

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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**\*\*\*I**

## **REPORT**

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

Committee on Culture and Education

Rapporteur: Hannu Takkula

### ***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*I Cooperation procedure (first reading)  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*II Cooperation procedure (second reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position*  
*majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position*
- \*\*\* Assent procedure  
*majority of Parliament's component Members except in cases covered by Articles 105, 107, 161 and 300 of the EC Treaty and Article 7 of the EU Treaty*
- \*\*\*I Codecision procedure (first reading)  
*majority of the votes cast*
- \*\*\*II Codecision procedure (second reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position*  
*majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position*
- \*\*\*III Codecision procedure (third reading)  
*majority of the votes cast, to approve the joint text*

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the Commission.)

### ***Amendments to a legislative text***

In amendments by Parliament, amended text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the legislative text for which a correction is proposed, to assist preparation of the final text (for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a given language version). These suggested corrections are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

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## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

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

(Codecision procedure: first reading)

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2005)0116)<sup>1</sup>,
  - having regard to Article 251(2) and Articles 151 and 308 of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C6-0101/2005),
  - having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Culture and Education and the opinions of the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs(A6-0076/2006),
1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
  2. Stresses that the appropriations set out in the legislative proposal for the post-2006 period are dependent on the decision on the next multiannual financial framework;
  3. Calls on the Commission to submit, where appropriate, a proposal to adjust the financial reference amount for this programme once the next multiannual financial framework has been adopted;
  4. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend the proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
  5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

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Text proposed by the Commission

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Amendments by Parliament

Amendment 1  
Title

Proposal for a

Proposal for a

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<sup>1</sup> Not yet published in OJ.

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

establishing for the period 2007-2013 the  
programme "***Citizens for Europe***" to  
promote active European citizenship

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

establishing for the period 2007-2013 the  
programme "***Europe for Citizens***" to  
promote active European *values as laid  
down in the Charter of Fundamental  
Rights of the European Union, and active  
European* citizenship

*(This change applies throughout the text.  
Adopting this amendment will necessitate  
corresponding changes throughout.)*

*Justification*

*The name proposed by the Commission conveys the wrong message, i.e. that citizens should support Europe. It should be the other way round: Europe must be the vehicle to fulfil citizens' aspirations.*

Amendment 2  
Recital 1

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

**(1) The Treaty establishes citizenship of  
the Union, which complements the  
nationality of citizens of the respective  
Member States. It is an important element  
in strengthening and safeguarding the  
process of European integration.**

*Justification*

*The wording proposed by the Commission seems to be incompatible with article 17 of the EC Treaty.*

*The Commission's proposed wording is meaningless. The wording proposed here faithfully follows the EC Treaty.*

Amendment 3  
Recital 2

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

**(2) The Community should *make citizens  
fully aware of their European citizenship,*  
its *benefits as well as its rights and  
obligations* which *are* to be promoted with**

with due regard for subsidiarity.

due regard for subsidiarity ***and in the interest of cohesion.***

*Justification*

*Awareness of European citizenship remains very low. The EU should increase awareness through information and communication initiatives.*

Amendment 4  
Recital 2 a (new)

***(2a) It is especially urgent to make European citizens fully aware of their European citizenship in view of the outcome of some of the referendums on the Draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe. The Europe for Citizens programme should therefore complement, but not overlap with, the Commission's Plan D.***

Amendment 5  
Recital 3

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

(3) For citizens to give their full support to, and participate fully in, European integration, greater emphasis should be placed on their common values, history and culture as a key elements of their identity and their membership of a society founded on the principles of freedom, democracy, respect for human rights, ***cultural diversity, tolerance and solidarity, in full compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union proclaimed on 7 December 2000.***

*Justification*

*Citizenship is based on values and principles which are fundamentally opposed to any form of totalitarian ideology and the disrespect of human rights and fundamental freedom. The commemoration of victims of such regimes reminds us of this fact.*

Amendment 6  
Recital 3 a (new)

***(3a) Encouraging active citizenship is a key element in strengthening not only the fight***

***against racism, xenophobia and intolerance, but also cohesion and the development of democracy.***

*Justification*

*Encouraging citizenship should have the aim of strengthening democracy and political and social integration in Europe.*

Amendment 7  
Recital 3 b (new)

***(3b) In the context of the EU information and communication strategy, a broad dissemination and a high impact of the activities supported through the programme should be ensured.***

*Justification*

*This programme is one of the less known EU programmes. Widespread information about it is necessary to increase people's awareness.*

Amendment by Emine Bozkurt

Amendment 8  
Recital 4 a (new)

***(4a) Immigrants and descendants of immigrants should not be forgotten. It is therefore important to help them make the most of their newfound citizenship.***

Or. en

Amendment 9  
Recital 4 a (new)

***(4a) In order for citizens to become involved in the European project, they need to be informed of the specific rights deriving from European citizenship, such as those linked to the freedom to move and reside within the territory of the Member States, particularly following the entry into force of Directive 2004/38/EC of the***



***European Parliament and of the Council of  
29 April 2004 on the right of citizens of the  
Union and their family members to move  
and reside freely within the territory of the  
Member States<sup>1</sup>.***

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 77.

*Justification*

*Directive 2004/38/EC is an extremely important step towards genuine freedom of movement for citizens within the EU. Citizens have the right to be informed of the practical implications of the new provisions.*

Amendment 10  
Recital 6

(6) The European Council has recognised on several occasions the need to bring the European Union and its institutions closer to the citizens of the Member States. It has encouraged the Union's institutions to maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with civil society ***and to promote*** citizens' participation in public life and in decision-making, while emphasising the essential values that are shared by the citizens of Europe.

(6) The European Council has recognised on several occasions the need to bring the European Union and its institutions closer to the citizens of the Member States. It has encouraged the Union's institutions to maintain ***and foster*** an open, transparent and regular dialogue with ***organised*** civil society, ***thus promoting*** citizens' participation in public life and in decision-making, while emphasising the essential values that are shared by the citizens of Europe.

*Justification*

*To ensure that citizens' participation and the mutual exchange of information between citizens and the institutions is effective, such participation also needs to be organised.*

Amendment 11  
Recital 7

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained dialogue with civil society organisations and ***municipalities*** and ***to support the active involvement of*** citizens.

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained dialogue with ***municipalities***, civil society organisations and citizens ***in general***. ***The dialogue should also include organisations representing third-country nationals resident in the European Union.***

***Furthermore, the European Parliament, in its resolution of 8 June 2005 on Policy Challenges and Budgetary Means of the enlarged Union for the 2007-2013<sup>1</sup>, stated that a Civic Participation Programme continued to be a priority, with a view to bringing Europe closer to its citizens through a bottom-up process.***

<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P6\_TA(2005)0224

*Justification*

*The Commission has stated that organisations representing third-country nationals based in the European Union can also take part in projects coming under this programme.*

Amendment 12  
Recital 7 a (new)

***(7a) Citizens' projects with a transnational and cross-sectoral dimension are important tools to reach citizens and promote European awareness, European political integration, social inclusion and mutual understanding through events and actions organised by citizens and local organisations, focusing on projects where different groups of citizens can meet, such as libraries, foundations or amateur sports clubs, thereby combating racism in accordance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights.***

*Justification*

*Citizens' projects, which are organised by local organisations, are an efficient tool to reach ordinary citizens and to increase social coherence, because they have the best knowledge about the local situation and the most efficient methods to communicate with local citizens. It is essential, for encouraging European citizenship and awareness of it, to have mutual understanding between citizens and social and regional cohesion, so as to prevent feelings of exclusion or discrimination between one group of people and another.*

Amendment 13  
Recital 7 a (new)

***(7a) The sharing of a common European citizenship should strengthen still further***

*the relations between the citizens of the Member States and be taken into account by national and regional lawmakers, by local authorities and by those whose vocation it is to protect citizenship rights at a national level, be this the authorities responsible for security or judicial protection or for providing legal assistance, such as ombudsmen; it is therefore in the interests of the European Union to foster dialogue and exchanges of best practice between these authorities and their European-level contact networks.*

Amendment 14  
Recital 8

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

(8) Civil society organisations at European, national, regional *and local* levels are important *elements of citizens' active participation in society and help to invigorate all aspects of , public life. They are also* intermediaries *between Europe and its citizens. Their* transnational cooperation should therefore be *promoted and* encouraged, *giving special attention to the candidate countries by helping them to create and develop similar bodies.*

*Justification*

*The importance of civil society organisations goes far beyond the intermediary function.*

Amendment 15  
Recital 9

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

(9) European public policy research organisations can provide ideas and reflections to feed the debate at European level. *It is therefore also advisable to support, as* a link between the European institutions and the citizens, *activities that reflect their commitment to creating a European identity and citizenship, by establishing procedures with transparent criteria to promote networks for information and exchange.*

### *Justification*

The Union needs to set up machinery that will encourage mutual understanding through flexible databases and by promoting the exchange of information between such institutions, so as to increase cooperation throughout Europe and make it possible to coordinate opportunities for debate and reflection.

