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Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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PE 386.720v01-00

AMENDMENTS 14-76

Draft report

(PE 384.540v01-00)

Mario Mantovani

on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning

Proposal for a recommendation (COM(2006)0479 – C6-0294/2006 – 2006/0163(COD))

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendments by Parliament

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 14

Recital 1

(1) The *development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence* is crucial for *competitiveness and* social cohesion in the Community. Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

(1) The *acquisition, maintenance and expansion of qualifications by citizens* is a crucial *foundation* for social cohesion in the Community, *citizens' individual development and competitiveness*. Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

Or. de

Justification

The purpose of the European Qualifications Framework is to describe people's qualifications. This record creates a benefit for individuals and society, and the idea should be developed accordingly, instead of putting in first place a purely instrumental approach to education as a way to boost competitiveness.

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PE 386.720v01-00

Amendment by Evangelia Tzampazi

Amendment 15
Recital 1

(1) The development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence *is* crucial for competitiveness and social cohesion in the Community. Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

(1) The development ***and recognition*** of ***all*** citizens' knowledge, skills and competence ***are*** crucial for competitiveness and social cohesion in the Community. Participation in lifelong learning ***for all, especially the vulnerable members of society such as the unskilled, older workers, early school leavers, the unemployed, migrants or the disabled,*** and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

Or. el

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 16
Recital 1

(1) The development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence *is* crucial for competitiveness and social cohesion in the Community. Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

(1) The development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence ***and the assessment of learning outcomes ensure the quality of professional qualifications and are*** crucial for competitiveness and social cohesion in the Community, ***so as to facilitate cross-border professional mobility and meet the requirements of supply and demand on the European labour market.*** Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

Or. el

Amendment by Maria Matsouka

Amendment 17

Recital 1

(1) The development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence is crucial for competitiveness and social cohesion in the Community. Participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

(1) The development of citizens' knowledge, skills and competence is crucial for competitiveness, **job quality, employment** and social cohesion in the Community. **The on-going dissemination of up-to-date knowledge by means of higher education or education and training for workers, systematic** participation in lifelong learning and the use of qualifications should therefore be promoted and improved at the national and Community levels.

Or. el

Justification

(a) Up-to-date technological knowledge, skills and competence for workers not only have repercussions of an economic nature and in terms of competitiveness (in the general sense), but also have an immediate impact on the lives of individual workers, improving job quality and creating more jobs. (b) Specific measures are necessary for the dissemination of up-date technological knowledge at the workplace so as to promote as effectively as possible life-long learning which must however be organised on a systematic basis without discrimination or exclusion of any category of workers.

Amendment by Maria Matsouka

Amendment 18
Recital 2

(2) The Lisbon European Council in 2000 concluded that an increased transparency of qualifications should be one of the main components that are necessary to adapt education and training systems in the Community to the demands of the knowledge society. Furthermore the Barcelona European Council in 2002 called for both closer cooperation in the university sector and the improvement of transparency and recognition methods in the area of vocational education and training.

(2) The Lisbon European Council in 2000 concluded that an increased transparency of qualifications should be one of the main components that are necessary **both** to adapt education and training systems in the Community to the demands of the knowledge society **and to promote worker mobility and employment**. Furthermore the Barcelona European Council in 2002 called for both closer cooperation in the university sector and the improvement of transparency and recognition methods in the area of vocational education and training.

Or. el

Justification

Reference to the link between measures to promote education and training for workers and increased mobility and employment opportunities.

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 19
Recital 5

(5) In the context of the Copenhagen process, the Conclusions of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council of 15 November 2004 on the Future priorities of enhanced European Cooperation in vocational education and training gave priority to the development of an open and flexible European Qualifications Framework, founded on transparency and mutual trust, which should stand as a common reference covering both education and training.

(5) In the context of the Copenhagen process, the Conclusions of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council of 15 November 2004 on the Future priorities of enhanced European Cooperation in vocational education and training gave priority to the development of an open and flexible European Qualifications Framework, founded on transparency, **comprehensibility** and mutual trust, which should stand as a common reference covering both education and training.

