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*Committee on Culture and Education*

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**2009/0072(CNS)**

13.11.2009

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **21 - 90**

**Draft report**  
**Marco Scurria**  
(PE430.366v01-00)

Proposal for a Council decision on the European Year of Volunteering (2011)

Proposal for a decision  
(COM(2009)0254 – C7-0054/2009 – 2009/0072(CNS))



**Amendment 21**  
**Emma McClarkin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital -1 (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(-1) The "European Year of Volunteering" will emphasise that volunteering is a key expression of active citizenship and democracy and is especially important in fostering community spirit.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*Volunteering can play a vital role in fostering community spirit and this should be recognised within this legislation.*

**Amendment 22**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(1a) Encouraging active citizenship is a key element in strengthening cohesion and the development of democracy and Europe's position in the world.***

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) ***Volunteering constitutes*** a non-formal learning experience which enables ***both*** the development of professional skills and competences as well as a major form of active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial ***to the development of*** democracy, ***one of the founding principles of the European Union, and contribute to the development of human resources and*** to the social cohesion.

*Amendment*

(3) ***Voluntary activities constitute*** a non-formal learning experience which enables the development of professional ***and social*** skills and competences as well as a major form of active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial ***to better management of the public sphere and to the promotion of citizenship and of more participatory*** democracy. ***Voluntary activities contribute to the harmonious development of European society with regard to solidarity and the fight against all forms of discrimination. They contribute*** to the social cohesion ***and the prosperity of the European Union.***

Or. fr

*Justification*

*The development of human resources is an ambiguous term borrowed from economics which is not appropriate for voluntary activities. It is necessary to define their scope better and to see to it that voluntary activities contribute to the prosperity of our society. It is important to promote their role in order to contribute to more participatory democracy.*

**Amendment 24**  
**Knut Fleckenstein**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) ***Volunteering constitutes*** a non-formal learning experience which ***enables both*** the development of ***professional*** skills and competences ***as well as*** a major form of

*Amendment*

(3) ***Voluntary activities constitute*** a ***rich*** non-formal learning experience which ***enable*** the development of ***social*** skills and competences, ***contribute to solidarity and***

active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy, one of the founding principles of the European Union, **and** contribute to the development of **human resources and to the social cohesion**.

**constitute** a major form of active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy, one of the founding principles of the European Union. **Voluntary activities have the potential to contribute to the personal growth and well-being of individuals and the harmonious development of European societies in terms of solidarity, social inclusion and prosperity**.

Or. en

## **Amendment 25** **Marietje Schaake**

### **Proposal for a decision** **Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) Volunteering **constitutes a non-formal learning experience which enables both the development of professional skills and competences as well as a major form of active civic participation**. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy, one of the founding principles of the European Union, **and contribute to the development of human resources and to the social cohesion**.

*Amendment*

(3) Volunteering **promotes and encourages partnership and active citizenship which puts European Values such as solidarity and non-discrimination into action**. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy - **in particular participative democracy** - , one of the founding principles of the European Union.

Or. en

### *Justification*

*True democracy encompasses representative democracy (politicians) and participative democracy (citizens who influence by participating and by action). The amendment highlights and underlines the key role played by volunteering in the current social environment. Citizens that actively take part in the construction of European societies should be supported in their activity. Volunteering plays a key element in the current social context. Volunteering constitutes a learning experience which enhances professional skills, develops social skills, which is already mentioned in recital 14.*

**Amendment 26**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) Volunteering constitutes a non-formal learning experience which enables both the development of professional skills and competences as well as a major form of active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy, one of the founding principles of the European Union, and contribute to the development of human resources and to the social cohesion.

*Amendment*

(3) Volunteering constitutes a non-formal learning experience which enables both the development of professional skills and competences as well as a major form of active civic participation. Actions carried out by volunteers of all ages are crucial to the development of democracy, one of the founding principles of the European Union **and to the promotion of human rights within and outside the European Union**, and **they** contribute to the development of human resources and to the social cohesion.

