ACTIVITY REPORT
2014-2019

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

8TH LEGISLATURE
This report was produced for the European Parliament’s Committee on Culture and Education

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# Table of Contents

1. FOREWORD ........................................................................................................... 5

2. CULTURAL POLICY ........................................................................................... 11
   2.1. Legislative reports ......................................................................................... 12
   2.2. Non-legislative reports .................................................................................. 16
       2.2.1. Own-initiative reports .......................................................................... 16
       2.2.2. Implementation reports .......................................................................... 23
   2.3. Opinions ....................................................................................................... 25
       2.3.1. Legislative opinions .............................................................................. 25
       2.3.2. Non-legislative opinions ....................................................................... 25
   2.4. Public hearings .............................................................................................. 26
   2.5. Other activities .............................................................................................. 28
   2.6. Policy Department research .......................................................................... 30

3. EDUCATION POLICY ....................................................................................... 35
   3.1. Legislative reports ......................................................................................... 36
   3.2. Non-legislative reports .................................................................................. 39
       3.2.1. Own-initiative reports .......................................................................... 39
       3.2.2. Implementation reports .......................................................................... 48
   3.3. Opinions ....................................................................................................... 50
       3.3.1. Non-legislative opinions ....................................................................... 50
   3.4. Public hearings .............................................................................................. 51
   3.5. Other activities .............................................................................................. 53
   3.6. Policy Department research .......................................................................... 54

4. YOUTH POLICY ................................................................................................. 59
   4.1. Legislative reports ......................................................................................... 60
   4.2. Non-legislative reports .................................................................................. 62
       4.2.1. Own-initiative reports .......................................................................... 62
       4.2.2. Implementation reports .......................................................................... 64
   4.3. Opinions ....................................................................................................... 66
       4.3.1. Legislative opinions .............................................................................. 66
       4.3.2. Non-legislative opinions ....................................................................... 66
   4.4. Public hearings .............................................................................................. 67
   4.5. Other activities .............................................................................................. 68
   4.6. Policy Department research .......................................................................... 70

5. SPORTS POLICY ............................................................................................... 73
   5.1. Non-legislative reports .................................................................................. 74
1. FOREWORD

Dear Colleagues,

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Chairs of the Committee on Culture and Education over the past five years. And it has been especially rewarding to work with a group of people who have shown, time and again, an unwavering commitment to education, culture, youth, media and sport. This activity report is something of a walk down our collective memory lane, leaving you with a memento of the various reports and initiatives we have worked on as a committee since 2014.

It is fair to say that we began the parliamentary term fighting an uphill battle when the Juncker Commission’s 10 political priorities failed to give due prominence to education and culture. But we have managed to set the record straight. We fought hard to obtain and then deliver the European Year of Cultural Heritage, which we sincerely hope will leave a lasting legacy. We have consistently used the annual budget procedure to boost funding for our key education and culture programmes, as well as to launch some immensely successful pilot initiatives, which will feature in the next generation of programmes.

We have done much to modernise the regulatory environment both for Europe’s cultural and creative sector and for those who enjoy cultural content, notably through the revised Audiovisual Media Services Directive and through our work on various copyright files.

We also passed legislation setting up the European Solidarity Corps (and keeping it true to its core purpose) and have recently laid the groundwork for the next generation of the Erasmus+, Creative Europe and Solidarity Corps programmes. It will be for the next committee to take the excellent work forward.

But, of course, it is not just the headline achievements that matter. Through the committee’s own-initiative reports, hearings, workshops and other events, we have helped drive the policy agenda with proposals and ideas that will doubtless come to shape the next Parliament’s work -
whether on youth policy, digital skills, the European Education Area, sports or language policy. And, last but not least, we have worked hard to hold the Commission to account.

We can all be proud of the work we have done and what we have achieved together. It has been wonderful working with you over the past five years. Of course, we have not always seen eye-to-eye politically (and wouldn’t it be boring if we did!), but we have always worked together in a friendly and positive atmosphere and done our best to put education and culture at the heart of European policy-making and Europe at the heart of education and culture policy.

Thank you all so much and happy reading!

Silvia Costa
CULT Chair (2014-2017)

Petra Kammerevert
CULT Chair (2017-2019)
The responsibilities of the CULT Committee

Under the European Parliament’s Rules of Procedure, the CULT Committee has the following responsibilities:

1. the cultural aspects of the European Union, and in particular:
   (a) improving the knowledge and dissemination of culture,
   (b) the protection and promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity,
   (c) the conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage, cultural exchanges and artistic creation;

2. the Union's education policy, including the European higher education area, the promotion of the system of European schools and lifelong learning;

3. audiovisual policy and the cultural and educational aspects of the information society;

4. youth policy;

5. the development of a sports and leisure policy;

6. information and media policy;

7. cooperation with third countries in the areas of culture and education and relations with the relevant international organisations and institutions.

Picture taken at the CULT meeting on 20 February 2019
CULTURAL POLICY
2. CULTURAL POLICY

Culture, in its many guises, sits at the core of the CULT Committee’s remit. In supplementing Member States’ cultural policies, the European Union’s action in the field of culture ranges from preserving European cultural heritage, via fostering cooperation between countries’ cultural institutions, to supporting those working creatively and promoting their mobility. Among the central instruments of the EU’s cultural policy are the European Agenda for Culture (a new version of which was adopted in 2018), the Creative Europe Programme, the European Capitals of Culture initiative, and the European Heritage Label.

The CULT Committee was the main driving force behind the creation of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 (EYCH), one of the standout achievements of the 8th legislature. The central objective of the EYCH was to encourage more people to discover and engage with Europe’s rich cultural heritage, and to reinforce a sense of belonging to a common European space. This was encapsulated in the slogan for the Year: “Our heritage: where the past meets the future”. The CULT Committee was actively involved in the EYCH’s implementation and also organised a dedicated interparliamentary committee meeting in 2018 to mark the Year.

Other noteworthy CULT activities in cultural policy included work on the future of European film in the digital era and on an EU policy for cultural and creative industries.
2.1. Legislative reports

Establishing a Union action for the European Capitals of Culture for the years 2020 to 2033

The aim of the Commission proposal was to amend the Decision governing the European Capitals of Culture (ECoC) scheme for the years 2020 to 2033 to give EFTA/EEA countries (Norway, Iceland and Lichtenstein) participating in the Creative Europe Programme access to the ECoC scheme and to update the calendar for the order of Capitals of Culture accordingly. The scheme was already open to candidate and potential candidate countries.

The proposal was supported by both the Parliament and the Council, which adopted the Decision only with few modifications:

- the Decision provides that cities in EFTA/EEA countries, in candidate countries and in potential candidate countries participating in the Creative Europe Programme or in future Union programmes supporting culture may apply to hold the title for one year as part of an open competition organised every third year in accordance with the revised calendar;
- those cities shall be allowed to participate in only one competition during the period from 2020 to 2033;
- each EFTA/EEA country, candidate country or potential candidate country shall only be allowed to host the title once during the period from 2020 to 2033.

The EP also wanted to see the establishment of a network of past, present and future Capitals of Culture. However, after trilogue negotiations, the Decision provides simply for networking activities to be encouraged to foster the exchange of experiences and good practices.

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<tr>
<td>Adoption of the report in Committee: 28/02/2017</td>
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<td>Text adopted by Parliament: 13/06/2017</td>
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<td>Final act signed: 13/09/2017</td>
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The European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 (EYCH) represents one of the EP’s key achievements during its eighth legislative term. The Parliament had driven the agenda, actively - and successfully - pushing the Commission to present a legislative proposal.

Faced with a tight schedule for the legislative work due to the Commission’s proposal for the EYCH coming out only in late August 2016, the CULT report followed the simplified procedure provided for in the EP’s Rules of Procedure. While the Commission’s text was left largely untouched to expedite the process, the report focused on: 1) reinforcing the budgetary basis for the EYCH, and 2) strengthening the involvement of civil society. The report proposed a dedicated article (budget line) within the general budget of the Union to support the EYCH in a bid to ensure that EYCH funding came from “fresh money” rather than existing EU funding programmes (above all Creative Europe). EU funds were to support transnational European flagship initiatives and to complement national, regional and local funding sources. In order to address the second of the EP’s primary concerns, the report requested that “the structure of the European Year shall allow for the active participation of professional organisations operating in the field of cultural heritage, of existing transnational cultural networks and of interested NGOs and cultural associations and, in particular, of youth organisations”.

In the inter-institutional negotiations, a small but dedicated European budget of 8 million EUR was eventually secured, and the active involvement of stakeholders and civil society was anchored in the legal text. The EP also succeeded in enshrining a “transversal approach” to the coordination of the EYCH at European level, and to secure its own involvement in the implementation of the EYCH as an observer.


| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 08/11/2016 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 27/04/2017 |
| Final act signed: | 17/05/2017 |
The purpose of the Commission proposal was to create a legally sound and transparent solution to ensure sustainable support for the European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) by including it in the Creative Europe programme as a body eligible for EU grants without a call for proposals.

In the Parliament, this question was a bone of contention, as this would give privileged status to one organisation over others. Nevertheless, there was recognition both of the achievements of the orchestra and of its merits in training young musicians and promoting EU values. It was also underlined that the orchestra is a unique body, created by a 1976 Parliament resolution and financially supported by the EU for the past 40 years, including through the Creative Europe programme and its predecessors. At the same time, the CULT Committee insisted that this solution was a one-off fix for a specific situation. It called on the orchestra to diversify its revenues by actively seeking financial support from other sources in order to guarantee its sustainability and reduce its dependence on Union funding. Therefore, the grant was limited until the end of the current Creative Europe programme (31 December 2020). Moreover, the orchestra was requested to ensure cost efficiency in its management.

For the EP, it was crucial for the financing of the orchestra not to be detrimental to the already under-financed Culture sub-programme within Creative Europe. It was therefore agreed with the Council to take the funds from both the Culture sub-programme and the Cross-sectoral strand of Creative Europe. Grants will contribute to the costs related to the activities of the EUYO, for example to the mobility of musicians, the circulation of European works across borders and to the internationalisation of the careers of young musicians. The orchestra is also required to engage actively in audience development, paying particular attention to young people, to seek to increase its visibility, including in both traditional and digital media, and to perform at European events and across more Member States.
The new Creative Europe programme, for which the first parliamentary reading has been concluded, is intended to support new actions on the mobility of artists and operators in the cultural and creative sectors, music, heritage and architecture. To achieve these ambitions, the EP report proposes a real-terms doubling of the budget (to 2 806 000 000 EUR in 2018 prices) and fixed percentages for the Culture, MEDIA and the Cross-Sectoral Strands.

The CULT report focuses on the intrinsic value of culture and the role of artists and cultural and creative operators, as well as their contribution to citizens’ personal development and social inclusion. The EP reintroduces European Added Value as a key objective of the programme and criterion for funding eligibility.

The EP wants to ensure that the main recipients of support for the development, production and circulation of audio-visual works are European independent production companies. Special attention is also paid to audience engagement, in particular young audiences, and film education. Parliament also supports the inclusion of the new objectives to promote media literacy, critical thinking and the freedom and diversity of the media.

For the Parliament, one of the shortcomings of the Commission proposal was data gathering and measuring the impact of the programme. In the EP’s view, the Commission should reinforce cooperation within its services to gather appropriate statistical data and measure and analyse the impact of cultural policies. Furthermore, the strands should have a common set of qualitative indicators, with a specific set of indicators for each strand.

In line with the Commission’s proposal, the European Union Youth Orchestra would become a designated beneficiary in the new programme. The same status would be accorded to the European Film Academy in order to facilitate the signature of the LUX Film Prize cooperation agreement with the EP.

Inter-institutional negotiations between Council and EP will start at the beginning of the new parliamentary term.
2.2. Non-legislative reports

2.2.1. Own-initiative reports

European film in the digital era

Given the global importance of the European film industry, the EP, in this resolution, made a series of recommendations to improve the promotion, cross-border distribution and accessibility of European films across the Union. To allow viewers greater access to European films, the EP stressed the need to increase legal avenues to access high-quality works and to raise awareness of the damaging effects of unauthorised use and dissemination of audiovisual works.

