICT industry, such as flexible employment practices;*

Or. en

Amendment by Erika Mann

Amendment 28
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. *Strongly supports i2010 as a new strategic tool to establish the framework for all ICT-related initiatives in the EU; recommends keeping in mind that defining an EU information society space cannot be done in isolation from international development in this area;*

Or. en

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 29
Paragraph 6 a (new)

6a. *Insists that European and national legislation should support competition so as to reflect the horizontal nature of ICT and should seek to avoid the emergence and preservation of vertical structures which are harmful to competition and innovation; notes that vertical structures may prevent consumers from benefitting from competition;*

Or. fi

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni, Eva-Britt Svensson, Kartika Tamara Liotard, Ilda Figueiredo, Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 30
Paragraph 6 a (new)

- 6a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to set targets for and monitor the achievement of gender balance among media personnel at all levels, including technical areas of operation;**

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 31
Paragraph 7

7. Urges the Commission and the Member States to set as an objective the flexibility, simplification and speedy and simultaneous implementation of laws in this area **and its rapid adjustment to new needs resulting from technological developments**; legislation should **encourage the production of new knowledge and the development of new technologies**, promote investment in content production, equipment, networks and network services in the ICT field; it should promote competition, the exploitation of information technology and services and information security **and finally support SMEs so that they play a key role in the sector**;

Or. el

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 32
Paragraph 7

7. Urges the Commission **to ensure that all** Member States **implement the existing Electronic Communications Framework legislation in order to achieve the Lisbon goals**; legislation should promote investment in content production, equipment, networks and network services in the ICT field; it should promote competition, the exploitation of information technology and services and information security;

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 33

Paragraph 7

7. Urges the Commission and the Member States to set as an objective the flexibility, simplification and speedy and simultaneous implementation of laws in this area; legislation should promote ***free movement and free exchange of knowledge, exchange of technological innovation***, investment in content production, equipment, networks and network services in the ICT field; it should promote competition, the exploitation of information technology and services and information security;

Or. it

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 34

Paragraph 8 a (new)

- 8a. ***Notes that it is extremely important for people to be guaranteed the broadest possible access to high-quality content and services anywhere using the technology of their choice within the limitations set by their circumstances; further notes that users (consumers, citizens) are prepared to adopt new services and technical tools only if they feel they are easy enough to use and meaningful in terms of content;***

Or. fi

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 35

Paragraph 9

9. Recalls that the development of an efficient ubiquitous computing society calls for the promotion of broadband and wireless technology, the encouragement of and investment in joint projects, the protection of intellectual property rights and the promotion of digital media; ***it should also be possible for users to change their service provider without having to change their e-mail address;***

Or. it

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 36
Paragraph 9

9. Recalls that the development of an efficient ubiquitous computing society *presupposes* the promotion of broadband and wireless technology, ***which requires further support at Member State level and calls for*** the encouragement of and investment in joint projects, the protection of intellectual property rights and the promotion of digital media;

Or. el

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 37
Paragraph 9

9. Recalls that the development of an efficient ubiquitous computing society calls for the ***universal provision*** of broadband and wireless technology, the encouragement of and investment in joint projects, the protection of intellectual property rights and the promotion of digital media;

Or. en

Amendment by Edit Herczog

Amendment 38
Paragraph 9 a (new)

- 9a. Urges the Commission and the Member States to encourage the business of creative content and services, which are indispensable to the successful take-up of digital networks and equipment; also urges the EU to provide a strong legal foundation, based on respect for intellectual property and effective enforcement, with the aim of ensuring that internationally competitive creative industries are at the heart of a leading knowledge-based society;***

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 39
Paragraph 9 a (new)

9a. Recognises that broadband is a precondition for the development of an ubiquitous computing society; considers that this should be a definite objective of convergence between the Member States and their regions;

Or. el

Amendment by Toine Manders

Amendment 40
Paragraph 11

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 41
Paragraph 11

11. Stresses that intellectual property rights must be ensured for the successful development of the information society;

