

**Establishment of Euro-Mediterranean Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci programmes**

**Declaration of the European Parliament of 27 September 2011 on the establishment of Euro-Mediterranean Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci programmes**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the southern shore of the Mediterranean is experiencing unprecedented changes that the EU must support with new initiatives,
- B. having regard to the fundamental role played by education in respect of democracy and economic and social development,
- C. having regard to the importance of vocational training to combat youth unemployment,
- D. whereas the Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci programmes are major successes in terms of European integration,
- E. having regard to the small number of beneficiaries of the Erasmus Mundus programme from Mediterranean countries and the lack of south-south mobility,
- 1. Calls on the Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President to propose, by the end of 2011, the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean Erasmus programme to facilitate transnational mobility for students from both sides of the Mediterranean;
- 2. Calls on the Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President to propose, by the end of 2011, the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean Leonardo da Vinci programme to facilitate mobility for young people who wish to participate in vocational training programmes abroad;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories<sup>1</sup>, to the Commission, the Council, the High Representative/Vice-President, the Member States of the European Union and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), their parliaments, the Secretariat of the UfM and the UfM Parliamentary Assembly.

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<sup>1</sup> The list of signatories is published in Annex 1 to the Minutes of 27 September 2011 (P7\_PV(2011)09-27(ANN1)).