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Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

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AMENDMENTS

17 - 61

Draft opinion
Hans-Peter Martin
(PE442.856v01-00)

on the proposal for a Council decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States - Part II of the Europe 2020 Integrated Guidelines

Proposal for a decision
(COM(2010)0193 – C7-0000/2010 – 2010/0115(NLE))

AM_Com_LegOpinion

Amendment 17
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union stipulates in Article 145 that Member States and the EU shall work towards developing a coordinated strategy for employment and particularly for promoting *a skilled, trained and adaptable workforce and* labour markets *responsive to* economic change *and* with a view to achieving the objectives set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union. *Member States, having regard to national practices related to the responsibilities of management and labour, shall regard promoting employment as a matter of common concern and shall coordinate their action in this respect within the Council, in accordance with the provisions of Article 148 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.*

Amendment

(1) The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union stipulates in Article 145 that Member States and the EU shall work towards developing a coordinated strategy for employment and particularly for promoting *education, vocational training and further training and integration of workers into* labour markets, *which have become – and will remain – necessary because of* economic change, with a view to achieving the objectives set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union.

Or. de

Amendment 18
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The Treaty on European Union stipulates in Article 3.3 that the Union shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, *and shall* promote social justice and protection *and provides for the Union's* initiatives to ensure coordination of Member States' social policies. Article 9

Amendment

(2) The Treaty on European Union stipulates in Article 3.3 that the Union shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, promote social justice and *provide social* protection; *it is also expected to take* initiatives to ensure coordination of Member States' social

of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that in defining and implementing its policies and activities, the Union shall take into account requirements linked to the guarantee of adequate social protection and the fight against social exclusion.

policies. Article 9 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that in defining and implementing its policies and activities, the Union shall take into account requirements linked to ***promoting a high level of employment and to the guarantee of adequate social protection and the fight against social exclusion and linked to a high level of education and training and protection of health.***

Or. de

Amendment 19
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The Lisbon Strategy, launched in 2000, was based on an acknowledgement of the EU's need to ***increase*** its productivity and competitiveness, while enhancing social cohesion, in the face of global competition, technological change and ***an ageing*** population. The Lisbon Strategy was re-launched in 2005, after a mid-term review which led to greater focus on growth, more and better jobs.

Amendment

(4) The Lisbon Strategy, launched in 2000, was based on an acknowledgement of the EU's need to ***preserve*** its productivity and competitiveness, while enhancing social cohesion, in the face of global competition, ***economic interdependences and changes,*** technological change and ***a changing*** population. The Lisbon Strategy was re-launched in 2005, after a mid-term review which led to greater focus on growth, more and better jobs. ***Ultimately, the Lisbon Strategy failed to achieve its targets. With its focus on competitiveness, cost-cutting, dismantling of the welfare state, ever more flexible labour markets, liberalisation of markets in general and deregulation of financial markets in particular, it aggravated inequality in the distribution of income and wealth, the growth of poverty, social exclusion, low-paid work and precarious employment. It is now time for an alternative strategy of the European Union for sustainable development, social justice and full***

employment.

Or. xm

Amendment 20

Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision

Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) The Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs ***helped forge consensus around*** the broad direction of the EU's economic and employment policies. Under the strategy, both broad economic policy guidelines and employment guidelines were adopted by the Council in 2005 and revised in 2008. The 24 guidelines laid the foundations for the national reform programmes, outlining the key macro-economic, micro-economic and labour market reform priorities for the EU as a whole. However, experience shows that the guidelines did not set ***clear enough priorities and that links between them could have been stronger***. This limited their impact on national policy-making.

Amendment

(5) The Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs ***should help to determine*** the broad direction of the EU's economic and employment policies. Under the strategy, both broad economic policy guidelines and employment guidelines were adopted by the Council in 2005 and revised in 2008. The 24 guidelines laid the foundations for the national reform programmes, outlining the key macro-economic, micro-economic and labour market reform priorities for the EU as a whole. However, experience shows that the guidelines did not set ***sufficiently binding objectives for social, political and cultural participation by all residents of the European Union and for the sustainable ecological conversion of the economy***. This limited their impact on national policy-making.

Or. de

Amendment 21

Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision

Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) Before creating new initiatives the European Union needs to significantly improve existing policies and their implementation.

Amendment 22
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The financial and economic crisis that started in 2008 resulted in a significant loss in jobs and potential output and has led to a dramatic deterioration in public finances. The European Economic Recovery Plan has nevertheless helped Member States to deal with the crisis, partly through a coordinated fiscal stimulus, with the euro providing an anchor for macroeconomic stability. The crisis therefore showed that coordination of Union's policies **can deliver** significant results if it **is** strengthened and rendered effective. The crisis also underscored the **close interdependence of the Member States' economies and labour markets**.

Amendment

(6) The financial and economic crisis that started in 2008 resulted in a significant loss in jobs and potential output and has led to a dramatic deterioration in public finances. The European Economic Recovery Plan has nevertheless helped Member States to deal with the crisis, partly through a coordinated fiscal stimulus, with the euro providing an anchor for macroeconomic stability. The crisis therefore showed that coordination of Union's policies **could have delivered** significant results if it **had been** strengthened and rendered effective. **In addition, the crisis also underscored the fact that the internal market urgently needs to be complemented by a social and ecological Union so that fewer people need suffer from the impact of impending crises of capitalism.**

Amendment 23
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The financial and economic crisis that started in 2008 resulted in a significant loss in jobs and potential output and has led to a dramatic deterioration in public finances. The European Economic Recovery Plan⁷ has nevertheless helped Member States to

Amendment

(6) The financial and economic crisis that started in 2008 resulted in a significant loss in jobs and potential output and has led to a dramatic deterioration in public finances. The European Economic Recovery Plan⁷ has nevertheless helped Member States to

deal with the crisis, partly through a coordinated fiscal stimulus, ***with the euro providing an anchor for macroeconomic stability***. The crisis therefore showed that coordination of ***Union's*** policies can deliver significant results if it is ***strengthened and rendered*** effective. The crisis also underscored the close interdependence of the Member States' economies and labour markets.

deal with the crisis, partly through a coordinated fiscal stimulus. The crisis therefore showed that coordination of ***some EU*** policies can deliver significant results if it is effective ***while respecting the subsidiarity principle***. The crisis also underscored the close interdependence of the Member States' economies and labour markets.