The EP also recommended further exploring the development of cross-border portability of audiovisual services, taking account of the rapid growth of Video-on-Demand (VOD) whilst ensuring greater availability of subtitled European films. Furthermore, the resolution underlines the essential role played by the MEDIA sub-programme under Creative Europe in supporting subtitling and dubbing. In addition, the EP encouraged distributors and cinema exhibitors to increase the visibility and availability of non-national European films, i.e. films that originate from another Member State. It also stressed the need to ensure adequate funding for the promotion and distribution of audiovisual works. Member States were invited to (i) increase public funding to support the distribution and promotion of both national films and non-national European films, (ii) promote incentives to facilitate the production, distribution and availability of European films and to (iii) apply the same reduced VAT rates to audiovisual works, whether sold online or offline.

The EP welcomed the Commission’s initiative to establish a European Film Forum in order to facilitate structured dialogue with stakeholders in the audiovisual sector on the challenges faced by the sector in the digital era. It also recalled the need to revise the Audiovisual Media Services Directive in order to ensure a genuine level playing field on the European audiovisual market with fair and equal conditions for all providers. Finally, the EP called on Member States to strengthen media and film literacy in school curricula and institutions of cultural education.

European Parliament resolution of 28 April 2015 on European film in the digital era - 2014/2148(INI)

| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 24/03/2015 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 28/04/2015 |
This own-initiative reports recalls that culture and cultural heritage are not only shared resources and common values that cannot be subject to exclusive use, but also that their full potential for sustainable human, social and economic development has yet to be fully recognised and properly exploited. This goes both for EU strategies and the UN post-2015 development goals.

The report considers that an integrated approach is necessary to foster cultural dialogue and mutual understanding. In this context, it addresses the following key recommendations to the Commission:

- to establish a common approach within the Commission through improved cooperation between the different policy areas dealing with cultural heritage, and to report back to Parliament on the results of this closer cooperation;
- to provide simple and easily accessible information (e.g. through a single platform) to potential beneficiaries and to exchange best practices within the EU on existing European funding sources for cultural heritage;
- to designate, for 2018, a European Year of Cultural Heritage, with an adequate budget, and to submit the draft programme for the European Year to Parliament no later than 2016;
- to acknowledge cultural heritage as both movable and immovable, tangible and intangible, and as a non-renewable resource whose authenticity must be preserved.

Other requests include the setting-up of a single EU portal dedicated to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and for Member States to look into possible tax incentives in relation to restoration, preservation and conservation work.
Intercultural dialogue may significantly contribute to the improvement of democracy and the development of greater and deeper inclusion and a sense of belonging. Parliament took stock of the work initiated during the 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue and called on all stakeholders to establish an up-to-date, clear, and policy-related definition of intercultural dialogue.

The EP advocated an intercultural, interfaith and values-based approach in the educational field in order to address and promote mutual respect, integrity, ethical principles, cultural diversity, social inclusion and cohesion, including through exchange and mobility programmes for all. The EU, as a global peace actor, should include culture and cultural exchanges and enhance education both in EU external relations and development policy.

The EP resolution considered that increasing public investment in inclusive, quality and accessible formal, non-formal and informal education is the first step to providing equal access and opportunities for all. Formal, non-formal and informal education and access to lifelong learning not only provide knowledge, skills and competences, but should also help learners to develop ethical and civic values and become active, responsible and open-minded members of society. It also stressed the importance of participation in sports and volunteering activities for fostering civic, social and intercultural skills.

Parliament also noted the essential role of teachers in strengthening – in cooperation with families – social ties, generating a sense of belonging and helping young people to develop ethical and civic values. Therefore, it encouraged mobility specifically for teachers from primary and secondary levels so that they can share experiences. The resolution also emphasised the role and importance of the Erasmus+ Programme, which fosters European awareness among young people and creates a sense of common belonging and a culture of intercultural dialogue.
A coherent EU policy for cultural and creative industries (CCIs)

Co-Rapporteurs:

Luigi MORGANO (S&D) - CULT

Christian EHLER (EPP) - ITRE

In December 2016, the EP adopted a report calling on the European Commission to develop a “comprehensive, coherent and long-term industrial policy framework for the cultural and creative sectors”. It calls on the EU to include adequate funding for CCIs in its strategic goals and overall priorities.

This joint report, drawn up in conjunction with the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, sees the cultural and economic potential of the sectors as mutually reinforcing: CCIs build bridges between the arts, culture, business and the economy, provide employment and contribute to GDP and should therefore be regarded as belonging both to cultural and industrial policies.

The report calls, inter alia, for a clear definition of cultural and creative industries to better monitor and support their development and economic impact. It calls on the Commission and the Member States to improve the investment environment and broaden the range of financing instruments available to micro-enterprises and SMEs in the cultural and creative sectors with new and innovative financing schemes, such as microcredit, repayable contributions, crowdfunding, risk capital finance, seed funding and venture capital. It also recognises the role of CCIs in communicating European values and serving as EU ambassadors on a global scale.

The resolution concludes that “CCIs have a key role to play in reindustrialising Europe, are a driver for growth and are in a strategic position to trigger innovative spill overs in other industrial sectors, such as tourism, retail, and digital technologies”.

Finally, it stresses that that the EU should take a leading role in promoting the important positive impact that the creative sectors have across Europe, so as to also promote policies that champion Europe’s most unique asset: its culture.

European Parliament resolution of 13 December 2016 on a coherent EU policy for cultural and creative industries - 2016/2072(INI)

Adoption of the report in Committee: 10/11/2016

Text adopted by Parliament: 13/12/2016
Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations

Co-Rapporteurs: Silvia COSTA (S&D) - CULT

In response to the Commission’s Communication “Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations”, the CULT and AFET Committees drew up a joint own-initiative report.

Parliament considered that culture should become an essential part of the political dialogue with third countries, and that there is a need to incorporate culture systematically into projects and programmes.

The EP stressed that culture is a powerful bridge between people of different ethnic, religious and social backgrounds, and reinforces intercultural and interreligious dialogue. Moreover, culture was also recognised as a tool to strengthen civil society and people-to-people contacts, to reinforce democratisation, to help prevent radicalisation and conflicts, and to disseminate EU values.

The resolution notes that young people should be one of the main target groups for music, film, street arts, social media and digital platform channels.

Parliament’s recommendations include proposals:

- to develop an effective EU strategy for international cultural relations, accompanied by an annual action plan;
- to provide a separate EU budget line to support international cultural relations and launch an EU programme on international mobility and exchange for young cultural professionals and artists;
- to include culture in all existing and future EU agreements with third countries;
- to create a Cultural Visa Programme, along the lines of the existing Scientific Visa Programme, for third-country nationals, artists and other professionals in the cultural field;
- to appoint a “focal point” in each EU delegation to liaise with Member State’s cultural institutes and local civil society and actors.

Elmar BROK (EPP) - AFET

Shadow Rapporteurs CULT:

B. A. ZDROJEWSKI (EPP)
A. DZHAMBAZKI (ECR)
M. T. GIMÉNEZ BARBAT (ALDE)
L. NÍ RIADA (GUE/NGL)
D. BILDE (ENF)
The Parliament resolution examines existing financial, educational, structural and technological barriers in accessing culture and identifies potential solutions to overcome them. It stresses the importance of an active and accessible cultural sector for the development of an inclusive society and more active European citizenship and recognises access to culture as a fundamental right of all citizens, notably disadvantaged groups, children and disabled people.

The resolution urges Member States to include access to, and participation in, cultural life and audience development as objectives in their cultural and digital strategies, and to support the use of digital technologies to facilitate access to cultural content. With respect to financial issues, the resolution calls on the Commission and the Member States not to cut culture budgets and increase investment in the cultural sector to boost local economies, promote cultural tourism and to strengthen synergies within the EU programmes and funds. The EP recommends the use of tax incentives for private sponsorship and reduced VAT rates to stimulate participation in culture.

As educational barriers seem to lie at the very core of the issue, building interest and understanding of culture through education is considered a priority in terms of increasing access and engaging audiences. The resolution calls on Member States to build cultural and artistic education into school curricula, and encourages them to set up free-time programmes for young people in cultural institutions. It also recommends the mainstreaming of the European Student Card and to add free access to EU cultural institutions to the advantages offered by the Card.

Concerning structural barriers, it highlights the role of small local cultural centres and transport infrastructure in facilitating access to cultural institutions and calls for investment in sustainable cultural tourism and for specific solutions for people with disabilities. Furthermore, the EP recommends that the Commission draw up a consistent digital strategy for cultural infrastructure and activities in order to strengthen their capacity.
New European Agenda for Culture

The Parliament resolution welcomed the New European Agenda for Culture proposed by the Commission as an opportunity to adopt a comprehensive and coherent policy for culture at European level. It highlighted the role of culture and the cultural and creative sectors as a driving force in pursuing the objectives of cohesion policy and social inclusion. The resolution deplored the fact that Creative Europe continues to be under-financed, and called for a doubling of the budget for the new programme and for fresh money to be allocated when new initiatives are launched.

In particular, the EP called on the Commission to:
- set up a single EU portal dedicated to cultural heritage, bringing together information from all relevant EU funding programmes;
- develop a “one-stop shop” portal listing all existing EU funding instruments in a user-friendly way;
- develop new approaches to systematic data collection for all cultural and creative sectors, and to ensure that effective statistical codes and more qualitative indicators are used to better shape cultural policies;
- introduce EU scoreboards in order to measure cultural and media pluralism, to develop indicators and to monitor freedom of artistic expression at European level;
- reinforce the visibility of European cinema through promoting the development of European platforms providing access to licensed EU films;
- put in place a single portal containing information on all available residency programmes and mobility opportunities;
- consider designating a “European cultural personality of the year” to celebrate the achievements of Europeans who have contributed to the flourishing of culture across the continent;
- report on how much funding is allocated to culture across all funding programmes and ensure that it amounts to at least 1% of the next MFF;
- report regularly on the implementation of international cultural relations and to increase resources for EU delegations for cultural promotion initiatives and projects;
- create cultural focal points in all EU delegations, offer training to officials and involve local and grassroots actors, civil society and international cultural networks.

European Parliament resolution of 11 December 2018 on the New European Agenda for Culture - 2018/2091(INI)

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<td>Text adopted by Parliament:</td>
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Drafted in the third year of the current Creative Europe programme, this report assessed the programme’s implementation and presented recommendations for its future.

As the programme is seriously under-financed, the EP urged Member States to increase the Creative Europe budget to bring it in line with its ambitions. The resolution also insisted on further work on qualitative impact indicators and to take a proactive approach to the admission of new countries, notably European Neighbourhood countries. It also called on the Commission to assess the feasibility of creating a European observatory on culture and creativity. The Executive Agency (EACEA) and the Commission were urged to further improve inter-service communication, as well as with Creative Europe Desks and potential beneficiaries. EACEA and the Commission were also asked to simplify the application, reporting and financial procedures. As regards the next generation of the programme, the resolution calls on the Commission to:

- enhance the programme’s consistency with all relevant EU policies and funding sources and explicitly include the promotion of cultural and artistic quality and the intrinsic value of culture as programme objectives;
- support cultural operators in finding partners for cooperation projects and with training opportunities;
- assess the effectiveness of the Guarantee Facility and ensure its balanced geographical and sectoral coverage;
- use the full potential of the cross-sectoral strand.