#### Amendment 16 Recital 10

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

(10) ***The programme should be accessible to all citizens including third country nationals with permanent legal residence in an EU member state, and for this reason*** special attention should be paid to the balanced integration of citizens and civil society organisations from all Member States into transnational projects and activities.

### *Justification*

*The programme should focus especially on groups of citizens, who are not well-informed about the EU and who are sceptical towards the EU integration. There is a need to guarantee that the programme is accessible in an effective way and that integration is balanced.*

#### Amendment 17 Recital 10 a (new)

***(10a) The Declaration on Sport adopted in Nice by the European Council in December 2000 emphasised that the Community must, in its action under the various Treaty provisions, take account of the social, educational and cultural functions inherent in sport.***

### *Justification*

*The importance of sport activities for increasing tolerance, social coherence and fight against racism should be taken into account and should also be used for reaching the objectives of the programme.*

#### Amendment 18 Recital 13

(13) The programme should be regularly monitored and evaluated in cooperation with the Commission and the Member States in

(13) The programme should be regularly monitored and ***independently*** evaluated in cooperation with the Commission and the

order to allow for readjustments,  
***particularly with respect to the priorities for implementing*** the measures.

Member States in order to allow for ***the*** readjustments ***which are necessary if*** the measures ***are to be properly implemented***.

Amendment 19  
Recital 14

(14) Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (hereinafter “the Financial Regulation”)<sup>[1]</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) 1605/2002<sup>[2]</sup>, which safeguard the Community’s financial interests, have to be applied taking into account the principles of simplicity and consistency in the choice of budgetary instruments, a limitation on the number of cases where the Commission retains direct responsibility for their implementation and management, and the required proportionality between the amount of resources and the administrative burden related to their use. ***It is also necessary to provide for specific arrangements for the application of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and its implementation measures, as well as for the derogations from these texts necessitated by the features of the beneficiaries and the nature of the actions.***

(14) Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (hereinafter “the Financial Regulation”)<sup>[1]</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) 1605/2002<sup>[2]</sup>, which safeguard the Community’s financial interests, have to be applied taking into account the principles of simplicity and consistency in the choice of budgetary instruments, a limitation on the number of cases where the Commission retains direct responsibility for their implementation and management, and the required proportionality between the amount of resources and the administrative burden related to their use.

Amendment 20  
Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 1

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

– ***Prompting*** citizens to interact and participate in constructing an ever closer Europe ***which is multifaceted, fair, democratic and world-oriented***, united in and enriched through its cultural diversity, ***thus boosting the development of the concept of European citizenship***;

### *Justification*

*The desirability of citizens meeting, acting together and developing their ideas in a European context goes way beyond any national vision and, while respecting their diversity, will make it possible to boost the development of European citizenship.*

#### Amendment 21

Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 2

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

– Forging ***and strengthening*** a European identity, based on recognised common values, history and culture ***and European citizenship, the source of the institutions' legitimacy***;

#### Amendment 22

Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 3

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

- Enhancing mutual ***knowledge and*** understanding between European citizens ***and encouraging respect for and appreciation of*** cultural diversity ***and multilingualism***, while contributing to intercultural dialogue, ***particularly by combating racism, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination and intolerance.***

### *Justification*

*Knowledge of foreign languages makes a positive contribution to intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding between citizens. This amendment clarifies the ideas.*

#### Amendment 23

Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 3 a (new)

- ***Ensuring that national, regional and local, elected, administrative and public-assistance institutions, take greater account of the requirements relating to European citizenship.***

#### Amendment 24

Article 2, introductory part

The programme shall have the following specific objectives, which shall be implemented on a transnational basis:

The programme shall have the following specific objectives ***in line with the fundamental goals of the Treaty***, which shall be implemented on a transnational basis:

Amendment 25  
Article 2, point (b)

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

(b) Foster action, debate and reflection related to European citizenship ***and democracy, shared values, common history and culture*** through cooperation ***within*** civil society at European level;

*Justification*

*Like European citizenship, common values and history contribute to the sense of belonging together.*

Amendment 26  
Article 2, point (b a) (new)

***(ba) promote the exchange of experiences relating to European citizenship between local, regional and national elected bodies and between the authorities responsible for providing citizens with judicial protection and administrative assistance, by stepping up cross-border cooperation and the creation of European contact networks and strengthening existing ones;***

Amendment 27  
Article 3, paragraph 1, point (b), indent 2

– structural support for organisations of civil society at European level;

– structural support for organisations of civil society, ***associations and networks*** at European level;

*Justification*

*In addition to integration, cooperation - as interaction - is important. It is important to develop and support closer relations between the citizens of Member States which have recently acceded and also between their civil-society and minority organisations, which will also reflect a Europe of Diversity and the values and goals of the Constitutional Treaty. See also the justification for Amendment 13.*

Amendment 28  
Article 3, paragraph 1, point (c), indent 1

- high visibility events, such as commemorations, awards, European-wide conferences;

- high visibility events, such as commemorations, awards, ***artistic events***, European-wide conferences;

Amendment 29  
Article 3, paragraph 1, point (c a) (new)

***(ca) Active European Remembrance, consisting of:  
- support for projects to commemorate the victims of Nazi and Stalinist mass deportations and mass extermination.***

*Justification*

*This is a new element of the programme.*

Amendment 30  
Article 5

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

The programme shall be open to all stakeholders, ***strengthening through their activities the objectives of the programme, in particular to:***

***- citizens' and community groups, local associations, organisations and authorities, training centres, public policy research centres, platforms, networks, - European foundations active on European issues such as the European Movement and other civil society organisations.***

***Access to funding shall be facilitated by the application of the principle of proportionality as regards the documents to be supplied and by the creation of a database for the submission of applications.***

*Justification*

*The objectives of the programme should be a central point of reference throughout the*



*programme. European foundations serve as a channel to promote an understanding of and interest in European citizenship. Moreover, the methods and the procedures need to be simplified in order to speed up the transparency of the selection procedure and facilitate access to the programme.*

Amendment 31  
Article 6

The programme may cover joint activities with international organisations competent in the field of active citizenship, such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO, on the basis of joint contributions and in accordance with the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and various rules of each institution or organisation.

The programme may cover ***or include*** joint activities with international organisations competent in the field of active citizenship - ***and within this field, particularly European citizenship*** - such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO, on the basis of joint contributions and in accordance with the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and various rules of each institution or organisation.

Or. hu

*Justification*

*The programme may not only cover the above forms of cooperation, but may include them. Within active citizenship, of course, the issue of European citizenship is particularly important to the programme.*

Amendment 32  
Article 7, paragraph 4 a (new)

***4a. The Commission shall ensure, in the context of the EU information and communication strategy as well as through other information, publication and dissemination activities, broad knowledge and a high impact of the activities supported by the programme.***

*Justification*

*This programme is one of the less known EU programmes. Widespread information about it is necessary to increase people's awareness.*

Amendment 33  
Article 8, paragraph 2

**2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 4 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof. The period laid down in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be two months.**

*deleted*

*Justification*

*The Articles 3 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC express the comitology approach preferred by the European Parliament, while the article 4 does not secure the Parliament's role.*

Amendment 34  
Article 9, paragraph 1

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

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

*Justification*

*The complementarity of this programme with EU action in the youth field should be assured.*

Amendment 35  
Article 9, paragraph 2

2. The programme **may** share resources with other Community and Union instruments in order to implement actions meeting the objectives of both this programme and these other instruments.

2. The programme **shall** share resources with other Community and Union instruments **and follow the new guidelines on information** in order to implement actions meeting the objectives of both this programme and these other instruments.

*Justification*

*Following the launch of the two main Information Plans (Action Plan and Plan D for Democracy, Dialogue and Debate) it is important that all actions oriented (turned?) to the European Citizen and implemented by the Commission is headed in the same direction.*

Amendment 36

Article 10, paragraph 1

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

1. The **indicative** budget for the implementation of this programme for the period **of 7 years as from 1 January 2007** referred to in Article **1(1)** is hereby set at a **minimum of** EUR 235 million.

*Justification*

*See also the Draft Opinion by Neena Gill in the Budget Committee. The financial reference amount is a minimum and for guidance only until such time as the financial perspective is adopted. Once it has been adopted, the Commission should submit a legislative proposal with a view to determining the reference amount in accordance with the ceiling set in the financial framework.* Amendment 37

Article 10, paragraph 2 a (new)

**2a. The overall administrative expenditure of the programme including internal and management expenditure for the Executive Agency should be proportional to the tasks provided for in the programme concerned and is subject to the decision of the budgetary and legislative authorities.**

*Justification*

*The appropriations allocated to the Executive Agency should comply with the provisions of the Code of conduct on the setting up of an Executive agency and Council Regulation N°58/2003 laying down the statute for executive agencies to be entrusted with certain tasks in the management of Community programs. This will ensure appropriate financing of the actions of the programme.* Amendment 38

Article 11, paragraph 2

2. Financial aid shall take the form of grants to legal persons. Grants may in certain cases be awarded to natural persons under the terms of Article 114(1) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.