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 42
Paragraph 11

11. Notes the growing role of immaterial rights as a tool of commercial policy in the context of issues relating to free trade *and calls for measures to be taken to protect producer's rights and to combat illegal and pirated content; takes the view that this is the only way to safeguard and promote the development of content*; warns of the increasing attempts in the USA to use patent and intellectual property legislation as a protectionist tool of trade policy;

Or. el

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 43
Paragraph 11

11. Notes that awareness must be raised about the growing ***and positive*** role of immaterial rights ***with regard to the free movement and dissemination of knowledge, without which the knowledge-based society will be confined to an elite group of initiates***;

Or. it

Amendment by Edit Herczog

Amendment 44
Paragraph 11

11. Notes that awareness must be raised about the growing role of immaterial rights as a tool of commercial policy, in the context of issues relating to free trade; warns of the increasing attempts in the USA to use patents (***deletion***) as a protectionist tool of trade policy;

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 45
Paragraph 11 a (new)

- 11a. Calls on the Commission to specify clear actions to provide protection from harmful content, and in this context, to promote, inter alia, the role of the European Network of Information Security Agents (ENISA)***;

Or. el

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 46
Paragraph 11 b (new)

- 11b. Calls on the Commission, in reviewing the legislation, to include measures to safeguard the precautionary principle as regards health, consumer protection and environment issues, in cooperation with other bodies, such as for example the World***

Health Organisation;

Or. el

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 47
Paragraph 11 c (new)

11c. Calls on the Commission, in reviewing the legislation, to set down quality criteria such as the protection of childhood and freedom of choice of consumers;

Or. el

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 48
Paragraph 12

12. Acknowledges the adoption by the Commission of a proposal to modernise the Television without Frontiers Directive, which is essential as the EU evolves into a European information society; notes that this should aid the creation of a favourable environment for European industry, repealing unnecessary rules and moving towards a ubiquitous information society;

Or. en

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 49
Paragraph 12

12. Notes that (deletion) the 'TV without frontiers' directive must be adapted to changes in a converging media world and this must be duly taken into account as far as its scope is concerned; insists that pan-European distribution systems such as EuroNews should be supported in connection with the reform of the directive; recognises, furthermore, that the connections between content regulation and infrastructure regulation, that are recognised in the legal framework for electronic communications, have proved their worth and should be maintained in future;

Or. de

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 50

Paragraph 12

12. Notes that certain principles of the 'TV without frontiers' directive are not easily reconciled with a digital communications environment, less still with an information network environment; considers, accordingly, that amending the directive ***should be undertaken in such a way as to take into account digital convergence as a means of creating*** a European 'ubiquitous society' owing to its narrow space; insists that pan-European distribution systems such as EuroNews should be supported in connection with the reform of the directive;

Or. el

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 51

Paragraph 12

12. Notes that certain principles of the "TV without frontiers" directive are not easily reconciled with a digital communications environment, less still with an information network environment; considers, accordingly, that amending the directive should not be central to legislation seeking to create a European "ubiquitous society" owing to its narrow ***scope; (deletion)***

Or. en

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 52

Paragraph 13

13. Urges the Commission to promote without delay concrete activities for facilitating and supporting the creation and distribution of European content; the continuation of existing support programmes must be guaranteed and their indispensability in developing the information society must be recognised; ***insists that pan-European broadcasting systems such as EuroNews, should be subsidised in connection with the reform of the "TV Without Frontiers" Directive;***

Or. fi

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 53
Paragraph 13

13. Urges the Commission to promote without delay concrete activities for facilitating and supporting the creation and **compulsory** distribution of European content **quotas and for supporting the widespread and widely distributed production of such content**; the continuation of existing support programmes must be guaranteed and their indispensability in developing the information society must be recognised;

Or. it

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 54
Paragraph 14

14. **Welcomes the Commission's proposals to migrate** radio spectrum policy **towards a more flexible and modernised system. Any such system should allow for the use of market mechanisms where appropriate, balanced with appropriate protection of public interest**;

