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2009 - 2014

Committee on Regional Development

2010/0242(COD)

14.12.2010

AMENDMENTS

15 - 40

Draft opinion
Lambert van Nistelrooij
(PE452.779v01-00)

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the European Year for Active Ageing (2012)

Proposal for a decision
(COM(2010)0462 – C7-0253/2010 – 2010/0242(COD))

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United in diversity

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Amendment 15
Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision
Title 1 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

Proposal for a DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL on the European Year of Active Ageing (2012)

Amendment

Proposal for a DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the European Year for Active Ageing *and Solidarity between Generations* (2012)

(This amendment applies throughout the text. Adopting it will necessitate corresponding changes throughout.)

Or. fr

Amendment 16
Karima Delli

Proposal for a decision
Recital 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) The proportion of the population of the European Union comprising persons in their late 50s and over is set to increase at an unprecedented rate. The largest increase is expected to occur during the period 2015-35 when the population aged 60 and over will be increasing by 2 million people per year. This increase is very positive in so far as it is a logical consequence of improved health care and quality of life. Nevertheless, due to the reality of demographic change, the EU faces a number of challenges such as a shrinking population and the fact that certain areas will become less attractive.

Or. fr

Amendment 17

Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision

Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) The growing proportion of older people in Europe makes it more **important** than ever to **promote healthy ageing. Healthy ageing can help raise labour market participation of older people, enable them to be active in society for longer, improve their individual** quality of life and curb the strains on health and social care systems.

Amendment

(5) The growing proportion of older people in Europe makes it more **necessary** than ever to **preserve solidarity between generations. This solidarity must be founded on improvements in social and inter-generational cohesion and the promotion of a good** quality of life **in order to combat social exclusion. Guaranteeing older people access to the labour market, if they wish it, may help promote social inclusion, as their participation can create a positive image and in some cases make it possible to** curb the strains on health and social care systems

Or. fr

Amendment 18

Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision

Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) The Commission emphasised in its Communication on ‘Europe 2020 — A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth’ the importance to the European Union of promoting a healthy and active ageing population in the interests of social cohesion **and higher productivity**. It proposed a flagship initiative ‘An agenda for new skills and jobs’, under which Member States should notably promote active ageing policies, and a flagship initiative on a ‘European Platform against Poverty’. Achieving these

Amendment

(10) The Commission emphasised in its Communication on ‘Europe 2020 — A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth’ the importance to the European Union of promoting a healthy and active ageing population in the interests of social cohesion. It proposed a flagship initiative ‘An agenda for new skills and jobs’, under which Member States should notably promote active ageing policies, and a flagship initiative on a ‘European Platform against Poverty’. Achieving these policy goals requires

policy goals requires action from all levels of government and various non-governmental stakeholders; they can in turn be supported, at the Union level, by European Year activities aimed at raising awareness and fostering the exchange of good practice. National coordinators should see to it that national action is coordinated and is consistent with the overall objectives of the European Year. The participation of other institutions and stakeholders is also planned.

action from all levels of government and various non-governmental stakeholders; they can in turn be supported, at the Union level, by European Year activities aimed at raising awareness and fostering the exchange of good practice. National coordinators should see to it that national action is coordinated and is consistent with the overall objectives of the European Year. The participation of other institutions and stakeholders is also planned.

Or. fr

Amendment 19 **Riikka Manner**

Proposal for a decision **Recital 11**

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) The Council adopted on 7 June 2010 Conclusions on ‘Active Ageing’, inviting the Commission ‘to pursue the preparation of a European Year for Active Ageing in 2012 during which the benefits of active ageing and its contribution to solidarity between generations can be highlighted and promising initiatives in support of active ageing at all levels can be publicised’.

Amendment

(11) The Council adopted on 7 June 2010 Conclusions on ‘Active Ageing’, inviting the Commission ‘to pursue the preparation of a European Year for Active Ageing in 2012 during which the benefits of active ageing and its contribution to solidarity between generations can be highlighted and promising initiatives in support of active ageing at all levels can be publicised’. ***The Commission published on 10 November 2010 its Fifth Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion, in which ageing is highlighted as one of the most important challenges for the future. Sufficient resources should be secured to achieve these objectives.***

Or. fi

Amendment 20
Riikka Manner

Proposal for a decision
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) In its Communication on "A Digital Agenda for Europe", the first EU2020 flagship initiative adopted on 19 May 2010, the Commission stressed the importance of ICT for ageing well, proposing in particular the reinforcement of the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme. The Digital Agenda for Europe also recommended taking concerted action to increase the digital competences of all Europeans, including older persons, a group that is over-represented within the 150 million citizens, or about 30% of the total, who have never used the internet.

