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Committee on Petitions

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AMENDMENTS

21 - 83

Draft opinion
Nikolaos Salavrakos
(PE480.596v01-00)

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the European Year of Citizens (2013)

Proposal for a decision
(COM(2011)0489 – C7-0217/2011 – 2011/0217(COD))

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Amendment 21
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Title 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Proposal for a DECISION OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF
THE COUNCIL on the European Year of
Citizens (2013)

Amendment

Proposal for a DECISION OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF
THE COUNCIL on the European Year of
Citizenship (2013)

Or. es

Amendment 22
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision
Citation 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Having regard to the Treaty on the
Functioning of the European Union, and in
particular Article 21 (2) thereof

Amendment

Having regard to the Treaty on ***European
Union and the Treaty on the*** Functioning
of the European Union, and in particular
Article 21 (2) thereof

Or. en

Amendment 23
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) Article 20(1) of the ***Treaty*** provides for
citizenship of the Union as additional to
national citizenship of the respective
Member States, stipulating that every

Amendment

(1) Article 20(1) ***and Article 9*** of the
Treaties provides for citizenship of the
Union as additional to national citizenship
of the respective Member States,

person holding the nationality of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union. The second paragraph of Article 20 specifies that citizens of the Union shall enjoy the rights and be subject to the duties provided for in the Treaties, and that they shall have, inter alia, the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. The right of Union citizens to free movement and residence is further enshrined in Article 21 of the Treaty.

stipulating that every person holding the nationality of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union. The second paragraph of Article 20 specifies that citizens of the Union shall enjoy the rights and be subject to the duties provided for in the Treaties, and that they shall have, inter alia, the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. The right of Union citizens to free movement and residence is further enshrined in Article 21 of the Treaty.

Or. en

Justification

We should also reference to article 9 of the TEU so both treaties' articles on EU citizenship are noted.

Amendment 24

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1 a) Article 20 also grants the right to citizens of the Union to vote and stand for the European Parliament and for municipal government, to be protected by any Member State's diplomatic mission in a third country when their own Member State is not represented, and the right to petition the European Parliament under article 227, to apply to the European Ombudsman, and to address the institutions and advisory bodies of the Union.

Or. en

Justification

We need to focus on all rights, not just freedom of movement

Amendment 25

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) Citizens and the associations that represent them are central to the functioning of the Union, as stated in Articles 10 and 11 of the Treaty on European Union, which emphasise the importance of all aspects of participatory democracy.

Or. es

Amendment 26

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) The entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty strengthened the status of Union citizenship and complemented the rights attached to it, including by introducing a new right, the Citizens' Initiative, which enables one million citizens, from a ***significant number*** of Member States, to ask the Commission to present a proposal in any of the EU's areas of responsibility.

(2) The entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty strengthened the status of Union citizenship and complemented the rights attached to it, including by introducing a new right, the Citizens' Initiative, which enables ***at least*** one million citizens, from ***at least a quarter of the*** Member States, to ask the Commission to present a proposal in any of the EU's areas of responsibility.

Or. es

Amendment 27
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The rights inherent to citizenship of the Union are incorporated in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. According to the Charter's Preamble, the Union 'places the individual at the heart of its activities, by establishing a citizenship of the Union and by creating an area of freedom, security and justice'. Chapter V of the Charter sets down "Citizens' rights", including, in its Article 45, the right of every citizen of the Union to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States.

Amendment

(3) The rights inherent to citizenship of the Union are incorporated in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. According to the Charter's Preamble, the Union 'places the individual at the heart of its activities, by establishing a citizenship of the Union and by creating an area of freedom, security and justice'. Chapter V of the Charter sets down 'Citizens' rights', including, in its Article 45, the right of every citizen of the Union to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, ***and this right must be guaranteed, in accordance with the Treaties, to nationals of non-EU countries legally resident in the territory of a Member State.***

Or. es

Amendment 28
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) As stated in the Charter's Preamble, the Union is founded on the indivisible, universal values of human dignity, freedom, equality and solidarity, which are of fundamental importance for the exercise of citizenship.

