

21.9.2005

A6-0123/130

AMENDMENT 130

by Erik Meijer, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report

A6-0123/2005

Dirk Sterckx

International rail passengers' rights and obligations

Proposal for a regulation (COM(2004)0143 – C6-0003/2004 – 2004/0049(COD))

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment by Parliament

Amendment 130

Recital 2 a (new)

(2a) In their relations with passengers, railway undertakings should, as far as possible, and without prejudice to their own areas of operations or to competition between them, present themselves as an entity with the task of providing the requisite services as effectively as possible.

Or. fr

Justification

Even prior to the establishment of the EU (EEC), European State railways presented themselves as an entity offering a common product. Today, cross-frontier services are often neglected and obstacles are placed in their way, an approach which runs counter to the spirit of European integration. If no relevant European legislation is enacted, railway undertakings may revert to being regional service providers which do not meet their responsibilities in the area of long-distance travel. This backward step will prompt international travellers to fly, even if they would prefer to take the train.