Or. en

Amendment 24
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) The Commission proposed to set up a new strategy for the next decade, the Europe 2020 Strategy, to enable the EU to emerge stronger from the crisis, and to turn its economy towards ***smart***, sustainable and inclusive ***growth***. ***Five*** headline targets, listed under the relevant guidelines, constitute shared objectives guiding the action of the Member States and of the Union. Member States should ***make every effort to*** meet the national targets and ***to*** remove the ***bottlenecks that constrain growth***.

Amendment

(7) The Commission proposed to set up a new strategy for the next decade, the Europe 2020 Strategy, to enable the EU to emerge stronger from the crisis ***and also respond more effectively to future upheavals and crises***, and to turn its economy towards ***viable, ecologically and economically*** sustainable and inclusive ***economic management***. Headline targets, listed under the relevant guidelines, constitute shared objectives guiding the action of the Member States and of the Union. Member States should meet the national targets and remove the ***obstacles to a restructuring process accompanied by the creation of more, high-quality jobs***.

Or. de

Amendment 25
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out ambitious reforms to ensure macroeconomic *stability* and *the sustainability of public finance*, *improve competitiveness*, reduce macroeconomic imbalances and enhance *labour market performance*. *The withdrawal of the fiscal stimulus should be implemented and coordinated within the framework of the Stability and Growth Pact.*

Amendment

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out ambitious reforms to ensure *an improved* macroeconomic *performance targeting socially and environmentally sustainable development*, reduce macroeconomic imbalances and enhance *high quality employment and social protection*. The fiscal stimulus should be *continued for the next three to five years to overcome economic stagnation and rising unemployment. Coordinated fiscal stimulus at Member State and EU level must be oriented towards economic recovery via a targeted EU Recovery Plan which is streamlined in terms of gender-equality in all of its components, mobilising one per cent of EU GDP each year for investing in environmentally, socially and economically sustainable development, thus providing for an entry strategy for new quality employment.*

Or. en

Amendment 26
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out ambitious reforms to ensure macroeconomic stability and the sustainability of public finance, improve competitiveness, reduce macroeconomic imbalances and enhance labour market performance. The withdrawal of the fiscal stimulus should be implemented and coordinated within the framework of the

Amendment

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out ambitious reforms to ensure macroeconomic stability and the sustainability of public finance, improve competitiveness, reduce macroeconomic imbalances, *strengthen social cohesion* and enhance labour market performance. The *gradual* withdrawal of the fiscal stimulus, *to be started as soon as the*

Stability and Growth Pact.

economy is on the way to a sustainable recovery, should be implemented and coordinated *inter alia* within the framework of the Stability and Growth Pact.

Or. en

Amendment 27

Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision

Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out *ambitious* reforms to ensure macroeconomic stability and the sustainability of public finance, improve competitiveness, reduce macroeconomic imbalances and enhance labour market performance. The withdrawal of the fiscal stimulus should be implemented and coordinated within the framework of the Stability and Growth Pact.

Amendment

(8) As part of comprehensive "exit strategies" for the economic crisis, Member States should carry out *structural* reforms to ensure macroeconomic stability and the sustainability of public finance, improve competitiveness, reduce macroeconomic imbalances and enhance *productivity and* labour market performance. The withdrawal of the fiscal stimulus should be implemented and coordinated within the framework of the Stability and Growth Pact.

Or. en

Amendment 28

Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision

Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) Within the Europe 2020 strategy, Member States should implement reforms aimed at 'smart *growth*', i.e. *growth* driven by knowledge and innovation. Reforms should aim at improving the quality of education, ensuring access for all, and *strengthening* research and business

Amendment

(9) Within the Europe 2020 strategy, Member States should implement reforms aimed at 'smart *management of the economy*', i.e. *which* is driven by knowledge and innovation. Reforms should aim at improving the quality of education, ensuring access for all, and *preserving*

performance in order to promote innovation and knowledge transfer throughout the EU. They should encourage ***entrepreneurship and help*** to turn creative ideas into innovative products, services and processes that can create ***growth***, quality jobs, territorial, economic and social cohesion, and address more efficiently European and global societal challenges. Making the most of information and communication technologies is essential in this context.

research and business performance in order to promote innovation and knowledge transfer throughout the EU. They should encourage ***economic activity which helps*** to turn creative ideas into innovative products, ***innovative - particularly socially valuable*** - services and processes that can create quality jobs, territorial, economic and social cohesion ***with a high level of comprehensive social protection***, and address more efficiently European and global societal challenges. Making the most of information and communication technologies is essential in this context.

Or. de

Amendment 29
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 9 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9a) In order to boost economic growth Member States should reduce the bureaucratic burden, cut excessive regulation and high taxes and avoid protectionist policies.