Or. en

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 55
Paragraph 14

14. **Considers that any introduction of a market-based approach to spectrum would require the support of regulators, operators and other actors and warns** against leaving radio spectrum policy solely to the play of market forces **(deletion)**; **suggests that any changes are (deletion)** based on a careful analysis and the rectification of current problems; **notes that prices paid at** auctions of 3G spectrum **(deletion)** slowed down **(deletion) the** introduction of **(deletion)** 3rd generation mobile phone networks, **and that a repetition of such a situation must be avoided**;

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 56
Paragraph 14

14. ***Points out to the Commission that the regulation of*** radio spectrum policy ***by*** market forces should be brought about calmly ***and with care, according to rules which keep pace with very rapidly changing market requirements in a flexible and efficient manner, without, however, affecting the national interests of Member States; this regulation must also*** be based on a careful analysis and the rectification of current problems; recalls that, in the USA and in several EU Member States, auctions of 3G spectrum have precipitated a crisis in the sector and slowed down investment in, and introduction of, 3rd generation mobile phone networks;

Or. el

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 57
Paragraph 14

14. Warns the Commission against leaving radio spectrum policy solely to the play of market forces, against the wishes of regulatory authorities, operators and other actors; any changes should be brought about calmly and must be based on a careful analysis and the rectification of current problems, ***paying due attention to the competences of the Member States, and, in this connection, care must always be taken to ensure sufficient freedom from interference***; recalls that, in the USA and in several EU Member States, auctions of 3G spectrum have precipitated a crisis in the sector and slowed down investment in, and introduction of, 3rd generation mobile phone networks;

Or. de

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 58
Paragraph 15

15. Considers that the most central issue in radio spectrum policy is the effort to achieve flexible regulation and sufficient EU-level harmonisation in the spectrum sectors; notes that the management of radio spectrum should seek to make market access as easy as possible for new inventions and actors in the sector; ***notes that compliance with interference regulations is absolutely essential in a digital environment***;

Or. fi

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 59

Paragraph 15

15. Considers that the most central issue in radio spectrum policy is the effort to achieve flexible regulation ***with appropriate*** EU-level harmonisation in the spectrum sectors; notes that the management of radio spectrum should seek to make market access as easy as possible for new inventions and actors in the sector; ***calls on the Commission to bring forward appropriate proposals in this area;***

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 60

Paragraph 15

15. Considers that the most central issue in radio spectrum policy is the effort to achieve flexible regulation and sufficient EU-level harmonisation in the spectrum sectors; notes that the management of radio spectrum should seek to make market access as easy as possible for new inventions and actors in the sector, ***including the regions, while facilitating the development of Community media;***

Or. it

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 61

Paragraph 15

15. Considers that the most central issue in radio spectrum policy is the effort to achieve flexible regulation and sufficient ***technical*** EU-level harmonisation in the spectrum sectors; notes that the management of radio spectrum should seek to make market access as easy as possible for new inventions and actors in the sector;

Or. de

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 62
Paragraph 16

16. Recalls that the development of network security is indispensable in order to increase confidence in all network services, commercial and e-government services; urges that network security be promoted by technical and legislative means and through education, e.g. by creating a Europe-wide information security strategy and launching an annual European information security day to increase citizens' awareness of information security, ***while taking care to ensure that this security does not restrict freedom of expression and citizens' rights;***

Or. it

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 63
Paragraph 16 a (new)

- 16a. ***Believes that the European Union should define the basic rights which should govern the network, such as freedom of access, freedom of expression, freedom of use, the right to knowledge, and respect for privacy, and that it should promote a charter of rights for this purpose;***

Or. it

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 64
Paragraph 17

17. Recalls that industrial and competition policy must support the EU's innovation industry; notes that this requires the creation of a flexible regulatory basis ***for the free movement of knowledge;***

Or. it

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 65
Paragraph 17

17. Recalls that industrial and competition policy must support the EU's innovation

industry; notes that this requires the *securing* of a flexible regulatory basis which also provides incentives;

Or. el

Amendment by Herbert Reul

Amendment 66
Paragraph 17 a (new)

17a. *Recalls that the sectoral regulation of the ICT industry was planned from the outset as a transitional solution for the opening of the markets and that, in the medium term, the transition to the sole use of the general rules of competition must occur;*