Or. de

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 20
Recital 5 a (new)

(5a) It is necessary to step up negotiations for the recognition of qualifications acquired through informal and non-formal education in accordance with the conclusions of the Council of Ministers for Education, Youth and Culture meeting on 28 May 2004, concerning the identification and validation of informal and non-formal education.

Or. el

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 21
Recital 5 a (new)

(5a) The validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes should be promoted in accordance with the Council conclusions on common European principles for the identification and validation of non-formal and informal learning of 28 May 2004.

Or. fr

Justification

This amendment alters the rapporteur's wording to place the emphasis on validating learning outcomes rather than the learning processes involved. (Translator's note: the second sentence of the justification does not affect the English version.)

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 22
Recital 5 a (new)

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. de

Justification

(Does not affect English version.)

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 23

Recital 7

(7) This Recommendation takes into account Decision No 2241/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 on a single Community framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences (Europass) and the Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of [...] on key competences for lifelong learning .

(7) This Recommendation takes into account Decision No 2241/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 on a single Community framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences (Europass) and the Recommendation **2006/962/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of **18 December 2006** on key competences for lifelong learning .

Or. el

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 24

Recital 8

(8) This Recommendation is compatible with the framework for the European Higher Education Area and cycle descriptors adopted by the ministers for higher education meeting in Bergen in May 2005.

(8) This Recommendation is compatible with the framework for the European Higher Education Area and cycle descriptors **agreed** by the ministers for higher education **of 45 European countries at their** meeting in Bergen in May 2005 **and in the framework of the Bruges-Copenhagen Process.**

Or. fr

Justification

This amendment inserts a reference to the Bruges-Copenhagen Process relating to vocational

training.

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 25
Recital 8 a (new)

(8a) At level 5 the consolidation of level 5 skills and qualifications which can be acquired through post-secondary or short-cycle university studies shall not under any circumstances seek to undermine or bypass the formal national educational system and shall not lead to formal academic qualifications but simply the registration of knowledge, skills or abilities to be taken into account on the employment market, together with formal academic qualifications.

Or. el

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 26
Recital 8 a (new)

(8a) The Council conclusions on quality assurance in vocational education and training of May 2004, the Recommendation on further European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education of 15 February 2006 and the standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area agreed by the ministers for higher education at their meeting in Bergen in May 2005 contain common principles for quality assurance, which should underpin the implementation of the European Qualifications Framework, with attention being focused, in view of the EQR's global approach, not only on universities but also on the particular requirements of the employment market – while respecting

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 27

Recital 9

(9) This Recommendation does not apply to situations covered by Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications¹ which confers rights and obligations on both the relevant national authority and the migrant. Reference to the European Qualifications Framework levels on qualifications should not affect access to the labour market where professional qualifications have been recognised in accordance with Directive 2005/36/EC.

(9) This Recommendation does not apply to situations covered by Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications² which confers rights and obligations on both the relevant national authority and the migrant. Reference to the European Qualifications Framework levels on qualifications should not affect access to the labour market where professional qualifications have been recognised in accordance with Directive 2005/36/EC.

However, the European Qualifications Framework may be used as a reference framework when introducing compensation measures such as those referred to in Article 14 of Directive 2005/36/EC.

Or. fr

Justification

La directive 2005/36/CE donne la possibilité aux Etats membres d'instaurer des mesures de compensation afin d'éviter qu'un trop grand écart de niveau de compétences ne puisse exister entre un professionnel d'un Etat membre et un ressortissant communautaire souhaitant s'installer dans cet Etat membre pour y exercer le même métier. Sans se substituer ni remettre en cause les dispositions de la directive, le CEC doit pouvoir être utilisé par les autorités compétentes comme cadre de référence dans l'élaboration de mesures de compensation afin de renforcer le poids des résultats de l'apprentissage dans les conditions d'installation d'un ressortissant communautaire sur le territoire d'un Etat membre. Ceci est en particulier nécessaire pour garantir la qualité et la sécurité des biens et services produits par les professions ne demandant que le niveau minimum de qualification et pour lesquelles la directive pourrait conduire (par le biais de la clause d'équivalence N/N-1) à réduire à néant

¹ OJ L 255, 30.9.2005, p. 22.