2. Financial aid shall take the form of grants to legal persons **or European associations of national public institutions operating in the field of the protection of citizens**. Grants may in certain cases be awarded to natural persons under the terms of Article 114(1) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.

Amendment 39  
Article 13, paragraph 2

2. The Commission shall ensure regular, external and independent evaluation of the programme.

2. The Commission shall ensure regular, external and independent evaluation of the programme ***and shall report to the relevant European Parliament committees on a regular basis.***

Amendment 40  
Article 13, paragraph 3, point (a), (b) and (c)

(a) an interim evaluation report on the results obtained and on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of the programme ***not later than 31 December 2010;***

(b) a Communication on the continuation of the programme ***not later than 31 December 2011;***

(c) ***an*** ex-post evaluation report not later than 31 December 2015.

(a) an interim evaluation report on the effectiveness of the programme as well as the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of the programme ***three years after its adoption;***

(b) a Communication on the continuation of the programme ***four years after its adoption;***

(c) ***a detailed on-going assessment of the implementation and results of the programme, on completion of its implementation*** not later than 31 December 2015.

*Justification*

*The programme needs to be monitored and evaluated at the appropriate times, so as to ensure democratic scrutiny.*

Amendment 41  
Annex, Part I, Action 1, paragraph 2

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities. These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings to specific conferences or

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities. These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings, ***such as events organised by***

seminars on subjects of common interest, along with related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures.

***twinning sports clubs***, to specific conferences or seminars on subjects of common interest, along with related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures.

#### *Justification*

*Twining projects involving a sport dimension have been proven to be successful for creating active European citizenship.*

#### Amendment 42

##### Annex, Part I, Action 1, paragraph 4

Under this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens, will be supported. The scale and scope of such projects will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common European issues, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

Under this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens, will be supported. ***Priority shall be given to projects aimed at encouraging local level participation by active organisations, such as local amateur sport clubs.*** The scale and scope of such projects will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. ***No town-twinning background is required for projects under this measure.*** The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common European issues, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

#### *Justification*

*Local amateur sport clubs are particularly important for reaching passive and even euro-sceptical people, because they operate at local level and are easily reachable by local citizens. There are 700.000 active sport clubs in Europe with around 100 million club members. Many sport clubs are maintained by voluntary work. Support should be given for such active local sport clubs, which reach the greatest possible number of citizens and are*

*capable of fulfilling the objectives of this programme.*

*The distinction between town-twinning and citizens' projects should be made clearer.* Amendment 43

Annex, Part I, Action 2, paragraph 3

Civil society organisations need to exist and to be able to operate and cooperate at European level ***in a large number of fields of general interest (e.g. common values and heritage, voluntarism, social issues)***. This measure will provide them with the capacity and stability to act as transnational catalysts for their members and for civil society at European level. The strengthening of transeuropean networks is an important element of this area of work. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

Civil society organisations ***are an important part of the civic, educational, cultural and political activities for participating in society. They*** need to exist and to be able to operate and cooperate at European level. ***They should also be able to participate in policy-making through consultation.*** This measure will provide them with the capacity and stability to act ***in a cross-sectoral and horizontal dimension*** as transnational catalysts for their members and for civil society at European level ***thus contributing to the objectives of the programme.*** The strengthening of transeuropean networks ***and European associations*** is an important element of this area of work. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

#### *Justification*

*The objectives of the programme should be a guiding line for activities of civil society organisations instead of using the term "general interests", which can be confusing.*

Amendment by Hannu Takkula

Amendment 44

Annex, Part I, Action 2, paragraph 5

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, trade unions, federations, think tanks etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences.

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, trade unions, federations, think tanks, ***institutions providing non-formal adult education*** etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, ***training activities*** and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will

Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member States will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences. Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member States will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

Or. en

### *Justification*

Change of a term "adult education centre" to a more precise term. Institutions providing non-formal adult education are non-degree based, extra-curricula schools, which provide teaching for all types of people regardless of their level of education or age. Therefore these centres are an excellent tool to bring together different types of people through organised courses, where they can learn about and become interested in the EU. Change of a term "courses" to a term "training activities", because that term enables wider field of activities to be

organised.  
Amendment 45  
Annex, Part I, Action 2, paragraph 6

As an indication, approximately **30 %** of the total budget allocated to the programme will be devoted to this action.

As an indication, approximately **38%** of the total budget allocated to the programme will be devoted to this action.

### *Justification*

*The increase is mainly due to a higher number of projects initiated by civil society organisations.*

Amendment 46  
Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 2

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, awareness-raising around specific issues, European-wide conferences and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged.

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, **artistic events**, awareness-raising around specific issues, European-wide conferences, **European amateur sports events** and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular

Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged."

Amendment 47  
Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 4

Given the focus on citizens and the variety of initiatives in the field of active citizenship, comprehensive information on the various activities of the programme, on other European actions related to citizenship and on other relevant initiatives needs to be provided through an Internet portal and other tools.

Given the focus on citizens and the variety of initiatives in the field of active citizenship, comprehensive information on the various activities of the programme, on other European actions related to citizenship and on other relevant initiatives needs to be provided through an Internet portal and other tools. ***In particular, the provision of information on Directive 2004/38/EC, the deadline for the transposition of which in the Member States is 30 April 2006, shall be treated as a priority.***

*Justification*

*Directive 2004/38/EC is an extremely important step towards genuine freedom of movement for citizens within the EU. Citizens have the right to be informed of the practical implications of the new provisions.* Amendment 48

Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 5

Structural support may be provided directly for the "Association Jean Monnet" ***and*** for the "Centre européen Robert Schuman", ***both*** bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest.

Structural support may be provided directly for the "Association Jean Monnet", the "Centre européen Robert Schuman" ***and the "Maisons de l'Europe" that are federated at national and European level, as*** bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest.

*Justification*

The Robert Schuman European Centre promotes the ideas and memory of Robert Schuman, and also organises seminars and training courses in conjunction with the French Federation of Maisons de l'Europe. So it makes sense to extend the opportunities for structural funding to include the Maisons de l'Europe that are federated at national and European level, so as to preserve the transnational nature of the activities proposed. Amendment 49

Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 6

As an indication, approximately ***15 %*** of the total budget allocated to the programme will be devoted to this action.

As an indication, approximately ***8%*** of the total budget allocated to the programme will be devoted to this action.



### *Justification*

*The amount foreseen for this action remains unchanged. However, its share in the overall budget decreases.*

#### Amendment 50

Annex, Part I, Action 3 a (new)

#### ***ACTION 3a: ACTIVE EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE***

***Under this action projects of the following types may be supported:***

***- projects for the preservation of the main sites and memorials associated with the mass deportations, the former concentration camps and other large-scale martyrdom and extermination sites of Nazism, as well as archives documenting these events and for keeping alive the memory of the victims at these sites;***

***- projects for keeping alive the memory of those who, under extreme conditions, rescued people from the Holocaust;***

***- projects for the commemoration of the victims of mass exterminations and mass deportations associated with Stalinism, as well as the preservation of the memorials and archives documenting these events.***

***Projects under this action should be of transnational significance or have a transnational element and should support understanding among the peoples of Europe of the principles of democracy, freedom and respect for human rights. Approximately 4% of the total budget allocated to the programme will be devoted to this action.***

### *Justification*

*Commemoration of the victims of mass extermination and mass deportation of Nazism and Stalinism should not be misused to fuel mistrust between people but should be used to remind us of the values of liberty, rule of law and respect for human rights on which Europe is built upon. Based on the assumption that 60 projects should be supported, while maintaining current average levels of funding, the total amount of this action represents around 4% of the total budget.*

Amendment 51  
Annex, Part II, paragraph 2

The programme will develop the principle of multi-annual partnerships based on agreed objectives, building on the analysis of the results, in order to ensure mutual benefits for both civil society and the European Union.

The programme will develop the principle of multi-annual partnerships based on agreed objectives, building on the analysis of the results, in order to ensure mutual benefits for both civil society and the European Union. ***The maximum duration of funding allocated through a single grant agreement under this programme shall be limited to 3 years.***

*Justification*

*The time limit for funding should help to avoid that especially through structural support organisations become too dependent on EU funding.*

Amendment 52  
Annex, Part II, paragraph 3

For some actions it might be necessary to adopt an indirect centralized management.