Or. de

Amendment by Erika Mann

Amendment 67
Paragraph 18 a (new)

18a. *Recognises the importance of a healthy ICT trade balance as a vital component in support of the EU's position in the global economy; asks the Commission to deliver, by September 2006, a complete and analytical overview of the EU's strengths and weaknesses in all ICT-related sectors;*

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 68
Paragraph 19

19. *Stresses that **an innovative ICT industry is an indispensable pre-requisite for economic growth and job creation in the EU, particularly in industries and services other than ICT itself;***

Or. it

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 69
Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Recalls that ICT has already changed the way in which businesses operate globally, and that businesses are benefitting from innovations such as software development and new web service architectures; urges the EU to create an environment which favours innovation with a view to maintaining its competitive advantage;

Or. fi

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 70
Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Recalls that ICT has changed the way businesses operate globally and that businesses will benefit from the new wave of innovations, such as utility computing, software developments, and new web service architecture; urges the EU to create an environment which is favourable to these innovations, in order to ensure that the EU remains competitive at the global level;

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 71
Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Stresses the emphasis which should be given to strengthening entrepreneurship, particularly of SMEs, especially in sectors which benefit from the new ICTs; recalls the pivotal role which the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme should play in this context;

Or. el

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 72
Paragraph 19 b (new)

19b. Demands the speedy implementation of the 7th Research Framework Programme and of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme, both of which

need to guarantee sufficient financial resources for investment in ICT, which is a precondition for competitiveness, growth and job creation;

Or. fi

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 73
Paragraph 19 b (new)

19b. Urges the speedy adoption of the 7th Research Framework Programme and of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) for 2007-13, both of which must provide adequate financial resources to support ICT as a driver for competitiveness, growth and jobs;

Or. en

Amendment by Zdzisław Kazimierz Chmielewski

Amendment 74
Paragraph 20

20. Demands from the Commission and the Member States concrete actions to exploit the opportunities created by ICT, making it possible to hinder the drift of jobs to low-pay countries; considers it vital to increase the level of investment to achieve the Barcelona 3% GDP target and, in the longer term, to keep it permanently geared to global competition levels;

Or. pl

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 75
Paragraph 20

20. Demands from the Commission and the Member States concrete actions to exploit the opportunities created by ICT, making (deletion) possible the highest level of growth and employment;

Or. en

Amendment by Erika Mann

Amendment 76
Paragraph 20 a (new)

20a. Asks the Commission and Member States to provide to the Parliament, by September 2006, an impact analysis on the influence of the ICT economy on supporting stronger growth in the various Member States and European regions;

Or. en

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 77
Paragraph 21

21. Notes that measures must be taken as a matter of urgency at EU level to remove obstacles to the development of the Next Generation Networks (NGN); *calls on the Commission to consider this issue in its forthcoming review of the regulatory framework for electronic communications;*

Or. en

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 78
Paragraph 22

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Erika Mann

Amendment 79
Paragraph 22 a (new)

22a. Recommends that more attention is focused on the role that ICT plays in creating an open and knowledge-based society; asks the Commission and Member States to create a more coherent strategy for educational standards in ICT;

Or. en

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 80
Paragraph 23

23. Urges the Commission and the Member States to ***promote public-private partnerships, in which all major actors are included*** (big businesses and SMEs, public authorities and research establishments) and boost their opportunities to participate in the realisation and exploitation of projects;

Or. en

Amendment by András Gyürk

Amendment 81
Paragraph 24

24. Urges the Member States, by means of their national reform programmes, to define the priorities of the information society and to report annually on the progress of these programmes, ***giving a detailed account not only of the development of the information society indicators but also of the social and economic usefulness of the programmes;***

Or. hu

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 82
Paragraph 24

24. Urges the Member States, by means of their national reform programmes, to define the priorities of the information society, ***to intensify their efforts in this sector*** and to report annually on the progress of these programmes;

Or. el

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 83
Paragraph 24 a (new)

- 24a Recalls that the success of the entire i2010 strategy will be judged by the extent to which it reaches the last European citizen; believes that in attaining this objective, the regions have a key role to play, and they must therefore be mobilised and further***

assisted so that they take substantive initiatives for regional convergence and cohesion by bridging the digital gap;