² OJ L 255, 30.9.2005, p. 22.

les exigences de qualification professionnelle posées par la profession.

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 28

Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore **contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.**

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, **mutual reliability**, comparability and portability **and recognition** of citizens' qualifications **at national and sectoral level** in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate **referencing with national qualifications** and the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore, **in view of its non-binding character, does not remove or limit the possibility for each Member State to select the level of qualifications required thereby helping to promote life-long learning, enhanced employability and international mobility for** workers and learners.

Or. el

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 29

Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device

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between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. ***To this end, the Member States will promote policies to involve the ministries which are responsible for, or should be consulted about, these matters to ensure the reference framework for qualifications is used by mutual consent.*** The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning ***in all its forms, in particular by recognising the equivalent value of formal, non-formal and informal teaching and learning,*** and increasing the mobility of workers and learners ***at European level while, at the same time, promoting the exchange of information and of experience gained.***

Or. it

Justification

It is vital that national government departments take concerted action to encourage the use of agreed European terms for qualifications and certificates. There will be more effective mobility at European level in response to the school, university and vocational qualifications required by the employment market, thus improving our prospects of attaining the Lisbon Strategy objectives.

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 30

Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device

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between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will **increase** the transparency, comparability **and** portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training **and should promote the transparency and comparability of certificates issued at national and sectoral level**. This will **improve** the transparency, comparability, portability **and recognition** of citizens' qualifications **and competences** in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should, moreover, enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation **must, therefore, be followed consistently and mutual trust must be shown so as to ensure the emergence of transparent quality assurance principles, as this Recommendation is also likely to contribute** to the wider objectives of **improving educational opportunities**, promoting lifelong learning and increasing the **adaptability, employability and transnational** mobility of workers and learners.

Or. de

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 31
Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. **For this reason the EQR is designed to be flexible and open in its transposition so as to depict the different paths of the education system – academic, vocational and business – correctly. In the**

sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

interest of equivalence of general and vocational education and the desired transparency between education systems, each level described in the EQR should as a point of principle also be attainable on various educational and career paths. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

Or. de

Amendment by Maria Matsouka

Amendment 32
Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, *facilitate recognition of the level of vocational qualifications and improve comparability, mutual trust and cooperation between national and regional educational systems* and portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within

workers and learners.

national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners **and extending employment opportunities by promoting the exchange of skills, knowledge, experience and abilities throughout the EU.**

Or. el

Justification

The EQF could be a useful instrument regarding wider cooperation and mutual trust between various educational institutions and the referencing and recognition of the levels of workers' qualifications and skills. The link between measures to promote education and training for workers and enhanced mobility and employability is once more highlighted.

Amendment by Evangelia Tzampazi

Amendment 33

Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability **and** portability of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will increase the transparency, comparability, portability **and recognition** of citizens' qualifications **and skills** in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the **employability, adaptability, personal development, social integration and transnational** mobility of workers and learners.

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 34

Recital 10

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training. This will **increase** the transparency, comparability and **portability** of citizens' qualifications in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should moreover enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation therefore contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the mobility of workers and learners.

(10) The objective of this Recommendation is to create a common reference framework which should serve as a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels, whether for general and higher education or for vocational education and training **and should promote transparency as regards qualifications issued at national and sectoral level**. This will **improve** the transparency, **the** comparability and **the recognition** of citizens' qualifications **and competences** in different Member States. The European Qualifications Framework should, moreover, enable international sectoral organisations to relate their qualifications systems to a common reference point and thus facilitate the placing of these qualifications within national qualifications systems. This Recommendation **should, therefore, be followed consistently and mutual trust must be shown so as to ensure the emergence of transparent quality assurance principles, as this Recommendation also** contributes to the wider objectives of promoting lifelong learning and increasing the **employability and transnational** mobility of workers and learners.