Or. es

Amendment 29
Angelika Werthmann

Proposal for a decision
Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Accordingly, the Stockholm Programme¹⁶ puts the citizen at the heart of European policies in the field of freedom, security and justice. It focuses its actions on ‘building a citizen's Europe’, including by ensuring the full exercise of the citizens' right to free movement.

Amendment

(4) Accordingly, the Stockholm Programme¹⁶ puts the citizen at the heart of European policies in the field of freedom, security and justice. It focuses its actions on ‘building a citizen's Europe’, including by ensuring the full exercise of the citizens' right to free movement, ***and it contributes to the realisation of the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, to the extent that facilitating free movement and workers' mobility is an important means to address the consequences of demographic change on the labour market and increasing the employability of people and the competitiveness of European industries.***

Or. en

Amendment 30
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) Where migrant workers' rights are concerned, a key factor in ensuring that EU law is properly applied is to see to it that such workers, their families and other interested parties are made aware of and informed about the rights and opportunities they have as a result of the right to free movement.

Or. es

Amendment 31
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) Freedom of thought, expression and information, and media pluralism and independence, are essential principles for the exercise of citizenship.

Or. es

Amendment 32
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7) In particular, free movement and workers' mobility help *addressing* the consequences of demographic change on the labour market, while also increasing the employability of people and improving the competitiveness of European industries. At the same time, free movement either enables, as an essential condition, or stimulates the exercise by citizens of a broad range of rights available to them under Union law, such as their rights as consumers to access goods and services or their rights as passengers and tourists. Facilitating free movement has therefore the potential to enhance citizens' possibilities to fully benefit from the single market, whilst being a key driver for growth.

(7) In particular, free movement and workers' mobility help *address* the consequences of demographic change on the labour market, while also increasing the employability of people and improving the competitiveness of European industries. At the same time, free movement either enables, as an essential condition, or stimulates the exercise by citizens of a broad range of rights available to them under Union law, such as their rights as consumers to access goods and services, ***or their right as workers to join a trade union,*** or their rights as passengers and tourists. Facilitating free movement has therefore the potential to enhance citizens' possibilities to fully benefit from the single market, whilst being a key driver for growth, ***although occupational mobility must go hand in hand with the safeguarding of workers' social security and trade union rights, and must not be regarded by employers as an opportunity***

for wage and social dumping, cutting wages and welfare cover or downgrading working conditions.

Or. es

Amendment 33
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) In particular, free movement and workers' mobility help addressing the consequences of demographic change on the labour market, while also increasing the employability of people and improving the competitiveness of European industries. At the same time, free movement either enables, as an essential condition, or stimulates the exercise by citizens of a broad range of rights available to them under Union law, such as their rights as consumers to access goods and services or their rights as passengers and tourists. Facilitating free movement has therefore the potential to enhance citizens' possibilities to fully benefit from the single market, whilst being a key driver for growth.

Amendment

(7) In particular, free movement and workers' mobility help addressing the consequences of demographic change on the labour market, while also increasing the employability of people and improving the competitiveness of European industries. ***Furthermore, against the current backdrop of alarmingly high unemployment figures in individual Member States, they provide an opportunity to bring labour supply and demand more into kilter again and, as a result, help ease tensions on the European labour market.*** At the same time, free movement either enables, as an essential condition, or stimulates the exercise by citizens of a broad range of rights available to them under Union law, such as their rights as consumers to access goods and services or their rights as passengers and tourists. Facilitating free movement has therefore the potential to enhance citizens' possibilities to fully benefit from the single market, whilst being a key driver for growth.

Or. de

Amendment 34
Elena Băsescu

Proposal for a decision
Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) Despite the fact that the right to free movement and residence is firmly anchored in primary Union law and substantially developed in secondary law, a gap still remains between the applicable legal rules and the reality confronting citizens when they seek to exercise this right in practice. Aside from an uncertainty over the advantages of being mobile, Union citizens *perceive* too many practical obstacles with regard to living and working elsewhere in the Union.