Or. en

Amendment 30
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 9 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9b) Achieving an efficient single market is a key element for measuring the EU's overall macroeconomic performance; it is particularly crucial for the monetary union to deliver economic benefits,

restore growth and create new job opportunities.

Or. en

Amendment 31
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) Member States should also, through their reform programmes, aim at "sustainable growth". Sustainable growth means building a resource-efficient, sustainable and competitive economy, a fair distribution of the cost and benefits and exploiting Europe's leadership in the race to develop new processes and technologies, including green technologies. Member States should implement the necessary reforms to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and use resources efficiently. They should also improve the business environment, stimulate creation of green jobs and modernise their industrial base.

Amendment

(10) Member States should also, through their reform programmes, aim at "sustainable growth". Sustainable growth means building a resource-efficient, sustainable and competitive economy, a fair distribution of the cost and benefits and exploiting Europe's leadership in the race to develop new processes and technologies, including green technologies. ***These technologies should, as far as possible, be made accessible to all companies, including micro-enterprises and SMEs, so that changes in order to enhance sustainability can be carried out across the board.*** Member States should implement the necessary reforms to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and use resources efficiently. They should also improve the business environment, stimulate creation of green jobs and modernise their industrial base. ***The crisis should not obstruct or delay this crucial transformation to a green and sustainable economy.***

Or. en

Amendment 32
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) Member States should also, through their reform programmes, aim at ‘sustainable **growth**’. Sustainable **growth** means building a resource-efficient, sustainable **and competitive** economy, **a fair distribution of the cost and benefits** and **exploiting Europe’s leadership in the race to develop** new processes and technologies, **including** green technologies. Member States should implement the necessary reforms to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and use resources efficiently. They should also improve the business environment, stimulate creation of green jobs and modernise their industrial base.

Amendment

(10) Member States should also, through their reform programmes, aim at ‘sustainable **development**’. Sustainable **development** means building a resource-efficient, sustainable economy, and **developing** new processes and technologies, **particularly** green technologies. Member States should implement the necessary reforms to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and use resources efficiently. They should also improve the business environment **for SMEs**, stimulate creation of green, **sustainable** jobs and modernise their industrial base. **Particularly in the field of conversion to different products, sufficient funding must be made available to be able to perform the resultant restructuring processes and deal with the impact on employees.**

Or. de

Amendment 33
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) Member States’ reform programmes should **also** aim at ‘inclusive **growth**’. Inclusive **growth** means building a cohesive society in which people are empowered to anticipate and manage change, thus to actively participate in society and **economy**. Member States’ reforms should therefore ensure access **and opportunities** for all throughout the lifecycle, **thus** reducing poverty and social exclusion, through removing barriers to labour market participation especially for women, older workers, young people,

Amendment

(11) Member States’ reform programmes should aim at ‘inclusive **economic management**’. Inclusive **economic management** means building a cohesive society in which people are empowered to anticipate and manage change, thus to actively participate in **politics**, society and **cultural life**. Member States’ reforms should therefore ensure access for all throughout the lifecycle **to an income which prevents poverty and to service activities requiring skills, thus enabling them to pursue a dignified and**

disabled and *legal* migrants. They should also make sure that the benefits of economic *growth* reach all citizens and all regions. Ensuring *effective functioning of the* labour markets through investing in successful transitions, appropriate skills development, rising job quality and fighting segmentation, structural unemployment and inactivity while ensuring *adequate, sustainable* social protection and *active* inclusion *to reduce poverty* should therefore be at the heart of Member States' reform programmes.

autonomous life and reducing poverty and social exclusion, through removing barriers to labour market participation *of employees' own choosing*, especially for women, older workers – *particularly women* – young people, *people with disabilities* and migrants. They should also make sure that the benefits of *sustainable and inclusive* economic *management* reach all citizens and all regions. Ensuring *that* labour markets *are inclusive* through investing in successful *integration and* transitions, appropriate skills development, rising job quality *in accordance with the 'decent work' principles of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and in the light of the conclusions of the informal meeting of Ministers for Employment and Social Affairs in Berlin from 18 to 20 January 2007 on the subject of 'good work'*¹, and fighting segmentation, structural unemployment and *involuntary* inactivity while ensuring *comprehensive* social protection *which goes beyond preventing poverty* and *social and cultural* inclusion should therefore be at the heart of Member States' reform programmes. *At the same time, economic and social inequalities must be massively reduced.*

¹ 'Europe needs an improved, joint effort to promote 'good work', which covers workers' rights and participation, fair pay, security and health protection at work, and organisation of work which takes families into account. Working conditions which are favourable and fair and appropriate social protection are necessary if the European Union is to be accepted by its citizens.'

Or. de

Amendment 34
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) Member States" reform programmes should also aim at "inclusive growth". Inclusive growth means building a cohesive society in which people are empowered to anticipate and manage change, thus to actively participate in society and economy. Member States" reforms should therefore ensure access and opportunities for all throughout the lifecycle, thus reducing poverty and social exclusion, through removing barriers to labour market participation especially for women, older workers, young people, disabled and legal migrants. They should also make sure that the benefits of economic growth reach all citizens and all regions. Ensuring effective functioning of **the** labour markets through investing in successful transitions, appropriate skills development, rising job quality and fighting segmentation, structural unemployment and inactivity while ensuring adequate, sustainable social protection and active inclusion to reduce poverty should therefore be at the heart of Member States" reform programmes.

