

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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**A6-0335/2007**

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## **\*\*\*I** **REPORT**

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
on quarterly statistics on Community job vacancies  
(COM(2007)0076 – C6-0090/2007 – 2007/0033(COD))

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Alexandru Athanasiu

### ***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 regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on quarterly statistics on Community job vacancies (COM(2007)0076 – C6-0090/2007 – 2007/0033(COD))

(Codecision procedure: first reading)

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2007)0076),
  - having regard to Article 251(2) and Article 285(1) of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C6-0090/2007),
  - having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (A6-0335/2007),
1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
  2. 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;
  3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendments by Parliament

Amendement 1  
Recital 8 a (new)

***(8a) Particular efforts should be made to include in the statistics as soon as possible all data concerning units with fewer than 10 employees.***

Amendement 2  
Recital 11 a (new)

***(11a) It is important to share the data with the social partners at both national and European level and inform them about the implementation of this Regulation.***



***necessary and appropriate, the feasibility studies under Article 8 shall be taken into account.***

Amendment 5  
Article 2, paragraph 2 a (new)

***The statistics provided shall distinguish, where possible, between vacancies for fixed-term and permanent posts.***

*Justification*

*It is important for the statistics to distinguish between fixed-term and open-ended contracts so that information can be obtained about the stability of the job market.*

Amendment 6  
Article 3, point 1

1. An 'occupied post' means a paid post within the organisation to which an employee has been assigned. *(Does not affect English version.)*

*Justification*

*(Does not affect English version.)*

Amendment 7  
Article 5, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1 a (new)

***The source of all data provided shall be specified.***

Amendment 8  
Article 5, paragraph 3, subparagraph 1

3. European sample schemes ***shall*** be established and coordinated by the Commission (Eurostat) in order to produce Community estimates where national sample

3. European sample schemes ***may*** be established and coordinated by the Commission (Eurostat) in order to produce Community estimates where national sample

schemes do not meet the Community requirements with regard to quarterly data collection. The details of the schemes, their approval and implementation shall be specified by the procedure laid down in Article 11(3).

schemes do not meet the Community requirements with regard to quarterly data collection. The details of the schemes, their approval and implementation shall be specified by the procedure laid down in Article 11(3).

Amendement 9  
Article 6, paragraph 1

1. Member States shall transmit the data and metadata to the Commission (Eurostat) in a format and within transmission deadlines which shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 11(2). Any revision of quarterly data for previous quarters shall be transmitted at the same time.

1. Member States shall transmit the data and metadata to the Commission (Eurostat) in a format and within transmission deadlines which shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 11(2). ***The date of the first reference quarter shall also be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 11(2).*** Any revision of quarterly data for previous quarters shall be transmitted at the same time.

Amendement 10  
Article 8, paragraph 1, point (b), point (i)

i) ***agriculture, forestry and fishing activities,***

i) ***Service activities delivered to individuals and families in their homes or elsewhere and carried out by government offices or by private organisations,***

Amendement 11  
Article 8, paragraph 3

3. Measures adopted pursuant to the results of the feasibility studies shall respect the principle of cost-effectiveness, as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 322/97, including minimisation of the burden on respondents.

3. Measures adopted pursuant to the results of the feasibility studies shall respect the principle of cost-effectiveness, as defined in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 322/97, including minimisation of the burden on respondents, ***and shall take into account initial implementation problems.***



Amendement 12  
Article 8, paragraph 4

***4. The implementation of measures adopted pursuant to the results of the feasibility studies shall it make possible for data to be transmitted by the first quarter of 2011.***

***4. As soon as possible after the results of the feasibility studies become available and in dialogue with the Member States and within a reasonable timeframe the Commission shall adopt measures in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 11(2).***

Amendment 13  
Article 9, paragraph 3 a (new)

***3a. Further funding may be considered for the implementation work with respect to the measures adopted following the results of the feasibility studies.***

*Justification*

*Financing for a three-year period may not be sufficient in terms of establishing a permanent data transfer system, particularly in the case of the new Member States.*

Amendment 14  
Article 10

***Implementing measures***

***deleted***

***The measures necessary for the implementation of this Regulation shall be adopted in accordance with Article 11.***

Amendement 15  
Article 12

Within two years of the entry into force of this Regulation and every three years thereafter, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation. This report shall assess the quality of the statistics provided by Member

Within two years of the entry into force of this Regulation and every three years thereafter, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation. This report shall assess the quality of the statistics provided by Member

States and shall identify areas for potential improvement.

States *as well as the quality of European aggregates* and shall identify areas for potential improvement.