Amendment

(9) Despite the fact that the right to free movement and residence is firmly anchored in primary Union law and substantially developed in secondary law, a gap still remains between the applicable legal rules and the reality confronting citizens when they seek to exercise this right in practice. Aside from an uncertainty over the advantages of being mobile, Union citizens *encounter* too many practical *and unjustified* obstacles with regard to living and *in particular* working elsewhere in the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 35
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 10a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(10a) EU legislation on the free movement of persons must not be used by the Member States to discriminate directly or indirectly against migrant workers and their families. The EU must guarantee that such workers receive equal treatment as regards tax and social benefits, social housing, access to education for their children and vocational training courses.

Or. es

Amendment 36
Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) Given that the right to free movement significantly improves individuals' lives, it is vital that information about the existence of this right and the conditions for exercising it is available as broadly as possible. As all Union citizens are potential beneficiaries of this right, awareness raising efforts should be made across the Union.

Amendment

(11) Given that the right to free movement significantly improves individuals' lives, it is vital that information about the existence of this right and the conditions for exercising it is available as broadly as possible. As all Union citizens ***and third-country nationals permanently residing in a Member State*** are potential beneficiaries of this right, awareness raising efforts should be made across the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 37
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) Given that the right to free movement significantly improves individuals' lives, it is vital that information about the existence of this right ***and the conditions for exercising it*** is available as broadly as possible. As all Union citizens are potential beneficiaries of this right, awareness raising efforts should be made across the Union.

Amendment

(11) Given that the right to free movement significantly improves individuals' lives, it is vital that easily accessible, transparent information about the existence of this right, the ***exercise of which also includes obligations to be met by citizens (e.g. proof of regular employment after three months' residence)***, is available as broadly as possible. As all Union citizens are potential beneficiaries of this right, awareness raising efforts should be made across the Union.

Or. de

Amendment 38
Elena Băsescu

Proposal for a decision
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) In particular, Union citizens considering whether to make use of their right to free movement should be informed about their rights to acquire or preserve social security rights by virtue of the Union rules on coordination of social security systems; these rules ensure that they will not lose out on their social security rights when choosing to move within Europe. They should further be informed about their right to obtain recognition of their professional qualifications and about the social and civic competences which form part of the European framework of ‘Key Competences for lifelong learning’ and which can equip them to fully participate in civic life and empower them to exercise their rights under Union law.

Amendment

(13) In particular, Union citizens considering whether to make use of their right to free movement should be informed about their rights to acquire or preserve social security rights by virtue of the Union rules on coordination of social security systems; these rules ensure that they will not lose out on their social security rights when choosing to move within Europe. They should further be informed about their right to obtain recognition of their professional **and academic** qualifications and about the social and civic competences which form part of the European framework of ‘Key Competences for lifelong learning’ and which can equip them to fully participate in civic life and empower them to **comprehensively** exercise their rights under Union law.

Or. en

Amendment 39
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) In this context, citizens should also be better informed of their rights as passengers travelling by any transport mode across the European Union and of their consumer rights across borders. If they are confident that their rights as consumers are effectively protected, they will contribute more to the development of the European-wide market for goods and services to its full potential and better

Amendment

(14) In this context, citizens should also be better informed of their rights as passengers travelling by any transport mode across the European Union and of their consumer rights across borders. If they are confident that their rights as consumers are effectively protected, **and they have full access to low-cost and straightforward dispute settlement procedures (e.g. in connection with on-**

enjoy its benefits. In the same vein, citizens should be better informed about rules on general product safety and market surveillance, so as to be aware of how their health and their rights are protected throughout the EU, particularly when it comes to threats or risks that they cannot deal with as individuals. It would be further important to enhance citizens' awareness of their rights to cross-border healthcare, so that they are able to fully benefit from safe and good quality healthcare across European borders.