Amendment

(11) Member States" reform programmes should also aim at "inclusive growth". Inclusive growth means building a cohesive society in which people are empowered to anticipate and manage change **particularly that brought about by new technologies, automation and computer revolution**, thus to actively participate in society and economy. Member States" reforms should therefore ensure access and opportunities for all throughout the lifecycle, thus reducing poverty and social exclusion, through removing barriers to labour market participation especially for women, older workers, young people, disabled and legal migrants. They should also make sure that the benefits of economic growth reach all citizens and all regions. Ensuring effective functioning of **flexible** labour markets through investing in successful transitions, appropriate skills development, rising job quality and fighting segmentation, structural unemployment and inactivity while ensuring adequate, sustainable social protection and active inclusion to reduce poverty should therefore be at the heart of Member States" reform programmes.

Or. en

Amendment 35
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11a) In the light of the objective of 'inclusive growth', Member States should, at the initiative of the Commission, establish a legislative framework for the new forms of employment which places

the employees concerned on an equal footing and facilitates employment which does not promote further fragmentation of the labour market and which guarantees comprehensive protection of the individual and collective rights of employees and affords them the requisite social protection.

Or. de

Amendment 36
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12) The EU's and Member States' structural reforms can effectively contribute to growth and jobs if they enhance the EU's competitiveness in the global economy, open up new opportunities for Europe's exporters and provide competitive access to vital imports. Reforms should therefore take into account their external competitiveness implications to foster European growth and participation in open and fair markets worldwide.

deleted

Or. de

Amendment 37
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Recital 12 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12a) During the process of elaborating and carrying out structural reforms, Members States should have a particular focus on making sure that the growth that

is promoted is employment-intensive and accompanied by substantial job creation in the real economy.

Or. en

Amendment 38
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) The Europe 2020 strategy has to be underpinned by an integrated set of policies, which Member States should implement fully *and at the same pace*, in order to achieve the positive spill-over effects of coordinated structural reforms.

Amendment

(13) The Europe 2020 strategy has to be underpinned by an integrated set of policies, which Member States should implement fully, in order to achieve the positive spill-over effects of coordinated structural reforms.

Or. en

Amendment 39
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13a) When programming and implementing EU funding, including from the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund, Member States should take account of the EU 2010 Strategy, particularly its employment policy and social policy aspects.

Or. de

Amendment 40
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) While these guidelines are addressed to Member States, the Europe 2020 strategy should be implemented in partnership with all national, regional and local authorities, closely associating parliaments, as well as ***social partners and*** representatives of civil society, ***who shall*** contribute to the elaboration of national reform programmes, to their implementation and to the overall communication on the strategy.

Amendment

(14) While these guidelines are addressed to Member States, ***it is essential that*** the Europe 2020 strategy should be implemented in partnership with all national, regional and local authorities, closely associating parliaments, as well as social partners and representatives of civil society. ***Social partners at national level have a particular role to play here, because without their participation it would not in practice be possible to implement the employment strategy in businesses. All parties must be given equal rights to*** contribute to the elaboration of national reform programmes, to their implementation and to the overall communication on the strategy.

Or. de

Amendment 41
Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) While these guidelines are addressed to Member States, the Europe 2020 strategy should be implemented in partnership with all national, regional and local authorities, closely associating parliaments, as well as social partners and representatives of civil society, who shall contribute to the elaboration of national reform programmes, to their implementation and to the overall

Amendment

(14) While these guidelines are addressed to Member States, the Europe 2020 strategy should be implemented in partnership with all national, regional and local authorities, closely associating parliaments, as well as social partners and representatives of civil society, who shall contribute to the elaboration of national reform programmes, to their implementation and to the overall

communication on the strategy.

communication on the strategy *as social policies have to respond to local circumstances and preferences.*

Or. en

Amendment 42
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) The Europe 2020 strategy is underpinned by a ***smaller*** set of guidelines, replacing the previous set of 24 and addressing employment and broad economic policy issues in a coherent manner. The guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States, annexed to this Decision, are intrinsically linked with the guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and of the Union, annexed to Council Recommendation [...] of [...]. Together, they form the ‘Europe 2020 integrated guidelines’.

Amendment

(15) The Europe 2020 strategy is underpinned by a set of guidelines, replacing the previous set of 24 and addressing employment and broad economic policy issues in a coherent manner. The guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States, annexed to this Decision, are intrinsically linked with the guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and of the Union, annexed to Council Recommendation [...] of [...]. Together, they form the ‘Europe 2020 integrated guidelines’.

Or. de

Amendment 43
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) These new integrated guidelines reflect the conclusions of the European Council. They give precise guidance to the Member States on defining their national reform programmes and implementing reforms, reflecting interdependence ***and in line with the Stability and Growth Pact.***

Amendment

(16) These new integrated guidelines reflect the conclusions of the European Council. They give precise guidance to the Member States on defining their national reform programmes and implementing reforms, reflecting interdependence. These guidelines will form the basis for any

These guidelines will form the basis for any country-specific recommendations that the Council may address to the Member States. They will also form the basis for the establishment of the Joint Employment Report sent annually by the Council and Commission to the European Council.

country-specific recommendations that the Council may address to the Member States. They will also form the basis for the establishment of the Joint Employment Report sent annually by the Council and Commission to the European Council.

Or. de

Amendment 44
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Recital 17 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(17a) In the meantime the measures taken and their results should be analysed academically and reviewed critically.