Concerning the MEDIA sub-programme, the EP called, among other things, for an increase in financing for subtitling and dubbing, for support for independent TV producers and cinema networks, and for a higher funding limit for European video games. For the Culture sub-programme, Parliament called on the Commission to balance the weight of the economic dimension with the intrinsic value of culture, to focus more on artists and creators, to enhance support for smaller-scale projects and operators, to establish a European Theatre Prize, to increase the visibility of the European Heritage Label and to support the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018.
### 2.3. Opinions

#### 2.3.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Import of cultural goods (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>S. Fisas Ayxelà (EPP)</td>
<td>07/06/2018</td>
<td>INTA/IMCO</td>
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<td><strong>2017/0158(COD)</strong></td>
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#### 2.3.2. Non-legislative opinions

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<tr>
<td>New challenges and concepts for the promotion of tourism in Europe</td>
<td>L. Morgano (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>14/07/2015</td>
<td>TRAN</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2014/2241(INI)</strong></td>
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<td>Cross-border restitution claims of works of art and cultural goods looted in armed conflicts and wars (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>N. Chountis (GUE/NGL)</td>
<td>23/01/2018</td>
<td>JURI</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2017/2023(INI)</strong></td>
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2.4. Public hearings
2.5. Other activities

CULT Interparliamentary Committee Meetings (ICMs)

2016

The CULT interparliamentary committee meeting on 11 October 2016 was dedicated to “Cultural and Creative Sectors in the EU”. The focus of the event was on the contribution of these sectors to preserving and promoting cultural and linguistic diversity, strengthening European and regional identity, and driving growth, innovation and employment in the EU. Parliamentarians from 17 Member States attended the meeting, which was held in the European Parliament in Brussels.

On 19 and 20 November 2018, the CULT Committee organised an interparliamentary committee meeting on “European Cultural Heritage”. The objective of the event, organised to mark the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, was to foster debate, discuss legislation, share experiences at national level, and explore future actions and ideas on how to ensure a long-term legacy for the European Year beyond 2018. Eighty Members, representatives and officials of national parliaments (including 16 Committee Chairs and 5 Vice-Chairs) from a total of 28 countries (22 EU and 6 candidate countries), and some 100 key stakeholders and experts attended the two-day event organised in Brussels.

2.6. Policy Department research

**European Historical Memory: Policies, Challenges and Perspectives**
Markus J. Prutsch - April 2015

**European Cultural Institutes Abroad**
Yolanda Smits, Clémentine Daubeuf, Philippe Kern - March 2016

**Creative Europe - implementation, first experiences**
Alain Modot, Laura Almantaité - June 2016

**The new role of public libraries in local communities**
Barbara Lison, Natascha Reip - June 2016

**Promoting media and information literacy in libraries**
Frank Huysmans - June 2016

**Culture and Education in CETA**
Michael Hahn, Pierre Sauvé - December 2016

**European Identity**
Markus J. Prutsch - April 2017

**ESIF and culture, education, youth & sport – the use of European Structural and Investment Funds in policy areas of the Committee**
Mike Coyne, Malin Carlberg, Caroline Chandler, Eugenie Lale-Demoz - May 2018

**Creative Europe: Towards the Next Programme Generation**
Philippe Kern, Arthur Le Gall, Teodora Pletosu - June 2018

**Education in Cultural Heritage**
Nicole Gesche-Koning - June 2018

**Mobility of artists and culture professionals: towards a European policy framework**
Clémentine Daubeuf, Teodora Pletosu, Philippe Kern, Arthur Le Gall - September 2018

**Best practices in sustainable management and safeguarding of cultural heritage in the EU**
Christer Gustafsson, Balázs Mellár - November 2018

**Film Financing and the Digital Single Market: its Future, the Role of territoriality and New Models of Financing**
Joost Poort, P. Bernt Hugenholtz, Peter Lindhout, Gijs van Til - January 2019
Cultural Work with Refugees

Committee on Culture and Education

Chair: Ms. Maria Kämper-Vert

Date: 9 November 2017
Time: 10:30 - 12:00
Venue: Altero Sprielli Building 4F2

Workshops
3. EDUCATION POLICY

Education - from early childhood to higher education - is a core competence of the CULT Committee. Education and training policy gained particular momentum at EU level with the adoption of the Europe 2020 Strategy and is key to preparing individuals to participate fully in society and to become active citizens. The EU plays a central role in supporting and supplementing efforts to improve and modernise the education systems of the Member States.

The CULT Committee has long advocated the creation of a European Education Area as a means to harness the full potential of education and culture as drivers for job creation, economic growth and social fairness, as well as to foster a European sense of belonging.

Erasmus+ is the main EU programme for education, training, youth and sport and the largest funding programme under the remit of the CULT Committee. At the end of the term, the Parliament adopted its first reading position on the new generation of Erasmus+ (2021-2027), which aims for an even more ambitious programme in terms of both budget and content.

Within the broader context of education and training, CULT worked with the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) to draw up a joint own-initiative report responding to the Commission Communication on the “New Skills Agenda for Europe”. And the two committees also jointly drew up a legislative report on the update of the Europass framework.

Other specific areas of education and training, in which the CULT Committee has been active in the current parliamentary term, include:

- Early childhood education and care;
- Automatic mutual recognition of higher education diplomas and learning periods abroad;
- Quality and effective apprenticeships;
- Teaching and learning of languages;
- The Bologna Process;
- Media literacy;
- Youth entrepreneurship.
3.1. Legislative reports

**Europass - Better services for skills and qualifications**

**Co-Rapporteurs:**

Svetoslav Hristov MALINOV (EPP) - CULT

The Europass framework promotes the transparency and understanding of skills and qualifications acquired in formal, non-formal and informal settings, including through practical experiences, mobility and volunteering. It consists of web-based tools and relevant available information provided through an online platform and is supported by national services.

Europass is aimed at:
- individual end-users, such as learners, job seekers, workers and volunteers
- relevant stakeholders, such as education and training providers, guidance practitioners, employers, public employment services, social partners, youth work providers, youth organisations and policy-makers

In the legislative procedure to update Europass, the EP, while agreeing to the need for revision, considered that "too much, too fast" might undermine the positive capital that Europass had built up over the years, and therefore advocated that some of the proposed changes be deferred in their implementation. An example is the use of ESCO (European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations framework), which the Commission initially proposed as a basis for Europass's reference terminology. The EP considered that ESCO remains essentially an untested and not fully developed pilot tool and has not been approved by Member States. As such, the use of ESCO remains voluntary in the legislative act.

Another issue of concern for the EP was the concept of “skills intelligence” and the link with data protection. The EP managed to introduce a clause stating that “Europass shall ensure the protection of the data of its users at all times. The user shall decide what information is visible and searchable for employers and users.” Furthermore, the EP successfully insisted on greater inclusion and accessibility.

**Decision (EU) 2018/646 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 April 2018 on a common framework for the provision of better services for skills and qualifications (Europass) and repealing Decision No 2241/2004/EC - 2016/0304(COD)**

| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 21/06/2017 |
| Text adopted by Parliament:         | 15/03/2018 |
| Final act signed:                   | 18/04/2018 |
That Erasmus+ is a success story and should get more financial backing is uncontroversial. The Commission proposal for the new programme proposed a near-doubling of the budget for the next seven years, a greater focus on making Erasmus more inclusive and simpler to navigate and a series of high-profile new education and youth initiatives, including ‘European Universities’ and DiscoverEU. The debate in CULT, therefore, centred on whether the Commission had been ambitious enough in budgetary terms and whether it had put in place robust measures that would allow it to deliver on its promises.

Apart from reverting to the Erasmus+ name in use for the current programme, the report backs a real-terms tripling of the budget. It takes the Commission’s stated desire to boost participation among people with fewer opportunities and proposes a series of wide-ranging and more specific measures. The Commission is required to develop an EU framework for inclusion measures within which national agencies would develop specifically tailored inclusion strategies. Where a lack of money or excess costs impede access, financial support must be provided. These measures are supported by a definition of “learning mobility” that is purely physical (no virtual exchanges can replace mobility) and a set of indicators to measure their impact.

The Commission proposal also sought to simplify the programme for beneficiaries and to create better synergies across EU funding programmes. Again, the report goes further, suggesting specific measures. It also expands the scope of some mobility actions (adult education, schools and sport) and ensures that European added value – defined broadly – remains a prerequisite for programme support as it is currently.

The report also insists on an ongoing role for the Parliament in approving, through delegated acts, the work programme with the secondary policy choices and budgetary priority-setting that are essential in a programme that needs flexibility over a 7-year period. This is likely to be a bone of contention when trilogue negotiations begin in the next parliament.


| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 20/02/2019 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 28/03/2019 |
With a very real prospect of a no-deal Brexit, the Parliament and Council reached a rapid inter-institutional agreement to ensure that people on an Erasmus+ learning mobility exchange on the date of the UK’s withdrawal can complete their exchange. On 30 January 2019, the European Commission presented a proposal, in line with its 19 December 2018 Contingency Action Plan, to provide for contingency measures for the Erasmus+ programme in the event of a no-deal Brexit (i.e. the UK leaving the Union without a withdrawal agreement in place). The Commission estimated that 14,000 EU-27 learners were in the UK at the end of January 2019 and 7,000 UK learners in the EU.

The CULT Committee applied the simplified procedure under the Rules of Procedure in order to expedite the process within the Parliament and kept amendments to the bare minimum to ensure that Parliament and Council could easily coalesce around a joint position.

The Regulation, which entered into force on 26 March 2019, applies to mobility actions that have started prior to the UK’s departure. It is therefore a temporary measure. It could apply for a maximum of 12 months in theory since the maximum period of an Erasmus+ exchange is 12 months, although exchange activities more typically run for an academic year or less.

The text will only enter into force in the absence of ratification of the negotiated withdrawal agreement between the EU and the UK.
3.2. Non-legislative reports

3.2.1. Own-initiative reports

Follow-up on the implementation of the Bologna Process

This resolution shed light on the most important aspects of the Bologna Process and the most pressing issues ahead of the 2015 Ministerial Conference in Yerevan. Parliament recalled that the Bologna Process could help tackle the skills mismatch in the Union by enabling students to acquire and develop the competences required by the labour market, enhancing their employability.

It is widely agreed that the launch of the European Higher Education Area has made higher education structures more comparable. At the same time, mobility has been increased, quality assurance systems for the recognition of diplomas have been put in place, and the quality of educational systems as well as the attractiveness of higher education in Europe has improved.

In this context, Parliament noted that there was still much work to be done to adjust educational systems to labour market needs, improve overall employability and competitiveness, and boost the attractiveness of higher education. The EP stressed, in particular, that European higher education institutions should be able to react quickly to economic, cultural and technological changes in modern societies in order to fully exploit their potential to encourage growth and increase employability and social cohesion.

Parliament called on Member States to strengthen mobility by fostering language learning, removing administrative obstacles, providing adequate financial support mechanisms and guaranteeing the transferability of grants, scholarships and credits. Whilst stressing the need to provide broad opportunities for lifelong learning, the EP also encouraged efforts to strengthen the link between higher education, research and innovation, including through the promotion of research-based education, and called for better synchronisation of actions supporting the Bologna Process (e.g., Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+).

European Parliament resolution of 28 April 2015 on follow-up on the implementation of the Bologna Process - 2015/2039(INI)

| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 24/03/2015 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 28/04/2015 |

Rapporteur:

Krystyna ŁYBACKA (S&D)

Shadow Rapporteurs:

M. ZVER (EPP)
A. LEWER (ECR)
F. MAURA BARANDIARÁN (ALDE)
L. NÍ RIADA (GUE/NGL)
E. MARAGALL (Greens/EFA)
I. ADINOLFI (EFDD)
Learning EU at school

Rapporteur:

Damian DRĂGHICI (S&D)

Based on the realisation that insufficient knowledge about the EU and poor understanding of its concrete added-value contributes to the perception of a democratic deficit and leads to widespread Euro-scepticism, this resolution outlines strategies to tackle the growing gap between the voice of European citizens and the EU institutions. The report argues that an EU dimension in education should enable learners not only to acquire knowledge and develop a sense of European belonging and citizenship skills, but also to engage in a critical reflection on the EU, in particular through learning about EU fundamental values, EU governance and decision-making processes.