Amendement 16  
Article 12, paragraph 1 a (new)

*As soon as possible, but preferably within a year following the publication of the three-yearly report referred to in the first paragraph, the Member States shall put in place any recommendations set out therein and shall report on the implementation status of previous recommendations.*

Amendement 17  
Article 12 a (new)

*Article 12a*

*Publication of statistical data*

- 1. The statistics provided by the Member States and an analysis thereof shall be published at regular intervals on the Commission (Eurostat) website.*
- 2. The Member States shall also publish the data and shall advertise this fact in order to ensure that as many European citizens as possible have access to it, notably through the EURES portal.*
- 3. A particular effort shall be made to ensure that school career guidance services and vocational training bodies receive the data.*

*Justification*

*The duplication of initiatives should be avoided and advantage should be taken of professional mobility tools already in place namely the EURES portal.*

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### I – Introduction

Within the Lisbon Strategy the development of good quality statistics on job vacancies is a priority. The European Council of March 2005 re-launched the Lisbon strategy, calling for action, in particular, to attract more people into the labour market and to create more jobs, thus reinforcing the need for better information on labour demand. A structural indicator of job vacancies has been listed by the Employment Committee to be developed and published as a measure of labour market tightness and skill shortages. Structural quarterly and annual data on job vacancies can be an instrument in monitoring and analysing the level and structure of labour demand and identifying labour shortages, bottlenecks and mismatches by region, sector of economic activity and occupation as reflected in the Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs (2005-2008). In line with the previous argument the data also needs to be collected for national purposes, to help the national authorities to assess and monitor the labour market and as a support in the decision making procedure for labour market policies.

Furthermore, the Commission and the European Central Bank need to receive quarterly data on job vacancies in order to monitor short-term changes in job vacancies by economic activity. Job vacancies are included in the set of Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs) and are needed for the assessment of labour market conditions in the EU / Euro area under the EMU Action Plan.

In order to satisfy these demands Eurostat intends to establish a legal basis for the collection of job vacancy data.

### II – Commission proposal

National data on job vacancies and posts occupied have been collected since 2003 under a gentlemen's agreement. Only a very limited number of countries are transmitting annual data, with a very heterogeneous level of detail and reduced comparability. The adoption of the legal act would guarantee the production of harmonised and high-quality quarterly statistics needed for comparisons across Member States, ensuring continuity and consistency in quarterly data collection.

The objective of the proposed action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore be better achieved at Community level on the basis of a Community legal act, because only the Commission can coordinate the necessary harmonisation of statistical information at Community level, while the collection of data and compilation of comparable job vacancy statistics can be organised by the Member States. The Regulation confines itself to the minimum required to achieve its objective and does not go beyond what is necessary for that purpose.

A regulation is preferable to a directive as a basic act because, unlike a directive, a regulation lays down the same law throughout the Community, leaving the Member States with no powers to apply it partially or selectively and no choice in the form and methods to be used to

attain its objectives. Moreover, a regulation is directly applicable, which means that it does not need to be transposed into national law, thus avoiding the delays associated with transposition of directives into national legislation. It also leads to better and faster legislation.

The financing will be covered by the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – PROGRESS.

## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Quarterly statistics on Community job vacancies	
<b>References</b>	COM(2007)0076 - C6-0090/2007 - 2007/0033(COD)	
<b>Date submitted to Parliament</b>	12.3.2007	
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	EMPL 15.3.2007	
<b>Committee(s) asked for opinion(s)</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 15.3.2007	ECON 15.3.2007
<b>Not delivering opinions</b> Date of decision	BUDG 29.3.2007	ECON 22.5.2007
<b>Rapporteur(s)</b> Date appointed	Alexandru Athanasiu 21.3.2007	
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	11.9.2007	
<b>Date adopted</b>	11.9.2007	
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 32	-: 0
	0: 0	
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Jan Andersson, Alexandru Athanasiu, Edit Bauer, Jean-Luc Bennaïmias, Emine Bozkurt, Iles Braghetto, Philip Bushill-Matthews, Alejandro Cercas, Ole Christensen, Luigi Cocilovo, Jean Louis Cottigny, Harald Ettl, Richard Falbr, Carlo Fatuzzo, Ilda Figueiredo, Joel Hasse Ferreira, Stephen Hughes, Karin Jöns, Jan Jerzy Kułakowski, Jean Lambert, Bernard Lehideux, Thomas Mann, Mary Lou McDonald, Elisabeth Morin, Csaba Öry, Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou, José Albino Silva Peneda, Gabriele Stauner	
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Françoise Castex, Rumiana Jeleva, Sepp Kusstatscher, Agnes Schierhuber	