For some actions, ***especially for action 1***, it might be necessary to adopt an indirect centralized management. ***Existing management and implementation resources and structures should be used, where appropriate, for the management of the programme.***

*Justification*

*Existing resources and structures on national, regional and local level should be used as much as possible to avoid duplication and higher costs for the management of the programme.*

Amendment 53  
Annex, Part II, paragraph 4 a (new)

***The selection criteria established, together with the applied grading scale, shall be available to all operators concerned. Funding applications shall be assessed in the light of the following criteria:***  
***- consistency with the programme***

*objective;*

*- quality of the planned activities;*

*- likely multiplier effect on the public of these activities;*

*- geographic impact of the activities carried out;*

*- citizens' involvement in the organisation of the bodies concerned.*

***2. Irrespective of whether or not an operator has received a grant, applicants shall have the right to receive relevant information about the reasons for the final decision.***

#### *Justification*

*A fair and transparent selection procedure requires openness.*

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### BACKGROUND

The European Union faces a difficult period of time at the moment. Citizens' participation in the last European Parliament elections was alertly low and the Constitutional Treaty was rejected in France and the Netherlands. Moreover, European citizens have become increasingly sceptical towards the EU's institutions and the rapid enlargement process of the Union.

The Commission proposed the programme "Citizens for Europe" in order to promote active European citizenship and to decrease the current dissatisfaction and alienation that citizens feel towards the European institutions and the process of European integration. The programme is part of the new generation of programmes for the period of 2007-2013. It is based on the experience of the first Community programme "Civic participation" for the period of 2004-2006.<sup>1</sup> The main aim of the new programme "Citizens for Europe" is to promote European values, achievements and cultural diversity in order to bring citizens closer to the Union, strengthening the connection between citizens and the European institutions and fostering cohesion among Europeans.

The need to act is immense: the EU is facing growing scepticism; the on-going enlargement of the Union increases cultural diversity. If the EU wants to ensure public support for its future actions, these developments need to be accompanied by measures that encourage citizens to learn more about each other and to identify with European integration as a whole. The Union has to keep in touch with the people in the street. Making people aware of their common values without questioning their cultural differences would be a big step forward to forge their European identity. The Union citizenship and the Charter of Fundamental Rights are important points of reference in this respect. This programme is one of the tools that could help the EU to achieve these goals.

### RAPPORTEUR'S REMARKS

The rapporteur emphasises the importance of this programme for making active citizenship a priority for the EU and for promoting European values. The programme should be accessible to all citizens and should not focus only on well-educated and privileged groups. It should reach ordinary citizens and stimulate passive and sceptical ones to take part actively in European integration by providing them with the opportunity to learn about EU and share experiences and ideas with people from other Member States and different cultural backgrounds.

In order to stress the significance the EU attaches to the involvement of citizens in European integration, the rapporteur suggests that the name of the programme should be changed into "Europe for citizens". Europe should be the vehicle to fulfil citizens' aspirations. At the same time, the EU should ensure increased awareness amongst citizens regarding the activities

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 30, 2.2.2004

supported by this programme.

The rapporteur is concerned about the fact that some organisations have become too dependent on structural EU funding under the current programme "Civic participation". Therefore, the rapporteur proposes that funding through a single grant agreement of this programme shall be limited to a maximum of 3 years after which organisations may apply for a renewal of funding.

The following actions 1 to 3 are described in annex 1 of the Commission proposal; the figures used are based on the proposal's legislative financial statement.

## **1) Action 1**

### Town twinning

Town twinning activities have developed into a successful instrument linking people from local communities across borders and fostering mutual understanding throughout Europe.<sup>1</sup>

The rapporteur proposes to increase the number of "citizens' meetings" within the town twinning measure from the proposed 8900 meetings to at least 10 000 citizens' meetings between 2007 and 2013. Town-twinning should not be limited to the administrative and political elite of the communities involved. Therefore, the rapporteur emphasises the importance of citizens' meetings because they are the most effective tools within this measure to include ordinary citizens in town twinning activities.

### Citizens' projects

Citizens' projects aim to gather citizens to act on or debate together common European issues and to develop mutual understanding between them. The rapporteur underlines that a broader public can be reached by granting eligibility to a wide range of organisations under this measure, especially by including clubs and associations active at local level. In particular, the rapporteur stresses the importance of local amateur sports clubs. Involving those clubs is an efficient way of bringing together people in commonly organized events and actions, which increase tolerance, mutual understanding and the fight against racism. In this way, passive or even euro-sceptical citizens can be reached. Seeing that there are not many ways to get in touch with and activate ordinary citizens a high degree of support for this measure is important. The rapporteur proposes that 60 citizens' projects should be funded per year instead of 13 projects, as proposed by the Commission.

## **2) Action 2**

### Structural support for organisations of civil society at European level

Civil society deals with European policy-making on a broad range of issues. Keeping a close link with civil society organisations is of high interest for the European institutions. In order to achieve a higher degree of transnational activity in the civil society sector, the setting-up of European networks should be supported. The rapporteur suggests increasing the amount of grants for establishing European networks between civil society organisations under this measure to 25 grants per year, instead of 15 as proposed by the Commission.

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<sup>1</sup>According to the Council of European Municipalities and Regions nearly 30.000 town twinning partnerships exist nowadays in Europe

### Support for projects initiated by civil society organisations

Civil society organisations, which can be found from the grass roots to the national level, are an essential element of European active society, ensuring citizens' involvement in the societal life of a municipality, a region or a state. The rapporteur emphasises the importance of including bodies such as adult education centres in the scope of this measure. Adult education centres are extra-curricula, non-degree based schools, which provide teaching for all types of people regardless of their level of education or age. They provide evening courses on all kinds of subjects for interested citizens. These centres are an excellent tool for reaching ordinary citizens and involve them in questions related to the EU, European identity, history and culture. They could do so by using materials elaborated by European think tanks. It is therefore important to support activities organised by such centres and to foster European wide networks amongst them through which these centres can exchange best practices and develop new educational tools. The rapporteur proposes to support 100 projects per year instead of 85 projects as proposed by the Commission.

### **3) Action 3**

The rapporteur supports the idea of including high visibility events, studies and information tools into this programme as proposed by the Commission.

### **4) Action 4**

#### Active European remembrance

The rapporteur accepted to include the preservation of the memorial sites related to Nazi and Stalinist deportation and mass extermination in this programme, which originally was foreseen under the Culture 2007 programme. The aim of this new action is to provide support for projects which commemorate the victims of Nazi and Stalinist mass deportation and mass extermination. The rapporteur suggests funding only to Nazi and Stalinist memorial sites because the impact of these totalitarian regimes was a European-wide one and was not limited to a single country. Funding for the sites takes place under a new action, which is added to the programme. At the moment, the Commission is providing EUR 800.000 annually for the funding of sites related to Nazi-Camps. Thus, around 30 projects receive co-financing every year. Since the scope of funding is to be extended also to Stalinist memorial sites, the rapporteur suggests increasing the number of projects to 60 projects per year.

### **5) Management**

The rapporteur stresses that the management of the programme should be efficient and transparent. Bureaucracy and unnecessary restrictions should be avoided in the application procedures. The rapporteur stresses that clear selection criteria should be applied when applicants are assessed by the Commission. The rapporteur also proposes that indirect centralised management should be used if existing management resources and structures are available in a national, regional or local level.

### **6) Budget**

Within the Financial Perspectives 2007-2013 this programme is placed under Heading 3. The

proposed total budget for the programme is EUR 235 million for the period of 2007- 2013 which provides for an annual budget of only EUR 29 million for all 4 actions together, excluding administrative expenditures. This amount is not sufficient to achieve the demanding objectives of the programme, nor does it reflect its importance as a tool for making citizens aware of their European identity and common values and to increase support for European integration as a whole. It should also be noted that this programme is open to 36 countries: Member States, candidate countries, EEA countries and Western Balkan countries. Therefore a sufficient budget is needed to fulfil the objectives of the programme.

The rapporteur proposes that the budget breakdown should be as follows: around 40% for Action 1 (as in the Commission proposal), around 38 % for Action 2 (30% in the Commission proposal), around 8% for Action 3 (15% in the Commission proposal) and around 4 % for new Action 4. The remaining 10 % of the budget cover the administrative expenditure.

#### **Budget proposed by the rapporteur (EUR million)**

<b>Action 1 - active citizens for Europe</b>	<b>Per Measure</b>	<b>Per Action</b>
1. Town-twinning	107, 29	<b>117, 57</b>
2. Citizens' projects	10, 28	
<b>Action 2 - active civil society in Europe</b>		<b>111, 43</b>
1. Structural support for "think tanks"	19,95	
2. Structural support to civil society organisations	35,48	
3. Civil society projects	56,00	
<b>Action 3 - Together for Europe</b>		<b>24,19</b>
1. High visibility events	17, 5	
2. Studies	1,73	
3. Dissemination, Information	4,96	
<b>Action 4 - active European remembrance</b>	10,96	<b>10,96</b>
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>		<b>264, 15</b>
Administrative expenditure		27, 53
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>291,68</b>

Taking into account all the changes proposed by the rapporteur, including the new fourth action, the overall amount of the budget would be **EUR 291,68 million**. This is the absolute minimum necessary to enable this programme to have some effect and to provide some added value.

3.2.2006

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS**

for the Committee on Culture and Education

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

Draftswoman: Neena Gill

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

#### **Presentation**

This programme "Citizens for Europe" comes within the larger scope of measures aimed at encouraging the Union's institutions to promote citizens' participation in public life and in decision-making. In this context, this programme seeks to make European citizens aware of their duties as citizens and become actively involved in the process of European integration, developing a sense of belonging and a European identity.

