

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Constitutional Affairs

2005/0041(COD)

25.1.2006

OPINION

of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing for the period 2007-2013 the programme "Citizens for Europe" to promote active European citizenship
(COM(2005) 0116 – C6-0101/2005 –2005/0041(COD))

Draftswoman: Maria da Assunção Esteves

PA_Leg

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

1. The Citizens for Europe programme to promote active citizenship constitutes a basic strategy for the European political process.

Under the programme the general public is encouraged to share in the task of shaping political opinion and the political will and thus to bring to the European political process an essential deliberative component which will generate inclusiveness and legitimacy.

A shared cultural, social and political task to be performed by the people of Europe will bring those people together and encourage the virtue of civic participation in public affairs.

Hence the Citizens for Europe programme will lead the way to a political model for cooperation between the general public and the EU institutions. Here too the political impetus will travel from the periphery to the centre and allowing the political will to be shaped by a cross-section of society will turn ordinary people into participants in the process of developing the European order, makes them be co-founders of that order and brings about the ideal conditions for a relationship between different cultural traditions and the establishment of a cosmopolitan law. Similarly, it will prevent European policy from being bureaucratically removed from the people of Europe.

2. Since it promotes relations between people from a number of interdependent communities, the Citizens for Europe programme promotes responsibility which requires more from an active citizen than a focus on his own material interests.

Sharing a task leads to a broader understanding regarding the objectives and the standards which are in the common interest. It encourages a conscious co-existence governed by the principles of equal rights and mutual respect. In each individual it develops a perception of the collective form of European life - one based on democratic values and human rights.

3. The programme will strengthen the consensus in an area in which social and cultural pluralism flourishes. Such a consensus cannot be generated solely by the EU institutions - the involvement of the general public in a process of continuous communication is required.

Shaping the political will based on civil society gives support to the European justice project and will help it to cross borders and generations. It opens the way to a League of Peoples - this being the exemplary meaning of Europe, of the European *Res Publica*.

4. The strategic importance of the programmes lies in the fact that it promotes multiple forms of communication which provide a link between ordinary people and the EU institutions. The planned activities will make it clear to the participants how they are to view themselves in their capacity as members of a just, multifaceted, world-oriented Europe.

5. Civic activism generates a communication community which enriches the political decision-making method, reduces bureaucratic alienation and breaks the institutions' political monopoly. The outcome is an obvious increase in legitimacy and an open road leading to the success of new political beginnings and new founding moments in the process of European development.

The 'constitutional crisis' and the apprehension regarding enlargement make it clear that such a basis for participation is required in the public domain.

6. Through joint action and through dialogue, people identify the traditions which they wish to preserve, the common rules which they wish to establish and the kind of Europe in which they wish to live. By these means the political discourse gains both a moral and a pragmatic dimension: it plays a cautious game in building the future, it alters the scale of both the foundations and the objectives and it prepares the way for a more legitimate and more ambitious Europe.
7. Hence the programme basically deserves the rapporteur's support. In order to make it as effective as possible the rapporteur is proposing that all those who have a role to play in society (including the media) should be involved and hence be made protagonists. She points to the importance of sponsorship and voluntary work (which in many cases develop spontaneously and bring to prominence individuals who are disposed towards such activities), the importance of the role played by school communities (which are strategic centres for education, training and stable cooperation), the promotion of initiatives for teaching about democracy and providing information concerning the institutions' channels for political action, and the support of the public authorities which must naturally endeavour to ensure that the programme is a success.

The rapporteur is proposing to create a new heading entitled *Training for Democracy*, to be included under 'Active civil society in Europe'. The programme will be successful only if it serves to enlighten people and to prompt them to become involved in politics. A European way of life may be apprehended on the basis of the planned actions, but the role of governance must be understood as well.

The rapporteur also stresses the need for the section entitled 'Information and dissemination instruments' to be bolstered with a view to enhancing the role of the media in the programme. The latter will succeed only if it is backed up by comprehensive publicity which has a multiplier effect. The various actions require the broadest possible media coverage and will have to be advertised on television, in the press and on local radio.

