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REPORT

on the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of Canada establishing a framework for cooperation in the fields of higher education, training and youth

(COM(2006)0274 – C6-0255/2006 – 2006/0096(CNS))

Committee on Culture and Education

Rapporteur: Marie-Hélène Descamps

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 Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of Canada establishing a framework for cooperation in the fields of higher education, training and youth
(COM(2006)0274 – C6-0255/2006 – 2006/0096(CNS))**

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal for a Council decision (COM(2006)0274)¹,
 - having regard to Article 300(2), first subparagraph and Articles 149 and 150 of the EC Treaty,
 - having regard to Article 300(3), first subparagraph, of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0255/2006),
 - having regard to Rules 51 and 83(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Culture and Education (A6-0338/2006),
1. Approves conclusion of the agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the Government of Canada.

¹ Not yet published in OJ.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

There is a long tradition of cooperation in the field of education between the European Union and Canada.

This Agreement establishes a framework for cooperation in higher education, training and youth for the period 2006-2013. This Agreement renews the 2000 cooperation programme in higher education and vocational education and training, originally established under the 1995 Agreement establishing a cooperation programme in this area between the European Community and Canada.

This new Agreement between the European Community and Canada is in keeping with the Lisbon strategy which provided for education in the European Union to be made a world quality reference by 2010.

Having been specifically conceived to achieve the objectives of EU/Canada bilateral cooperation, this new agreement perfectly complements the programmes provided for under other Community instruments relating to education and training and the bilateral programmes between the Member States and the Canada.

Taking into account the evaluations made and the lessons drawn from past experience, it aims to renew, reinforce and broaden the scope of the previous agreement, providing a new framework for cooperation in the area of youth.

The programme would dispose of a budget of € 17.4 million over an eight year period and would aim, firstly, to improve mutual understanding between the peoples of the European Union and Canada, promoting a broader knowledge of their respective languages, cultures and institutions and, secondly, to improve the quality of human resources.

In order to attain these objectives, various different actions are envisaged. Actions focusing on higher education and training, in particular projects involving consortia aiming to execute joint study and training programmes and excellence mobility projects.

As regards youth, the actions would be focused in particular on youth structures and organisations aiming notably to promote dialogue, the exchange of best practices and the establishment of sustainable new multilateral partnerships and networks.

PROCEDURE

Title	Proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of Canada establishing a framework for cooperation in the fields of higher education, training and youth	
References	COM(2006)0274 – C6-0255/2006 – 2006/0096(CNS)	
Date of consulting Parliament	25.7.2006	
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	CULT 5.9.2006	
Committee(s) asked for opinion(s) Date announced in plenary	EMPL 5.9.2006	BUDG 5.9.2006
Not delivering opinion(s) Date of decision	BUDG 5.7.2006	EMPL 21.6.2006
Enhanced cooperation Date announced in plenary		
Rapporteur(s) Date appointed	Marie-Hélène Descamps 20.6.2006	
Previous rapporteur(s)		
Simplified procedure – date of decision Date of decision		
Legal basis disputed Date of JURI opinion	/	
Financial endowment amended Date of BUDG opinion	/	
Parliament to consult European Economic and Social Committee – date decided in plenary		
Parliament to consult Committee of the Regions – date decided in plenary		
Discussed in committee	11.9.2006	9.10.2006
Date adopted	9.10.2006	
Result of final vote	+: 26 -: 1 0: 0	
Members present for the final vote	Maria Badia I Cutchet, Christopher Beazley, Ivo Belet, Guy Bono, Marie-Hélène Descamps, Jolanta Dičkutė, Hanna Foltyn-Kubicka, Milan Gaľa, Vasco Graça Moura, Lissy Gröner, Luis Herrero-Tejedor, Ruth Hieronymi, Manolis Mavrommatis, Ljudmila Novak, Doris Pack, Zdzisław Zbigniew Podkański, Pál Schmitt, Nikolaos Sifunakis, Hannu Takkula, Thomas Wise, Tomáš Zatloukal	
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Gyula Hegyi, Mary Honeyball, Reino Paasilinna, Sérgio Sousa Pinto, Grażyna Staniszevska	
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Harald Ettl	
Date tabled	11.10.2006	
Comments (available in one language only)	...	