



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Employment and Social Affairs*

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**2010/2245(INI)**

16.2.2011

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 42**

**Draft opinion**  
**Sari Essayah**  
(PE456.694v01-00)

Innovation Union: Transforming Europe for a post-crisis world  
(2010/2245(INI))

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Considers that innovation should be used to solve society's *problems*, stresses the importance of *the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing*, *considers that similar innovation partnerships should also be developed* to prevent and remedy *other crucial health and social problems*, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships *more swiftly than others*;

*Amendment*

1. Considers that innovation should be used to solve society's *challenges, such as climate change, resource and energy efficiency, health and demographic change*; stresses the importance of *synergie effects between innovative employment policies and skill development for innovation in a sustainable economy in order* to prevent and remedy crucial *societal challenges*, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate *innovative partnerships, such as the Finnish example of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing*;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Considers that innovation should be used to solve society's problems, stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, considers that similar innovation partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health and social problems, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member

*Amendment*

1. Considers *it necessary to increase understanding of challenges facing society and* that innovation should be used to solve society's problems, stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, considers that similar innovation partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health

States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

and social problems, *such as various harmful dependencies, poverty and social exclusion*, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

Or. fi

**Amendment 3**  
**Licia Ronzulli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Considers that innovation should be *used to solve society's problems*, stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, considers that similar innovation partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health and social problems, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

*Amendment*

1. Considers that *policies concerned with supporting* innovation should be *reorientated in the light of the major challenges facing our society*; stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, considers that similar innovation partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health and social problems, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

Or. it

**Amendment 4**  
**Kinga Göncz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Considers that innovation should be used to solve society's problems, stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, considers that similar innovation

*Amendment*

1. Considers that innovation should be used to solve society's problems, stresses the importance of the pilot partnership in the field of active and healthy ageing, *as well as new skills and jobs*; considers that

partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health and social problems, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

similar innovation partnerships should also be developed to prevent and remedy other crucial health and social problems, and recommends taking advantage of the various Member States' capacity to initiate partnerships more swiftly than others;

Or. en

## **Amendment 5**

**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Considers that innovation can play an important role in enhancing social cohesion by improving the quality of the services provided and that specific professional training programmes should therefore be set up;***

Or. pt

## **Amendment 6**

**Sari Essayah**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Considers exemplary the objective assigned to the pilot partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing of extending healthy lifetimes by two years by 2020 and considers that, for all innovation partnerships, clear objectives should be set which without the innovative measure would lack vision and motivation and it would become more difficult to set measurable interim and partial objectives;***

**Amendment 7**  
**Milan Cabrnoch**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Stresses the importance of research in the medical sector, which combined with innovative applications, will foster growth and well-being in an ageing society; Supports close co-operation between university research departments and the medical industry to generate products and services that citizens in the EU will urgently need over the next decade;***

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Silvia Costa**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1b. Draws attention to the fact that innovation is essential to economic development and that the European Union needs to recruit around one million additional researchers in order to meet the goal of spending 3% of GDP on R&D, as laid down in the Europe 2020 Strategy; Believes that this goal can be more easily achieved by substantially increasing the number of women researchers, who account for only 39% of researchers employed in the public sector and higher education and 19% of researchers working in the private sector [1];***

Or. pt

**Amendment 9**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Stresses the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) *in all innovative activity, recommends promoting the widespread use of ICT, promoting R&D in this field, favouring open-source codes and thus facilitating greater participation by citizens and SMEs in the development of applications and new services;*

*Amendment*

2. Stresses the importance of ***providing training and lifelong learning offers to ensure that also vulnerable groups can fully exploit the potential of*** information and communications technology (ICT);

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Stresses the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) in all innovative activity, recommends promoting the widespread use of ICT, promoting R&D in this field, favouring open-source codes and thus facilitating greater participation by citizens and SMEs in the development of applications and new services;

*Amendment*

2. Stresses the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) in all innovative activity, recommends promoting the widespread use of ICT, promoting R&D in this field, favouring open-source codes, ***developing a user-driven innovation policy*** and thus facilitating greater participation by citizens and SMEs in the development of applications and new services;

**Amendment 11**  
**Marielle Gallo, Raffaele Baldassarre**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Stresses the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) in all innovative activity, recommends promoting the widespread use of ICT, promoting R&D in this field, favouring open-source codes and thus facilitating greater participation by citizens and SMEs in the development of applications and new services;

*Amendment*

2. Stresses the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) in all innovative activity, recommends promoting the widespread use of ICT, promoting R&D in this field, favouring open-source codes and thus facilitating greater participation by citizens and SMEs in the development of applications and new services; ***reminds that support to businesses producing content through the use of ICT will also help to create and maintain jobs and competitiveness;***

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

***2a. Stresses that R&D investment tends to drop in periods of economic crisis even though it has been proved that the companies and Member States which invest the most during such periods are the ones that gain the greatest comparative market advantage;***