The Parliament resolution makes the following key recommendations:

- the EU should be more visible, and better integrated, in teaching materials and extra-curricular activities;
- active and participative teaching methods should be tailored to the learner’s age and level, exploiting fully the opportunities offered by the information and communication technologies and the media, including social media;
- teachers should be provided with appropriate support and resources to enable them to incorporate an EU dimension into their teaching;
- educators should be encouraged to develop and improve their multi-lingual and intercultural skills; mobility opportunities, peer-to-peer learning and exchanges of best practices among teaching staff should also be promoted;
- options for specialised qualification courses within universities should be provided.

European Parliament resolution of 12 April 2016 on Learning EU at school - 2015/2138(INI)
Adoption of the report in Committee: 25/01/2016
Text adopted by Parliament: 12/04/2016
The introduction of Erasmus+ as the successor to various smaller education exchange programmes marked a major step for mobility as a concept across the European higher education area. However, mobility continues to be less prevalent in vocational educational training (VET). Combining the programmes into Erasmus+, on the one hand, and the after-effects of the economic crisis observed since 2008, on the other, revealed a structural deficit within vocational training mobility programmes.

In its resolution, the Parliament insisted on the need to facilitate mobility in Erasmus+ by taking action to raise the success rate of applications and by simplifying the design and the use of electronic tools for mobility management.

Moreover, the resolution called for awareness-raising of the value of mobility programmes in all general and vocational education establishments in the Union, and for better-targeted information and training for programme beneficiaries and intermediaries. Parliament called on the Commission, the Member States and public employment bodies to publicise the Erasmus+ Programme and to develop other tools to promote mobility in the area of VET, in particular among SMEs. The EP underlined that that such schemes must be accessible to all citizens without discrimination and therefore called for the targeting of groups at risk of unemployment, such as people with disabilities.

The resolution recalled that, at present, only 1% of young people in work-related training schemes, including apprentices, are involved in mobility schemes during their training. It pointed to the need to create the conditions for greater apprentice mobility within the EU, in order to give apprentices the same opportunities as higher education students. Parliament, therefore, encouraged the development of a “European Apprentice” statute.

In addition, the EP called on the Commission to present, and Member States to endorse, a proposal for an EU apprenticeship scheme that would guarantee a set of rights for apprentices and VET learners.
Follow-up of the Strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET2020)

In its resolution on ET2020, Parliament regretted the persistence of major problems in terms of quality, accessibility and socio-economic discrimination in education and training. It therefore called for more ambitious, coordinated and effective policy actions at both European and national level. The EP welcomed the narrowing of the number of ET2020 priority areas to six, but noted that the effectiveness and the operational aspects of ET2020 need to be enhanced and a work programme adopted.

Parliament acknowledged the role civil society organisations play in reaching out to local, regional and national stakeholders and citizens with respect to European cooperation in education and training and called for them to receive financial support under Erasmus+ and the European Social Fund.

Pointing to the risks linked with increasing radicalisation, violence, bullying and behavioural problems starting at the primary level, Parliament called on the Commission to conduct research at EU level and to present an overview of the situation in all Member States.

The EP also welcomed the new ET2020 priority of improving support for teachers and enhancing their status, thus making their profession more attractive. Moreover, Parliament stressed that investing in early childhood education and care brings greater returns than investing in any other stage of education.

In addition, Parliament called for greater inclusiveness in education and training to cater for people with disabilities and with special needs. It stressed the important role of mobility programmes, such as Erasmus+, in stimulating the development of transversal skills among young people.

European Parliament resolution of 23 June 2016 on follow-up of the Strategic Framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020) - 2015/2281(INI)

Adoption of the report in Committee: 26/04/2016
With education systems facing significant challenges as a result of the digital transformation, this own-initiative report stresses the importance of new, flexible and accessible forms of lifelong learning in successfully addressing some of those challenges, such as social exclusion, early school leaving and skills mismatches.

The resolution calls for the better inclusion and retention of citizens in the labour market, backed up by improvements in their skills through academic further and distance education and vocational and educational training (VET). Furthermore, it argues that academic further education and distance education should be woven into the European lifelong learning strategy. Taking note of the differences in regulatory frameworks, the resolution also suggests better coordination of existing European transparency instruments, such as the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET).

Concrete recommendations include:

- fostering cooperation and the exchange of best practices between education systems;
- encouraging the sharing of best practices by national quality assurance agencies with a view to developing criteria for the recognition of new modes of teaching and learning;
- revising the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) to promote the comparability of qualifications between the countries covered in the EQF and other countries;
- reinforcing the Commission’s support for further university education and distance learning through the Erasmus+ programme;
- creating a user-friendly online digital platform that would serve as a one-stop shop to facilitate the exchange of best practices between education professionals and students.
The Parliament resolution, based on a joint CULT-EMPL report, welcomed the Commission Communication on a New Skills Agenda and acknowledged that the EU needs a paradigm shift in the goals and functioning of the education sector in line with the fast-changing economic, technological and societal environment.

Although the focus of the skills package is the immediate needs of the labour market, the report stressed that it is important not only to concentrate on employability skills, but also on skills that are useful to society and foster citizenship, and to go beyond promoting the “right occupational skills” and to focus on more practical aspects of education.

Moreover, the resolution argues for a more comprehensive approach to the upskilling of migrants, including through social entrepreneurship, civic education and informal learning. It stresses the crucial role of education in the fight against unemployment, social exclusion and poverty, and the need to adequately resource public education systems.

Furthermore, the resolution criticises the lack of foresight within the New Skills Agenda in relation to the early stages of education. Parliament therefore calls on Member States to invest in early childhood education and care in order to increase quality and adopt measures to reduce early school leaving.

In addition, it suggests that greater importance should be given to STEM education to improve digital learning and teaching, and that elements of entrepreneurial learning, including social entrepreneurship, should be included at all levels of education. The EP also highlights the need to invest in and support the initial and continuing professional development of teachers in all sectors of education.


Adoption of the report in Committee: 21/06/2017
Text adopted by Parliament: 14/09/2017
The CULT report stressed the crucial role of education in shaping the future of Europe both economically and socially, while providing for the needs of European citizens and building a community of diverse citizens united by their common core values.

Parliament stressed the need for an all-encompassing approach to education policy, with strong political and public support, which is vital to the educational reform process. To that end, it is essential to involve both society as a whole and all relevant actors, including parents.

The report covers all levels of education, from early childhood to higher education, stressing the role of teachers as guarantors of quality teaching.

Concrete recommendations for the effective development and implementation of the education reform process include:

- making school education more flexible in order to improve the response to the actual living circumstances of students;
- encouraging more STEAM initiatives (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) at school;
- fostering more inclusive and accessible mobility of students, trainees, trainee teachers, researchers and administrative staff;
- developing comprehensive strategies and tools to determine the quality of new modes of teaching and learning, e.g. open online and e-learning courses.

Moreover, Parliament highlights the value of innovation and the potential of new information and communication technologies in offering new opportunities in education.

Parliament also calls on Member States to support the creation of a European Education Area that should focus on achieving common objectives, including ensuring quality education for all, and to strengthen cooperation in the development and implementation of these objectives.
The CULT report underlines that multilingualism in the digital era is lacking attention from both national and EU policy-makers. Effective policies and programmes are needed to overcome language barriers in the digital single market in order to foster the accessibility of culture and bridge the digital divide.

The resolution insists on the need to make better use of new technological approaches, based on increased computational power and better access to sizeable amounts of data, to foster the development of deep-learning neural networks, which make human language technologies a real solution to the problem of language barriers.

According to the resolution, languages with fewer speakers need proper support from stakeholders, keyboard manufacturers and content management systems, so that content in those languages can be stored, processed and displayed. The resolution argues that the digital single market remains fragmented owing, inter alia, to language barriers. This hinders online commerce, communication via social networks and other channels, the cross-border exchange of cultural, creative and audiovisual content, and the wider deployment of European public services. Moreover, it is argued that cultural diversity and multilingualism in Europe could benefit from cross-border access to content, particularly for educational purposes.

The EP calls on the Commission to assess the most appropriate means to ensure language equality in the digital age, and to develop a strong and coordinated strategy for a multilingual digital single market.
As digital technologies become more prevalent in society and in the economy and with the EU suffering a persistent digital skills gap and worrying disparities across Member States and social groups, the need to do more to develop digital skills is uncontested. The questions at the heart of the report were therefore whether the EU is doing enough and whether the EU has struck the right balance between digital and other key skills.

The resolution, drawn up partly in response to the Commission’s January 2018 “Digital Education Action Plan”, welcomes the increased focus on digital skills and applauds the funding available for digital skills initiatives in the next MFF. However, it calls for a much more joined-up policy approach and a bolder long-term vision through an over-arching EU digital skills strategy. Central to the policy response on digital skills is the recognition that it must be anchored in a lifelong learning approach, with targeted interventions for different population groups. With respect to children, the resolution argues for age-appropriate education on cyber hygiene, digital literacy, media literacy, data protection and the risks of the Internet. Within schools, it emphasises the need to provide continuous training for teachers (and the time and space to do that training), and to involve them in curriculum design.

A particular challenge is in providing upskilling and reskilling opportunities, both within the workplace and for adults who are out of work. The resolution highlights this glaring omission from the Action Plan and calls for inclusion measures to reach people from disadvantaged groups. It also notes that inadequate connectivity – particular in remote areas – and insufficient digital equipment hamper the ability of education and training institutions to make the most of digital opportunities.

As the Action Plan is rolled out, the resolution stresses the need for effective monitoring and evaluation both of policy delivery and of digital skills levels. Tools like the Digital Competences Framework need constant updating and better take-up. Finally, the resolution calls for a robust mid-term review of the Action Plan in 2020, which will identify those areas that merit further or enhanced development and equally those that should be jettisoned because they have not worked.

**Education in the digital era**

**Rapporteur:**
Yana TOOM
(ALDE)

**Shadow Rapporteurs:**
S. H. MALINOVA (EPP)
L. RODRIGUES (S&D)
R. SERNAGIOTTO
(ECR)
M. MICHELSON (GUE/NGL)
J. EVANS (Greens/EFA)
I. ADINOLFI (EFDD)
D. BILDE (ENF)

**European Parliament resolution of 11 December 2018 on education in the digital era: challenges, opportunities and lessons for EU policy design - 2018/2090 (INI)**

| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 20/11/2018 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 11/12/2018 |
3.2.2. Implementation reports

Implementation report on Erasmus+

The report evaluates the first years of implementation of the current Erasmus+ programme and formulates recommendations for its future. Praising the commitment rate of the budget, which had reached nearly 100%, the resolution recalled that Erasmus+ plays a vital role in fostering European identity and integration, solidarity, inclusive and sustainable growth, quality employment, competitiveness, social cohesion and youth labour mobility by making a positive contribution to the improvement of European education and training systems.

Parliament recommended that, in order to deliver a broader and more accessible programme, bureaucratic burdens have to be further reduced. This can be achieved, for example, by simplifying procedures, in particular for smaller organisations. The resolution insisted on the importance of improving the visibility of the programme’s sector-specific formats (e.g. Grundtvig workshops) and underlined the importance of safeguarding the long-standing ‘brand’ names (Comenius, Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus, Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig and Youth in Action).

The resolution also recommended strengthening the school education dimension of the programme, to enable more mobility for pupils at all levels. In addition, the EP insisted on the recognition of international qualifications at all levels, incorporation of refugee projects into the Programme and reinforcement of the cross-sectoral dimension.

Most importantly, Parliament called for a further budget increase for the next programme generation under the new Multiannual Financial Framework as an essential pre-condition for the continued success of Erasmus+.