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Licia Ronzulli**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(3a) The term "voluntary activities" refers to all forms of voluntary activity, whether formal, non-formal, informal and vocational training , which are undertaken of a person's own free-will, choice and motivation, and are without concern for financial gain. They benefit the individual volunteer, communities and society as a whole. They are also a vehicle for individuals and associations to address human, social or environmental needs and concerns, especially when they are***

*faced with emergency situations that can involve society as a whole. Such activities are often carried out in support of a non-profit organisation or community-based initiative. Voluntary activities do not replace professional, paid employment opportunities, but add value to society by virtue of their social and cultural aims.*

Or. en

*Justification*

*Underline and highlight the important role played by the vocational training in the voluntary activities. Vocational training plays a key role in the personal growth and well-being of individuals, apportioning an added value to the society.*

**Amendment 28**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(3a) Active engagement in voluntary activities, particularly during a period of economic crisis and increased unemployment, provides concrete support for people to enable them to avoid marginalisation and facilitate social integration and participation in society and the labour market.*

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Hans-Peter Martin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) In fast-changing societies there is a need to ensure the effectiveness of volunteer-supporting infrastructure to allow more people to engage in voluntary activities. It is therefore important to support peer-learning and the exchange of good practices at Community level.

*Amendment*

(4) In fast-changing societies, ***and taking into account the disappearance of established social and family safety nets, which is connected with that process of change,*** there is a need to ensure the effectiveness of volunteer-supporting infrastructure to allow more people to engage in voluntary activities. It is therefore important to support peer-learning and the exchange of good practices at Community, ***national, regional and local*** level.

Or. de

**Amendment 30**  
**Ivo Belet**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) In fast-changing societies there is a need to ensure ***the effectiveness of volunteer-supporting infrastructure*** to allow more people to engage in ***voluntary activities***. It is therefore important to support peer-learning and the exchange of good practices at Community level.

*Amendment*

(4) In fast-changing societies there is a need to ensure ***effective support and to implement measures for voluntary activities*** to allow more people to engage in ***them***. It is therefore important to support peer-learning and the exchange ***and development*** of good practices at Community, ***national, regional and local*** level, ***for example through the establishment of a web portal***.

Or. en



**Amendment 31**  
**Silvia Costa**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 12 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(12a) Volunteering is an essential element of active citizenship, nurturing civil society and strengthening solidarity.***

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe which should be preserved and developed further.***

***(13) Voluntary activities have considerable importance in Europe; they should be preserved and developed further, in particular by ensuring that European rules do not ultimately serve to hamper them, owing to a failure to conduct impact studies which take account of their specific characteristics. This is the case, inter alia, for services of general interest.***

Or. fr

*Justification*

*Les activités bénévoles permettent à un grand nombre d'associations de réaliser de nombreuses missions. L'élaboration et l'application des règles européennes dans divers domaines d'intervention des associations en les considérant comme les activités économiques ni leurs spécificités. Il est notamment nécessaire d'intégrer le rôle des bénévoles afin qu'elles puissent poursuivre leurs missions, faute de quoi certaines activités qu'elles prennent en charge ne seraient plus assurées ou accessibles au plus grand nombre, entre autres dans le domaine des services d'intérêt général.*

**Amendment 33**  
**Magdi Cristiano Allam**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe which should be preserved and developed further.

*Amendment*

(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe which should be preserved and developed further, ***including youth work, for example, a form of extra-scholastic education organised by professionals or by voluntary youth workers in the context of youth organisations, local councils, youth centres, and churches, which contributes to the development of young people.***

Or. it

*Justification*

*La Comunicazione della Commissione Europea, COM (2009) 200 definitivo (Una strategia dell'Unione europea per investire nei giovani e conferire loro maggiori responsabilità. Un metodo aperto di coordinamento rinnovato per affrontare le sfide e le prospettive della gioventù) afferma che "L'animazione socioeducativa è una forma di educazione extrascolastica organizzata da professionisti o da "animatori socioeducativi" volontari nell'ambito di organizzazioni della gioventù, di municipi, di centri della gioventù, di chiese, ecc. e che contribuisce allo sviluppo dei giovani. Col sostegno delle famiglie e di altri professionisti, può aiutare a lottare contro la disoccupazione, l'insuccesso scolastico, l'esclusione sociale e servire al tempo stesso come attività per il tempo libero. Può inoltre sviluppare le competenze dei giovani e agevolare la transizione tra l'adolescenza e l'età adulta".*

**Amendment 34**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe

*Amendment*

(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe

which should be preserved and developed further.

which should be preserved and developed further, *starting with sporting activities which broadly rely on volunteering.*

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Hans-Peter Martin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) There exists a large variety of voluntary activities throughout Europe which should be *preserved* and developed further.

