Ratification and implementation of updated ILO Conventions

European Parliament resolution of 26 November 2009 on the Conventions that have been classified by the ILO as up to date

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Conventions that have been classified by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as up to date,
- having regard to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation adopted on 10 June 2008,
- having regard to the ILO Global Jobs Pact adopted on 19 June 2009,
- having regard to the Commission Communication of 2 July 2008 on the renewed social agenda (COM(2008)0412),
- having regard to its resolution of 6 May 2009 on the renewed social agenda¹,
- having regard to the Commission Communication of 18 May 2004 entitled ‘The Social Dimension of Globalisation – the EU’s policy contribution on extending the benefits to all’ (COM(2004)0383),
- having regard to the Commission Communication of 24 May 2006 entitled ‘Promoting decent work for all – the EU contribution to the implementation of the decent work agenda in the world’ (COM(2006)0249),
- having regard to the AETR-related judgment of the Court of Justice of the European Communities in Case C-45/07 Commission v Greece² concerning the external competence of the Member States,
- having regard to the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs,
- having regard to Rule 115(5) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas the fundamental values of freedom, human dignity, social justice, social security and equality are essential elements of sustainable economic and social development,

B. whereas, in the current global economic and jobs crisis, these principles are even more relevant,

C. whereas, since 1919, the ILO has maintained and developed a system of international labour standards which cover a broad range of subjects, including work, employment, social security, social policy and related human rights,

² OJ C 82, 4.4.2009, p. 3.
D. whereas coherence needs to be ensured between the EU’s internal and external policies,

1. Welcomes the Conventions that have been classified by the ILO as up to date as a result of the ILO tripartite process which involved employers, workers and governments;

2. Calls on the Member States to consider the strong social arguments for ratifying and implementing the Conventions that have been classified by the ILO as up to date, in conformity with the EU Treaties;

3. Calls on the Commission to spell out precisely to Parliament and to the Member States which Conventions fall within the competence of the European Union and which fall under the subsidiarity principle;

4. Calls on the President Elect of the European Council to be as ambitious as possible within his mandate to encourage Member States to ratify and implement the updated ILO Conventions;

5. Calls on the Commission to consider the adoption of a recommendation to the Member States to encourage the ratification of the Conventions that have been classified by the ILO as up to date and to actively contribute to their implementation, taking into account the subsidiarity principle;

6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.