Therefore the actions proposed will be focused on<sup>1</sup>:

- giving citizens the opportunity to interact and participate in constructing an ever closer Europe, united in and enriched through its cultural diversity (action 1: active citizens for Europe);
- forging a European identity, based on recognised common values, history and culture (action 2: active civil society in Europe);
- enhancing mutual understanding between European citizens respecting and celebrating cultural diversity, while contributing to intercultural dialogue (action 3: together for Europe).

#### **Financial means**

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2005)0116, point 3, page 4.



The global budget foreseen for the 7 years period is EUR 235 million. The management will be essentially done by DG Education and Culture. However as there is a lot of interaction with several other DG (JLS or PRESS), the actions will be carried out in close consultation to ensure maximum synergy.

Action 1 "active citizens for Europe", which includes the town twinning programme, will be allocated the amount of EUR 102 million (representing 43 % of the envelope);

Action 2 "active civil society in Europe", which includes the allocation of grants to several organisations as Notre Europe or the European Movement, will be allocated the amount of EUR 80.73 million (representing 34.35 % of the envelope);

Action 3 for "together for Europe", an amount of EUR 24.19 million is foreseen over the 7 year period.

## **Remarks**

The Draftswoman takes note of the proposal, is concerned by the absence of ambition and imagination and suggests the creation of an annual regional prize for a region which excels in promoting European citizenship.

The Draftswoman recalls that it is extremely important that the Commission keeps this programme accessible to the full range of stakeholders including NGOs, think tanks, European networks etc. and independent foundations active on European issues as requested during the 2006 budget. This is to be done in order to deliver the appropriate information to the civil society and make citizens aware of belonging to common European ideals.

The Draftswoman recalls that the appropriation allocated to this programme is indicative and that it needs to be monitored and evaluated at the appropriate time, so as to ensure democratic scrutiny.

## **AMENDMENTS**

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

### **Draft legislative resolution**

#### **Amendment 1 Paragraph 1 a (new)**

***1a. Stresses that the appropriations set out in the legislative proposal for the post-2006 period are dependent on the decision on the next multiannual financial framework;***

Amendment 2  
Paragraph 1 b (new)

***1b. Calls on the Commission to submit, where appropriate, a proposal to adjust the financial reference amount for this programme once the next multiannual financial framework has been adopted;***

*Justification*

*The financial reference amount cannot be established until the financial perspective has been adopted. Once it has been adopted, the Commission should submit a legislative proposal with a view to determining the reference amount in accordance with the ceiling set in the financial framework.*

**Proposal for a decision**

Text proposed by the Commission <sup>1</sup>	Amendments by Parliament
	Amendment 3 Recital 14
(14) Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (hereinafter “the Financial Regulation”) <sup>[1]</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) 1605/2002 <sup>[2]</sup> , which safeguard the Community’s financial interests, have to be applied taking into account the principles of simplicity and consistency in the choice of budgetary instruments, a limitation on the number of cases where the Commission retains direct responsibility for their implementation and management, and the required proportionality between the amount of resources and the administrative burden related to their use. <b><i>It is also necessary to provide for specific arrangements for the application of Council Regulation (EC,</i></b>	(14) Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (hereinafter “the Financial Regulation”) <sup>[1]</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) 1605/2002 <sup>[2]</sup> , which safeguard the Community’s financial interests, have to be applied taking into account the principles of simplicity and consistency in the choice of budgetary instruments, a limitation on the number of cases where the Commission retains direct responsibility for their implementation and management, and the required proportionality between the amount of resources and the administrative burden related to their use.

<sup>1</sup> Not yet published in OJ.

*Euratom) No 1605/2002 and its implementation measures, as well as for the derogations from these texts necessitated by the features of the beneficiaries and the nature of the actions.*

Amendment 4  
Article 2, introductory part

The programme shall have the following specific objectives, which shall be implemented on a transnational basis:

The programme shall have the following specific objectives *in line with the fundamental goals of the Treaty*, which shall be implemented on a transnational basis:

Amendment 5  
Article 5

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

The programme shall be open to all stakeholders promoting active European citizenship, in particular to local communities, European public policy research organisations (think-tanks), ***European foundations active on European issues such as the European Movement***, citizen's groups and other civil society organisations such as non-governmental organisations, platforms, networks, associations and federations, trade unions. ***Access to funding shall be facilitated by the application of the principle of proportionality as regards the documents to be supplied and by the creation of a database for the submission of applications.***

*Justification*

*European foundations serve as a channel to promote an understanding of and interest in European citizenship. Moreover, the methods and the procedures need to be simplified in order to speed up the transparency of the selection procedure and facilitate access to the programme.*

Amendment 6  
Article 8, paragraph 2

***2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 4 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.***

***deleted***

***The period laid down in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be two months.***

*Justification*

*The Articles 3 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC express the comitology approach preferred by the European Parliament, while the article 4 does not secure the Parliament's role.*

Amendment 7  
Article 9, paragraph 2

2. The programme ***may*** share resources with other Community and Union instruments in order to implement actions meeting the objectives of both this programme and these other instruments.

2. The programme ***shall*** share resources with other Community and Union instruments ***and follow the new guidelines on information*** in order to implement actions meeting the objectives of both this programme and these other instruments.

*Justification*

*Following the launch of the two main Information Plans (Action Plan and Plan D for Democracy, Dialogue and Debate) it is important that all actions oriented (turned?) to the European Citizen and implemented by the Commission is headed in the same direction.*

Amendment 8  
Article 10, paragraph 1

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

1. The ***indicative*** budget for the implementation of this programme for the period ***of 7 years as from 1 January 2007*** referred to in Article ***1(1)*** is hereby set at EUR 235 million.

*Justification*

*The financial reference amount is a minimum and for guidance only until such time as the financial perspective is adopted. Once it has been adopted, the Commission should submit a legislative proposal with a view to determining the reference amount in accordance with the ceiling set in the financial framework (see amendment to legislative resolution).*

Amendment 9  
Article 10, paragraph 2 a (new)

***2a. The overall administrative expenditure of the programme including internal and management expenditure for the Executive***

***Agency should be proportional to the tasks provided for in the programme concerned and is subject to the decision of the budgetary and legislative authorities.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*The appropriations allocated to the Executive Agency should comply with the provisions of the Code of conduct on the setting up of an Executive agency and Council Regulation N°58/2003 laying down the statute for executive agencies to be entrusted with certain tasks in the management of Community programs. This will ensure appropriate financing of the actions of the programme.*

Amendment 10

Article 13, paragraph 3, point (a), (b) and (c)

(a) an interim evaluation report on the results obtained and on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of the programme ***not later than 31 December 2010***;

(b) a Communication on the continuation of the programme ***not later than 31 December 2011***;

(c) ***an*** ex-post evaluation report not later than 31 December 2015

(a) an interim evaluation report on the effectiveness of the programme as well as the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of the programme ***three years after its adoption***;

(b) a Communication on the continuation of the programme ***four years after its adoption***;

(c) ***a detailed on-going assessment of the implementation and results of the programme, on completion of its implementation*** not later than 31 December 2015.

*Justification*

*The programme needs to be monitored and evaluated at the appropriate times, so as to ensure democratic scrutiny.*

## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing for the period 2007-2013 the programme "Citizens for Europe" to promote active European citizenship
<b>References</b>	COM(2005)0116 – C6-0101/2005 – 2005/0041(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b>	CULT
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 10.5.2005
<b>Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary</b>	
<b>Drafts(wo)man</b> Date appointed	Neena Gill 9.6.2005
<b>Previous drafts(wo)man</b>	
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	28.11.2005      2.2.2006
<b>Date adopted</b>	2.2.2006
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: unanimity –: 3 0:
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Laima Liucija Andrikienė, Richard James Ashworth, Reimer Böge, Paulo Casaca, Gérard Deprez, Valdis Dombrovskis, Brigitte Douay, Bárbara Dührkop Dührkop, James Elles, Szabolcs Fazakas, Louis Grech, Catherine Guy-Quint, Jutta D. Haug, Ville Itälä, Anne E. Jensen, Alain Lamassoure, Janusz Lewandowski, Vladimír Maňka, Gérard Onesta, Giovanni Pittella, Antonis Samaras, Esko Seppänen, Nina Škottová, László Surján, Helga Trüpel, Kyösti Tapio Virrankoski, Ralf Walter, Marilisa Xenogiannakopoulou
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Albert Jan Maat, Hans-Peter Martin, Paul Rübig, Margarita Starkevičiūtė
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</b>	
<b>Comments (available in one language only)</b>	...

6.3.2006

## OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Culture and Education

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

Draftsman: Giusto Catania

### AMENDMENTS

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

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Text proposed by the Commission<sup>1</sup>

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Amendments by Parliament

#### Amendment 1 Recital 1

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

(1) Union citizenship, *which complements national citizenship, seeks to strengthen and promote the European identity by involving citizens ever more closely in the European integration process, including those EU citizens resident outside the territory of the Union.*

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C ... /Not yet published in OJ.