Adoption of the report in Committee: 05/12/2016
Text adopted by Parliament: 02/02/2017
### 3.3. Opinions

#### 3.3.1. Non-legislative opinions

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<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating a competitive EU labour market for the 21st century:</td>
<td>I. Kyuchyuk (ALDE)</td>
<td>05/05/2015</td>
<td>EMPL</td>
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<td>matching skills and qualifications with demand and job opportunities,</td>
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<td>as a way to recover from the crisis</td>
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<td>Empowering girls through education in the EU</td>
<td>E. Maragall (Greens/EFA)</td>
<td>05/05/2015</td>
<td>FEMM</td>
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<td>2014/2250(INI)</td>
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3.4. Public hearings
3.5. Other activities

CULT Interparliamentary Committee Meeting on “Education and Youth”
2015

On 3 December 2015, the CULT Committee organised an interparliamentary committee meeting on “Education & Youth”, to which the national parliaments of all EU Member States were invited. The aim was to discuss education and youth policies, which are closely connected at both the EU national levels. Parliamentarians from 12 Member States attended the meeting, which was held in the European Parliament in Brussels. The main topics of debate included the recent Youth Report jointly adopted by the Council and the Commission, youth policies, the role of Erasmus+ and the social inclusion of young people.

3.6. Policy Department research

**University Quality Indicators: a Critical Assessment**
Bernd Wächter, Maria Kelo, Queenie K.H. Lam, Philipp Effertz, Christoph Jist, Stefanie Kottowski - April 2015

**Internationalisation of Higher Education**
Hans de Wit, Fiona Hunter, Laura Howard, Eva Egron-Polak - July 2015

**Schools and Education in the Digital Era: the Case of Finland**
Kirsti Lonka, Vincent Cho - August 2015

**Adult Education and Open Education Resources**
Paul Bacsich, Giles Pepler, Sara Frank Bristow, Ebba Ossiannilsson, Alistair Creelman, Eva Szalma and Ilmars Slaidins - September 2015

**Evaluation of Education at the European Level**
Gábor Halász - February 2016

**Language teaching and learning within EU Member States**
Waldemar Martyniuk - June 2016

**European Strategy on Multilingualism - Policy and Implementation at the EU level**
Nick Saville, Esther Gutierrez Eugenio - July 2016

**Erasmus+: Decentralised Implementation – First Experiences**
Irina Ferencz, Marija Mitić, Bernd Wächter - July 2016

**European Strategy for Multilingualism: Benefits and Costs**
Michele Gazzola, - October 2016

**Migrant Education: Monitoring and Assessment**
Miguel Àngel Essomba, Anna Tarrés, Núria Franco-Guillén - February 2017

**Teaching Common Values in Europe**
Wiel Veugelers, Isolde de Groot, Vincent Stolk - April 2017

**Minority languages and education: best practices and pitfalls**
Rixt van Dongera, Corvan der Meer, Richt Sterk - May 2017

**Modernisation of Higher Education**
Irina Ferencz, Bernd Wächter - October 2017
Erasmus+: Towards a New programme Generation
Paul Vroonhof, Amber van der Graaf, Bert-Jan Buiskool - June 2018

Digital Skills in the 21st century
Justina Vaikutytė-Paškauskė, Justina Vaičiukynaitė, Donatas Pocius - August 2018

Science and Scientific Literacy as an Educational Challenge
Hanna Siarova, Dalibor Sternadel, Eszter Szőnyi - March 2019

How to tackle early school leaving in the EU
Amber van der Graaf, Paul Vroonhof, Georgios Roullis, Federica Velli - March 2019
Workshops

**Youth Education & Entrepreneurship**
- **Date:** 24 March 2015
- **Time:** 10:00 - 12:30
- **Venue:** Room A002
- **Chair:** Ma Silvia Costa

**Innovative Schools – Teaching & Learning in the Digital Era**
- **Date:** 04 May 2015
- **Time:** 10:00 - 17:30
- **Venue:** Room A002
- **Chair:** Ma Silvia Costa

**The New Role of Public Libraries**
- **Date:** 20 June 2015
- **Time:** 10:00 - 17:00
- **Venue:** Room A002
- **Chair:** Ma Silvia Costa

**The Implementation of the European Strategy on Multilingualism**
- **Date:** 18 July 2015
- **Time:** 10:00 - 17:30
- **Venue:** Room A002
- **Chair:** Ma Silvia Costa
YOUTH POLICY
4. YOUTH POLICY

Articles 165 and 166 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union form the basis for EU policies in the field of youth, which is mainly national competence. At European level, complementary measures are taken under the EU Youth Strategy - a flexible framework for EU youth policy cooperation for 2019-2027, based on the Council Resolution of 26 November 2018 and working on the basis of the Open Method of Coordinating. In addition, various EU programmes also address young people in various different ways.

Erasmus+ contains a specific chapter on youth, for which approximately EUR 2.1 billion has been set aside for the 2014-2020 period to improve skills, boost social inclusion and enhance solidarity, and to support the international dimension of youth activities through enhanced mobility.

The European Solidarity Corps is a new initiative launched in 2016 to foster solidarity through volunteering, traineeships and jobs. It aims to empower young people to further develop their skills, and to meet real community needs and challenges.

The Parliament, and the CULT Committee in particular, are strong supporters of open and structured dialogue with young people. Every two years, the EP organises the “European Youth Event” - an interactive forum aimed at stimulating active citizenship among young people. In addition, the CULT Committee routinely organises hearings and dialogues with youth organisations. To encourage young people to pursue European projects of their own, the EP launched the European Charlemagne Youth Prize in 2008. The prize is awarded every year to projects promoting European and international understanding and the winners are invited to present their projects in the CULT Committee.
4.1. Legislative reports

European Solidarity Corps (2018-2020)

The Commission proposal creates the legal base for the European Solidarity Corps (though the scheme began in late 2016 as an offshoot of Erasmus+ without a stand-alone legal base), defining its budgetary arrangements, and setting its objectives. The proposal also divided the Corps into two strands - “volunteering” and “occupational” - with a series of actions covering volunteering, traineeships and/or jobs, solidarity projects and networking activities. The proposal also sought to ensure a high-quality experience for participants.

The Parliament’s position underlined that volunteering was to be the core of the programme by allocating 95% of the budget to that strand. It also requested the use of fresh money for the overall funding of the programme in order to avoid any burdening of existing programmes, such as Erasmus+, LIFE or the European Social Fund. This was an approach agreed with all the opinion-giving committees.

An agreement was reached with Council after only two trilogue meetings. In the end, the overall budget for the period 2018-2020 was set at of EUR 375.6 million (90% allocated to volunteering activities and 10% to traineeships or jobs). The programme supports high-quality, non-profit solidarity activities for a maximum of 12 months, with a particular focus on the inclusion of disadvantaged young people.

The programme also provides young people aged between 18 and 30 with the opportunity to improve their skills and thereby enhance their personal, social, civic and professional development. The high quality of the placements is guaranteed by a quality label attributed to organisations fulfilling specific requirements.

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<td>21/02/2018</td>
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<td>Text adopted by Parliament:</td>
<td>11/09/2018</td>
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<td>Final act signed:</td>
<td>02/10/2018</td>
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</table>
The Commission’s proposal for a new European Solidarity Corps Programme (2021-2027) aims to create opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in solidarity-oriented projects. Its objective is to empower young people across all socio-economic backgrounds to develop their skills and competences, while addressing real community needs and challenges.

As with the current Regulation, the Parliament focuses on the core volunteering dimension of the programme so as to ensure that young people (aged 18-30) can engage in solidarity activities. It backs the possibility provided for in the proposal for young people to engage in humanitarian aid actions outside the EU, which is now also open to highly qualified and trained participants. Parliament insists on facilitating access for disadvantaged young people and for candidates to be given personalised guidance, help with registration, evaluation and feedback tools and proper training prior to their participation, including through web-based tools (e.g. online and offline language courses). While the European Solidarity Corps will mainly support cross-border solidarity activities, the EP requests that, in particular cases, candidates be allowed to join in-country activities if they have a strong European dimension and include participants from other countries.

The EP supports the overall budget of €1.26 billion proposed by the Commission. Unlike the Commission’s proposal, however, the EP has introduced a clear breakdown of the Programme’s budget for each strand, allocating 86% of the overall budget to volunteering, 8% to traineeships and jobs and 6% to humanitarian aid activities.

In order to be eligible for support under the Solidarity Corps, Parliament insists that participating organisations adhere to a number of principles and obtain a quality label by type of activity, which will be regularly re-evaluated.

Parliament will start negotiating its first reading position with the Council after the European elections.

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| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 04/02/2019 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 12/03/2019 |
4.2. Non-legislative reports

4.2.1. Own-initiative reports

Promoting youth entrepreneurship through education and training

Rapporteur:

Michaela ŠOJDROVÁ (EPP)

Shadow Rapporteurs:

D. DRĂGHICI (S&D)
A. LEWER (ECR)
I. KYUCHYUK (ALDE)
L. NÍ RIADA (GUE/NGL)
H. TRÚPEL (Greens/EFA)
I. ADINOLFI (EFDD)

The CULT report emphasises the importance of entrepreneurial skills and competences, acknowledging the important role played by lifelong learning and international mobility. Parliament called on Member States to promote entrepreneurial skills for young people through legislative action aimed at ensuring quality traineeships and focusing on quality learning and decent working conditions. It stressed the need for a broad and clear definition of the key competence “sense of initiative and entrepreneurship”. This involves fostering an entrepreneurial mind-set characterised by pro-activeness, creativity, innovation and risk-taking. Parliament also stressed the need for a comprehensive approach to entrepreneurship based on a set of transversal key competences for personal and professional purposes.

Parliament also emphasised the need to: (i) develop innovative, more participative and learner-centred teaching methods; (ii) encourage dual training and company-sponsored study programmes; and (iii) encourage full engagement among all stakeholders, in particular local business associations, businesses and educational institutions.

Furthermore, Parliament called on the Council and the Commission to develop methodological support and tools for national education systems in the area of entrepreneurship education and training, including social entrepreneurship.

Parliament called on the Commission in particular to:

- increase support for young entrepreneurs under the European Structural and Investment Funds;
- establish entrepreneurial traineeships and exchange programmes to give young people hands-on experience;
- draw up a comprehensive strategy for developing transversal skills;
- support partnerships between educational institutions and companies via the use of the European Fund for Strategic Investment and the European Social Fund.

European Parliament resolution of 8 September 2015 on promoting youth entrepreneurship through education and training - 2015/2006(INI)

Adoption of the report in Committee: 14/07/2015
Text adopted by Parliament: 08/09/2015
The report called for the different EU programmes dealing with youth policies to be better communicated, implemented and coordinated in order to respond to future social and educational challenges. It considered the Open Method of Coordination as an appropriate, but still insufficient, means for framing youth policies that needs to be complemented by other measures. Parliament reiterated its call for closer cooperation and exchange of best practices on youth issues at local, regional, national and EU level, as well as clear indicators and benchmarks in order for progress to be monitored.

The Parliament stressed that the 2016-2018 cycle of the EU Youth Strategy should identify and tackle the causes of youth unemployment, such as early school leaving. Furthermore, the Youth Strategy should foster entrepreneurship among young people and boost investment in education, internships, apprenticeships and vocational training in line with the opportunities and needs of the labour market. At the same time, the Strategy should also facilitate the transition to the labour market through measures ensuring better coordination of education programmes, employment policy and labour market demands.

Parliament called on Member States to guarantee that young people are either in employment, in education or undergoing vocational (re)training at the latest four months after leaving school and to ensure that the next cycle of the Strategy includes young refugees and asylum seekers under its objectives, as well as young people with disabilities.

Furthermore, the EP reiterated the importance of strengthening an open dialogue with young people and involve young people and youth organisations in shaping the new EU youth cooperation framework after 2018.
4.2.2. Implementation reports

Implementation report of the EU Youth Strategy

Rapporteur:

Eider GARDIAZABAL RUBIAL (S&D)

The CULT implementation report on the EU Youth Strategy sets the policy framework for the Commission's recommendations on the renewal of the strategy in 2018. Most importantly, the report recommends concrete measures to strengthen and improve the future EU Youth Strategy. The report underlines, inter alia, the lack of clearly established benchmarks and indicators, which makes it difficult to identify priorities and measure achievements. It also calls for a better-coordinated strategy focusing on fewer priority areas, with a horizontal cross-sectoral approach.