*Amendment*

(13) There exists a large variety *and long tradition* of voluntary activities throughout Europe which should be *protected* and developed further.

Or. de

**Amendment 36**  
**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 13 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(13a) The European Year of Volunteering should offer an opportunity to encourage the Member States to create legal certainty for volunteers as regards their legal status and the working conditions based on the UN and ILO definitions of volunteering.*

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 14 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14a) Voluntary activities should not replace professional paid employment but add value and enhance quality of life. In this respect, voluntary activities should neither substitute the responsibility of public authorities as regards universal services nor be exploited as a means of meeting basic social service needs.***

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 14 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14a) Every individual should be enabled to volunteer. With a view to furthering individual development and participation, asylum seekers, refugees and legally resident immigrants should be increasingly enabled to play a role in volunteering activities, particularly when they are unable to be employed.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*Allowing asylumseekers to engage in volunteer work while awaiting the result of their asylum procedure creates room for individual development and participation in European societies in a constructive manner, benefitting both European societies and the bonds with countries of origin.*

**Amendment 39**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 14 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14b) Volunteering can contribute to fighting poverty and to achieving social and economic development, through actions carried out within the European Union and in third countries.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*Volunteering can contribute to social and economical development outside the EU, as many Europeans carry out voluntary activities in developing countries. From an international perspective, volunteering is an expression of solidarity with the developing world and an acknowledgement of the inter-dependence of all communities in an increasingly globalised world and the role Europe has to play in it.*

**Amendment 40**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 14 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14c) As part of their strategy for Corporate Social Responsibility employers could support and encourage volunteering activities.***

Or. en

**Amendment 41**

**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Recital 15**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. A European Year of Volunteering will provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering increases civic participation. It can help foster a sense of belonging and commitment **of citizens** to their society at all levels — local, regional, national and European.

*Amendment*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. A European Year of Volunteering will provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering increases civic participation. It can help **to** foster **among citizens** a sense of belonging and commitment to their society at all levels – local, regional, national and European – **and to encourage Member States to combat discrimination, making it possible for foreign residents in every Member State to work as volunteers for not-for-profit organisations or to do unpaid work.**

Or. en

*Justification*

*If volunteering is intended to strengthen social cohesion in Europe, it must serve to combat discrimination in all its forms and must therefore have a status which makes it accessible to all residents in every Member State, including the nationals of third countries and countries which do not have partnerships with the EU.*

**Amendment 42**

**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Recital 15**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. A European Year of Volunteering will provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering

*Amendment*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. A European Year of Volunteering will provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering

increases civic participation. It can help foster a sense of belonging and commitment **of citizens** to their society at all levels — local, regional, national and European.

increases civic participation. It can help **to** foster **among citizens** a sense of belonging and commitment to their society at all levels – local, regional, national and European – **and to encourage Member States to make it possible for foreign residents, including asylum seekers, in every Member State to work as volunteers for not-for-profit organisations or to do unpaid work.**

Or. en

### *Justification*

*If volunteering is intended to strengthen social cohesion in Europe, it must serve to combat discrimination in all its forms and must therefore have a status which makes it accessible to all residents in every Member State, including the nationals of third countries and countries which do not have partnerships with the EU.*

### **Amendment 43** **Hans-Peter Martin**

#### **Proposal for a decision** **Recital 15**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. A European Year of Volunteering will provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering increases civic participation. It can help foster a sense of belonging and commitment of citizens to their society at all levels — local, regional, national and European.

##### *Amendment*

(15) Despite this, the potential of volunteering is still not fully realised. **Furthermore, at European level until now the work which those who volunteer in their free time perform has not been formally acknowledged.** A European Year of Volunteering will **therefore** provide the opportunity to demonstrate in a European context that volunteering increases civic participation. It can help foster a sense of belonging and commitment of citizens to their society at all levels — local, regional, national and European.

Or. de

**Amendment 44**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 15 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(15a) Member States should be encouraged to minimise bureaucratic constraints which hinder volunteers in carrying out voluntary activities.***

Or. en

**Amendment 45**  
**Silvia Costa**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 16**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(16) The Year 2011 will be the 10th Anniversary of the 2001 International Year of Volunteers of the United Nations.

***(16) 5 December is the International Volunteer Day and*** the Year 2011 will be the 10th Anniversary of the 2001 International Year of Volunteers of the United Nations.