The initiatives concerned with the teaching of democracy and with publicity require the budget to be increased by EUR 10 million (divided equally between those two categories of initiative). This added to the rapporteur's proposal would result in a total budget of EUR 300 million.

An effort must also be made to achieve administrative simplification on the grounds that bureaucracy is the enemy of the people. Somewhat doubtfully, the rapporteur has left intact the reference in the implementing provisions to advisory committees.

8. A people's Europe must be built as a matter of urgency. There can be no 'Europe' without a link between the private and the public. This is the only way in which universal values of justice can be incorporated into a cosmopolitan society in which particular traditions still hold sway.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Text proposed by the Commission¹

Amendments by Parliament

Amendment 1 Recital 1

(1) Union citizenship *should be the fundamental status of* nationals of the Member States.

(1) Union citizenship, *which is held by all* nationals of the Member States, *is the cornerstone of the European political process.*

Amendment 2 Recital 2

(2) *The Community should encourage European citizens to take full advantage of all aspects of the citizenship of the European Union, which is to be promoted with due regard for subsidiarity.*

(2) *Without prejudice to the subsidiarity principle, the EU institutions should promote active, participatory, responsible, self-determined citizenship which is capable of stimulating the public authorities, deepening democracy and constructing the future of Europe.*

Amendment 3 Recital 3

(3) For citizens to *give their full support to* European integration, *greater emphasis* should *therefore be placed on their common values, history and culture as key elements of their membership of a society founded on the principles of freedom, democracy and respect for human rights, while respecting their diversity.*

(3) For citizens to *become agents of* European integration, *common cultural, social and political activities* should *be encouraged which combine historical memory, cultural traditions, the memory of the successes of European integration and a sense of belonging to a wider community based on the values of democracy and human rights.*

¹ OJ C ... /Not yet published in OJ.

Amendment 4
Recital 4

(4) In order to ***bring Europe closer to its citizens and to enable them to participate fully in the construction of an ever closer Europe, there is a need to address all citizens and to involve them in*** transnational exchanges and cooperation activities, ***contributing to the forging of*** a sense of belonging to common European ideals.

(4) In order to ***build a citizens' Europe, shape a European public opinion and develop a cosmopolitan identity, communication amongst citizens must be promoted on the basis of cooperation and dialogue, with*** transnational activities ***designed to develop mutual respect and*** a sense of belonging to common European ideals.

Amendment 5
Recital 5

(5) The European Parliament, in its Resolution of 15 April 1988, considered ***it desirable that a major effort be undertaken to step up*** contacts between citizens of different Member States and stated that specific support from the European Union for the development of twinning schemes between municipalities in ***different Member*** States is both rational and desirable.

(5) The European Parliament, in its Resolution of 15 April 1988, considered ***the strategic importance of stepping up*** contacts between citizens of different Member States and stated that specific support from the European Union for the development of twinning schemes between municipalities in ***those*** States is both rational and desirable.

Amendment 6
Recital 6 a (new)

(6a) The Charter of Fundamental Rights takes for granted the central importance of a participatory citizenship which is capable of working with the institutions and generating inclusiveness and legitimacy.

Amendment 7
Recital 7

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained

dialogue with civil society organisations and **municipalities** and **to support the active involvement of** citizens.

dialogue with **municipalities**, civil society organisations and **(deletion)** citizens **in general. Furthermore, the European Parliament in its resolution on the policy challenges and budgetary means for the 2007-2013¹ period stated that a Civic Participation Programme continued to be a priority, with a view to bringing Europe closer to its citizens by means of a bottom-up process.**

¹ Texts adopted, P6_TA(2005)0224

Amendment 8

Recital 8

(8) Civil society organisations at European, national and regional levels are important **intermediaries** for **reaching** citizens. Their transnational cooperation should therefore be encouraged.