line purchases), they will contribute more to the development of the European-wide market for goods and services to its full potential and better enjoy its benefits. In the same vein, citizens should be better informed about rules on general product safety and market surveillance, so as to be aware of how their health and their rights are protected throughout the EU, particularly when it comes to threats or risks that they cannot deal with as individuals. It would be further important to enhance citizens' awareness of their rights to cross-border healthcare, so that they are able to fully benefit from safe and good quality healthcare across European borders. ***In this connection, reference should also be made to the vast potential of eHealth and telemedicine for simplification of cross-border health care, but also for improving the quality and increasing the efficiency of national medical services.***

Or. de

Amendment 40
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Awareness of the electoral rights guaranteed to Union citizens is of primary importance in this respect. Union citizens should be fully aware of their right to vote and stand as candidates in the municipal and European Parliament elections in their Member State of residence. At the same time, political participation can contribute to the integration of Union citizens into the society of their chosen Member States of residence.

Amendment

(15) Awareness of the electoral rights guaranteed to Union citizens is of primary importance in this respect. Union citizens should be fully aware of their right to vote and stand as candidates in the municipal and European Parliament elections in their Member State of residence. At the same time, political participation can contribute to the integration of Union citizens into the society of their chosen Member States of residence. ***It would also be appropriate to follow the example of those Member***

States in which people aged 16 and over, and non-EU nationals residing in the Member State concerned, are entitled to vote.

Or. es

Amendment 41
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) Enhanced citizens' awareness of the benefits of these rights for them individually and for society can also contribute to a stronger sense of belonging and adherence to the Union.

Amendment

(16) Enhanced citizens' awareness of the benefits of these rights for them individually and for society can also contribute to a stronger sense of belonging and adherence to the Union. ***The Commission ought also to ensure that local, regional and national authority representatives, civil society and the media are more closely involved in helping citizens improve their understanding of the impact that European policies have on national and local policies.***

Or. es

Amendment 42
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) Enhanced citizens' awareness of the benefits of these rights for them individually and for society can also contribute to a stronger sense of belonging and adherence to the Union.

Amendment

(16) Enhanced citizens' awareness of the benefits of these rights for them individually and for society can also contribute to a stronger sense of belonging and adherence to the Union. ***That applies***

not only to rights in connection with freedom of movement and mobility for citizens, but also to rights, as Union citizens, for the exercise of which they do not have to leave their country of origin(e.g. on-line purchasing from another Union country, air passengers' rights in connection with domestic flights, cross-border successions or various political rights). The information campaigns carried out as part of the European Year must therefore also comprehensively communicate the added value of such rights and, in so doing, ensure that all Union citizens, without exception, become fully aware of their Union citizenship.

Or. de

Amendment 43
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) A European Year of Citizens in 2013 will provide a very timely opportunity to raise the awareness of the general public about the rights attached to Union citizenship and thus to contribute to the objective of facilitating the exercise of the right to free movement.

Amendment

(17) A European Year of Citizens in 2013 will provide a very timely opportunity to raise the awareness of the general public about the rights attached to Union citizenship, ***to identify and remove obstacles to the full enjoyment of those rights***, and thus to contribute to the objective of facilitating the exercise of the right to free movement.

Or. es

Amendment 44
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) A European Year of Citizens in 2013 will provide a very timely opportunity to raise the awareness of the general public about the rights attached to Union citizenship and thus to contribute to the objective of facilitating the exercise of the right to free movement.

Amendment

(17) A European Year of Citizens in 2013 will provide a very timely opportunity to raise the awareness of the general public about the rights attached to Union citizenship and thus to contribute to the objective of facilitating the exercise of the right to free movement ***and all other Union citizens' rights. In this connection, broadly based and effective reporting on the Union by all Member States' public television, radio and Internet broadcasters plus stepped-up media cooperation (e.g. with Euronews) should successfully strengthen the flow of information for citizens.***