Or. de

Amendment 45
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph - 1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

All policies made and measures taken in the framework of the Employment Guidelines shall strongly promote equality for women and men and shall be gender mainstreamed. This includes affirmative action policies aimed at enhancing women's rights and equality. Social protection systems should be reviewed with a view to abolishing elements that generate gender inequalities, better working conditions should be secured in sectors where women are heavily represented, involuntary part time employment decreased and gender

equality in training and education ensured. In this framework, the EU sets a target to reduce the gender pay gap to 0-5% by 2020. Furthermore, the EU sets targets on increased provision of accessible, affordable, flexible and high-quality care services for all, in particular access to child care facilities by aiming to ensure 70% of necessary care for 0-3 year-old children and 100% of care for 3-6 year-old children and will introduce, over the time span of the EU 2020 Strategy, specific targets for the care of other dependents, including the elderly, on the basis of an ongoing assessment of actual and potential care needs.

Or. de

Amendment 46
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States should integrate the flexicurity principles endorsed by the European Council into their labour market policies and apply them, making full use of European Social Fund support with a view to increasing labour market participation and combating segmentation and inactivity, gender inequality, whilst reducing structural unemployment. Measures to enhance flexibility and security should be both balanced and mutually reinforcing. Member States should therefore introduce a combination of flexible and reliable employment contracts, active labour market policies, effective lifelong learning, policies to promote labour mobility, and adequate social security systems to secure professional transitions accompanied by clear rights and responsibilities for the

Amendment

Previous empirical surveys of the EU's labour markets have shown that flexibility of employment has the most deleterious impact on employability, as flexible employment contracts (employment below the level at which social security is compulsory, temporary agency work, fixed-term employment contracts, project work etc.) are associated not only with poorer social protection and smaller incomes but also with a lack of opportunities for further training, professional development and lifelong learning, and that the more flexible employment is, the more precarious it is. Member States should integrate and apply the concept of GOOD WORK, making full use of European Social Fund support with a view to increasing labour market participation and combating segmentation

unemployed to actively seek work.

and involuntary inactivity and gender inequality, whilst reducing structural unemployment. The concept of GOOD WORK puts a strong focus on promoting quality in work, improved social security and social inclusion, introducing new workers rights and enhancing existing ones, promoting health and safety at work, better social risk-management and the reconciliation of work and private life. Strong measures to enhance security by phasing out precarious employment and those atypical contractual arrangements related to such insecure forms of employment should be launched by the Member States, with a view to restricting and reducing atypical forms of employment, the misuse of which should be punished. Member States must therefore introduce a combination of secure and reliable employment contracts, active and integrative labour market policies, effective lifelong learning, policies to support the right to voluntarily-chosen labour mobility, and effective, high quality social security systems to secure professional transitions accompanied by clear rights for the unemployed to adequate benefits and tailor-made measures to find quality employment or training and upgrading of their skills and competencies.

Or. xm

Amendment 47

Ashley Fox on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision

Guideline 7 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States should integrate the flexicurity principles endorsed by the European Council into their labour market policies and apply them, making full use of

Amendment

Member States should integrate the flexicurity principles endorsed by the European Council into their labour market policies and apply them, making full use of

European Social Fund support with a view to increasing labour market participation and combating segmentation and inactivity, gender inequality, whilst reducing structural unemployment. Measures to enhance flexibility **and security should be both balanced and mutually reinforcing**. Member States should therefore introduce a combination of flexible and reliable employment contracts, active labour market policies, effective lifelong learning, policies to promote labour mobility, and adequate social security systems to secure professional transitions accompanied by clear rights and responsibilities for the unemployed to actively seek work.

European Social Fund support with a view to increasing labour market participation and combating segmentation and inactivity, gender inequality, whilst reducing structural unemployment. Measures to enhance **labour-market** flexibility **are essential**. Member States should therefore introduce a combination of flexible and reliable employment contracts, active labour market policies, effective lifelong learning, policies to promote labour mobility, and adequate social security systems to secure professional transitions accompanied by clear rights and responsibilities for the unemployed to actively seek work.

Or. en

Amendment 48 **Thomas Händel**

Proposal for a decision **Guideline 7 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States should **step up** social dialogue and tackle labour market segmentation with measures addressing temporary and precarious employment, underemployment and undeclared work. Professional mobility should be rewarded. The quality of **jobs** and employment conditions **should** be addressed by fighting low-wages and by ensuring **adequate** social security also for those **on fixed** contracts and the self-employed. Employment services **should** be strengthened and open to all, including young people and those threatened by unemployment with personalised services targeting those furthest away from the labour market.

Amendment

Member States should **use** social dialogue and tackle labour market segmentation with measures addressing temporary and precarious employment, **discrimination against women, migrants, older people and people with disabilities**, underemployment and undeclared work. **Undeclared employment should be fought through fiscal measures for low earners and for trades and crafts and through more intensive monitoring by labour inspectorate services and social insurance bodies**. Professional mobility should be rewarded **by measures under employment, social and fiscal legislation**. The quality of **work** and employment conditions **must** be addressed by fighting low-wages and by ensuring **poverty-proof** social security also for those **with precarious and other forms of atypical** contracts and the self-

employed. *Member States should agree an EU target for minimum wages (whether statutory or collectively agreed at national, regional or sectoral level) to guarantee remuneration of at least 60% of the relevant (national, sectoral, etc.) average income and, further, lay down a timetable for achieving that target in all Member States.* Employment services *must* be *effectively* strengthened and open to all, including young people and *in particular* those threatened by *unemployment, and appropriate measures provided within the context of active, inclusive labour market policies*, with personalised services targeting those furthest away from the labour market.