Amendment

(13) In its Communication on "A Digital Agenda for Europe", the first EU2020 flagship initiative adopted on 19 May 2010, the Commission stressed the importance of ICT for ageing well, proposing in particular the reinforcement of the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme. The Digital Agenda for Europe also recommended taking concerted action to increase the digital competences of all Europeans, including older persons, a group that is over-represented within the 150 million citizens, or about 30% of the total, who have never used the internet. ***In the coming years, investments should particularly be made in the infrastructure of the outermost regions, so that the opportunities presented by the Digital Strategy can be exploited in the areas where there is the greatest need for them, e.g. in the form of e-Health services.***

Or. fi

Amendment 21
Karima Delli

Proposal for a decision
Recital 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13a) In the context of 'Europe 2020', the Commission has proposed launching a pilot project on active and healthy ageing by the beginning of 2011 within the framework of the Innovation Union. This pilot project, which is the first innovation

partnership, will include social innovation seeking to promote a better quality of life, prevent disease, improve social networks within public sectors and among social partners, and promote the introduction of new technologies supporting the quality of life, and seeks to increase citizens' healthy lifespan by two years by 2020.

Or. fr

Justification

Takes over the recommendations of Parliament's resolution of 11 November 2010 on European Innovation partnerships within the Innovation Union flagship initiative.

Amendment 22
Nuno Teixeira

Proposal for a decision
Recital 14 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14a) The conclusions of the fifth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion: the future of cohesion policy, of 9 November 2010, recognise the need for the European Union to develop a cohesion policy capable of responding to societal challenges such as population ageing.

Or. pt

Justification

In the recently published communication on the future of cohesion policy, the Commission makes explicit reference to population ageing as one of the main challenges that the EU needs to address and that cohesion policy needs to take into account.

Amendment 23
Karima Delli

Proposal for a decision
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Active ageing is targeted by several Union programmes, such as the European Social Fund, the European Regional and Development Fund, the PROGRESS programme, the Life Long Learning Programme, the Public Health Programme, the specific programmes on information and communication technologies and on socio-economic sciences and humanities in the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Action Plan on ‘Ageing well in the information society’, the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme for research and innovation, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with pilot deployment projects on ICT for Ageing Well and the Action Plan on urban mobility. Union co-financing of European Year activities will be in accordance with the priorities and rules applying, on an annual or multi-annual basis, to existing programmes and autonomous budget lines in the field of employment, social affairs and equal opportunities. Where appropriate, programmes and policies in other fields, such as education and culture, health, research, the information society, regional policy and transport policy, may support the European Year.

Amendment

(15) Active ageing is targeted by several Union programmes, such as the European Social Fund, the European Regional and Development Fund, the PROGRESS programme, the Life Long Learning Programme, the Public Health Programme, the specific programmes on information and communication technologies and on socio-economic sciences and humanities in the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Action Plan on ‘Ageing well in the information society’, the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme for research and innovation, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with pilot deployment projects on ICT for Ageing Well and the Action Plan on urban mobility. Union co-financing of European Year activities will be in accordance with the priorities and rules applying, on an annual or multi-annual basis, to existing programmes and autonomous budget lines in the field of employment, social affairs and equal opportunities. Where appropriate, programmes and policies in other fields, such as education and culture, health, research, the information society, regional policy and transport policy, may support the European Year. ***Accordingly, the European Year will also be an opportunity to raise public awareness across the board and mobilise stakeholders to combat social exclusion, deprivation and poverty among older people, particularly in the context of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion, a flagship initiative of the EU 2020 Strategy.***

Or. fr

Amendment 24

Seán Kelly

Proposal for a decision

Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Active ageing is targeted by several Union programmes, such as the European Social Fund, the European Regional and Development Fund, the PROGRESS programme, the Life Long Learning Programme, the Public Health Programme, the specific programmes on information and communication technologies and on socio-economic sciences and humanities in the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Action Plan on ‘Ageing well in the information society’, the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme for research and innovation, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with pilot deployment projects on ICT for Ageing Well and the Action Plan on urban mobility. Union co-financing of European Year activities will be in accordance with the priorities and rules applying, on an annual or multi-annual basis, to existing programmes and autonomous budget lines in the field of employment, social affairs and equal opportunities. Where appropriate, programmes and policies in other fields, such as education and culture, health, research, the information society, regional policy and transport policy, may support the European Year.