Justification

(Translator's note: justification does not apply to English version.)

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 35
Recital 10 a (new)

(10a) This recommendation, without prejudice to national education and vocational training systems, contributes to the modernisation thereof, to the linkage between university education and employment and to the building of bridges between formal, non-formal and informal learning.

Or. el

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 36
Recital 10 a (new)

(10a) This Recommendation aims to improve coordination between education and training systems and enhances the value of informal and non-formal learning. It is likely to contribute to the ongoing adaptation of training and further training systems and encourage people to learn from one another.

Or. de

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 37
Recital 11

(11) This Recommendation conforms to the principle of subsidiarity referred to in Article 5 of the Treaty insofar as its objective is to support and supplement Member States' action by facilitating further cooperation between them to increase transparency and **to** promote mobility and lifelong learning. This Recommendation

(11) This Recommendation conforms to the principle of subsidiarity referred to in Article 5 of the Treaty insofar as its objective is to support and supplement Member States' action by facilitating further cooperation between them to increase transparency, **mutual reliability, portability and recognition of citizens' qualifications**

conforms to the principle of proportionality referred to in that Article because it does not replace or define national qualifications systems and/or qualifications. The European Qualifications Framework does not describe specific qualifications or an individual's competences and a particular qualification should be **placed at** the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level via the relevant national qualifications **system**.

and promote mobility and lifelong learning **in accordance with national legislation and practice**. This Recommendation conforms to the principle of proportionality referred to in that Article because it does not replace or define national qualifications systems and/or qualifications. The European Qualifications Framework does not describe specific qualifications or an individual's competences and a particular qualification should be **referenced to** the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level via the relevant national qualifications **systems**.

Or. el

Amendment by Elspeth Attwooll

Amendment 38 Recital 11

(11) This Recommendation conforms to the principle of subsidiarity referred to in Article 5 of the Treaty insofar as its objective is to support and supplement Member States' action by facilitating further cooperation between them to increase transparency and to promote mobility and lifelong learning. This Recommendation conforms to the principle of proportionality referred to in that Article because it does not replace or define national qualifications systems and/or qualifications. The European Qualifications Framework does not describe specific qualifications or an individual's competences and a particular qualification should be placed at the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level via the relevant national qualifications system.

(11) This Recommendation conforms to the principle of subsidiarity referred to on Article 5 of the Treaty insofar as its objective is to support and supplement Member States' action by facilitating further cooperation between them to increase transparency and to promote mobility and lifelong learning. This Recommendation conforms to the principle of proportionality referred to in that Article because it does not replace or define national **or sub-national** qualifications systems and/or qualifications. The European Qualifications Framework does not describe specific qualifications or an individual's competences and a particular qualification should be placed at the appropriate European Qualifications Framework via the relevant national **or sub-national** qualifications system.

Or. en

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 39
Recommendation 1

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective;

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective **and determine the qualification levels under the national systems while respecting the rich diversity and special strengths of Europe's constituent territories.**

Or. el

Amendment by Harlem Désir

Amendment 40
Recommendation 1

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to **compare** the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective;

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to **encourage recognition of** the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective and **with a view to fostering a knowledge-based European economy and the greatest possible integration through the European employment market;**

Or. fr

Justification

This amendment seeks to pinpoint the objectives of this proposal by gearing it towards the promotion of learning and knowledge in general, in accordance with the Lisbon strategy. The EQF should help to transform Europe into a knowledge-based economy so as to make its employment market more inclusive. That is the underlying purpose of this recommendation.

Amendment by Maria Matsouka

Amendment 41
Recommendation 1

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective;

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare, **assess and recognise** the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective; **without discrimination or exclusion**.