Or. de

Amendment 49
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

In order to *increase competitiveness* and raise participation levels, particularly for the low-skilled, *and in line with economic policy guideline 2*, Member States should *review* tax and benefit systems and the capacity of public services to provide the necessary support. Member States should increase labour force participation through policies to promote *active ageing*, gender equality and equal pay and labour market integration of young people, disabled, *legal* migrants and other vulnerable groups. Work-life balance policies with the provision of affordable care and innovation in work organisation should be geared to raising employment rates, particularly among youth, older workers and women, in particular to retain highly-skilled women in scientific and technical fields. Member

Amendment

In order to *promote environmentally and socially sustainable development and* raise participation levels, particularly for the low-skilled, Member States should *adapt* tax and benefit systems and *increase* the capacity of public services to provide the necessary support. Member States should increase labour force participation through policies to promote *the concept of GOOD WORK*, gender equality and equal pay *for equal work or work of equal value*, and labour market integration of young people, disabled, migrants and other vulnerable groups. *In that respect a European Youth Guarantee securing the right of every young person in the EU to be offered a suitable well-paid job in line with their qualifications and skills, an apprenticeship, additional training or*

States should also remove barriers to labour market entry for newcomers, support self-employment and job creation in areas including green employment and *care* and promote social innovation.

combined work and training immediately upon facing unemployment is necessary. Work-life balance policies with the provision of affordable care and innovation in work organisation should be geared to ***a reduction of working time without loss of pay and thus*** raising employment rates, particularly among youth, older workers and women, in particular to retain highly-skilled women in scientific and technical fields. ***Furthermore, work-life balance policies should strengthen security in terms of employment transition based on good job protection by enhancing social rights and social protection to prevent risks to income and to ensure the maintenance and acquisition of pension rights and health-care coverage etc. during employment transitions, and also during leave periods (e.g. for caring for dependent persons, further training and education, sabbaticals etc.).*** Member States should ***promote the reconciliation of work and private life also by a clear reduction of the average weekly working time as well as a clear lowering of the weekly statutory maximum working hours and a strict limitation of overtime hours.*** ***Member States should also*** remove barriers to labour market entry for newcomers, support self-employment and job creation in areas including green employment and ***high-valued, in particular social services***, and promote social innovation. ***Access to labour market for young people and newcomers should be enabled by limiting effectively working life.***

Or. en

Amendment 50
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

In order to increase competitiveness and raise participation levels, particularly for the low-skilled, and in line with economic policy guideline 2, Member States should review tax and benefit systems and the capacity of public services to provide the necessary support. Member States should increase labour force participation through policies to promote active ageing, gender equality and equal pay and labour market integration of young people, disabled, legal migrants and other vulnerable groups. Work-life balance policies with the provision of affordable care and innovation in work organisation should be geared to raising employment rates, particularly among youth, older workers and women, in particular to retain highly-skilled women in scientific and technical fields. Member States should also remove barriers to labour market entry for newcomers, support self-employment and job creation in areas including green employment and care and promote social innovation.

Amendment

In order to increase competitiveness and raise participation levels, particularly for the low-skilled, and in line with economic policy guideline 2, Member States should review tax and benefit systems and the capacity of public services to provide the necessary support. Member States should increase labour force participation through policies to promote active ageing, gender equality and equal pay and labour market integration of young people, disabled, legal migrants and other vulnerable groups. Work-life balance policies with the provision of affordable care and innovation in work organisation should be geared to raising employment rates, particularly among youth, older workers and women, in particular to retain highly-skilled women in scientific and technical fields. Member States should also remove barriers to labour market entry for newcomers, support self-employment and job creation in areas including green employment and care and promote social innovation. ***In enhancing the functioning and performance of the labour market, Member States should actively engage social partners in national policy elaboration and should fully respect their right– in accordance with national laws and practices – to conclude and enforce collective agreements.***

Or. en

Amendment 51
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU headline target, on the basis of

Amendment

The EU headline target, on the basis of

which Member States will set their national targets, is of aiming to bring by 2020 to 75% the employment rate for women and men aged 20-64 including through the greater participation of youth, older workers and low skilled workers and the better integration of *legal* migrants.

which Member States will set their national targets, is of aiming to bring by 2020 to 75% the employment rate for women and men aged 20-64 including through the greater participation of youth, older workers - *especially older women* - and low skilled workers and the better integration of migrants.

Or. de

Amendment 52
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 7 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is of aiming to bring by 2020 to 75% the employment *rate* for women and men aged 20-64 including through the greater participation of youth, older workers and low skilled workers and the better integration of legal migrants.

Amendment

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is of aiming to bring by 2020 to *at least* 75% the employment *rates* for *both* women and men aged 20-64 including through the greater participation of youth, older workers and low skilled workers and the better integration of legal migrants.

Or. en

Amendment 53
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 8 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

Guideline 8: *Developing a skilled workforce responding to labour market needs*, promoting *job quality and* lifelong learning

Amendment

Guideline 8: *Improving the level of education and training and further training among employees and* promoting lifelong learning

Or. de

Amendment 54
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States should promote ***productivity and employability through an adequate supply of knowledge and skills to match current and future demand in the labour market.*** Quality initial education and attractive vocational training must be complemented with effective incentives for lifelong learning, second-chance opportunities, ensuring every adult the chance to move one step up in their qualification, and by targeted migration and integration policies. Member States ***should*** develop systems for recognising acquired competencies, remove barriers to occupational and geographical mobility of workers, promote the acquisition of transversal competences and creativity, ***and*** focus their efforts particularly on supporting those with low skills and ***increasing the employability of older workers***, while at the same time enhance the training, skills and experience of ***highly*** skilled workers, including researchers.