(8) Civil society organisations at European, national and regional levels are important **focal points** for **mobilising** citizens. Their transnational cooperation should therefore be encouraged.

Amendment 9

Recital 9

(9) European public policy research organisations can provide ideas and reflections to feed the debate at European level. They can **also** provide a link between the European institutions and the citizens, **and** should **therefore** be supported.

(9) European public policy research organisations can provide ideas and reflections to feed the debate at European level. **They help to shape public opinion in informal communication circles and** they can provide a link between the European institutions and the citizens. **Hence they** should be supported **and their networking should be stimulated.**

Amendment 10

Recital 10

(10) **Special attention should be paid to the** balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from all Member States into transnational projects and activities.

(10) **The programme should observe the principle of** balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from all Member States into transnational projects and activities.

Amendment 11
Recital 11

(11) The candidate countries and the EFTA countries that are parties to the EEA Agreement are **recognised as potential participants** in Community programmes, in accordance with the agreements made with them.

(11) The candidate countries and the EFTA countries that are parties to the EEA Agreement are **free to participate** in Community programmes, in accordance with the agreements made with them.

Amendment 12
Recital 12

(12) The Thessaloniki European Council of 19 and 20 June 2003 adopted the “Thessaloniki Agenda for the Western Balkans: moving towards European integration”, which invited the Western Balkan countries to participate in Community programmes and agencies; therefore, the Western Balkans countries should be **recognised** as potential participants in Community programmes.

(12) The Thessaloniki European Council of 19 and 20 June 2003 adopted the “Thessaloniki Agenda for the Western Balkans: moving towards European integration”, which invited the Western Balkan countries to participate in Community programmes and agencies; therefore, the Western Balkans countries should be **admitted** as potential participants in Community programmes.

Amendment 13
Recital 13

(13) The programme should be regularly monitored and evaluated in cooperation with the Commission and the Member States in order to allow for readjustments, **particularly with respect to the priorities for implementing** the measures.

(13) The programme should be regularly monitored and **independently** evaluated in cooperation with the Commission and the Member States in order to allow for **the** readjustments **which are necessary if** the measures **are to be properly implemented**.

Amendment 14
Recital 17

(17) Since the objectives of the programme “Citizens for Europe” cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, by reason of the transnational and **multilateral** nature of the programme's actions and measures, be better achieved at

(17) Since the objectives of the programme “Citizens for Europe” cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, by reason of the transnational and **multipolar** nature of the programme's actions and measures, be better achieved at

Community level, the Community may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

Community level, the Community may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

Amendment 15
Article 1, paragraph 2

2. The programme shall contribute to the following general objectives :

- ***Giving*** citizens ***the opportunity*** to interact and participate in constructing ***an ever closer*** Europe, ***united in and enriched through its cultural diversity***;

- ***Forging*** a European identity, ***based on recognised common values, history and culture***;

- ***Enhancing mutual understanding between European citizens respecting and celebrating cultural diversity, while contributing to intercultural dialogue.***

2. The programme shall contribute to the following general objectives :

- ***Prompting*** citizens to interact and participate in constructing ***a Europe which is multifaceted, fair, democratic and world-oriented***;

- ***Developing a post-national*** European identity ***based on a political community which shares democratic values and human rights and on the historical and cultural plurality of the Member States' traditions***;

- ***Incorporating civic activities into the European political integration and enlargement process by promoting dialogue, mutual understanding and a sense of common interest amongst European citizens***;

- ***Contributing to the shaping of a European public opinion on the basis of a participatory civil society which is capable of interacting with the institutions and ensuring the success of the European project.***

Amendment 16
Article 2

The programme shall have the following specific objectives, which shall be

The programme shall have the following specific objectives, which shall be

implemented on a transnational basis:

(a) Bring together people from local communities across Europe to share *and exchange* experiences, *opinions and values, to learn from history* and to build for the future;

(b) Foster action, debate and reflection related to European citizenship through cooperation between civil society organisations at European level;