Or. en

**Amendment 46**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 16 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(16a) Apart from its social role, volunteering has an economic value and makes a significant contribution to the economy.***



*Justification*

*Already over 31 countries use the UN Handbook - e.g. US, Canada, Czech Republic, Belgium etc. It is recognised as an accurate statistical tool in measuring the contribution to GDP of the Not for Profit Sector (between 5 & 8% of GDP).*

**Amendment 47**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 16 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(16b) Volunteering plays a vital role in preserving the stability and cohesion of societies and makes a significant economic contribution during a period of economic crisis, supporting people in their participation in society and reintegration into the labour market.***

**Amendment 48**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Recital 18**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(18) The objectives of the proposed European Year cannot be fully achieved at Member States level due to the need for transnational exchange of information and the Community-wide dissemination of good practice, and can therefore, by reason of the scale of the proposed action, be better achieved at Community level. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in Article 5 of

(18) The objectives of the proposed European Year cannot be fully achieved at Member States level due to the need for transnational exchange of information and the Community-wide dissemination of good practice, and can therefore, by reason of the scale of the proposed action, be better achieved at Community level.  
***Nevertheless, coordination between local, regional, national and Community levels***

the EC Treaty, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary to achieve those objectives,

*should not be undervalued.* In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in Article 5 of the EC Treaty, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary to achieve those objectives,

Or. en

**Amendment 49**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The year 2011 shall be designated as the 'European Year of Volunteering' (hereinafter referred to as 'the European Year').

*Amendment*

*(Does not affect English version.)*

Or. fr

*Justification*

*(Does not affect English version.)*

**Amendment 50**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The overall purpose of the European Year shall be to encourage and support — notably through the exchange of experience and good practices — the efforts of the Member States, local and regional authorities and civil society to create the conditions conducive to

*Amendment*

The overall purpose of the European Year shall be to encourage and support — notably through the exchange of experience and good practices — the efforts of the Member States, local and regional authorities and civil society to create the conditions conducive to

volunteering in the European Union.

volunteering in the European Union, ***also taking into account the important contribution that volunteering can make towards fighting poverty and promoting social and economic development outside the European Union.***

Or. en

**Amendment 51**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Work towards an enabling environment for volunteering in the EU - To anchor volunteering as part of promoting civic participation and people-to-people activities in an EU context.

*Amendment*

1. Work towards an enabling environment for volunteering in the EU - To anchor volunteering as part of promoting civic participation and people-to-people activities in an EU context ***and stimulate dialogue over unnecessary administrative burdens which hinder volunteers in carrying out voluntary activities.***

Or. en

**Amendment 52**  
**Georgios Papanikolaou**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and synergies between volunteer organisations and other sectors in an EU context.

*Amendment*

2. Empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and synergies between volunteer organisations and other sectors in an EU context ***by encouraging initiatives in human and environmental emergency situations both***

*in terms of preventing and dealing with them and by properly educating volunteers to deal with and effectively face urgent cases.*

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Chrysoula Paliadeli, Sylvana Rapti**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and synergies between volunteer organisations and other sectors in an EU context.

*Amendment*

2. Empower volunteer organisations **with respect to their aims, priorities and autonomy** and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and synergies between volunteer organisations and other sectors in an EU context.

Or. en

*Justification*

*While empowering these organisations in order to avoid manipulation by any means, we should safeguard their autonomy.*

**Amendment 54**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and synergies between volunteer organisations

*Amendment*

2. Empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering - To facilitate volunteering **by simplifying the conditions required** and to encourage networking, mobility, cooperation and

and other sectors in an EU context.

synergies between volunteer organisations and other sectors in an EU context.

Or. en

#### **Amendment 55**

**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 3**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Reward and recognise volunteering activities - To encourage appropriate incentives for individuals, companies and volunteer-development organisations and gain more systematic recognition for volunteering at EU level and in the Member States by policy makers, civil society organisations and employers for skills and competences developed through volunteering.

##### *Amendment*

3. Reward and recognise volunteering activities - To encourage appropriate incentives for individuals, companies and volunteer-development organisations - ***including proper health and safety cover for volunteers in the form of accident and personal liability insurance during periods of voluntary work, effective acknowledgement of the skills that volunteers acquire in the form of validation of experience and the recognition of equivalence for the purposes of training and job seeking*** - and gain more systematic recognition for volunteering at EU level and in the Member States by policy makers, civil society organisations and employers for skills and competences developed through volunteering.