Amendment

Member States should promote ***a broad*** supply of knowledge and skills ***in order that workers, under the conditions of permanent processes of restructuring and change in all three sectors of the labour market, can obtain a permanent, full-time job which ensures them a livelihood and enables social and cultural involvement.*** Quality initial education and attractive vocational training must be complemented with effective incentives for lifelong learning, second-chance opportunities, ensuring every adult ***at any time*** the chance to move one step up in their qualification, and by targeted migration and integration policies. Member States ***must*** develop systems for recognising acquired competencies, remove barriers to occupational and geographical mobility of workers, promote the acquisition of transversal competences and creativity, focus their efforts particularly on supporting those with low skills, and ***combat discrimination in connection with access to education and training and further training***, while at the same time enhance the training, skills and experience of skilled workers, including researchers.

Or. de

Amendment 55
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

In cooperation with social partners and business, Member States should improve access to training, strengthen education and career guidance combined with systematic information on new job openings and opportunities, promotion of **entrepreneurship** and enhanced anticipation of skill needs. Investment in **human resource** development, up-skilling and participation in lifelong learning schemes should be promoted through joint financial contributions from governments, **individuals** and employers. To support young people and in particular those not in employment, education or training, Member States in cooperation with the social partners, should enact schemes to help **recent graduates** find initial employment or further education and training opportunities, including apprenticeships, and intervene rapidly when young people become unemployed. Regular monitoring of the performance of up-skilling and anticipation policies should help identify areas for improvement and **increase the responsiveness of** education and training systems **to labour market needs**. EU funds should be fully mobilised by Member States to support these objectives.

Amendment

In cooperation with **the** social partners and business, Member States should improve access to training, strengthen education and career guidance combined with systematic information on, **and appropriate measures to promote**, new job openings and opportunities, promotion of **business involvement in education and training and further training** and enhanced anticipation of skill needs. Investment in **personnel planning and** development, up-skilling and participation in lifelong learning schemes should be promoted through joint financial contributions from governments and employers. To support young people and in particular those not in employment, education or training, Member States in cooperation with the social partners, should enact schemes to help **young people with or without a school leaving qualification** find initial employment or further education and training opportunities, including apprenticeships, and intervene rapidly when young people become unemployed. Regular monitoring of the performance of up-skilling and anticipation policies should help identify areas for improvement and **make** education and training systems **more geared towards growth fields of work of the future**. EU funds should be fully mobilised by Member States to support these objectives.

Or. de

Amendment 56 **Thomas Händel**

Proposal for a decision **Guideline 9 – paragraph 1**

Text proposed by the Commission

In order to ensure access to quality education and training for all and to improve educational outcomes, Member States should invest efficiently in education and training systems notably to raise the skill level of the EU's workforce, allowing it to **meet** the rapidly changing **needs of modern labour markets**. Action should cover all sectors (from early childhood education and schools through to higher education, vocational education and training, as well as adult training) taking also into account learning in informal and non-formal contexts. Reforms should aim to ensure the acquisition of the key competencies that every individual needs for success in a knowledge-based economy, notably in terms of employability, further learning, or ICT skills. Steps should be taken to ensure learning mobility of young people and teachers **becomes the norm**. Member States should improve the openness and relevance of education and training systems, particularly by implementing national qualification frameworks enabling **flexible** learning pathways and by developing partnerships between the worlds of education/training and work. The teaching profession should be made more attractive. Higher education should become more open to non-traditional learners and participation in tertiary or equivalent education should be increased. With a view to reducing the number of young people not in employment, education, or training, Member States should take all necessary steps to prevent early school leaving.

Amendment

In order to ensure access to quality education and training for all and to improve educational outcomes, Member States should invest efficiently in education and training **and further training** systems notably to raise the skill level of the EU's workforce, allowing it to **respond to** the rapidly changing **world of work**. Action should cover all sectors (from early childhood education and schools through to higher education, vocational education and training, as well as adult training) taking also into account learning in informal and non-formal contexts. Reforms should aim to ensure the acquisition of the key competencies that every individual needs for success in a knowledge-based economy, notably in terms of employability, further learning, or ICT skills. Steps should be taken to ensure learning mobility of young people and teachers **is facilitated**. Member States should improve the openness and relevance of education and training systems, particularly by implementing national qualification frameworks enabling **open** learning pathways, **including for those who are older**, and by developing partnerships between the worlds of education/training and work. The teaching profession should be made more attractive. Higher education should become more open to non-traditional learners and participation in tertiary or equivalent education should be increased. With a view to reducing the number of young people not in employment, education, or training, Member States should take all necessary steps to prevent early school leaving. **For people who, for various reasons, are unable to participate in these systems, social protection which goes further than preventing poverty should be guaranteed. For people who, because of illness and/or disability, are no longer able to practise**

their previous occupation, special vocational further training and/or retraining measures should be provided.

Or. de

Amendment 57
Hans-Peter Martin

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 9 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU headline **target**, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, **is** to reduce the drop out rate to 10%, whilst increasing the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary or equivalent education to at least 40% in 2020.

Amendment

The EU headline **targets**, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, **are** to reduce the drop out rate to 10%, whilst increasing the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary or equivalent education to at least 40% in 2020. ***In line with the recognised OECD calculations, each Member State should give over at least 6% of its GDP to private and public expenditure on educational establishments in all areas of education.***

Or. de

Amendment 58
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 9 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is to reduce the drop out rate to 10%, whilst increasing the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary **or equivalent** education to at least 40% in 2020.

Amendment

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is to reduce the drop out rate to 10%, whilst increasing the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary education to at least 40% in 2020.