The Parliament recalls that long-term austerity measures, including budget cuts in education, culture and youth policies, have had a negative impact on the situation of young people, with the most disadvantaged hit hardest by rising inequality, the risk of exclusion and discrimination.

Parliament therefore recommends that the future Youth Strategy should be developed in consultation with young people and focused on empowering them to participate in society by developing specific measures and developing new tools. The resolution also calls for the promotion of exchanges based on solidarity, community engagement, and democratic dialogue.

With a view to including new skills and civic, social and intercultural competences in education, Parliament underlines the importance of non-formal and informal learning, quality internships and apprenticeships, as well as the key role played by sport and volunteering activities. In addition, young people, especially those with fewer opportunities, should be enabled to play an active role in public life and participate in decision-making processes at local, regional and EU level through an inclusive and transparent structured dialogue.

The EP also calls for structural labour market reforms for young people, including in the VET sector.

Shadow Rapporteurs:

S. H. MALINOV (EPP)
A. DZHAMBAZKI (ECR)
I. KYUCHYUK (ALDE)
M. MICHELS (GUE/NGL)
H. TRÜPEL (Greens/EFA)
I. ADINOLFI (EFDD)
D. BILDE (ENF)

European Parliament resolution of 31 May 2018 on the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy - 2017/2259(INI)

Adoption of the report in Committee: 25/04/2018
Text adopted by Parliament: 31/05/2018
## 4.3. Opinions

### 4.3.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase of the initial pre-financing amount paid to operational programmes supported by the YEI</td>
<td>S. Guillaume (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>16/04/2015</td>
<td>EMPL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2015/0026(COD)*

### 4.3.2. Non-legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skills policies for fighting youth unemployment</td>
<td>Z. Krasnodębski (ECR)</td>
<td>15/10/2015</td>
<td>EMPL</td>
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*2015/2088(INI)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control of spending and monitoring of EU Youth Guarantee schemes cost-effectiveness</td>
<td>T. Comodini Cachia (EPP)</td>
<td>21/06/2017</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2016/2242(INI)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The implementation of the Youth Employment Initiative in the Member States</td>
<td>M. Nekov (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>22/11/2017</td>
<td>EMPL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2017/2039(INI)*
4.4. Public hearings
4.5. Other activities

CULT Interparliamentary Committee Meeting on Education & Youth

(See the Education chapter)

EU-Africa cooperation in education, culture and political participation of young people

As part of the “Africa Week” launched by President Tajani, a series of events took place in the European Parliament during the week of 20-24 November 2017. The objective was both to increase the visibility of the Parliament within EU-Africa relations and to contribute to the preparation of the 5th Africa-EU Summit on 29-30 November 2017 in Abidjan, with “youth” being the central theme of the summit. Within this context, the CULT Committee held an exchange of views on EU-Africa cooperation in the field of education, culture and the political participation of young people. During a 2-hour event, several experts presented their views on recent developments in the Africa-EU partnership in these fields.
In 2017, the European Parliament - with the active involvement of the CULT Committee - celebrated the 30th anniversary of Erasmus with an award ceremony in Strasbourg. Parliament President Antonio Tajani and Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker welcomed 33 Erasmus participants (one from each country taking part in the programme) to a ceremony in the EP plenary. Celebrations included an exhibition on Erasmus+, as well as debates on the future of the programme.

Since its launch in 1987, more than nine million people have been able to study, work and volunteer abroad with the help of Erasmus, which has become one of the most successful and best-known European programmes. Its 30th anniversary was also marked with conferences, forums, dialogues, celebrations, debates and exhibitions throughout Europe.
4.6. Policy Department research

**Youth Education & Entrepreneurship**
Elizabeth Chell, Laura Rosendahl Huber - March 2015

**European Solidarity Corps and volunteering**
Simon Broek, Bert-Jan Buiskool - September 2017

Workshops
5. SPORTS POLICY

Article 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides the basis for EU sports policy and a European dimension in sport. Again, sports policy remains primarily a national competence. EU policies are designed principally to support fair and open competition and to protect the physical and moral integrity of sportspeople. EU sports policy places the volunteering, grassroots dimension of sport at the heart of its actions.

During the 8th term, the CULT Committee has dealt with several issues related to sports policy. Central to its work was a comprehensive own-initiative report on sports policy. Beyond that, the Committee drew up an opinion in support of the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events and has sought, unsuccessfuully, to move forward with the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, which has stalled in the Council. During the plenary in July 2016, the Committee tabled an oral question to the Commission on match-fixing, asking for a full commitment to ratify the Convention.

The Committee also sends Members to attend and speak at the annual European Week of Sport in September and, in May 2015, held a joint hearing with the Human Rights Sub-Committee dedicated to the human rights at large sporting events.
5.1. Non-legislative reports

5.1.1. Own-initiative reports

An integrated approach to sport policy

Rapporteur: Hannu TAKKULA (ALDE)

Shadow Rapporteurs:
- S. FISAS AYXELÀ (EPP)
- M. MIZZI (S&D)
- E. MCCLARKIN (ECR)
- N. CHOUNTIS (GUE/NGL)
- R. D’AMATO (EFDD)
- D. BILDE (ENF)

The report takes stock of developments in sports policy, provides recommendations for the Commission’s work on evaluating its implementation and sends a clear message to Member States and to the organised sports sector. The Parliament calls on the Commission to allocate more funds under Erasmus+ with a focus on grassroots sports and to ensure sustainable financial support for dual-career exchange programmes. It also encourages the Member States and the Commission to make physical activity a political priority in the next EU Work Plan on Sport and underlines the importance of education through sport and its inclusiveness.

In the wake of recent corruption scandals in sport, the resolution calls for zero-tolerance towards corruption and other sports-related crime. It calls on sports organisations at all levels to commit to good governance and to develop a culture of transparency by making financial records publicly available and by putting forward concrete proposals to enhance good governance standards by 2018. Transparency registers for the payment of sports agents should be established and monitored in order to tackle agent malpractice. Bidding to host major events should comply with good governance standards, human and labour rights and the principle of democracy.

Member States are encouraged to:
- make public funding for sports conditional on compliance with minimum governance, monitoring and reporting standards;
- establish dedicated prosecution services for sports fraud cases and designate match-fixing as a specific criminal offence;
- step up the fight against doping by reinforcing national testing programmes, legislation governing coordination and information-sharing and cooperation with WADA.

The resolution also condemns all forms of discrimination and violence in sport. Finally, it urges the Council to find a solution enabling the EU and the Member States to ratify the Council of Europe Match-Fixing Convention.

European Parliament resolution of 2 February 2017 on an integrated approach to Sport Policy: good governance, accessibility and integrity - 2016/2143(INI)

| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 05/12/2016 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 02/02/2017 |
5.2. Opinions

5.2.1. Non-legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposal for a Council decision authorising Member States to become party, in the interest of the European Union, to the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security, and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events</td>
<td>E. McClarkin (ECR)</td>
<td>04/02/2019</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018/0116(NLE)

5.3. Public hearings
5.4. Policy Department research

The role of sport in fostering open and inclusive societies
Ian Henry - September 2015

The economic dimension of sport
Anna Kleissner, Günther Grohall - September 2015

Integrity and good governance in sport
David Walsh - December 2015

Qualifications/dual careers in sports
Laura Capranica, Flavia Guidotti - February 2016

Workshops
6. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Besides its far-reaching competences in the fields of education, culture, audiovisual and sports policy, the CULT Committee also deals with matters linked to the broad topic of citizenship, in particular with respect to communication with citizens. Indeed, the CULT Committee is responsible for all aspects of Union action designed to reinforce the link between European citizens and the EU and to encourage citizens’ active involvement in the construction of a more democratic Union.

The CULT Committee has contributed to the debate notably through its opinion on the European Citizens’ Initiative, but it has also provided input on the EU citizenship report, which is based on a European Commission report issued every three years since 1993. In this report, the Commission analyses progress towards effective EU citizenship and establishes new priorities for the years ahead in the area of EU citizenship rights.

More importantly, the CULT Committee is lead committee on the Europe for Citizens programme 2014-2020, which - like its predecessors - aims to enhance knowledge of Europe’s shared history and to foster citizens’ democratic and civic participation, as well as a sense of belonging to the EU. After 2020, this Programme will no longer exist in its current form. Instead, it will become part of a larger “Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values” programme, together with the present Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme. Negotiations with the Council on this new programme started in February 2019, with an agreement found on most provisions, except for the budget and some other horizontal issues.
6.1. Non-legislative reports

6.1.1. Implementation reports

Implementation of the Europe for Citizens programme (2014-2020)

Rapporteur: Maria Teresa GIMÉNEZ BARBAT (ALDE)

The second generation of the Europe for Citizens programme covering the period 2014-2020 is an important instrument aimed at getting EU citizens to better understand the Union and its history, and to improve the conditions for civic and democratic participation.

The CULT report points to the discrepancy between the scope of the programme and its budget. Indeed, with a total budget of EUR 187.45 million, the EFC programme cannot meet its ambitious objectives, which are articulated around a three-strand structure: “European Remembrance” (20% of the programme’s total budget), “Democratic engagement and civic participation” (60% of the budget), “Valorisation” (10% of the budget dedicated to ensuring the sustainability of successful projects and activities). The report adopted in Plenary in January 2017 highlights the fact that due to its limited financial allocation, the success rates for applications are extremely low, between 6% and 18%. Parliament, therefore, calls on the Commission, the Council and Member States to consider a total financial envelope of approximately EUR 500 million for the EFC programme under the next multiannual financial framework (MFF).

Following this report, and in preparation of the MFF 2021-2027, the Commission proposed a new Justice, Rights and Values Fund, comprising EFC as well as the existing “Rights and Values” and “Justice” programmes. This is with a view to simplify the existing programmes. The Europe for Citizens Programme will therefore lose its autonomous character, becoming the “Citizens’ engagement and participation” strand in the new Programme.

The interinstitutional negotiations (lead committee: LIBE) have already started in this parliamentary term and will be concluded in the next parliamentary term.


| Adoption of the report in Committee: | 24/01/2017 |
| Text adopted by Parliament: | 02/03/2017 |
### 6.2. Opinions

#### 6.2.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Citizens’ Initiative 2017/0220(COD)</td>
<td>A. Dzhambazki (ECR)</td>
<td>25/04/2018</td>
<td>AFCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing the Rights and Values programme (Associated under Rule 54) 2018/0207(COD)</td>
<td>S. Guillaume (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>03/12/2018</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of persons reporting on breaches of Union law 2018/0106(COD)</td>
<td>C. Maltese (GUE/NGL)</td>
<td>10/10/2018</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 6.2.2. Non-legislative opinions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 6.3. Policy Department research

- **Europe for Citizens: new programme implementation – First experiences**
  Irina Jefferies, Bradford Rohmer - July 2016

- **European Identity**
  Markus J. Prutsch - April 2017

- **Europe for Citizens: Towards the Next Programme Generation**
  Katja Mäkinen - May 2018
AUDIOVISUAL, MEDIA AND DIGITAL POLICY
7. AUDIOVISUAL, MEDIA AND DIGITAL POLICY

The CULT Committee is responsible for audiovisual policy, cultural and educational aspects of the information society and information and media policy. Its central focus over the parliamentary term was to contribute to the achievement of the Digital Single Market strategy objectives.

As the lead committee, CULT was pivotal in the successful revision of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD), one of its key legislative files during this term. The new Directive entered into force on 14 November 2018 and provides a modern set of rules for audiovisual content on traditional television, on-demand (VOD) services and Video-Sharing Platforms (VPS), and aims to establish a genuine level playing field in the audiovisual sector.