(c) Make the idea of Europe more tangible for its citizens by promoting and celebrating Europe's values and achievements, *while preserving the memory of its past*;

(d) Encourage the balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from *all* Member States, contributing to intercultural dialogue and *bringing to the fore both Europe's diversity and unity*, with particular attention to the activities with Member States that have recently joined the European Union.

implemented on a transnational basis:

(a) Bring together people from local communities across Europe to share experiences *and ideas, to construct a European way of life* and to build for the future;

(b) Foster action, debate and reflection related to European citizenship *and democracy* through cooperation between civil society organisations at European level;

(c) Make the idea of Europe more tangible for its citizens by promoting and celebrating Europe's values and achievements *and projecting historical memory in a collective idea of the future*;

(d) Encourage the balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from *the* Member States, contributing to intercultural dialogue and *the shaping of an awareness of Europe*, with particular attention to the activities with Member States that have recently joined the European Union.

Amendment 17

Article 3, paragraph 1, subparagraph (b), indent 3 a (new)

- support for democracy and citizenship training initiatives.

Amendment 18

Article 3, paragraph 1, subparagraph (c)

(c) Together for Europe, consisting of:

- high visibility events, such as commemorations, awards, European-wide conferences;
- studies, surveys and opinion polls;
- information and dissemination tools.

(c) Together for Europe, consisting of:

- high visibility events, such as commemorations, awards, *artistic events*, European-wide conferences;
- studies, surveys and opinion polls;
- information and dissemination tools, *including media advertising and involvement.*

Amendment 19

Article 3, paragraph 1 a (new)

1a. Each action must promote thematic multidisciplinary as a means of involving the greatest number of citizens.

Amendment 20

Article 3, paragraph 2

2. ***In each action, priority may be given to*** the balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from all Member states, as provided for in the specific objective set out in Article 2(4).

2. Each action ***must reflect*** the balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from all Member states, as provided for in the specific objective set out in Article 2(4).

Amendment 21

Article 5

The programme shall be open to all stakeholders promoting active European citizenship, in particular to local communities, European public policy research organisations (think-tanks), citizen's groups and other civil society organisations such as non-governmental organisations, platforms, networks, associations and federations, trade unions.

The programme shall be open to all stakeholders promoting active European citizenship, in particular to local communities, European public policy research organisations (think-tanks), ***voluntary and sponsorship initiatives, schools,*** citizen's groups and other civil society organisations such as non-governmental organisations, platforms, networks, associations and federations, trade unions.

The programme shall also be open to the media which publicise the actions provided for in the programme.

The programme actions (which shall both stem from and be aimed at the citizens) shall not exclude - and shall even request - support from the institutional authorities.

Amendment 22
Article 9, paragraph 1

1. The Commission shall ensure the coherence and the complementarity between this programme and instruments in other areas of action of the Community, especially education, vocational training, culture, sport, fundamental rights and freedoms, social inclusion, gender equality, combating discrimination, research and the Community external action, in particular *in the context* of the European Neighbourhood policy.

1. The Commission shall ensure the coherence and the complementarity between this programme and instruments in other areas of action of the Community, especially education, vocational training, culture, sport, *the environment, the audiovisual sector and the media*, fundamental rights and freedoms, social inclusion, gender equality, combating discrimination, *scientific* research and the Community external action, in particular *at the level* of the European Neighbourhood policy.

Amendment 23
Article 10, paragraph 1

1. The budget for the implementation of this programme for the period referred to in Article 1 is hereby set at EUR **235** million.

1. The budget for the implementation of this programme for the period referred to in Article 1 is hereby set at EUR **300** million.

Amendment 24
Article 11, paragraph 1

1. Under the terms of Article 176(2) of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, the Commission may *decide*, in accordance with the characteristics of the beneficiaries *and* the nature of the actions, *to* exempt them from verification of the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action or work programme.

1. Under the terms of Article 176(2) of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, the Commission may, in accordance with the characteristics of the beneficiaries, the nature of the actions *and the clarity of the circumstances*, exempt them from verification of the professional competencies and qualifications required *in principle* to complete the proposed action or work programme.