Or. de

Amendment 45
Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa

Proposal for a decision
Recital 21 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(21 a) In the context of the planned European Year of Citizens (2013), appropriate measures should also be taken to prevent and condemn all forms of intolerance, discrimination, humiliation and xenophobia affecting citizens who exercise their right to free movement and who travel, settle and work in the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 46
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) The primary responsibility for raising citizens' awareness of their rights as Union citizens rests with Member States; action at Union level complements and supplements national actions in this respect, as highlighted in the political declaration "Communicating Europe in Partnership" signed on 22 October 2008 by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

Amendment

(22) The primary responsibility for raising citizens' awareness of their rights as Union citizens rests with Member States. ***They should discharge their obligations to the full and meet their responsibility for the Europe we share. This includes providing an intensive flow of accompanying information and targeted reporting on the activities of all EU institutions.*** Action at Union level complements and supplements national actions in this respect, as highlighted in the political declaration "Communicating Europe in Partnership" signed on 22 October 2008 by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

Or. de

Amendment 47
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Recital 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(25a) A thorough evaluation of the outcomes of the measures carried out as part of the European Year of Citizens is a prerequisite for the success of future European Years. The objective must be a comprehensive assessment of how the European Year was run and what its tangible impact was, which, in some cases, includes comparable quantitative factors (e.g. how many persons were targeted by what measures).

Or. de

Amendment 48
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The year 2013 shall be designated as the ‘European Year of **Citizens**’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the European Year’).

Amendment

The year 2013 shall be designated as the ‘European Year of **Citizenship**’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the European Year’).

Or. es

Amendment 49
Angelika Werthmann

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to **enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to help** citizens **make full use of their** right to move and reside **freely** within the **territory of the Member States**. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Amendment

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to **facilitate the exercise of European Union citizens’ right to move and reside within the European Union, by raising their awareness about this right, and, more broadly, about the right available to them across national borders**. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union. **It will thus serve to highlight the concrete benefits of Union citizenship for individuals and the importance of their participation in shaping the European project as well as, indirectly, to enhance Europeans’ sense of belonging to the European Union. The European Year**

delivers on to the Commission's political objective to put at the heart of the European Union policy agenda and to help Union become a tangible reality in their daily lives, by giving real effect to their rights.

Or. en

Amendment 50
Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in ***order to help citizens make full use of their*** right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Amendment

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in ***particular, the*** right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 51
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to

Amendment

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to

help citizens make full use of their ***right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States***. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

help citizens make full use of their ***rights***. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Or. es

Amendment 52
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to help citizens make full use of their right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Amendment

The general purpose of the European Year shall be to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to help citizens make full use of their right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, ***as well as all other Union citizens' rights***. In this context, the European Year shall focus, among others, on the opportunities for civic participation and access to rights by Union citizens residing in another Member State than their own, by students, workers, consumers, and providers of goods and services across the Union.

Or. de

Amendment 53
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

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

Text proposed by the Commission

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their ***right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally the*** rights guaranteed to Union citizens in cross-border situations, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union;

Amendment

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their rights guaranteed to Union citizens in cross-border situations, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union;

Or. en

(See Amendment to indent 3)

Justification

Moved to indent three to prevent repetition. This should not be seen as a deletion.

Amendment 54

Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally the rights guaranteed to Union citizens ***in cross-border situations***, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union;

Amendment

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally the rights guaranteed to Union citizens ***and permanent residents***, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 55

Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally the rights guaranteed to Union citizens in cross-border situations, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union;

Amendment

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally the rights guaranteed to Union citizens in cross-border situations, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the Union, ***with particular account being taken of the new European Citizens' Initiative***;

Or. de

Amendment 56
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to vote in local and European elections in any Member State in which they reside;

Or. en

Justification

As stated in Recitals 15 and 19, this year is just before the European Parliament election. Therefore the right to vote should be promoted.

