

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Culture and Education

6.3.2007

PE 386.360v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-28

Draft opinion

(PE 384.544v01-00)

Maria Badia I Cutchet

Policy Plan on Legal Migration
(2006/2251(INI))

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 1
Recital A (new)

- A.** *whereas immigrants' children must be able to access and get off to a good start in the education system in their host country without falling far behind their age cohort at school, as they often do at present;*

Or. fr

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 2
Recital B (new)

- B.** *whereas, moreover, to make up for adult immigrants' very poor command of the written and spoken language of the host country, practical approaches to fostering their integration must be adopted as policy;*

Or. fr

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 3
Recital C (new)

- C. *whereas care must be taken to avoid placing immigrants' children at a disadvantage from the outset by assigning them to less-well-performing schools which have a very high proportion of children from immigrant communities and encourage ghettoisation rather than integration;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 4
Paragraph 1

- 1. Points out that the approach to migration must be coherent in all its aspects, including social, educational and cultural ones, *and developed in cooperation with countries of origin;***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 5
Paragraph 2

- 2. Asks Member States to develop policies aimed at facilitating access to and the integration of immigrants *and their descendants* into the educational system, *giving priority to the first generation of immigrants, in order that second and third generation immigrants can enjoy equal opportunities*; asks the Commission to make use of the possibilities created in EU programmes, especially in 'Europe for Citizens', 'Youth in Action' and 'Culture 2007-2013';**

Or. en

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 6
Paragraph 2 a (new)

- 2a. *Recommends that Member States consider establishing, under Community programmes set up for the purpose such as the lifelong learning programme,***

specific sub-programmes to help immigrants become integrated into the host country by studying its history and learning to write and speak its language;

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 7

Paragraph 3

3. Insists on the need to promote the involvement of developing countries in the Bologna and Copenhagen processes, in order to facilitate the recognition of the academic and professional qualifications acquired in those countries *and to gradually improve their education systems, thereby making them more attractive for local students;*

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 8

Paragraph 3 a (new)

- 3a. *Highlights the importance of improving the mobility, quality and efficiency of the EU's education and training systems, and of guaranteeing access to such systems for students from third countries;*

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 9

Paragraph 4

4. Suggests that Member States support equal opportunities at work and fight lack of security and the informal economy; points out that prior information about immigrants' skills, *provided in a transparent and comparable manner*, would facilitate their integration in the labour market;

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 10

Paragraph 4 a (new)

- 4a. Welcomes the fact that the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality has expressed an opinion on the Commission's proposal, and emphasises the importance of mainstreaming gender into migration policies; points out, in particular, the importance of ensuring immigrants entering the EU are aware of the values and existing laws and social conventions on gender equality, so as to avoid situations of discrimination in the host countries' societies which result from a lack cultural awareness;**

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 11

Paragraph 4 b (new)

- 4b. Recommends that Member States promote awareness and information campaigns in the countries of origin and the host countries, highlighting the problems related to illegal immigration and the sanctions that are imposed on employers of illegal immigrants;**

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 12

Paragraph 5

- 5. Agrees to promote ethical recruitment in order to prevent the brain-drain, *which especially affects specific sectors, such as health care, in several African regions*;**

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 13

Paragraph 5 a (new)

- 5a. Recommends that Member States provide incentives and support to immigrants who are willing to return to their countries of origin, in order to encourage work and**

training mobility and to draw benefits from the improved skills of immigrants for their respective home countries; disagrees, however, with policies aimed at forced returns, except in cases following express police orders or Courts decisions;

Or. en

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 14
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. *Calls for the skills areas clearly at risk from such a brain drain to be formally identified;*

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 15
Paragraph 6

6. Urges the Commission to offer basic information programmes about the EU in the countries of origin *to promote knowledge about and respect for immigrants' rights and duties*; recommends that Member States provide professional, civic and language training in the countries of origin *to improve their adaptation to the labour market of the host country*;

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 16
Paragraph 6 a (new)