### *Justification*

*Under the current Treaties, European citizenship is not the fundamental status of nationals of the Member States.*

### Amendment 2

#### Recital 2

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

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

### *Justification*

*From the point of view of citizenship of the Union it is important that citizens should also know the rights which it confers on them. This is also important from the point of view of developing a Union in which its citizens are educated about their entitlements.*

### Amendment 3

#### Recital 3

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

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

### *Justification*

*The principle of 'unity in diversity' pithily formulates the fundamental concept of the European Union, which should encourage European citizens to identify themselves as such without there being any need to fear that diversity, which is an important European value, might be jeopardised. Traditions are important values - often transcending State borders - which, together, may help to forge the European identity, based on creating unity from diversity. Social solidarity is perhaps the most characteristic value in European culture: it is an organic part of European identity, and preserving it is of the utmost importance.*



Amendment 4  
Recital 4

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

(4) In order to bring Europe closer to its citizens and to enable them to participate fully **and at all levels** in the construction of an ever closer Europe, there is a need to address all citizens and to involve them **and their civil-society organisations** in transnational exchanges, **cultural programmes, discussions** and cooperation activities, contributing to the forging of a sense of belonging to common European ideals, **principles and values**.

*Justification*

*It is important that the programme should operate effectively at local, regional, national and European level, depending which level is most appropriate for the purpose of attaining the desired result. The programmes should be aimed not only at individual citizens but at their civil-society organisations as well. This often helps to achieve the desired result and may have a multiplier effect. Promoting common European principles and values is also an important objective. Cultural programmes and opportunities for discussions (e.g. conferences) may also be important instruments.*

Amendment 5  
Recital 4 a (new)

***(4a) In order for citizens to become involved in the European project, they need to be informed of the specific rights deriving from European citizenship, such as those linked to the freedom to move and reside within the territory of the Member States, particularly following the entry into force of Directive 2004/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States<sup>1</sup>.***

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 77.

### *Justification*

*Directive 2004/38/EC is an extremely important step towards genuine freedom of movement for citizens within the EU. Citizens have the right to be informed of the practical implications of the new provisions.*

### Amendment 6 Recital 7

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained dialogue with civil society organisations and municipalities and to support the active involvement of citizens.

(7) The Council established in its Decision of 26 January 2004 a Community action programme to promote active European citizenship (civic participation), which has confirmed the need to promote sustained dialogue with civil society organisations and municipalities and to support the active involvement of citizens. ***The dialogue should also cover organisations representing third-country nationals resident within the European Union.***

### *Justification*

*The Commission has stated that organisations representing third-country nationals based in the European Union can also take part in projects coming under this programme.*

### Amendment 7 Recital 7 a (new)

***(7a) The sharing of a common European citizenship should strengthen still further the relations between the citizens of the Member States and be taken into account by national and regional lawmakers, by local authorities and by those whose vocation it is to protect citizenship rights at a national level, be this the authorities responsible for security or judicial protection or for providing legal assistance, such as ombudsmen; it is therefore in the interests of the European Union to foster dialogue and exchanges of best practice between these authorities and their European-level contact networks.***

### Amendment 8

## Recital 8

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

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

## Amendment 9

### Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 2

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

– Forging ***and strengthening*** a European identity, based on recognised common values, history and culture ***and European citizenship, the source of the institutions' legitimacy***;

## Amendment 10

### Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 3

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

– Enhancing mutual understanding between European citizens - ***regardless of their place of residence, and including those resident outside the territory of the Union -*** respecting, celebrating ***and supporting*** cultural diversity, while contributing to intercultural dialogue.

## Justification

*EU citizenship guarantees the same rights to all the citizens of the Union regardless of their place of residence. However, given the specific circumstances of those citizens resident outside EU territory, the requisite measures should be adopted to ensure they can exercise their rights of EU citizenship in full and to full effect.*

## Amendment 11

### Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 3 a (new)

– ***Encouraging European citizens to regard the European Union and its institutions, policies and actions as belonging to them, and to be able to identify therewith.***

### *Justification*

*Negative developments in the functioning of the European Union, such as the way in which the constitutional process has ground to a halt, are partly due to the fact that Europe's citizens do not sufficiently regard the European Union and its institutions, policies and actions as belonging to them and cannot identify with them as they should be able to. Helping citizens to do so is of the first importance for the future of the European Union, the deepening of integration and the creation of a Citizens' Europe.*

#### Amendment 12

Article 1, paragraph 2, indent 3 b (new)

***- ensuring that national, regional and local, elective, administrative and public-assistance institutions, take greater account of the requirements relating to European citizenship.***

#### Amendment 13

Article 2, point (b a) (new)

***(ba) promote the exchange of experiences relating to European citizenship between local, regional and national elective bodies and between the authorities responsible for providing citizens with judicial protection and administrative assistance, by stepping up cross-border cooperation and the creation of European contact networks and strengthening existing ones;***

#### Amendment 14

Article 2, point (d)

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

(d) Encourage the balanced integration ***and cooperation*** of citizens and civil society organisations, ***associations and citizens' networks*** from all Member States, contributing to ***facilitating European integration and to*** intercultural dialogue and bringing to the fore both Europe's diversity and unity, with particular attention to the activities with Member States that have recently joined the European Union ***and to the development of, and support for, closer relations between their citizens and civil-society and minority organisations.***

### *Justification*

*In addition to integration, cooperation - as interaction - is important. It is important to develop and support closer relations between the citizens of Member States which have recently acceded and also between their civil-society and minority organisations, which will also reflect a Europe of Diversity and the values and goals of the Constitutional Treaty. See also the justification for Amendment 13.*

### Amendment 15

Article 3, paragraph 1, point (- a) (new)

***(- a) support for cross-border cooperation between the national authorities responsible for protecting citizens' rights, and support for initiatives or networks connecting constitutional courts, supreme courts, courts of appeal, councils of state, supreme law councils and ombudsmen.***

### Amendment 16

Article 3, paragraph 1, point (b), indent 2

– structural support for organisations of civil society at European level;

– structural support for organisations of civil society, ***associations and networks*** at European level;

### *Justification*

*See justification for the amendment to Article 2, point (d).*

### Amendment 17

Article 3, paragraph 1, point (c), indent 1

– high visibility events, such as commemorations, awards, European-wide conferences;

– high visibility events, such as commemorations, ***concerts***, awards, European-wide conferences;

### *Justification*

*Concerts help to develop a shared sense of belonging.*

### Amendment 18

Article 3, paragraph 1, point (c), indent 2

- studies, surveys and opinion polls;

- studies, **research**, surveys and opinion polls;

*Justification*

*Research into citizenship is an important activity that should be funded as part of the Together for Europe action.*

Amendment 19

Article 3, paragraph 1, point (c a) (new)

***(ca) Active European Remembrance, consisting of:***

***- support for projects to commemorate the victims of Nazi and Stalinist mass deportation and mass extermination as well as the victims of the dictatorship and civil wars in Spain, Greece and Portugal.***

*Justification*

*The countries of Southern Europe experienced dictatorial regimes and civil wars in the 20th century, which have to large extent common characteristics. The stabilisation of democracy in Spain, Greece and Portugal was very much achieved thanks to their accession to the European Community. Community action aiming at the preservation of the memory of the main sites and the victims of these historical periods would demonstrate EU support for its citizens and give more visibility to this programme. Due to the common characteristics between the dictatorial regimes in these three states, projects under this action will have a transnational element.*

Amendment 20

Article 5

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

The programme shall be open to all stakeholders promoting active European citizenship, in particular to ***community groups and local authorities***, European public policy research organisations (think-tanks), ***organisations dealing with minorities***, citizen's groups and other civil society organisations such as non-governmental organisations, ***organisations for EU citizens resident outside the territory of the Union***, platforms, networks, associations and federations, trade unions ***associations for third-country nationals resident in the European Union and European networks connecting the***

***national authorities responsible for safeguarding citizens' rights.***

*Justification*

*In the spirit of the values and goals of the Constitutional Treaty, too, we may say that Europe's minorities are an important factor for a Europe of 'Unity in Diversity'. The above instruments will promote a sense of community in Europe and transfrontier cooperation which will enrich the European identity. As this cannot be done so effectively at Member-State level, it will at all events generate added value in European policy and cooperation, in the spirit of the subsidiarity principle.*

Amendment 21

Article 6

The programme may cover joint activities with international organisations competent in the field of active citizenship, such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO, on the basis of joint contributions and in accordance with the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and various rules of each institution or organisation.

The programme may cover ***or include*** joint activities with international organisations competent in the field of active citizenship - ***and within this field, particularly European citizenship*** - such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO, on the basis of joint contributions and in accordance with the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and various rules of each institution or organisation.