Or. en

#### **Amendment 56**

**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 3 a (new)**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

##### *Amendment*

***3a. Encourage international and***

*European solidarity by promoting peace, North-South cooperation and protection of the environment, as well as recognition of the solidarity-based social economy through volunteering.*

Or. en

*Justification*

*Given that the promotion of volunteering reflects a will to strengthen social cohesion both locally and at European and, indeed, international level, it must serve to encourage solidarity between nations and individuals.*

**Amendment 57**

**Silvia Costa**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4a. Draw up a White Paper on Volunteering – To foster an enabling environment for volunteering in the EU.**

Or. en

**Amendment 58**

**Emma McClarkin**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4a. Foster the recognition of volunteering success both within and between Member States in order to ensure that good practice and successful volunteering strategies can easily be spread throughout the European Union.**

*Justification*

*A vital part of the European year should be to ensure that volunteering successes can be replicated throughout all the different parts and countries of the European Union.*

**Amendment 59**

**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- dissemination of results of related studies and research;

*Amendment*

- dissemination of ***the statistics and the*** results of related studies and research ***with particular regard to gender equality;***

Or. fr

*Justification*

*The aim is to include voluntary activities in Community action on gender equality.*

**Amendment 60**

**Emma McClarkin**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- conferences, events and initiatives to promote debate and raise awareness of the importance and value of volunteering and to celebrate the efforts of volunteers;

*Amendment*

- conferences, events and initiatives to promote ***both dialogue and*** debate and ***to*** raise awareness of the importance and value of volunteering and to celebrate the efforts of volunteers;

Or. en

*Justification*

*Both dialogue and debate are vital means of raising awareness of volunteering.*

**Amendment 61**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- information and promotion campaigns to disseminate key messages.

*Amendment*

- information and promotion campaigns to disseminate key messages *specifically through the use of new media and the Internet;*

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- information and promotion campaigns to disseminate key messages.

*Amendment*

- information and promotion campaigns to disseminate key messages *and the creation of a European portal to do this.*

Or. fr

*Justification*

*As an adjunct to the information and promotion campaigns, it is necessary to create a site to put across the campaign messages.*



**Amendment 63**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

- ***A European database of organisations involved in volunteering, including both their completed and ongoing projects and also their future initiatives.***

Or. en

**Amendment 64**  
**Hans-Peter Martin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

- ***design and creation of a European online database of the actors and organisations active in this field, with a view to better networking and communication between them.***

Or. de

**Amendment 65**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

- ***establishment of a European database of the stakeholders and organisations involved in a volunteering area;***

Or. en

**Amendment 66**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – bullet point 4 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

- ***Promote the use of volunteer time as matching funding for European projects;***

Or. en

**Amendment 67**  
**Silvia Costa**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Article 3a***

***White paper on volunteering***

***1. The Commission shall draw up a White Paper on Volunteering in order to foster an enabling environment for volunteering in the EU.***

***The White Paper on Volunteering shall analyse the different types of volunteering and its regulation across Europe but also the recognition of volunteer status and volunteering organisations' rights and tax breaks.***

***It shall propose actions to promote, recognise, facilitate and support volunteering in order to realise its full potential.***

***It shall also identify the needs and specific characteristics of volunteering in the European Union.***

***Furthermore, given the horizontal feature of volunteering, it shall identify the***

*conditions for volunteering to be taken into consideration in different EU policies and funds.*

*Lastly, it shall open up future prospects for volunteering at European level, while respecting the principle of subsidiarity and the independence of voluntary organisations.*

*2. The White Paper on Volunteering shall elaborate an innovative framework of the EU policies in this area.*

Or. en

**Amendment 68**  
**Chrysoula Paliadeli, Sylvana Rapti**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Each Member State shall appoint a body responsible for organising its participation in the European Year (hereinafter referred to as national coordinating body). It shall inform the Commission of that appointment within one month of the adoption of this Decision.

*Amendment*

Each Member State shall appoint a body responsible for organising its participation in the European Year (hereinafter referred to as national coordinating body), ***which shall coordinate the different volunteer organisations at national level.*** It shall inform the Commission of that appointment within one month of the adoption of this Decision.