*Amendment*

Or. pt

**Amendment 13**

**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2b. Stresses the importance of supporting the establishment and development of innovative undertakings, combining public and private funding, supplemented by risk capital mechanisms and technical assistance in implementing projects;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 14**

**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Rovana Plumb, Silvia Costa**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2c. Stresses that most of the initiatives that will make innovation possible come from the business sector and that closer cooperation is therefore essential with universities and research centres;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 15**

**Milan Cabrnoch**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate, supports the Commission's proposal for a European social innovation

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate ***to develop entrepreneurship spirit***, supports the Commission's proposal

pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes;

for a European social innovation pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate, supports the Commission's proposal for a European social innovation pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes;

*Amendment*

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate, supports the Commission's proposal for a European social innovation pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes; ***considers that innovation policy should be viewed broadly, not merely as technical innovation but – more than hitherto – as social and services innovation helping to achieve better organisation of cooperation among people and assisting direct production of services, but also assisting industrial production, which is in search of better organisation of work and competitive advantages to be attained with the aid of new services;***

Or. fi

**Amendment 17**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate, supports the Commission's proposal for a European social innovation pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes;

*Amendment*

3. Recommends involving all citizens in innovation and empowering them to innovate, supports the Commission's proposal for a European social innovation pilot project and its proposal that social innovation should become a central priority of European Social Fund (ESF) programmes; ***calls for a second priority in the ESF regarding the need to invest in skills, employment, training and retraining activities with the aim of creating more and better jobs in a more sustainable economy, taking energy and resource efficiency into account.***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

***3 a. Calls on the Commission to work more closely with the Member States in order to draw up medium- and long-term forecasts regarding the skills required by the employment market and to encourage partnerships between universities and the business sector in order to foster the transition of young people to the employment market while helping to create an innovative knowledge-based society, develop applied research and create better employment market prospects for graduates;***

Or. en

**Amendment 19**

**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Rovana Plumb, Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3a. Notes that, despite the increased involvement of women in the fields of research and technology, the latest figures provided by the Commission indicate that only 19% of senior academic posts are held by women, even though women account for more than half of university students;***

***[1] See Figures 2009 - major findings and trends, European Commission, 2009.***

Or. pt

**Amendment 20**

**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Rovana Plumb, Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3b. Considers it particularly important that there should be specific guidelines that take account of gender equality issues in the creation and development of innovative products and services, and that this calls for appropriate training of human resources;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 21**

**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3 b. Notes that in times of crisis, it is essential to attract young people to the new type of green jobs and to ensure that skill programmes promote the access of young people to the labour-market, so that young people can profit from the job potential, to combat high unemployment among citizens under 25 years of age and in order to capitalise on the young generation's skills in using new technologies;***

Or. en

**Amendment 22  
Kinga Göncz**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. ***Stresses*** the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning, and developing training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

***Urges to overcome skill shortages in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; stresses*** the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning, and developing training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

Or. en

**Amendment 23  
Milan Cabrnoch**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Stresses the importance of raising the

4. Stresses the importance of raising the

*level* of training, *particularly* lifelong learning, and developing training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

*quality* of *the* training, *access to* lifelong learning *and vocational training*, and developing training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning, and developing training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning, and developing *all* training activities *at all training levels* better *than at present* to enhance *creativity*, innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

Or. fi

**Amendment 25**  
**Silvia Costa**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning, *and developing* training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses the importance of raising the level of training, particularly lifelong learning *and continuous training of employees, making arrangements for access to them and for their organisation which are inclusive and do not discriminate against women; considers, however, that these measures should be aimed primarily at workers assigned to less skilled work than previously who are at risk of losing their jobs due to the*

*introduction of new technologies and those made redundant because they lack the skills required by restructuring and conversion; recalls also the need to develop training activities better to enhance innovativeness and entrepreneurship;*

Or. it

**Amendment 26**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4 a. Stresses the importance of raising the level of lifelong learning, and developing training activities for all to enhance eco-innovativeness and entrepreneurship and to ensure that the workforce can adjust their skills to the labour-market needs of a more sustainable economy founded on competence-based training concepts; calls on the Member States, employers and employees to recognise skills management, training and lifelong learning for innovation as a shared responsibility, as acknowledged in the social partners' 2002 framework agreement on lifelong learning; calls on the Commission to incorporate a ninth key competence relating to the environment, climate change and sustainable development – which is essential in a knowledge society – into the framework for lifelong learning;*

Or. en

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

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Stresses the importance of simplifying the rules on, and procedures for, access to European research programmes;***

Or. it

**Amendment 28**  
**Konstantinos Poupakis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Stresses the importance of creating, at both European and national level, favourable conditions and incentives to boost participation in doctoral studies, as well as participation in innovative research, so as to prevent the brain drain and enable the EU to derive substantial benefits, strengthening its competitiveness through advanced, innovative research and studies;***