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Or. en

Justification

The CALYPSO Preparatory Action on Social Tourism seeks to stimulate the silver economy by offering more opportunities for groups such as senior citizens to engage in tourism

Amendment 25
Riikka Manner

Proposal for a decision
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Active ageing is targeted by several Union programmes, such as the European Social Fund, the European Regional and Development Fund, the PROGRESS programme, the Life Long Learning Programme, the Public Health Programme, the specific programmes on information and communication technologies and on socio-economic sciences and humanities in the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Action Plan on ‘Ageing well in the information society’, the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme for research and innovation, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with pilot deployment projects on ICT for Ageing Well and the Action Plan on urban mobility. Union co-financing of European Year activities will be in accordance with the priorities and rules applying, on an annual or multi-annual basis, to existing programmes and autonomous budget lines in the field of employment, social affairs and equal opportunities. Where appropriate, programmes and policies in other fields, such as education and culture, health, research, the information society, regional policy and transport policy, may support the European Year.

Amendment

(15) Active ageing is targeted by several Union programmes, such as the European Social Fund, the European Regional and Development Fund, the PROGRESS programme, the Life Long Learning Programme, the Public Health Programme, the specific programmes on information and communication technologies and on socio-economic sciences and humanities in the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Action Plan on ‘Ageing well in the information society’, the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme for research and innovation, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with pilot deployment projects on ICT for Ageing Well and the Action Plan on urban mobility. Union co-financing of European Year activities will be in accordance with the priorities and rules applying, on an annual or multi-annual basis, to existing programmes and autonomous budget lines in the field of employment, social affairs and equal opportunities. Where appropriate, programmes and policies in other fields, such as education and culture, health, research, the information society, regional policy and transport policy, may support the European Year. ***In the field of regional development, too, consideration should be given to taking demographic factors into account as indicators for decisions on funding. EU funding to overcome the challenges presented by ageing should not be restricted solely to the European Year of Ageing: demographic challenges and the funding***

they require should be permanently taken into account in the Union's policy.

Or. fr

Amendment 26
Alain Cadec

Proposal for a decision
Recital 16 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16a) It should be recognised that regional and local public authorities play a key role in achieving the objectives of the European Year of Active Ageing, in particular where their responsibilities include the social integration of those in difficulties and the provision of support to older people.

Or. fr

Amendment 27
Nuno Teixeira

Proposal for a decision
Recital 16 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16b) Article 174 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union recognises that some EU regions have serious and permanent demographic characteristics that may hamper their level of development and require particular attention so that the objective of economic, social and territorial cohesion can be achieved.

Or. pt

Justification

Article 174 TFEU recognises that some regions of the European Union face difficulties resulting from their demographic characteristics, for example areas with low population density, and that these require particular attention from European policies.

Amendment 28

Nuno Teixeira

Proposal for a decision

Recital 16 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16c) The problem of population ageing is frequently linked to the characteristics of rural areas but is nevertheless not exclusive to such areas, as this issue is also related to the conditions to be found in urban environments and the role of cities in integrating and shaping the population.

Or. pt

Justification

The ageing of the active population is an issue that should be studied not only from the point of view of cause and effect in rural areas but also in urban areas, with a view to finding solutions for the integration of older generations.

Amendment 29

Nuno Teixeira

Proposal for a decision

Recital 16 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16d) Active population ageing is underpinned by intergenerational solidarity that goes beyond integration into the labour market by creating more and better opportunities for older workers to participate, since it also targets their

full integration in society, combating social exclusion by raising awareness with a view to their autonomy and quality of life, in particular through participation in activities such as tourism and voluntary work.

Or. pt

Justification

Finding solutions for intergenerational solidarity with a view to active population ageing involves not only integration into the labour market but also action to combat social exclusion, training and incentives for participation in civic and leisure activities.

Amendment 30

Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision

Article 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The year 2012 shall be designated as the European Year for Active Ageing (hereafter referred to as 'the European Year').

Amendment

The year 2012 shall be designated as the European Year for Active Ageing **and Solidarity between Generations** (hereafter referred to as "the European Year").

(This amendment applies throughout the text. Adopting it will necessitate corresponding changes throughout.)