Or. de

Amendment 59
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States' efforts to reduce poverty should be aimed at promoting full participation in society and economy and extending employment opportunities, making full use of the European Social Fund. Efforts should also concentrate on **ensuring** equal opportunities, **including** through access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services and public services (including online services, in line with guideline 4) and in particular health care. Member States should put in place effective anti-discrimination measures. Equally, to fight social exclusion, empower people and promote labour market participation, social protection systems, lifelong learning and active inclusion policies should be enhanced to create opportunities at different stages of people's lives and shield them from the risk of exclusion. Social security and pension systems must be modernised to ensure that they can be fully deployed to ensure **adequate income support** and access to healthcare — thus providing social cohesion — **whilst at the same time remaining financially sustainable**. Benefit systems should focus on ensuring income security during transitions and reducing poverty, in particular among groups most at risk from social exclusion, such as **one-parent families**, minorities, people with disabilities, children and young people, elderly women and men, **legal** migrants and the homeless. Member States should also actively promote the social economy and social **innovation in support** of the most vulnerable.

Amendment

To achieve this goal, Member States should intensify efforts to eliminate poverty, including working poor conditions. Efforts should be aimed at promoting full participation, **of people's own deciding**, in **politics**, society, **the arts**, and **the** economy and extending employment opportunities, making full use of the European Social Fund. Efforts should also concentrate on **maintaining and bringing about both** equal opportunities **and** access to affordable, sustainable and **high-quality** services and public services (including online services, in line with guideline 4) and in particular health care, **specifically as regards social welfare, employment, health, and neighbourhood services**. Member States should put in place **active and** effective anti-discrimination measures. Equally, to fight social exclusion, empower people and promote labour market participation, social protection systems, lifelong learning and active inclusion policies should be enhanced to create opportunities at different stages of people's lives and shield them from the risk of exclusion. Social security and pension systems must be modernised to ensure that they can be fully deployed to ensure **income above the poverty threshold** and access to healthcare — thus providing social cohesion. Benefit systems should focus on ensuring income security during transitions and reducing poverty, in particular among groups most at risk from social exclusion, such as minorities, people with disabilities, children and young people, elderly women

and men, migrants and the homeless.
Member States should agree on an EU-wide commitment to ending street homelessness by 2015 and seek to frame integrated policy measures offering access to affordable decent housing with the necessary energy provision for all. The Council should agree on an EU target for minimum income systems and contribution-based income substitute benefit systems, whereby the income support provided should be not less than 60% of the national median equivalised income, and, in addition, on a compliance schedule. With a view to eliminating child poverty in the EU, Member States should undertake to achieve a 50% reduction by 2012, on the understanding that such a cut should not be measured by economic indicators alone, and should make the necessary provision to attain that goal. The fact that a child, in particular for one-parent families, should constitute a poverty risk is incompatible with the aims of the EU. The parents concerned should be shielded from that risk by means of free childcare, social support, and tailor-made support from employment agencies.
 Member States should also actively promote the social economy and social ***innovations designed to address the different social risks which arise during people's lifetime, especially where the most vulnerable are concerned.***

Or. de

Amendment 60
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States' efforts to reduce poverty should be aimed at promoting full

Amendment

Member States' efforts to reduce poverty should be aimed at promoting full

participation in society and economy and extending employment opportunities, making full use of the European Social Fund. Efforts should also concentrate on ensuring equal opportunities, including through access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services and public services (including online services, in line with guideline 4) and in particular health care. Member States should put in place effective anti-discrimination measures. Equally, to fight social exclusion, empower people and promote labour market participation, social protection systems, lifelong learning and active inclusion policies should be enhanced to create opportunities at different stages of people's lives and shield them from the risk of exclusion. Social security and pension systems must be modernised to ensure that they can be fully deployed to ensure adequate income support and access to healthcare — thus providing social cohesion — whilst at the same time remaining financially sustainable. Benefit systems should focus on ensuring income security during transitions and reducing poverty, in particular among groups most at risk from social exclusion, such as one-parent families, minorities, people with disabilities, children and young people, elderly women and men, legal migrants and the homeless. Member States should also actively promote the social economy and social innovation in support of the most vulnerable.

participation in society and economy and extending employment opportunities, making full use of the European Social Fund. Efforts should also concentrate on ensuring equal opportunities, including through access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services and public services (including online services, in line with guideline 4) and in particular health care. Member States should put in place effective anti-discrimination measures. Equally, to fight social exclusion, empower people and promote labour market participation, social protection systems, lifelong learning and active inclusion policies should be enhanced to create opportunities at different stages of people's lives and shield them from the risk of exclusion. Social security and pension systems must be modernised to ensure that they can be fully deployed to ensure adequate income support and access to healthcare — thus providing social cohesion — whilst at the same time remaining financially sustainable. Benefit systems should focus on ensuring income security during transitions and reducing poverty, in particular among groups most at risk from social exclusion, such as one-parent families, minorities, people with disabilities, children and young people, elderly women and men, legal migrants and the homeless. Member States should also actively promote the social economy and social innovation in support of the most vulnerable. ***In enhancing the sustainability of public finances, Member States should pay particular attention to the positive effects that improvements in social cohesion have on national budgets. Reduced poverty and enhanced participation lead to decreases in social expenditures and increased tax revenues.***

Or. en

Amendment 61
Thomas Händel

Proposal for a decision
Guideline 10 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is to reduce by **25%** the number of **Europeans** living below the national poverty lines, **lifting over 20 million people out of poverty**.

Amendment

The EU headline target, on the basis of which Member States will set their national targets, is to **eliminate poverty and, as a first step, reduce by 50 % by 2015** the number of **people in the European Union** living below the national poverty lines.

Or. de