Amendment 25

Article 11, paragraph 5

This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 26

Article 12, paragraph 1

This does not apply to the English version, being merely a correction to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 27

Article 12, paragraph 4

4. If the time limits have not been observed or if only part of the allocated financial assistance is justified by the progress made with implementing an action, the Commission shall request the beneficiary to submit **observations** within a specified period. If the beneficiary does not give a satisfactory answer, the Commission may cancel the remaining financial assistance and demand repayment of sums already paid.

4. If the time limits have not been observed or if only part of the allocated financial assistance is justified by the progress made with implementing an action, the Commission shall request the beneficiary to submit **justifications** within a specified period. If the beneficiary does not give a satisfactory answer, the Commission may cancel the remaining financial assistance and demand repayment of sums already paid.

Amendment 28

Article 14

This does not apply to the English version, being merely a correction to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 29

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 2

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities.

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities.

These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings to specific conferences or seminars on subjects of common interest, along with related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures.

These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings to specific conferences or seminars on subjects of common interest, along with related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. ***Town-twinning at European level must not detract from the strategic significance of the relationship between neighbouring towns on either side of a border which naturally have a potential for more intense and systematic communication.*** This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures. ***The measure turns citizens into protagonists in the European process via their cities and regions, fuses the sound practices of their traditional neighbourhood relationships and projects them into the shaping of a common interest.***

Amendment 30

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 3

This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 31

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 4

Under this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens, ***will be supported. The scale and scope of*** such projects ***will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects*** will gather citizens from different horizons, who will

This measure supports a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension ***which*** directly involve citizens. Such projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common ***topics and problems***, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration. ***Citizens will thus develop a conscious coexistence through a dialogue by means of which they decide which traditions they wish to preserve,***

act together or debate on common *European issues*, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

which common rules they wish to have and in what kind of Europe they wish to live. The purpose of this measure is to bring about comprehensive involvement of the citizens, which will complement the functional involvement of organisations.

Amendment 32

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 4 a (new)

The use of new technologies (especially information-society technologies) will be encouraged, as will civil projects involving sponsorship (of the arts or for humanitarian purposes) or voluntary work which in many cases develop spontaneously and in which citizens display a particular readiness to become involved. A further important measure is the twinning of schools, which generates stable, systematic cooperation in strategic training centres for the general public and is linked to important 'satellite groups' such as parents', academic and sporting associations.

Amendment 33

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 5 a (new)

Civil projects call for special support from the institutional authorities on account of their often spontaneous nature and their own distinctive structure and method of organisation. Although the programme is not directly targeted at them, the institutional authorities are naturally committed to making it a success and they must work with the general public in implementing it.

Amendment 34
Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 1

Bodies providing new ideas and reflections on European issues are important institutional interlocutors able to provide independent strategic, cross-sectoral recommendations to the EU institutions... They can undertake activities that feed the debate notably on citizenship of the European Union and on European values and cultures. This measure is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of those organisations, which are representative, provide real European added value, can bring about important multiplier effects and, finally, are able to cooperate with other beneficiaries of this programme. The strengthening of transeuropean networks is an important element in this area. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi-annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

Bodies providing new ideas and reflections on European issues are important institutional interlocutors able to provide independent strategic, cross-sectoral recommendations to the EU institutions... They can undertake activities that feed the debate notably on citizenship of the European Union and on European values and cultures. This measure is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of those organisations, which are representative, provide real European added value, can bring about important multiplier effects and, finally, are able to cooperate with other beneficiaries of this programme. ***Research organisations are of particular importance in shaping public opinion at the level of informal communication networks.*** The strengthening of transeuropean networks is an important element in this area. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi-annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

Amendment 35
Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 2

This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 36
Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 4

This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 37
Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 5

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, trade unions, federations, think tanks etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences. Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member States will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, **professional associations**, trade unions, federations, think tanks etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences. Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member States will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. **Civil society organisations are thus of strategic importance in the process of involving the general public. Such organisations are ideal places within which the individual perception of the common interest can be developed, they are ideal interlocutors for cooperation between society and the public authorities and they are optimum operators of a social basis for legitimising the European process.** While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

Amendment 38
Annex, part I, Action 2, title and paragraph 6 a (new)

Support for democracy training

This measure is aimed at specific activities designed to shape a political culture amongst the general public. Active European citizenship calls for an understanding of the democratic system and for information concerning institutional channels of communication.