Or. hu

*Justification*

*The programme may not only cover the above forms of cooperation, but may include them. Within active citizenship, of course, the issue of European citizenship is particularly important to the programme.*

Amendment 22

Article 9, paragraph 1

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

1. The Commission shall ensure the coherence and the complementarity between this programme and instruments in other areas of action of the Community, especially education, vocational training, culture, sport, fundamental rights and freedoms, social inclusion, gender equality, combating ***all forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia***, research and the Community

the European Neighbourhood policy.

external action, in particular in the context of the European Neighbourhood policy.

Amendment 23  
Article 11, paragraph 2

2. Financial aid shall take the form of grants to legal persons. Grants may in certain cases be awarded to natural persons under the terms of Article 114(1) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.

2. Financial aid shall take the form of grants to legal persons ***or European associations of national public institutions operating in the field of the protection of citizens***. Grants may in certain cases be awarded to natural persons under the terms of Article 114(1) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.

Amendment 24  
Article 13, paragraph 2

2. The Commission shall ensure regular, external and independent evaluation of the programme.

2. The Commission shall ensure regular, external and independent evaluation of the programme ***and shall report to the relevant European Parliament committees on a regular basis***.

Amendment 25  
Annex, Part I, Action 1, paragraph 1

This action forms that part of the programme directed specifically at activities involving citizens, either directly or indirectly. These activities fall under two types of measures as follows:

This action forms that part of the programme directed specifically at activities involving citizens ***of the Union***, either directly or indirectly, ***be they resident within or outside the Union***. These activities fall under two types of measures as follows:

*Justification*

*EU citizenship guarantees the same rights to all the citizens of the Union regardless of their place of residence. However, given the specific circumstances of those citizens resident outside EU territory, the requisite measures should be adopted to ensure they can exercise their rights of EU citizenship in full and to full effect.*

Amendment 26  
Annex, Part I, Action 1, paragraph 4



Under this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens, will be supported. The scale and scope of such projects will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common European issues, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

Under this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens **of the Union, including those resident outside the territory of the EU**, will be supported. The scale and scope of such projects will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common European issues, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

#### *Justification*

*EU citizenship guarantees the same rights to all the citizens of the Union regardless of their place of residence. However, given the specific circumstances of those citizens resident outside EU territory, the requisite measures should be adopted to ensure they can exercise their rights of EU citizenship in full and to full effect.*

#### Amendment 27

##### Annex, Part I, Action 2, paragraph 3

Civil society organisations need to exist and to be able to operate and cooperate at European level in a large number of fields of general interest (e.g. common values and heritage, voluntarism, social issues). This measure will provide them with the capacity and stability to act as transnational catalysts for their members and for civil society at European level. The strengthening of transeuropean networks is an important element of this area of work. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

Civil society organisations need to exist and to be able to operate and cooperate at European level in a large number of fields of general interest (e.g. common values and heritage, voluntarism, social issues, **integration**). This measure will provide them with the capacity and stability to act as transnational catalysts for their members and for civil society at European level. The strengthening of transeuropean networks **and European associations** is an important element of this area of work. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

#### Amendment 28

##### Annex, Part I, Action 2, paragraph 4

Structural support may be provided directly to **two** bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest : the Platform of European Social NGOs **and** the European Movement.

Structural support may be provided directly to **three** bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest : the Platform of European Social NGOs, the European Movement **and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles.**

#### Amendment 29

##### Annex, Part I, action 2, paragraph 5

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

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

#### *Justification*

*See justifications for previous amendments.*

#### Amendment 30

##### Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 1

Given the focus on citizens and the variety

Given the focus on citizens and the variety

of initiatives in the field of active citizenship, comprehensive information on the various activities of the programme, on other European actions related to citizenship and on other relevant initiatives needs to be provided through an Internet portal and other tools.

of initiatives in the field of active citizenship, comprehensive information on the various activities of the programme, on other European actions related to citizenship and on other relevant initiatives needs to be provided through an Internet portal and other tools. ***In particular, the provision of information on Directive 2004/38/EC, the deadline for the transposition of which in the Member States is 30 April 2006, shall be treated as a priority.***

#### *Justification*

*See justification for the amendment inserting a Recital 4a.*

#### Amendment 31

Annex, part I, action 3 a (new)

#### ***ACTION 3a: ACTIVE EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE***

***Under this action the following types of project may be supported:***

- projects for the preservation of the main sites and memorials associated with the mass deportations, the former concentration camps and other large-scale martyrdom and extermination sites of Nazism, as well as archives documenting those events and for keeping alive the memory of the victims at those sites;***
- projects for keeping alive the memory of those who, under extreme conditions, rescued people from the Holocaust;***
- projects for the preservation of the former concentration camps and memorials relating to the victims of European dictatorships and civil wars in Spain, Greece and Portugal, as well as archives documenting those historical periods, and other activities for keeping alive the memory of the victims;***
- projects for the commemoration of the victims of mass exterminations and mass deportations associated with Stalinism, as well as the preservation of the memorials and archives documenting those events.***

***Projects under this action should be of transnational significance or have a transnational element and should support understanding among the peoples of Europe of the principles of democracy, freedom and respect for human rights.***

#### *Justification*

*The countries of Southern Europe experienced dictatorial regimes and civil wars in the 20th century, which have to large extent common characteristics. The stabilisation of democracy in Spain, Greece and Portugal was very much achieved thanks to their accession to the European Community. Community action aiming at the preservation of the memory of the main sites and the victims of these historical periods would demonstrate EU support for its citizens and give more visibility to this programme. Due to the common characteristics between the dictatorial regimes in these three states, projects under this action will have a transnational element.*

#### *Amendment 32*

*Annex, Part I, Action 3, paragraph 4 a (new)*

***The selection criteria laid down and the classification table applied shall be made available to all interested operators. Funding applications shall be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:***

- consistency with the programme's objective;***
- quality of the planned activities;***
- probable multiplier effect of such activities on the general public;***
- geographical impact of the activities carried out, in terms of both territorial outreach and the number of countries involved;***
- involvement by citizens in the organisation of the bodies concerned.***

***Where two or more projects are of equal quality, priority shall be given to applicants operating on a non-profit basis (voluntary organisations, non-profit bodies, public***

*institutes, etc.).*

***Irrespective of whether they have been granted financial support or not, applicants shall be entitled to receive relevant information on the reasons for the final decision.***

#### *Justification*

*The selection procedure needs to be transparent. What is more, it is important for priority to be given to organisations operating on a non-profit basis, since they are the epitome of active citizenship.*

## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Proposal for a European Parliament and Council decision establishing for the period 2007-2013 the programme "Citizens for Europe" to promote active European citizenship
<b>References</b>	COM(2005)0116 – C6-0101/2005 – 2005/0041(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b>	CULT
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	LIBE 10.5.2005
<b>Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary</b>	
<b>Drafts(wo)man</b> Date appointed	Giusto Catania 6.6.2005
<b>Previous drafts(wo)man</b>	
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	21.2.2006            -            -
<b>Date adopted</b>	21.2.2006
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+:                            40 -:                            3 0:                            0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Alexander Nuno Alvaro, Edit Bauer, Johannes Blokland, Mihael Brejc, Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, Michael Cashman, Giusto Catania, Jean-Marie Cavada, Charlotte Cederschiöld, Carlos Coelho, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Rosa Díez González, Antoine Duquesne, Kinga Gál, Patrick Gaubert, Lilli Gruber, Livia Járóka, Timothy Kirkhope, Ewa Klamt, Barbara Kudrycka, Romano Maria La Russa, Henrik Lax, Sarah Ludford, Claude Moraes, Hartmut Nassauer, Athanasios Pafilis, Martine Roure, Inger Segelström, Antonio Tajani, Ioannis Varvitsiotis, Manfred Weber, Stefano Zappalà, Tatjana Ždanoka
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Gérard Deprez, Camiel Eurlings, Evelyne Gebhardt, Genowefa Grabowska, Sophia in 't Veld, Jean Lambert, Katalin Lévai, Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, Rainer Wieland
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</b>	Iratxe García Pérez
<b>Comments (available in one language only)</b>	...

25.1.2006

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS**

for the Committee on Culture and Education

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

Draftswoman: Maria da Assunção Esteves

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. The strategic importance of the programmes lies in the fact that it promotes multiple forms of communication which provide a link between ordinary people and the EU institutions. The planned activities will make it clear to the participants how they are to view themselves in their capacity as members of a just, multifaceted, world-oriented Europe.
5. Civic activism generates a communication community which enriches the political decision-making method, reduces bureaucratic alienation and breaks the institutions' political monopoly. The outcome is an obvious increase in legitimacy and an open road leading to the success of new political beginnings and new founding moments in the process of European development.

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

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

The rapporteur is proposing to create a new heading entitled *Training for Democracy*, to



be included under 'Active civil society in Europe'. The programme will be successful only if it serves to enlighten people and to prompt them to become involved in politics. A European way of life may be apprehended on the basis of the planned actions, but the role of governance must be understood as well.