Moreover, CULT contributed to several significant legislative files that will shape the regulatory environment for the cultural and creative sector and for those who enjoy cultural content for years to come. Key among these are the new “CabSat” Directive, the “Copyright in the Digital Single Market” Directive, the European Electronic Communications Code, and the “dissemination of terrorist content online” Regulation.
7.1. Legislative reports

Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD)

Co-Rapporteurs: Perhaps the most important piece of legislation to pass through the CULT Committee in this parliamentary term, the revised Directive on Audiovisual Media Services (AVMSD) was a conspicuous success for the EP. With almost of all the EP negotiating points being adopted in the final text (two and a half years after the Commission published its proposal), the AVMSD aims to establish a modernised legal framework for audiovisual media services and video-sharing platforms (VSPs). The main points of the revision are:

i. A level playing field for both media service providers and VSPs, both of which must protect the public from content inciting violence, hatred or terrorism, and comply with qualitative rules on advertising;

ii. Signal integrity: Member States must ensure that content is not overlaid for commercial purposes or modified without the explicit consent of the concerned media service providers;

iii. Live streaming: included in the scope to guarantee that the public are adequately protected online;

iv. Appropriate prominence of audiovisual media services with general interest objectives must be ensured;

v. Providers must ensure that 30% of their catalogues are devoted to European audiovisual works;

vi. Financial contribution to the promotion of European audiovisual works: Member States can impose financial obligations on providers targeting audiences in their territories, but established in other Member States;

vii. Audiovisual media services are to be made more accessible to people with disabilities;

viii. Quantitative rules on the amount of television advertising permitted in specific time periods.

Directive (EU) 2018/1808 of 14 November 2018 amending Directive 2010/13/EU on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive) in view of changing market realities - 2016/0151(COD)

Adoption of the report in Committee: 25/04/2017
Text adopted by Parliament: 06/10/2018
Final act signed: 14/11/2018
7.2. Opinions

7.2.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring the cross-border portability of online content services in the internal market (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>S. Verheyen (EPP)</td>
<td>21/06/2016</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2015/0284(COD)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union</td>
<td>S. Maullu (EPP)</td>
<td>21/06/2016</td>
<td>ITRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2016/0027(COD)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination based on customers’ nationality, place of residence or place of establishment within the internal market</td>
<td>T. Comodini Cachia (EPP)</td>
<td>24/01/2017</td>
<td>IMCO</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2016/0152(COD)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitted uses of works and other subject-matter protected by copyright and related rights for the benefit of persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled</td>
<td>H. Trüpel (Greens/EFA)</td>
<td>28/02/2017</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2016/0278(COD)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-border exchange between the Union and third countries of accessible format copies of certain works and other subject-matter protected by copyright and related rights for the benefit of persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled</td>
<td>A. Dzhambazki (ECR)</td>
<td>28/02/2017</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2016/0279(COD)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Date</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copyright in the Digital Single Market</td>
<td>M. Joulaud (EPP)</td>
<td>11/07/2017</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules on the exercise of copyright and related rights applicable to certain online transmissions of broadcasting organisations and retransmissions of television and radio programmes (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>P. Kammerevert (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>21/06/2017</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office)</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>04/05/2017</td>
<td>ITRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Electronic Communications Code (Recast)</td>
<td>C. Maltese (GUE/NGL)</td>
<td>04/05/2017</td>
<td>ITRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-use of public sector information (Recast)</td>
<td>T. Zagorakis (EPP)</td>
<td>20/11/2018</td>
<td>ITRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Europe programme 2021 - 2027 (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>B. B. Wenta (EPP)</td>
<td>10/10/2018</td>
<td>ITRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online</td>
<td>J. Ward (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>11/03/2019</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.2.2. Non-legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Towards a renewed consensus on the enforcement of Intellectual</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>26/02/2015</td>
<td>JURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Rights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2014/2151(INI)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Council of 22 May 2001 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>copyright and related rights in the information society</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014/2256(INI)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and</td>
<td>S. Verheyen (EPP)</td>
<td>29/06/2017</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child pornography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2015/2129(INI)</td>
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<td>Towards a Digital Single Market Act (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>P. Kammerevert (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>12/11/2015</td>
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<td>2015/2147(INI)</td>
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<td>e-Democracy in the European Union: potential and challenges</td>
<td>I. Adinolfi (EFDD)</td>
<td>11/10/2016</td>
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<td>2016/2008(INI)</td>
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<td>Digitising European Industry</td>
<td>A. Dzhambazki (ECR)</td>
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<td>Internet connectivity for growth, competitiveness and cohesion:</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>European gigabit society and 5G</td>
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<td>2016/2305(INI)</td>
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</table>
Media pluralism and media freedom in the European Union (Associated under Rule 54)

2017/2209(INI)

C. Maltese (GUE/NGL)  21/02/2018  LIBE
7.3. Public hearings
7.4. Other activities

LUX Film Prize

During the 8th legislature, the CULT Committee Coordinators held several exchanges of views with the LUX Film Prize Coordinator, Ms Doris Pack, and the Vice-President of the EP in charge of the Prize, Ms Evelyne Gebhardt, to chart a way forward for the Prize. In 2015, Parliament decided to enhance the profile and visibility of the Prize and to expand its audience. To make this possible, negotiations with the European Film Academy and Europa Cinemas are about to be concluded.

In addition, every year, the CULT Committee approves the selection panel of experts, whose role is to shortlist films for each LUX Film Prize competition. Moreover, CULT is represented in the annual LUX Prize award ceremony in the plenary.

In 2017, the LUX Film Prize celebrated its 10th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the Committee held a special meeting with invited film directors, such as Ken Loach, Céline Sciamma and Andrea Segre.
7.5. Policy Department research

**E-lending: challenges and opportunities**
Dan Mount - June 2016

**Solutions and policy dilemmas regarding minors’ protection online**
Eva Lievens - February 2018

**Child safety online: definition of the problem**
Brian O’Neill - February 2018

**Recommendations for EU policy developments on protection of minors in the digital age**
Sonia Livingstone, Damian Tambini, Nikola Belakova - February 2018

**Digital Skills in the 21st century**
Justina Vaikutyte-Paškauskė, Justina Vaičiukynaitė, Donatas Pocius - August 2018

**Audiovisual Sector and Brexit: the Regulatory Environment**
Mark D. Cole, Jörg Ukrow, Christina Ettriedorf - October 2018

**Workshops**

- **Innovative Schools – Teaching & Learning in the Digital Era**
  - **DATE:** 04 May 2015
  - **TIME:** 15.00-17.30
  - **PLACE:** ALFIERO SPINETTI 3G1

- **Protection of Minors in the Digital Age**
  - **DATE:** 22 February 2018
  - **TIME:** 9.00-11.00
  - **PLACE:** Alfiero Spinelli Building H4
8. THE MFF, ANNUAL BUDGET AND RELATED OPINIONS

Budget overview

Central to the promotion of the key policy areas for which the CULT Committee is responsible are the funding programmes that underpin them (Erasmus+, Creative Europe etc.). The 7-year financial envelope is laid down in the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), while the annual budget is then adopted by the Council and Parliament each year based on a draft budget drawn up by the Commission. In order to ensure that education and culture policies receive adequate funding, the CULT Committee plays an active role both in shaping the MFF and in amending the annual budget. Through the discharge procedure, the Committee also feeds into the vital process of appraising spending on education and culture and whether the Commission has properly delivered.

The CULT Committee has secured some key budgetary increases over the 8th parliamentary term. Erasmus+ saw a 100 million EUR boost through the mid-term revision of the MFF, but the CULT Committee, in conjunction with the Budgets Committee, has successfully pushed for additional funds, notably achieving an 8% increase for the 2019 budget. It has also argued consistently for top-up funding for the Creative Europe and Europe for Citizens programmes, which are immensely popular but suffer from low project success rates. Important increases were secured for Creative Europe in 2018 and 2019, for example.

The budget also provides an important avenue for pioneering new initiatives through pilot projects and preparatory actions. Here, CULT has been behind some immensely successful schemes (multilingual subtitling of European content, media literacy, media pluralism monitoring etc.) that will feature in the new generation of education and culture programmes. It has also worked hard to secure sustainable ventures that provide high-quality, independent coverage of EU affairs.

Going into the next parliamentary term, all eyes will be on the next MFF where the CULT Committee has called for budget ambition to match policy ambition in the field of education and culture.
### 8.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>RAPPORTEUR</th>
<th>VOTED IN CULT COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MAIN COMMITTEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
<td>24/03/2015</td>
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<td><strong>2015/0009 (COD)</strong></td>
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<td>Interim report on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 - Parliament’s position with a view to an agreement</td>
<td>P. Kammerevert (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>10/10/2018</td>
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<td><strong>2018/0166R(APP)</strong></td>
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<td>European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund 2021-2027</td>
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<td>Specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and external financing instruments 2021-2027</td>
<td>M. Mizzi (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) 2021-2027</td>
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<td>Horizon Europe framework programme for research and innovation 2021-2027</td>
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<td>InvestEU programme 2021-2027</td>
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8.2. Budget and discharge opinions

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<td>Budget 2018</td>
<td>M. Lokkegaard (ALDE)</td>
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<td>Discharge 2016 - Commission 2017/2136(DEC)</td>
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<td>Discharge 2016 - Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union 2017/2153(DEC)</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
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<td>Discharge 2017 - Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union 2018/2184(DEC)</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
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8.3. Non-legislative opinions

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<tr>
<td>The next MFF: Preparing the Parliament’s position on the MFF post-2020 2017/2052(INI)</td>
<td>H. Trüpel (Greens/EFA)</td>
<td>04/12/2017</td>
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98
| The implementation of the European Fund for Strategic Investments | J. Evans (Greens/EFA) | 22/03/2017 | BUDG/ECON |
## 9. OTHER OPINIONS

### 9.1. Legislative opinions

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020</td>
<td>C. Maltese (GUE/NGL)</td>
<td>08/11/2016</td>
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<td>2015/0263(COD)</td>
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<td>Approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States as regards the accessibility requirements for products and services</td>
<td>P. Kammerevert (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>2015/0278(COD)</td>
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<td>Rates of value added tax applied to books, newspapers and periodicals</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
<td>25/04/2017</td>
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<td>2016/0374(CNS)</td>
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### 9.2. Non-legislative opinions

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<tr>
<td>Recommendation to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)</td>
<td>H. Trüpel (Greens/EFA)</td>
<td>16/04/2015</td>
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<td>2014/2228(INI)</td>
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<td>Investment for jobs and growth: promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Union</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>24/03/2015</td>
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<td>Possible extension of geographical indication protection of the European Union to non-agricultural products</td>
<td>M. Diaconu (ALDE)</td>
<td>16/06/2015</td>
<td>IMCO</td>
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<td>The prevention of radicalisation and recruitment of European citizens by terrorist organizations</td>
<td>A. Dzhambazki (ECR)</td>
<td>15/09/2015</td>
<td>LIBE</td>
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<td>The role of the EU within the UN - how to better achieve EU foreign policy goals</td>
<td>F. Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)</td>
<td>15/09/2015</td>
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<td>Poverty: a gender perspective</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>25/01/2016</td>
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<td>Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with special regard to the Concluding Observations of the UN CPRD Committee</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>Refugees: social inclusion and integration into the labour market (Associated under Rule 54)</td>
<td>S. Costa (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>EU strategic communication to counteract propaganda against it by third parties</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
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<td>Access to Finance for SMEs and increasing the diversity of SME funding in a Capital Markets Union</td>
<td>L. Morgano (S&amp;D)</td>
<td>30/05/2016</td>
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<td>Implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy</td>
<td>A. Dzhambazki (ECR)</td>
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<td>European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2016 priorities</td>
<td>B. A. Zdrojewski (EPP)</td>
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<td>ECON</td>
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<td>Investing in jobs and growth - maximising the contribution of European Structural and Investment Funds</td>
<td>N. Chountis (GUE/NGL)</td>
<td>11/10/2016</td>
<td>REGI</td>
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<td>Legitimate measures to protect whistle-blowers acting in the public interest when disclosing the confidential information of companies and public bodies</td>
<td>Z. Krasnodebski (ECR)</td>
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<td>European semester for economic policy coordination: employment and social aspects in the annual growth survey 2017</td>
<td>J. Ward (S&amp;D)</td>
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<td>The situation in Hungary</td>
<td>P. Kammerevert</td>
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<td>European Semester for economic policy coordination: employment and social aspects in the annual growth survey 2018</td>
<td>J. Ward</td>
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<td>Strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union: the 7th report of the European Commission</td>
<td>M. Diaconu</td>
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<td>Harnessing globalisation: trade aspects</td>
<td>F. Zammit Dimech</td>
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<td>Minimum standards for minorities in the EU</td>
<td>A. Bocskor</td>
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<td>Boosting growth and cohesion in EU border regions</td>
<td>T. Zagorakis</td>
<td>09/07/2018</td>
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10. COMMITTEE DELEGATION VISITS

10.1. Capitals of Culture

Every year, the Committee usually organises visits to the two European Capitals of Culture. The purpose of the visits is to meet those involved in the organisation of the European Capital of Culture, to assess the Capital’s legacy strategy and to discuss culture and education policy more generally with the local, regional and national authorities.