Or. en

*Justification*

*The national coordinating body will be the body responsible to bring together, coordinate and organize the various voluntary organizations.*

**Amendment 69**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level.

*Amendment*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level, ***particularly when drafting the national work programme and national measure(s), for the entire duration of the European Year. Special attention must be paid in each national programme to the simplification of administrative procedures, inter alia by facilitating access to funding for small associations with limited resources.***

Or. fr

*Justification*

*The complex administrative procedures for association funding impose a large number of conditions which prevent associations with limited resources from participating. It is necessary to devise ways of simplifying these associations' access to European funds, particularly for this European Year.*

**Amendment 70**  
**Róza Thun Und Hohenstein**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level.

*Amendment*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level, ***in particular when drawing up the national work programme/action(s) and whenever appropriate during the implementation of the European Year. The funds foreseen to***

***fulfil the objectives of the Year shall be granted to civil society organisations involved directly with voluntary activities and work.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*So as to use the funds in the best way they should be granted by the national coordinating body directly to organisations dealing with volunteers and voluntary activities.*

**Amendment 71**

**Chrysoula Paliadeli, Sylvana Rapti**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 4 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level.

*Amendment*

Each Member State shall ensure that the aforementioned body properly involves a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional and local level. ***The selection of the members of the body shall be carried out on the basis of the following criteria: representativeness, transparency, accountability and merit.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*It is important to put strict criteria for the selection of the members of the national coordinating body.*

**Amendment 72**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***The Commission shall ensure permanent communication and coordination between the local, regional, national and community levels.***

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Knut Fleckenstein**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The Member States, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions will be associated in the activities.

The Member States, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions will be ***closely*** associated in the activities ***in order to achieve the added value that an exchange of best practices at Community level, including between the EU institutions, entails.***

Or. en

**Amendment 74**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is

**EUR 6 000 000.**

**EUR 15 000 000.**

Or. fr

**Amendment 75**  
**Hans-Peter Martin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is  
**EUR 6 000 000.**

*Amendment*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is  
**EUR 15 000 000.**

Or. de

**Amendment 76**  
**Malika Benarab-Attou, Karima Delli**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is  
**EUR 6 000 000.**

*Amendment*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is  
**EUR 13 500 000.**

Or. en

**Amendment 77**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is **EUR 6 000 000.**

*Amendment*

1. The budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 is **EUR 12 000 000.**

Or. en

*Justification*

*EUR 6 million is not sufficient to achieve the objectives (the European Year 2010 on fight against poverty and social inclusion has a budget of EUR 17 million).*

**Amendment 78**  
**Silvia Costa**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

For the purpose of the European Year, the Commission may cooperate with appropriate international organisations, in particular with the United Nations and the Council of Europe, taking care to ensure the visibility of the EU's participation.

*Amendment*

For the purpose of the European Year, the Commission may cooperate with appropriate international organisations, in particular with the United Nations and the Council of Europe, taking care to ensure the visibility of the EU's participation. ***In cooperation with these organisations, the Commission shall promote programmes for international volunteering aiming to encourage the exchange of best practices on volunteering in third countries.***

Or. en



**Amendment 79**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

For the purpose of the European Year, the Commission may cooperate with appropriate international organisations, in particular with the United Nations and the Council of Europe, taking care to ensure the visibility of the EU's participation.

*Amendment*

For the purpose of the European Year, the Commission may cooperate with appropriate international organisations, in particular with the United Nations and the Council of Europe, taking care to ensure the visibility of the EU's participation **and may also take action in order to stimulate other international organisations into enhancing the volunteering dimension worldwide.**

Or. en

**Amendment 80**  
**Marietje Schaake**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – introductory part**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

As a guiding principle, implementation of the European Year of Volunteering will build on the ownership, large-scale mobilisation and active involvement of civil society and other stakeholders. In addition, implementation will be carried out through the following measures:

*Amendment*

As a guiding principle, implementation of the European Year of Volunteering will build on the ownership, large-scale mobilisation and active involvement of civil society and other stakeholders. **All those in society will be enabled to volunteer, including asylum seekers, refugees and legally resident immigrants.** In addition, implementation will be carried out through the following measures:

Or. en

**Amendment 81**  
**Knut Fleckenstein**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point A – point 1 – bullet point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- high visibility events and forums for exchanging experience and good practices;