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

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

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

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

## AMENDMENTS

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

Text proposed by the Commission<sup>1</sup>

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Amendments by Parliament

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### Amendment 1 Recital 1

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

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

### Amendment 2 Recital 2

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

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

### Amendment 3 Recital 3

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

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

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C ... /Not yet published in OJ.

Amendment 4  
Recital 4

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

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

Amendment 5  
Recital 5

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

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

Amendment 6  
Recital 6 a (new)

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

Amendment 7  
Recital 7

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

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

***municipalities and to support the active involvement of*** citizens.

organisations and ***(deletion)*** citizens ***in general. Furthermore, the European Parliament in its resolution on the policy challenges and budgetary means for the 2007-2013<sup>1</sup> period stated that a Civic Participation Programme continued to be a priority, with a view to bringing Europe closer to its citizens by means of a bottom-up process.***

<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P6\_TA(2005)0224

Amendment 8  
Recital 8

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

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

Amendment 9  
Recital 9

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

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

Amendment 10  
Recital 10

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

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

Amendment 11  
Recital 11

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

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

Amendment 12  
Recital 12

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

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

Amendment 13  
Recital 13

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

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

Amendment 14  
Recital 17

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

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

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

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

Amendment 15  
Article 1, paragraph 2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Amendment 16  
Article 2

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

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

implemented on a transnational basis:

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

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

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

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

implemented on a transnational basis:

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

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

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

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

#### Amendment 17

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

*- support for democracy and citizenship training initiatives.*

#### Amendment 18

Article 3, paragraph 1, subparagraph (c)

(c) Together for Europe, consisting of:

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

(c) Together for Europe, consisting of:

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

Amendment 19  
Article 3, paragraph 1 a (new)

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

Amendment 20  
Article 3, paragraph 2

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

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

Amendment 21  
Article 5

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

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

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

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

Amendment 22  
Article 9, paragraph 1



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

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

Amendment 23  
Article 10, paragraph 1

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

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

Amendment 24  
Article 11, paragraph 1

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

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

Amendment 25  
Article 11, paragraph 5

*(This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text)*

Amendment 26  
Article 12, paragraph 1

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

Amendment 27  
Article 12, paragraph 4

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

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

Amendment 28  
Article 14

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

Amendment 29  
Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 2

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities. These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings to specific conferences or seminars on subjects of common interest, along with

This measure is aimed at activities that involve or promote direct exchanges between European citizens through their participation in town-twinning activities. These may be one-off or pilot activities, or take the form of structured, multi-annual, multi-partner agreements following a more programmed approach and comprising a set of activities ranging from citizens meetings to specific conferences or seminars on subjects of common interest, along with

related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures.

related publications, organised in the context of town-twinning activities. ***Town-twinning at European level must not detract from the strategic significance of the relationship between neighbouring towns on either side of a border which naturally have a potential for more intense and systematic communication.*** This measure will actively contribute to strengthening mutual knowledge and understanding between citizens and between cultures. ***The measure turns citizens into protagonists in the European process via their cities and regions, fuses the sound practices of their traditional neighbourhood relationships and projects them into the shaping of a common interest.***

Amendment 30

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 3

*(This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text)*

Amendment 31

Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 4

***Under*** this measure, a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension, directly involving citizens, ***will be supported. The scale and scope of*** such projects ***will depend on the developments within the society and will explore, through innovative approaches, the possible responses to the identified needs. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged. Those projects*** will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common ***European issues***, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration.

This measure ***supports*** a variety of projects of transnational and cross-sectoral dimension ***which*** directly involve citizens. Such projects will gather citizens from different horizons, who will act together or debate on common ***topics and problems***, hereby developing mutual understanding as well as raising awareness of the process of European integration. ***Citizens will thus develop a conscious coexistence through a dialogue by means of which they decide which traditions they wish to preserve, which common rules they wish to have and in what kind of Europe they wish to live. The purpose of this measure is to bring about comprehensive involvement of the citizens, which will complement the functional involvement of organisations.***

Amendment 32  
Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 4 a (new)

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

Amendment 33  
Annex, part I, Action 1, paragraph 5 a (new)

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

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

Bodies providing new ideas and reflections on European issues are important institutional interlocutors able to provide independent strategic, cross-sectoral recommendations to the EU institutions... They can undertake activities that feed the

Bodies providing new ideas and reflections on European issues are important institutional interlocutors able to provide independent strategic, cross-sectoral recommendations to the EU institutions... They can undertake activities that feed the

debate notably on citizenship of the European Union and on European values and cultures. This measure is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of those organisations, which are representative, provide real European added value, can bring about important multiplier effects and, finally, are able to cooperate with other beneficiaries of this programme. The strengthening of transeuropean networks is an important element in this area. Grants may be awarded on the basis of a multi-annual work programme bringing together a range of themes or activities.

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

Amendment 35

Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 2

*(This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text)*

Amendment 36

Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 4

*(This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text.)*

Amendment 37

Annex, part I, Action 2, paragraph 5

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, trade unions, federations, think tanks etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences. Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member States

Civil society organisations, such as non-governmental organisations, ***professional associations***, trade unions, federations, think tanks etc., can, through debate, publications, advocacy, and other concrete transnational projects, involve citizens or represent their interests. Introducing or building on a European dimension in the activities of civil society organisations will enable them to enhance their capacities and reach wider audiences. Direct cooperation among civil society organisations from different Member

will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

States will contribute to mutual understanding for the different cultures and point of views and to the identification of shared concerns and values. ***Civil society organisations are thus of strategic importance in the process of involving the general public. Such organisations are ideal places within which the individual perception of the common interest can be developed, they are ideal interlocutors for cooperation between society and the public authorities and they are optimum operators of a social basis for legitimising the European process.*** While this may be in the form of single projects, a longer-term approach will also ensure a more sustainable impact and the development of networks and synergies.

#### Amendment 38

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

##### ***Support for democracy training***

***This measure is aimed at specific activities designed to shape a political culture amongst the general public. Active European citizenship calls for an understanding of the democratic system and for information concerning institutional channels of communication. The actions provided for in the programme generate an 'awareness of the world' which requires an understanding of the role of governance. This measure supports all individual and collective initiatives which prompt ordinary people to discuss the European political system: conferences organised on the initiative of social organisations and attended by invited opinion leaders; political debates within lawyers' communities; initiatives involving the political training of journalists (with a view to improving the quality of political information); initiatives for competitions including a simulation of the way in which the European institutions work, along the***

***lines of the existing European law moot court competition.***

Amendment 39

Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 1

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

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

Amendment 40

Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 2

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, ***awareness-raising around specific issues***, European-wide conferences and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged.

These events may include the commemoration of historical events, the celebration of European achievements, ***artistic events***, European-wide conferences and the awarding of prizes to highlight major accomplishments. The use of new technologies, in particular Information Society Technologies, shall be encouraged.

Amendment 41

Annex, part I, Action 3, paragraph 5

*(This applies only to the Portuguese version of the Commission text)*

Amendment 42

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

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

Amendment 43  
Annex, part II, paragraph 5

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

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



## PROCEDURE

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

## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing for the period 2007-2013 the programme "Citizens for Europe" to promote active European citizenship					
<b>References</b>	COM(2005)0116 – C6-0101/2005 – 2005/0041(COD)					
<b>Date submitted to Parliament</b>	6.4.2005					
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 10.5.2005					
<b>Committee(s) asked for opinion(s)</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 10.5.2005	LIBE 10.5.2005	AFCO 10.5.2005			
<b>Not delivering opinion(s)</b> Date of decision						
<b>Enhanced cooperation</b> Date announced in plenary						
<b>Rapporteur(s)</b> Date appointed	Hannu Takkula 24.5.2005					
<b>Previous rapporteur(s)</b>						
<b>Simplified procedure – date of decision</b>						
<b>Legal basis disputed</b> Date of JURI opinion		/				
<b>Financial endowment amended</b> Date of BUDG opinion		/				
<b>European Economic and Social Committee consulted – date of decision in plenary</b>						
<b>Committee of the Regions consulted – date of decision in plenary</b>						
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	30.8.2005	3.10.2005	28.11.2005	23.1.2006	23.2.2006	
<b>Date adopted</b>	21.3.2006					
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+	26				
	–	0				
	0	2				
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Maria Badia I Cutchet, Christopher Beazley, Ivo Belet, Giovanni Berlinguer, Guy Bono, Marie-Hélène Descamps, Claire Gibault, Vasco Graça Moura, Lissy Gröner, Luis Herrero-Tejedor, Ruth Hieronymi, Manolis Mavrommatis, Marianne Mikko, Ljudmila Novak, Doris Pack, Rolandas Pavilionis, Zdzisław Zbigniew Podkański, Christa Prets, Karin Resetarits, Nikolaos Sifunakis, Hannu Takkula, Helga Trüpel, Henri Weber, Thomas Wise					
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Ingeborg Gräßle, Gyula Hegyi, Mario Mauro, Nina Škottová, Jaroslav Zvěřina					
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</b>						
<b>Date tabled</b>	23.3.2006					
<b>Comments</b> (available in one language only)	...					