Or. el

Justification

The EQF can provide a useful instrument for wider cooperation and mutual trust between different educational establishments and for the referencing and recognition of the levels of workers' qualifications and skills. It is also necessary to ensure equality and equal opportunities without exclusion or discrimination with regard to not only the recognition of qualifications and but also education and training within the context of lifelong learning.

Amendment by Gabriele Zimmer

Amendment 42 Recommendation 1

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective;

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of the different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective **while respecting the diversity of national education systems and the way in which they interact with national labour markets, in particular from a cultural, economic, democratic, social and individual perspective**;

Or. en

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 43 Recommendation 1

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong

1. Use the European Qualifications Framework as a reference tool to compare the qualification levels of different qualifications systems within a lifelong learning perspective, **while respecting and**

learning perspective;

integrating the rich diversity and special strengths of Europe's constituent territories;

Or. de

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 44
Recommendation 2

2. Relate their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework by **2009**, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels **to the levels set out in Annex I, and by developing a national qualifications framework, where appropriate** according to national legislation and practice;

2. ***Endeavour, on a voluntary basis, given the non-binding nature of the Recommendation***, to relate their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework by **2010**, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels, ***not excluding the selection, within the European Qualifications Framework of only those qualifications levels which correspond to*** national legislation and practice;

Or. el

Amendment by Gabriele Zimmer

Amendment 45
Recommendation 2

2. ***Relate*** their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework ***by 2009***, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels to the levels set out in Annex I, and by developing a national qualifications framework, ***where appropriate*** according to national legislation and practice;

2. ***Promote relating*** their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels to the levels set out in Annex I ***where appropriate*** and by developing a national qualifications framework, according to national legislation and practice;

Or. en

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 46
Recommendation 2

2. Relate their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework by 2009, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels to the levels set out in Annex I, and by developing a national qualifications framework, where appropriate according to national legislation and practice;

2. Relate their national qualifications system to the European Qualifications Framework by 2009, in particular by referencing in a transparent manner their qualification levels to the levels set out in Annex I, and by developing a national qualifications framework, where appropriate according to national legislation and practice, ***in order to provide guaranteed quality standards to enable citizens to have access to the employment market of any Member State with the same prerogatives;***

Or. it

Justification

ECVET and Europass are useful instruments, but the EQF should guarantee that Member States can be certain about the quality of citizens' educational and vocational qualifications.

Amendment by Gabriele Zimmer

Amendment 47
Recommendation 3

3. ***Ensure*** that, ***by 2011***, all new qualifications and “Europass” documents issued by the competent authorities contain a clear reference to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

3. ***Promote mutual trust and cooperation between Member States, in order to ensure*** that all new qualifications and “Europass” documents issued by the competent authorities contain a clear reference to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

Or. en

Amendment by Elspeth Attwooll

Amendment 48
Recommendation 3

3. **Ensure that, by 2011**, all new **qualifications** and “Europass” documents issued by **the** competent authorities contain a clear reference to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

3. **Adopt measures, as appropriate, so that by 2012** all new **qualification certificates, diplomas** and "Europass" documents issued by competent authorities contain a clear reference – **via national or sub-national qualifications systems** – to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

Or. en

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 49
Recommendation 3

3. **Ensure that, by 2011, all new qualifications** and 'Europass' documents issued by the competent authorities **contain a clear reference** to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

3. **Intensify their efforts to ensure that, by 2012, professional qualifications, diplomas** and 'Europass' documents issued by the competent authorities **can be classified at** the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

Or. el

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 50
Recommendation 3

3. Ensure that, by 2011, all new qualifications and “Europass” documents issued by the competent authorities contain a clear reference to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level;

3. Ensure that, by 2011, all new qualifications and “Europass” documents issued by the competent authorities contain a clear reference to the appropriate European Qualifications Framework level, **and that the system for recognising credits is based on outcomes rather than processes and can be easily understood by training organisations and employers;**

Or. it

Justification

Reforming qualifications and certificates will only be effective if the data contained in

documents and certificates can be easily understood by the widest possible range of people for whom they are intended.