Amendment 57
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– to raise Union citizens' awareness of how

–to raise Union citizens' awareness of how

they can tangibly benefit from Union rights and policies while living in another Member State, and *to stimulate their active participation in civic fora on Union policies and issues*;

they can tangibly benefit from Union rights and policies while living in another Member State, and *of what conditions must be met in order to exercise those rights*;

Or. de

Amendment 58

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– to develop communication and information networks and tools that make it possible to boost dialogue with the institutions, in all European languages;

Or. es

Amendment 59

Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– to stimulate the active participation of Union citizens in civic fora on Union policies and issues;

Or. de

Amendment 60

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– to stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the right to free movement, as an inalienable aspect of Union citizenship, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens and the Union.

Amendment

– to ***raise Union citizens' awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and more generally to*** stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the right to free movement, as an inalienable aspect of Union citizenship, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens and the Union;

Or. en

Justification

Words moved from indent one to prevent repetition

Amendment 61
Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– to stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the ***right to free movement, as an inalienable aspect of*** Union citizenship, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens and the Union.

Amendment

– to stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the Union citizenship, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens, ***permanent residents*** and the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 62
Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– to stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the right to free movement, as an inalienable aspect of Union citizenship, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens and the Union.

Amendment

– to stimulate a debate about the impact and potential of the right to free movement, as an inalienable aspect of Union citizenship, ***without discrimination on the grounds of nationality or ethnic origin***, in particular in terms of strengthening societal cohesion and mutual understanding between Union citizens and the bond between citizens and the Union.

Or. es

Amendment 63

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise Union citizens' awareness of their rights, under Union law, to access to education, social programmes and health care at the same rate as nationality of the Member State in which they reside;

Or. en

Amendment 64

Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise Unions citizens' and authorities' awareness on the appropriate measures to prevent and condemn all forms of intolerance, discrimination, humiliation and xenophobia affecting citizens who

exercise their right to free movement and who travel, settle and work in the Union; to encourage the defence of fundamental rights, freedoms and European values and combat all forms of extremism, as well as for the European Commission, as a guardian of the Treaties, to intervene in the circumstances where such situations occur in order to prevent the division of the European citizens into two categories.

Or. en

Amendment 65

Elena Băsescu

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

-to raise Union citizens' awareness about their right to work in another Member State and to promote this freedom by cooperating with all the relevant European and national stakeholders;

Or. en

Amendment 66

Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– to create awareness of the fact that not only individuals who leave their country of origin benefit from their status as Union citizens, but that the rights associated with Union citizenship provide every European Union citizen in their homeland, without exception, with

tangible added value in their everyday lives too.

Or. de

Amendment 67

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise Union citizens' awareness of their rights to join a citizens initiative under Article 11(4) TEU;

Or. en

Justification

The European Citizens initiative is missing from the text and is an important new right under the Lisbon treaty amendments

Amendment 68

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 3 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise Union citizens' awareness of their rights to protection by any Member State's diplomatic mission in a third country when their own Member State is not represented.

Or. en

Justification

The right to protection abroad is very important to EU citizens from smaller Member States. This is even more important as Member States close or merge diplomatic missions because of the crisis.

Amendment 69

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– information, education and awareness raising campaigns targeted at the general public and more specific audiences;

Amendment

– information, education and awareness raising campaigns targeted at the general public and more specific audiences, ***involving local, regional and national authorities and civil society organisations;***

Or. es

Amendment 70

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

– exchange of information, sharing of experience and good practices of national, regional, local administrations and ***other*** organisations;

Amendment

– exchange of information, sharing of experience and good practices of national, regional ***and*** local administrations and ***civil society*** organisations;

Or. es

Amendment 71

Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– conferences and events to promote debate and raise awareness of the importance and benefits of ***the right to free movement and residence and more generally citizens' rights as Union citizens***;

Amendment

– conferences and events to promote debate and raise awareness of the importance and benefits of ***and access to Union citizenship***;

Or. en

Amendment 72
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 5

Text proposed by the Commission

strengthening of the role and visibility of the multilingual Europe Direct and Your Europe web portal as key elements of a 'one-stop-shop' information system on Union citizens' rights;

Amendment

– strengthening of the role and visibility of ***the information networks physically consultable in the Member States and*** the multilingual Europe Direct and Your Europe web portal as key elements of a 'one-stop-shop' information system on Union citizens' rights;

Or. de

Amendment 73
Elena Băsescu

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 6

Text proposed by the Commission

– strengthening of the role and visibility of problem solving tools, such as SOLVIT, to allow Union citizens to better make use of and defend their rights.