Or. el

Amendment by Angelika Niebler

Amendment 84
Paragraph 26

26. Notes that public services **and public broadcasting services** have an important role to play in national and business activity *since they contribute to social cohesion, the democratic discourse and pluralism in Europe; points out, furthermore, that a European legal framework for the information and communications society must ensure that public broadcasting services are able to take part in technological and social development and to continue to perform their social function;*

Or. de

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 85
Paragraph 26 a (new)

- 26a. *Notes that public service radio companies will continue to have a major role to play in the Ubiquitous Information Society as protectors of publicly accessible high-quality and independent information; stresses the importance of guaranteeing public radio companies access to the platforms of the future;*

Or. fi

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 86
Paragraph 26 a (new)

- 26a *Calls for emphasis to be given to the issues of interoperability and best practices in electronic services in the public sector for citizens and undertakings, taxation, health, insurance cover and pensions, with the overriding objective of facilitating the free and unhindered movement, establishment and employment of citizens in Member States;*

Or. el

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 87
Paragraph 26 b (new)

26b. Recalls the potential of ICT technologies but also the legislative changes they require with a view to electronic democracy through the electronic participation of European citizens in the decision making process, and calls for the relevant promotion measures to be taken;

Or. el

Amendment by András Gyürk

Amendment 88
Paragraph 27

27. Recalls that, in the promotion of participation, investment also needs to be made in those skills which Europeans need in order to function in the information society; demands specific activities for the development on ICT skills, and calls for citizens' awareness of the new opportunities offered by ICT to be raised via traditional channels of communication too, setting out the advantages of online administration and thereby also encouraging the utilisation of new services;

Or. hu

Amendment by Eluned Morgan

Amendment 89
Paragraph 28

28. Notes that, because of the ageing of the European demographic structure, there is a need to invest in product planning, particularly in the Design for All principle, and most of all in all appropriate solutions in technology, services and the environment; demands that particular account be taken of the needs of specific groups, such as the elderly or people with disabilities; calls on the Commission to use its forthcoming Inclusion Strategy to this end;

Or. en

Amendment by Nikolaos Vakalis

Amendment 90
Paragraph 29

29. Demands that the Member States take **additional** measures to ensure access to e-government services irrespective of place, time or wealth;

Or. el

Amendment by Pilar del Castillo Vera

Amendment 91
Paragraph 30

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 92
Paragraph 30

30. Recalls that every EU citizen has the right to access essential data; ***urges the Commission to speed up the e-inclusion initiative planned for 2008, which will meet the challenges of e-literacy, ageing and e-accessibility, geographical discrepancies and the guarantee of social services for all; urges the Commission to draw up without delay a proposal for a charter of citizens' fundamental rights for the digital age; urges the Member States to ensure that no citizen or consumer is excluded against their will from the essential services of the Ubiquitous Information Society;***

Or. fi

Amendment by Edit Herczog

Amendment 93
Paragraph 30

30. Recalls that ***the right to information held by public authorities should be guaranteed within the EU;***

Or. en

Amendment by Umberto Guidoni

Amendment 94
Paragraph 30

30. Recalls that every EU citizen has the right to access ***knowledge without restriction and free of charge***;

Or. it

Amendment by Anne Laperrouze

Amendment 95
Paragraph 30

30. Recalls that every EU citizen has the right to access ***(deletion)*** data;

Or. fr

Amendment by Reino Paasilinna

Amendment 96
Paragraph 31 a (new)

31a. Stresses that Europe cannot achieve the Lisbon objectives unless the Member States rapidly to put the i2010 strategy into practice;

Or. fi

Amendment by Anne Laperrouze

Amendment 97
Paragraph 31 a (new)

31 a. Stresses the importance in economic and social terms of breaking the digital isolation of rural areas, and emphasises that these areas have the potential to contribute to regional, national and European wealth creation; therefore considers it essential for all areas to be able to benefit, rather than suffer, from the exponential increase in innovation in the ITC field ;

Or. fr