Amendment by Harlem Désir

Amendment 51
Recommendation 3 a (new)

3a. Ensure that all Europe's employers, through the social dialogue, offer their employees, in accordance with national law, genuine opportunities for training and possibilities of validating their knowledge and skills;

Or. fr

Justification

The EQF will have no impact unless employers play their part in encouraging training and lifelong learning. In order to be effective, the employers' input must be based on consultation and social dialogue.

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 52
Recommendation 3 a (new)

3a. Take into account, in the European Qualifications Framework and related measures, the recognition of new professional qualifications arising from the need for heightened environmental awareness and sustainability and the need to create new qualified jobs in some sectors which can easily be certified as such in the Member States, such as fishing instructors in the recreational fishing sector and fisheries protection officers in the commercial fishing sector.

Or. it

Justification

The policy of exchanging and circulating good practice will raise public awareness of training opportunities at European level.

Amendment by Gabriele Zimmer

Amendment 53
Recommendation 4

4. Use an approach ***based on*** learning outcomes when defining and describing qualifications, and promote the validation of non-formal and informal learning according to the common European principles agreed in the Council conclusions of 28 May 2004;

4. Use an approach ***that takes into account*** learning ***input and*** outcomes when defining and describing qualifications, and promote the validation of non-formal and informal learning according to the common European principles agreed in the Council conclusions of 28 May 2004 ***and to adapt Annex 1 to that approach***;

Or. en

Amendment by Harlem Désir

Amendment 54
Recommendation 4 a (new)

4a. Pay particular attention to validating informal learning acquired by those categories of workers most likely to be subject to unemployment or insecure forms of employment, so as to make it easier for them to change jobs and ensure they are not excluded from the employment market;

Or. fr

Justification

The EQF must make it possible to recognise work-related competences which have not been recognised hitherto by the award of any qualification or certificate. This is particularly important for those categories of workers who may face the prospect of finding a new job as a result of industrial restructuring.

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 55
Recommendation 4 a (new)

4a. Launch information and consultation exercises with all the social partners and professional sectors to ensure that the European Qualifications Framework is gradually taken into account for the purpose of recognising qualification levels and competences in tables of posts;

Or. fr

Justification

The system of incorporating national qualifications into the EQF should tie in with the recognised systems of classifying competences used by firms.

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 56
Recommendation 4 a (new)

4a. To enhance and promote a system for providing European citizens with permanent, full and widely-circulated information about all the results of transnational pilot projects on the basis of procedures designed to take advantage of experience gained and spread good practice.

Or. it

Justification

The policy of circulating good practice will raise public awareness of European training opportunities.

Amendment by Elspeth Attwooll

Amendment 57
Recommendation 5

5. Designate a national centre to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

5. Designate a national centre to support and coordinate the relationship between the national *or sub-national* qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

Or. en

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 58

Recommendation 5, introductory part

5. Designate a national centre to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

5. ***Set up*** a national centre to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework. ***The centre should operate on an interinstitutional basis and guarantee the quality of the whole system and the transparency of links between qualification levels.***

This centre's tasks should include:

This centre's tasks should include:

Or. it

Justification

It is vitally important to guarantee the quality and transparency of the links between qualification levels.

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 59

Recommendation 5, introductory part

5. Designate ***a*** national ***centre*** to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

5. Designate ***one or – depending on the structures and requirements of the Member States in each case – several competent*** national ***bodies*** to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

This centre's tasks should include:

These bodies' tasks should include:

Or. de

Amendment by Philip Bushill-Matthews

Amendment 60

Recommendation 5, introductory part

5. Designate a national *centre* to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

This centre's tasks should include:

5. Designate *national coordination points* to support and coordinate the relationship between the national qualifications system and the European Qualifications Framework.