*Amendment*

- high visibility events and forums for exchanging experience and good practices ***with the participation of European organisations or bodies active in the field of volunteering, representatives of employers' associations and unions, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Affairs Committee and the Committee of the Regions;***

Or. en

*Justification*

*It is important to involve employers' associations and the unions in events and forums for exchanging experience and good practices on voluntary activities. Thus, we can raise awareness of the added value of voluntary work and its difference with regard to paid work. Voluntary work should not in any case replace professional, paid employment opportunities.*

**Amendment 82**  
**Emma McClarkin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point A – point 1 – bullet point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- high visibility events and forums for exchanging experience and good practices;

*Amendment*

- high visibility events and forums for exchanging experience and good practices, ***whilst recognising that volunteering is most prevalent and successful in local communities;***

Or. en

*Justification*

*It is vitally important to recognise that most volunteering takes place in local communities and this is also where the most success in volunteering can be achieved. The introduction of a recognition award would raise the profile of this most important aspect of volunteering.*

**Amendment 83**  
**Emma McClarkin**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point A – point 1 – bullet point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- *contest with or without prizes;*

*Amendment*

- *a recognition award for volunteering, recognising the local community aspect of volunteering;*

Or. en

*Justification*

*It is vitally important to recognise that most volunteering takes place in local communities and this is also where the most success in volunteering can be achieved. The introduction of a recognition award would raise the profile of this most important aspect of volunteering.*

**Amendment 84**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point A – point 1 – bullet point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

- contest with *or without* prizes;

*Amendment*

- contest with prizes, *even if only of symbolic significance;*

Or. en

**Amendment 85**  
**Róza Thun Und Hohenstein**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point C – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Each National *coordinator* shall submit a single application for Community funding. That grant application shall describe the *coordinator's* work programme or the *action* to be funded and promote the European Year. The grant application shall be accompanied by a detailed budget setting out the total costs of the *initiatives/work* programme proposed and the amount and sources of co-funding. The Community grant can cover up to 80 % of the total costs.

*Amendment*

Each National *coordinating body* shall submit a single application for Community funding. That grant application shall describe the *coordinating body's priorities and* work programme or the *action(s)* to be funded and promote the European Year. The grant application shall be accompanied by a detailed budget setting out the total costs of the *action(s)/work* programme proposed and the amount and sources of co-funding. The Community grant can cover up to 80 % of the total costs. ***A possibility of in kind contributions should be permitted in the Member States where the legislative framework permits this.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*The possibility of in kind calculation should be given to beneficiary organisations in the Member States where the legislative framework allows in order to help them to obtain the grants.*

**Amendment 86**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point C – paragraph 4 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) Meetings and events connected with the objectives of the European Year, including national events to launch and promote the European Year, create a catalyst effect and provide open space for debate on concrete

*Amendment*

(a) Meetings and events connected with the objectives of the European Year, including national events to launch and promote the European Year, ***organised on the same day throughout the European Union with media coverage***, create a catalyst effect

initiatives.

and provide open space for debate on concrete initiatives.

Or. en

**Amendment 87**

**Licia Ronzulli**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex – point C – paragraph 4 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) ***Mutual learning*** seminars at national, regional and local level;

*Amendment*

(b) ***Conferences and thematic*** seminars at national, regional and local level ***allowing for peer-learning and exchange of good practices***;

Or. en

**Amendment 88**

**Licia Ronzulli**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex – point C – paragraph 4 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) Information, educational and promotional campaigns at national, regional and local level, ***including the organisation of awards and competitions***;

*Amendment*

(c) Information, ***research activities and related studies***, educational and promotional campaigns at national, regional and local level;

Or. en

**Amendment 89**  
**Licia Ronzulli**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point C – paragraph 4 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) Cooperation with the media.

(d) Cooperation with ***the private and non-state sector and*** the media ***in disseminating information about the European Year and in undertaking actions aimed at long-term dialogue on issues related to volunteering and to vocational training activities directed to volunteers in order to render sustainable the activities even after the end of the 2011 European Year of volunteering.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*The new text aims to underline the relevance of vocational training, establishing this activity as a stable activity also after the European Year of volunteering.*

**Amendment 90**  
**Cătălin Sorin Ivan**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Annex – point C – paragraph 4 – point d a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(da) use of electronic resources in order to ensure a permanent communication between all the parties involved in the projects.***

Or. en