6a. *Considers that the use of new information and communication technologies and a portal website with practical information could contribute to modernising the system of access, exchange and coordination of useful information for potential migrants; the portal website EURES on labour mobility offers experience of good practices in this field;*

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 17

Paragraph 7

7. Emphasises that learning the host country's *or region's* language is a tool to facilitate integration, ***especially in relation to social services such as the education system; considers, however, that in any case access to social services must not be conditional upon knowledge of those languages, since this could weaken social cohesion;*** stresses the importance of learning foreign languages, as well as ***of facilitating the learning of*** the immigrants' mother tongue as a way to conserve their culture; ***nevertheless expresses concern about the need to prevent cultural segregation and social exclusion;***

Or. en

Amendment by Giusto Catania

Amendment 18

Paragraph 7

7. Emphasises that learning the host country's language is a tool to facilitate integration; ***noting that the Member States' integration policies should be based on the principle that integration is a two-way process, which requires reciprocal commitment on the part of the host society and the immigrant community,*** stresses the importance of learning foreign languages, as well as the immigrants' mother tongue as a way to conserve their culture;

Or. it

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 19

Paragraph 7 a (new)

- 7a. ***Stresses the need to consider ensuring, during the period of acclimatisation to the host country, that in addition to studying the country's history and language, immigrant children are gradually helped to adjust to the curriculum of the class which they will be expected to join on completing their catch-up courses, to facilitate their integration into mainstream school;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 20

Paragraph 7 b (new)

- 7b. *Recommends that Member States set up, under the "Europe for Citizens" programme, targeted and effective reception arrangements to provide adult literacy courses for immigrants, as it will not be possible to make a success of integration without measures of this kind;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 21

Paragraph 8

- 8. *Agrees with the need to regulate **and monitor** the status of paid immigrant trainees **to guarantee the observation of the Member States laws against any kind of abuse**; welcomes the possibilities provided for immigrants by the Leonardo programme;***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 22

Paragraph 8 a (new)

- 8a. *Suggests that Member States facilitate the entry and residence of seasonal workers, taking into consideration the temporary nature of this category of immigrants, according to the necessities of the respective economic sectors; considers that the lack of freedom and fear, experienced by illegal seasonal workers, of not being able to re-enter the host country legally would thereby be prevented; in that sense, also agrees with the importance of advance training in the country of origin, given the young age of most seasonal workers;***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 23

Paragraph 8 b (new)

- 8b. *Stresses the importance and responsibility of local, national and international media***

not only in informing the host society but also in transmitting information to potential emigrants in their home countries, given the great impact of an image that corresponds with the reality of the migration phenomenon;

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 24

Paragraph 9

9. Reiterates that the celebration of 2008 as the year of intercultural dialogue must contribute to ***improving the integration of immigrants in the host societies and neighbourhoods, and mutual understanding, thereby*** reducing outbreaks of mistrust, racism and xenophobia; urges the Commission to promote the work of civil society organizations in favour of inter-cultural coexistence and mutual respect;

Or. en

Amendment by Giusto Catania

Amendment 25

Paragraph 9

9. Reiterates that the celebration of 2008 as the year of intercultural dialogue must contribute to reducing outbreaks of mistrust, racism and xenophobia; urges the Commission to promote the work of civil society organisations in favour of inter-cultural coexistence, mutual respect, ***and education in the service of peace and non-violence;***

Or. it

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 26

Paragraph 9 a (new)

- 9a. Encourages Member States to take full advantage of the corresponding funds and the new Community financial instruments, so as to activate this policy plan on legal migration;***

Or. en

Amendment by Giusto Catania

Amendment 27

Paragraph 9 a (new)

9a. *Stresses the importance, at international level, of the principle of free movement of persons and ideas as a fundamental value of European culture; urges the Commission and the Member States to take practical measures to safeguard this heritage so as to raise the awareness among the European public and economic players of the added value of legal immigration;*

Or. it

Amendment by Claire Gibault

Amendment 28

Paragraph 9 a (new)

9a. *Calls on the Commission to introduce co-development measures to encourage migrants to contribute to the development of their home countries;*

Or. fr