Or. fr

Amendment 31

Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

The overall purpose of the European Year shall be to encourage and support the efforts of Member States, their regional and local authorities, social partners and civil society to promote **active ageing and**

Amendment

The overall purpose of the European Year shall be to encourage and support the efforts of Member States, their regional and local authorities, social partners and civil society to promote, **by concrete**

to do more to mobilise the potential of the rapidly growing population in their late 50s and above, *thereby* preserving solidarity between generations. *Active ageing means creating* better opportunities and working conditions *to enable* older *workers* to play their part in the labour market, combating social exclusion by fostering active participation in society, and encouraging healthy ageing. On this basis, the objectives shall be:

measures, better inclusion in society for the population in their late 50s and above, in view of the economic, social and cultural role they can play in preserving solidarity between generations. *Promoting the inclusion of older people in society should take account of their specific needs, following a residential approach. To that end, it is essential that the European Year should support and exploit local and regional projects in order to promote age diversity, proper adaptation of the living environment, and access to public services and care, making the necessary adjustments to take account of the urban or rural location and demographic trends of the area. Together with the creation of* better opportunities and working conditions, *these measures will form the basis for enabling* older *people* to play their part in the labour market and *volunteering activities*, combating social exclusion by fostering active participation in society, and encouraging healthy ageing. On this basis, the objectives shall be:

Or. fr

Amendment 32
Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

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

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) to raise general awareness of the value of active ageing in order to highlight the useful contribution older persons make to society and the economy, to promote active ageing *and* to do more to ***mobilise the potential of older persons***;

Amendment

(1) to raise general awareness of the value of active ageing in order to highlight the useful contribution older persons make to society and the economy ***by passing on their knowledge and skills***, to promote active ageing, to do more to ***combat isolation, deprivation and social exclusion and encourage the inclusion of solidarity between generations on the political agenda of stakeholders at national,***

regional and local level;

Or. fr

Amendment 33
Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

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

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) to stimulate debate and develop mutual learning between Member States *and* stakeholders *at all levels* in order to promote active ageing policies, to identify and disseminate good practice and to encourage cooperation and synergies;

Amendment

(2) to stimulate debate, *encourage support* and develop mutual learning between Member States, stakeholders *and civil society* in order to promote active ageing policies *more effectively*, to identify and disseminate good practice and to encourage cooperation and synergies;

Or. fr

Amendment 34
Karima Delli, Elisabeth Schroedter

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) to offer a framework for commitment and concrete action to enable Member States *and* stakeholders at all levels to develop policies through specific activities and to commit to specific objectives related to active ageing.

Amendment

(3) to offer a framework for commitment and concrete action to enable Member States, stakeholders *and civil society* at all levels to develop policies through specific activities and to commit to specific *and achievable* objectives related to active ageing.

Or. fr

Amendment 35
Alain Cadec

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– exchange of information, experience and good practices;

Amendment

– exchange of information, experience and good practices, ***particularly between local representatives with responsibilities relating to active ageing and solidarity between generations***;

Or. fr

Amendment 36
Alain Cadec

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

– research and surveys on a Union ***or*** national scale, and dissemination of the results.

Amendment

– research and surveys on a Union, national ***or regional/ local authority*** scale, and dissemination of the results.

Or. fr

Amendment 37
Seán Kelly

Proposal for a decision
Article 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Each Member State shall appoint a national coordinator responsible for organising its involvement in the European Year. The national coordinators should also see to it that national activities are properly coordinated.

Amendment

Each Member State shall appoint a national coordinator responsible for organising its involvement in the European Year. The national coordinators should also see to it that national activities are properly coordinated ***and that civil society organisations are fully involved in the design and implementation of the European Year at local, regional and national level.***

Or. en

Justification

There are numerous civil society organisations involved on the local and regional level in the field of active ageing. Their experience, expertise and resources could provide significant multipliers to the efforts by public bodies. Therefore they must be engaged and involved from start to finish at all levels of activity in the European Year.

Amendment 38

Nuno Teixeira

Proposal for a decision

Article 6

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission — together with the Member States — shall ensure that the measures provided for in this Decision are consistent with any other Union, national and regional schemes and initiatives that help attain the objectives of the European Year.

Amendment

The Commission — together with the Member States — shall ensure that the measures provided for in this Decision are consistent with any other Union, national and regional schemes and initiatives that help attain the objectives of the European Year, ***and with projects carried out as part of previous European Years, in particular the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion (2010) and the European Year of Volunteering (2011).***

Or. pt

Justification

In order to raise the profile of initiatives carried out as part of the 'European Years' and ensure that they are more effective and produce better results, steps should be taken to encourage continuity and consistency between the initiatives to be launched and those carried out in previous years, taking account of crossovers and connections between the corresponding themes.

Amendment 39

Lambert van Nistelrooij

Proposal for a decision

Article 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 6a

International cooperation

For the purpose of the European Year, the Commission may cooperate with the relevant bodies of other international organisations, in particular with the United Nations and the Council of Europe, in order to ensure the visibility of the efforts of the Union and to increase its effectiveness.

Or. en

Amendment 40
Lambert van Nistelrooij

Proposal for a decision
Article 6 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 6b

Budget

1. The additional budget for implementing this Decision for the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 is EUR 8 000 000.

2. Annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial framework.

Or. en