Or. el

**Amendment 29**  
**Konstantinos Poupakis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4b. Underlines the importance of integrating innovation both in education***

*in general and in lifelong learning, with a view to creating a workforce that is capable of responding to the changing needs of a sustainable and innovative social market economy that will offer new, high-quality and lasting jobs;*

Or. el

**Amendment 30**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Considers that an effective European research area should be created as a matter of urgency, in which obstacles to the mobility of researchers should be eliminated;

*Amendment*

5. Considers that an effective European research area should be created as a matter of urgency, in which ***cooperation is based primarily on voluntary cooperation between Member States***, obstacles to the mobility of researchers should be eliminated ***and advanced European research infrastructure should be created;***

Or. fi

**Amendment 31**  
**Kinga Göncz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Considers that an effective European research area should be created as a matter of urgency, in which obstacles to the mobility of researchers should be eliminated;

*Amendment*

5. Considers that an effective European research area should be created as a matter of urgency, in which obstacles to the mobility of researchers should be eliminated, ***and for an optimal utilization of the potential of new Member States, special attention should be devoted to their researchers;***

**Amendment 32**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Supports the objective of increasing the number of researchers in the EU by one million by 2020 and observes that such an enormous investment would have significant multiplier effects on employment, but at the same time considers that the objective is very ambitious and would require objectives to be set for each individual country and purposeful efforts, while the public sector does not necessarily have sufficient budget funds, so that although there is a strong need to increase the number of posts for researchers at higher education establishments and public research institutes, the greater proportion of the new researchers will be employed in the private sector and that attention should be devoted less to the number of researchers than to their innovativeness, the quality of their education, the European division of labour in the field of research, resources for research and the quality of research;*

Or. fi

**Amendment 33**  
**Edite Estrela, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Rovana Plumb, Silvia Costa**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Points out that, given the shortage of higher education students in science and technology, steps must be taken to ensure that no students abandon their studies or are limited in their choice of educational establishment for financial reasons, and that it is therefore necessary to continue to promote access to bank loans which can be partially financed by the Member States;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 34  
Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 a. Calls for a specific EU initiative to attract girls to the MINT professions (mathematics, informatics, natural sciences and technology) and to combat the stereotypes that still dominate these professions; stresses that the role of the media and education is key in combating such stereotypes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 35  
Licia Ronzulli**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Stresses the need to promote policies***

*which encourage researchers to remain in their own Member States by promoting attractive working conditions at public research institutes;*

Or. it

**Amendment 36**  
**Milan Cabrnoch**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5 a. Highlights the importance of cutting red tape and obstacles to the mobility of researchers in order to ensure they can bring ideas and innovative solutions and technologies from other innovative economies to the European Union;*

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Elisabeth Schroedter**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

6. Recommends that innovation should also be promoted *by means of joint cross-border public-sector projects, by coordinating EU, Member States' and regional public funding better than hitherto and reducing the associated bureaucracy, and by means of measures to promote venture capital investment in businesses with growth potential.*

6. Recommends that innovation should also be promoted *to make full use its potential to increase employability and meet the demands of businesses in a new sustainable economy.*

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. Recommends that innovation should also be promoted by means of joint cross-border public-sector projects, by coordinating EU, Member States' and regional public funding better than hitherto and reducing the associated bureaucracy, and by means of measures to promote venture capital investment in businesses with growth potential.

*Amendment*

6. Recommends that innovation should also be promoted by means of joint cross-border public-sector projects, ***by eliminating legislative obstacles to using public procurement to promote innovation, by moving in the direction of setting a minimum target for the proportion of public procurement designed to promote innovation and*** by coordinating EU, Member States' and regional public funding better than hitherto and reducing the associated bureaucracy, ***thus facilitating participation particularly by SMEs, by increasing the use of public data, improving access to research findings and making it easier to exploit them,*** and by means of measures to promote venture capital investment in businesses with growth potential.

Or. fi

**Amendment 39**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6a. Considers that research findings are commercially exploited too slowly or insufficiently in the EU and recommends establishing business incubators which, actively seeking innovations, are in contact with higher education and***

*research establishments and whose task is to promote the commercial exploitation of research findings, for example through enterprise contacts or by helping to find 'business angels' or seed capital for the establishment of new businesses;*

Or. fi

**Amendment 40**  
**Licia Ronzulli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. Stresses the need, in order to stimulate demand and the market for innovative products, to promote innovation by creating new market opportunities;*

Or. it

**Amendment 41**  
**Sari Essayah**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6b. Observes that the research projects to be funded should aim to achieve substantial results and that the productivity of innovation work should be measured by means of suitable monitoring indicators;*

Or. fi

**Amendment 42**  
**Licia Ronzulli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6b. Stresses that, for the complete success of the Innovation Union initiative, it is necessary to adopt an integrated approach to formulating policies and designing instruments relating to research and innovation, to organise strong coordination between institutions and to amply and directly involve all relevant stakeholders in choices and decision-making processes;***

Or. it