Amendment

– strengthening of the role and visibility of problem solving tools, such as SOLVIT, to allow Union citizens to better make use of and defend their rights ***under Union legislation***.

Amendment 74
Mariya Nedelcheva

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- stepping up the provision of information on citizens' rights and their right of petition, especially through the European Parliament information offices in the Member States and the network of national ombudsmen.

Or. bg

Amendment 75
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– active support for comprehensive and objective media reporting on the part of the Member States.

Or. de

Amendment 76
Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision
Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The Commission shall cooperate closely with Member States and bodies and

The Commission shall cooperate closely with Member States and bodies and

associations which represent local and regional interests, in particular the Committee of Regions.

associations which represent local and regional interests, in particular the Committee of Regions. ***In that way, too, Member States will meet their responsibility for the success of the European Year.***

Or. de

Amendment 77
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision
Article 4 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The Commission shall cooperate closely with the European Parliament to coordinate joint actions to promote the European Year of Citizens.

Or. en

Justification

It is far from clear why the EP was not included in this list and therefore should be added.

Amendment 78
Angelika Werthmann

Proposal for a decision
Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders to assist the Commission in implementing the European Year at Union level.

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders to assist the Commission in implementing the European Year at Union level. ***A media based information***

campaign should be organised which will be based on a horizontal strategy and a small number of specific communication strategies for specific target groups. Also a range of events, conferences and seminars should be organised across the Union at Union, national, regional or local level.

Or. en

Amendment 79

Willy Meyer

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders to assist the Commission in implementing the European Year at Union level.

Amendment

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European *civil society* organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders to assist the Commission in implementing the European Year at Union level.

Or. es

Amendment 80

Heinz K. Becker

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders to assist the Commission in implementing the European Year at Union level.

Amendment

The Commission shall convene meetings of representatives of European organisations or bodies active in the field of defending citizens' rights and stakeholders, *such as the European social partners, for example*, to assist the Commission in implementing the European

Year at Union level.

Or. de

Amendment 81
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision
Article 5 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Measures which are Union-wide in nature, referred to in part B of the Annex, may be subsidised by the general budget of the Union. **deleted**

Or. en

(See Amendment to Annex, Part B)

Justification

Part B of the Annex says "No Co-financing are foreseen". So the Committee should decide to either (1) delete this paragraph as it is without sense as the annex is empty OR (2) Amend the Annex Part B to allow co-financing of projects. Both amendments are tabled in order to give the committee the option.

Amendment 82
Tatjana Ždanoka

Proposal for a decision
Annex 1 – part A – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Financing will generally take the form of direct purchase of goods and services under existing framework contracts. Part of the financing can be devoted to the provision of linguistic services (translation, interpretation, multilingual information).

Financing will generally take the form of direct purchase of goods and services under existing framework contracts. Part of the financing can be devoted to the provision of linguistic services (translation, interpretation, multilingual information ***in the official, regional and minority***

languages).

Or. en

Amendment 83

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a decision

Annex 1 – part B – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

No co-financing initiatives are foreseen.

Union funding under the budget of the European Year may be used to co-finance other activities which support the year's goal through existing Union programmes or the Structural Funds, in particular the "Europe for Citizens" programme and the "Fundamental Rights and Citizenship" programme,

Or. en

(See Amendment to article 5(2))

Justification

Article 5 says the EU can subsidise programmes, but the annex says no co-financing is foreseen. So the Committee should decide to either (1) delete the article 5 paragraph as it is without sense as the annex is empty OR (2) Amend the Annex Part B to allow co-financing of projects. Both amendments are tabled in order to give the committee the option.