Those coordination points should include:

Or. en

Justification

Due to the devolved nature of education in certain Member States, the creation of a single national centre is inappropriate. Member States should be able to use existing structures responsible for the technical aspects of qualifications frameworks, even where this means several points for coordination, rather than adopting a top-down approach which could lead to duplication.

Amendment by Maria Matsouka

Amendment 61

Recommendation 5, point (ba) (new)

(ba) ensuring equal access without discrimination or exclusion to lifelong education and training programmes particularly for less qualified workers, migrants, women, the disabled and the young

Or. el

Justification

It is necessary to ensure equality and equal opportunities without exclusion or discrimination, regarding not only the recognition of qualifications but also education and training in the context of lifelong learning.

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 62
Recommendation 5, point (e)

(e) ensuring the participation of all relevant national stakeholders including, according to national legislation and practice, higher education and vocational education and training institutions, social partners, sectors and experts on the comparison and use of qualifications at the European level;

(e) ensuring the participation of all relevant national stakeholders including, according to national legislation and practice, higher education and vocational education and training institutions, ***economic and*** social partners, sectors and experts on the comparison and use of qualifications at the European level;

Or. de

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 63
Recommendation 5, point (e)

(e) ensuring the participation of all relevant ***national*** stakeholders including, according to national legislation and practice, higher education and vocational education and training institutions, social partners, sectors and experts on the comparison and use of qualifications at the European level;

(e) ensuring the participation of all relevant stakeholders including, according to national legislation and practice, higher education and vocational education and training institutions, social partners, sectors and experts on the comparison and use of qualifications at the European level;

Or. de

Justification

As an aspect of subsidiarity, education in the Member States is organised not only at national but also at regional and/or local level. So all levels of those concerned should be included.

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 64
Recommendation 5 a (new)

5a. End the separation between a European recognition system under Directive

2005/36/EC (on the recognition of professional qualifications) and a transparency system under the European Qualifications Framework, as these two instruments will stand side by side as parallel classification and assessment systems and such a situation is counterproductive for vocational mobility; the Member States are therefore recommended to incorporate Directive 2005/36/EC in the EQF system when the Recommendation on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework is adopted, if the EQF proves to be the better and more practicable instrument;

Or. de

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 65
Recommendation 5 a (new)

5a. (and the Commission) should encourage cooperation and exchanges between the designated national centres so as to ensure that up-to-date and transparent quality assurance principles are maintained and guarantee mutual confidence in national certification systems, without which there can be no EQF;

Or. fr

Justification

The EQF provides a benchmark for national certification systems. It cannot operate except on the basis of transparency, quality assurance and mutual confidence, which should be fostered by permanent contacts between Member States.

Amendment by Elspeth Attwooll

Amendment 66
Recommendation 6, point (b)

(b) 'national qualifications system' means all aspects of a Member States' activity related to the recognition of learning and other mechanisms that link education and training to the labour market and civil society. This includes the development and implementation of institutional arrangements and processes relating to quality assurance, assessment and the award of qualifications. A national qualifications system may be composed of several subsystems and may include *a* national qualifications **framework**;

(b) 'national qualifications system' means all aspects of a Member States' activity related to the recognition of learning and other mechanisms that link education and training to the labour market and civil society. This includes the development and implementation of institutional arrangements and processes relating to quality assurance, assessment and the award of qualifications. A national qualifications system may be composed of several subsystems and may include national **and sub-national** qualifications **frameworks**;

Or. en

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 67
Intention 1

1. Support Member States in carrying out the above tasks and international sectoral organisations in using the reference levels and principles of the European Qualifications Framework as set out in this Recommendation, in particular by facilitating cooperation and testing, and developing support and guidance material;

1. Support Member States in carrying out the above tasks and international sectoral organisations in using the reference levels and principles of the European Qualifications Framework as set out in this Recommendation, in particular **through the active participation of the social partners in pilot projects with Community support**, by facilitating cooperation and testing, **including through voluntary peer review** and developing support and guidance material;

Or. el

Amendment by Iles Braghetto

Amendment 68
Intention 2

2. Establish a European Qualifications Framework advisory group (including representatives of the national centres, the European social partners and other

2. Establish, **within one year of the date on which this recommendation is approved**, a European Qualifications Framework advisory group (including representatives of

stakeholders, as appropriate) in order to monitor, co-ordinate and to ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework.

the national centres, the European social partners and other stakeholders, as appropriate) in order to monitor, co-ordinate and to ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework.