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<td>15 September</td>
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<td>Pilsen, Czech Republic</td>
<td>3-5 November</td>
<td>EPP: Sójdrová&lt;br&gt;S&amp;D: Costa, Nekov</td>
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<td>Donastia-San Sebastián, Spain</td>
<td>18-20 May</td>
<td>EPP: Fisas Ayxelá&lt;br&gt;S&amp;D: Costa, Ayala Sender&lt;br&gt;ECR: Krasnodębski&lt;br&gt;ALDE: Giménez Barbat, Bilbao Barandica&lt;br&gt;Greens/EFA: Maragall</td>
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<td>Wroclaw, Poland</td>
<td>18-20 July</td>
<td>EPP: Verheyen, Zdrojewski, Wenta&lt;br&gt;S&amp;D: Ward, Mizzi&lt;br&gt;Greens/EFA: Trüpel</td>
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<td>Paphos, Cyprus</td>
<td>20-22 February</td>
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<td>Aarhus, Denmark</td>
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<td>EPP: Bocskor&lt;br&gt;S&amp;D: Ward, Nekov&lt;br&gt;ALDE: Giménez Barbat&lt;br&gt;Greens/EFA: Trüpel&lt;br&gt;EFDD: Adinolfi</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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</table>
10.2. Other delegation visits

In addition to visits to the European Capitals of Culture, the Committee organises delegations to discuss other policy issues within the CULT remit with civil society stakeholders and local and regional authorities (e.g., Veliko Tarnovo, Florence, Rome and Lisbon). In 2017, the Committee conducted a delegation visit to Tunisia, organised together with the Foreign Affairs Committee, to discuss international cultural relations. CULT was also invited by the Estonian Ministers for Culture and Education to attend the Youth Song and Dance Festival in Tallinn, which features on UNESCO’s List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. In 2018, the Committee went to San Francisco to meet with the business (including Netflix, Google, Facebook and Apple), civil society and academia to discuss cultural and creative content, digital skills and education, as well as challenges in the media landscape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>PARTICIPATING MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2015</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albarracin, Spain</td>
<td>17-19 March</td>
<td>EPP: Šojdrová</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S&amp;D: Mizzi, Nekov</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ayala Sender</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ALDE: Diaconu, Maura</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barandiarán</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EFDD: Adinolfi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphipolis, Greece</td>
<td>17-19 June</td>
<td>EPP: Bocskor, Zagorakis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S&amp;D: Ward, Morgano, Costa</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grammatikakis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florence, Italy</td>
<td>23-25 September</td>
<td>EPP: Bocskor, Zdrojweski</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wenta, Joulaud</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>S&amp;D: Costa, Kammerevert</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mizzi, Nekov</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ECR: McClarkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GUE/NGL: Maltese</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cologne, Germany</td>
<td>27-29 May</td>
<td>EPP: Šojdrová, Wenta, Fisas</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ayxelà, Verheyen</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S&amp;D: Kammerevert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunis, Tunisia (Joint mission</td>
<td>19-23 September</td>
<td>EPP: Maullu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with the Delegation for</td>
<td></td>
<td>S&amp;D: Costa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relations with Maghreb</td>
<td></td>
<td>ALDE: Giménez Barbat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>countries)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Tallinn, Estonia</td>
<td>29 June - 1 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria</td>
<td>18-20 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
<td>4-6 April</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>San Francisco/Silicon Valley, USA</td>
<td>17-21 September</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rome, Italy</td>
<td>29-31 October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. MEMBERS OF THE CULT COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

KAMMERERVERT Petra
(Chair: 2017-2019, S&D, DE)

COSTA Silvia
(Chair: 2014-2017, S&D, IT)

VICE-CHAIRS

BOCSKOR Andrea
(1st Vice-Chair, EPP, HU)

DIACONU Mircea
(2nd Vice-Chair, ALDE, RO)

TRÜPEL Helga
(3rd Vice-Chair, Greens/EFA, DE)

MAULLU Stefano
(4th Vice-Chair: 2017-2019, ECR, IT)

ŠOJDR̆OVA Michaela
(4th Vice-Chair: 2014-2017, EPP, CZ)
## COORDINATORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPP</td>
<td>VERHEYEN Sabine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
<td>COSTA Silvia</td>
<td>(2017-2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECR</td>
<td>DZHAMBAZKI Angel</td>
<td>(2017-2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEWER Andrew</td>
<td>(2014-2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALDE</td>
<td>TOOM Yana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUE/NGL</td>
<td>MALTESE Curzio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greens/EFA</td>
<td>TRÜPEL Helga</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EFDD</td>
<td>ADINOLFI Isabella</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENF</td>
<td>BILDE Dominique</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CURRENT MEMBERS

EPP

VERHEYEN Sabine (DE)
MALINOV Svetoslav Hristov (BG)
SONIK Bogusław (PL)

ZAGORAKIS Theodoros (GR)
ZDROJEWSKI Bogdan Andrzej (PL)
ZVER Milan (SI)
S&D

DRĂGHICI Damian (RO)
GRAMMATIKAKIS Giorgos (GR)
ŁYBACKA Krystyna (PL)

MORGANO Luigi (IT)
NEKOV Momchil (BG)
WARD Julie (GB)
ECR

DZHAMBAZKI Angel (BG)
MATTHEWS Rupert (GB)
MESSERSCHMIDT Morten (DK)
PROCTER John (GB)

ALDE

TOOM Yana (EE)
GIMÉNEZ BARBAT María Teresa (ES)
GUE/NGL

MALTESE Curzio (IT)  CHOUNTIS Nikolaos (GR)

GREENS/EFA

EVANS Jill (GB)

EFDD

ADINOLFI Isabella (IT)
ENF

BILDE Dominique
(FR)

NI

SONNEBORN Martin
(DE)
SUBSTITUTES

EPP

ERDŐS Norbert (HU)

FISAS AYXELÀ Santiago (ES)

JOULAUD Marc (FR)

MORIN-CHARTIER Elisabeth (FR)

SAUDARGAS Algirdas (LT)

SCHÖPFLIN György (HU)

WINKLER Hermann (DE)

ZAMMIT DIMECH Francis (MT)

ZWIEFKA Tadeusz (PL)
S&D

GARDIAZABAL Eider (ES)

GENTILE Elena (IT)

GUILLAUME Sylvie (FR)

HONEYBALL Mary (GB)

KÖSTER Dietmar (DE)

MIZZI Marlene (MT)

RODRIGUES Liliana (PT)

SMOLKOVÁ Monika (SK)
ECR

KRASNODĘBSKI Zdzisław (PL)
MCCLARKIN Emma (GB)
SERNAGIOTTO Remo (IT)
WIŚNIEWSKA Jadwiga (PL)

ALDE

KYUCHYUK Ilhan (BG)
LØKKEGAARD Morten (DK)
ROCHEFORT Robert (FR)
GUE/NGL

MICHELS Martina (DE)
NÍ RIADA Liadh (IE)

GREENS/EFA

FRANZ Romeo (DE)
REIMON Michel (AT)
EFDD

O’FLYNN Patrick (GB)

ENF

BOUTONNET Marie-Christine (FR)

NI

SYNADINOS Eleftherios (GR)
FORMER MEMBERS

EPP

COMODINI CACHIA Therese (MT)
HÖLVENYI György (HU)
TOTI Giovanni (IT)
WENTA Bogdan Brunon (PL)

S&D

KYENGE Cécile Kashetu (IT)
ECR

KAMALL Syed (GB)
KARLSSON Rikke-Louise (DK)
LEWER Andrew (GB)
VISTISEN Anders Primdahl (DK)

ALDE

CAVADA Jean-Marie (FR)
GIRAUTA VIDAL Juan Carlos (ES)
MARINHO E PINTO António (PT)
MAURA BARANDIARÁN Fernando (ES)

PAGAZAURTUND ÚA RUIZ Maite (ES)
TAKKULA Hannu (FI)
GUE/NGL

GLEZOS Emmanouil (GR)

Greens/EFA

HUDGHTON Ian (GB)  MARAGALL Ernest (ES)
EFDD

BOURS Louise (GB)
D’AMATO Rosa (IT)
GRIGULE-PĒTERSE Iveta (LV)
NUTTALL Paul (GB)

NI

JALKH Jean-Francois (FR)
12. CULT SECRETARIAT STAFF

**Current staff:**

Stéphanie BIASOLI  
Anita CSIKÁR  
Nils DANKLEFSEN *(Head of Unit)*  
Katarzyna LORENC  
Francesca MALGAROLI  
Stefan MANEV  
Luca MATTIOTTI  
Darren NEVILLE  
Ana Maria NOGUEIRA  
Kirsti PAAKKOLA  
Fabienne PONDEVILLE  
Markus J. PRUTSCH  
Małgorzata SZLENDAK  
Zuzana VIDROVÁ  
Denise WEJMELKA

**Former staff:**

Angiolo BONCOMPAGNI  
Claudine DELEU-MERCKEN  
Eeva ERIKSSON  
Carolina FALK  
Fanny FONTAINE  
Fabia FONTANILI  
Michaela FRANKE  
Martine HAMRIT  
Carla LYON  
Giovanni MALGERI  
Lisa MUTKE  
Florin POPA  
Danièle RÉCHARD *(Head of Unit)*  
Els VANHOVEN  
Katja VATTER

**Current trainees:**

Ana MAŽURANIĆ  
Natalia VEZALI

**Former trainees and fellows:**

Ivana BARAC  
Gazmend BICI  
Maria BOIXAREU TARRAGONA  
Natalia BONIECKA  
Rosin BOYD  
Michele D’ADDETTA  
Emese EMBERSITS  
Gabriela KARANDZHULOVA  
Brigit KLAUSSER  
Laura LIMPERK  
Marine MAMULASHVILI  
Maria PAPADIMATOU  
Lia POPESCU  
Stephen PURCELL  
Lucía RIDRUEJO
13. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CULT website:

More information on the work of the CULT committee

Legislative Observatory:

The European Parliament’s database for monitoring the EU decision-making process

Studies:

Full texts, as well as further reading such as notes and briefing papers, are available in the
database produced by the European Parliament’s different research services.

More information on culture, education, youth, languages and sport:

European Commission, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture:

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency:
https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/homepage_en

Council of the European Union:

European Commission, DG CNECT:

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion:
https://ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp

European Commission, DG Migration and Home Affairs:
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/index_en

European Commission, DG International Cooperation and Development:
https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/general_en

European Union External Action:
https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en

Committee of the Regions:

Council of Europe:
https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal
European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training:
http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation - UNESCO:
https://en.unesco.org/

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund - UNICEF:
https://www.unicef.org/

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development - OECD:
http://www.oecd.org/

European Audiovisual Observatory:
https://www.obs.coe.int/en/home

International Labour Organisation - ILO:

European Training Foundation:

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions - Eurofound:
https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/

Youth forum:
https://www.youthforum.org/

European Olympic Committees:
http://www.euolympic.org/