The actions provided for in the programme generate an 'awareness of the world' which requires an understanding of the role of governance. This measure supports all individual and collective initiatives which prompt ordinary people to discuss the European political system: conferences organised on the initiative of social organisations and attended by invited opinion leaders; political debates within lawyers' communities; initiatives involving the political training of journalists (with a view to improving the quality of political information); initiatives for competitions including a simulation of the way in which the European institutions work, along the lines of the existing European law moot court competition.

Amendment 39

Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 1

This measure will support events organised by or in cooperation with the European Commission, which are substantial in scale and scope, strike a significant chord with the peoples of Europe, help to increase their sense of belonging to the same community, make them aware of the history, achievements and values of the European Union, involve them in intercultural dialogue and contribute to the development of their European identity.

This measure will support events organised by or in cooperation with the European Commission, which are substantial in scale and scope, strike a significant chord with the peoples of Europe, help to increase their sense of belonging to the same community, make them aware of the history, achievements and values of the European Union, involve them in intercultural dialogue and contribute to the development of their European identity. *Symbolic politics linking celebrations and memory is also an ingredient in the integration process.*

Amendment 40

Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 2

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, *awareness-raising around specific issues,*

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, *artistic events,* European-wide conferences

European-wide conferences and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged.

and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged.

Amendment 41
Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 5

This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.

Amendment 42
Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 5 a (new)

The programme will succeed only if it is supported by means of comprehensive publicity involving the media. 'Publicising publicity' is required here if the planned actions are to have a genuinely contagious, cross-sector effect. The actions require the widest possible media coverage, since this is the only way of producing a broad-scale effect and a relationship based on interaction amongst different publics. The measure is intended to provide support for the media (in particular television), the press and local radio with a view to securing advertising for the programme actions along the lines of the various forms of institutional publicity. European press networks and local radio stations should in themselves be stimulated.

Amendment 43
Annex, part II, paragraph 5

The elements of networking and focussing on the multiplier effects, including the use of information and communication technologies, will be important and will be reflected both in the types of activities and the range of organisations involved. The development of interactions and synergies among the various types of stakeholders

The elements of networking and focussing on the multiplier effects, including the use of information and communication technologies **and in general the active involvement of the media**, will be important and will be reflected both in the types of activities and the range of organisations involved. The development of interactions

involved in the programme will be encouraged.

and synergies among the various types of stakeholders involved in the programme will be encouraged.

PROCEDURE

Title	Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing for the period 2007-2013 the programme "Citizens for Europe" to promote active European citizenship
Procedure number	COM(2005)0116 – C6-0101/2005 – 2005/0041(COD)
Committee responsible	CULT
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	AFCO 10.5.2005
Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary	
Drafts(wo)man Date appointed	Maria da Assunção Esteves 14.9.2005
Previous drafts(wo)man	
Discussed in committee	29.11.2005
Date adopted	24.1.2006
Result of final vote	+: 15 –: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	James Hugh Allister, Richard Corbett, Jean-Luc Dehaene, Panayiotis Demetriou, Andrew Duff, Maria da Assunção Esteves, Ingo Friedrich, Bronisław Geremek, Jo Leinen, Íñigo Méndez de Vigo, Andreas Mölzer, Hans-Gert Poettering, Marie-Line Reynaud, Alexander Stubb
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Maria Berger, Gérard Onesta, Reinhard Rack
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	
Comments (available in one language only)	