Or. it

Justification

The Commission proposal provides for the setting up of an advisory group to monitor, coordinate and ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualification systems to the EQF. To ensure the quality of qualifications can be assured as effectively and quickly as possible, it is important to set a time limit for setting up the advisory group.

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 69

Intention 2

2. Establish a European Qualifications Framework advisory group (including representatives of *the national centres*, the European social partners and other stakeholders, as appropriate) *in order to* monitor, co-ordinate and *to* ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework;

2. Establish a European Qualifications Framework advisory group, ***which will include*** representatives of the European social ***economic and*** partners, ***the bodies responsible at national level for education and training*** and other stakeholders, as appropriate, ***and will*** monitor, co-ordinate and ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework;

Or. de

Amendment by Philip Bushill-Matthews

Amendment 70

Intention 2

2. Establish a European Qualifications Framework advisory group (including representatives of the national ***centres, the***

2. Establish a European Qualifications Framework advisory group (including representatives of the national ***coordination***

European social partners and other stakeholders, as appropriate) in order to monitor, co-ordinate and to ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework;

points and other stakeholders, as appropriate) in order to monitor, co-ordinate and to ensure the quality and overall coherence of the process of relating qualifications systems to the European Qualifications Framework. ***The remit and duration of the group should be reviewed by Member States on an agreed date;***

Or. en

Justification

The establishment of an advisory group is important in terms of sharing experiences across the EU in the implementation of the EQF. Such a group will also help to foster trust between Member States education systems. Beyond the implementation phase, the functions and usefulness of the group must be reviewed however. Member States should decide when this review will take place, although it will be unlikely to happen before 2012.

Amendment by Françoise Castex

Amendment 71
Intention 2 a (new)

2a. launch information and consultation exercises with professional sectors and sectoral dialogue committees at Community level to ensure that the EQF is incorporated into collective agreements and taken into account in relation to access to employment in connection with cross-border professional mobility;

Or. fr

Justification

This undertaking seeks to transfer to Community level the links which exist at national level between training systems and firms, and between qualification levels and job levels.

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 72
Intention 3

3. Monitor the action taken in response to this Recommendation and report, five years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review of this Recommendation.

3. Monitor *in cooperation with the Member States* the action taken in response to this Recommendation and report, five years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review of this Recommendation.

Or. el

Amendment by Sepp Kusstatscher

Amendment 73

Intention 3

3. Monitor the action taken in response to this Recommendation and report, five years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review of this Recommendation.

3. Monitor the action taken in response to this Recommendation, *assess and evaluate it in cooperation with the Member States and the people concerned* and report, five years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review of this Recommendation;

Or. de

Amendment by Thomas Mann

Amendment 74

Intention 3

3. Monitor the action taken in response to this Recommendation and report, *five* years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review of this Recommendation.

3. Monitor the action taken in response to this Recommendation and report, *three* years after its adoption, to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience gained and implications for the future, including, if necessary, a possible review *and revision* of this Recommendation.

Or. de

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 75
Intention 3 a (new)

3a. Promote on the basis of common European principles the development and implementation of a European credit system for vocational education and training (ECVET) which is intended to facilitate the transfer, the accumulation and the recognition of learning outcomes, irrespective of how and where they have been acquired.

Or. el

Amendment by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou

Amendment 76
Intention 3 b (new)

3b. The EQF must be flexible so as to be usable in combination with existing sectoral initiatives for the development of professional qualifications. Furthermore, national systems should seek to further national priorities and strategic convergence with the EU Member States.

Or. el