

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

27 May 2003

B5-0282/2003

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Oral Question B5-0096/2003

pursuant to Rule 42(5) of the Rules of Procedure

by Michel Rocard

on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Education, the Media and Sport

on the application of the open method of coordination

European Parliament resolution on the application of the open method of coordination

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas, in connection with its ten-year modernising strategy, the Lisbon European Council in March 2000 established the 'open method of coordination' for policies which are the responsibility of Member States,
 - B. whereas the open method of coordination has developed into the Member States together establishing common objectives, agreed quantitative and qualitative indicators and benchmarks, regular reporting and identification of best practice,
 - C. whereas the Convention and the coming IGC are opportunities for rethinking, reforming and improving the ways in which the European institutions work together,
1. Draws attention to its profound attachment to all of the Treaties' provisions governing the fields of culture, youth, education and audiovisual policy, particularly to what is commonly known as 'the Community method' in these areas;
 2. Points out that the provisions of the Treaty on European Union on enhanced cooperation create a framework for cooperation that helps to encourage the fulfilment of Community objectives while complying with the principles of the Treaties and the Union's unique institutional framework;
 3. Considers that the open method of coordination should be developed not only in fields connected to the Lisbon strategy, such as education and life-long learning, but also in the fields of youth, media, culture and sport;
 4. Reiterates, nevertheless, its belief that, as the body directly representing the citizens of Europe, its role in the procedure must be clarified and enhanced so that the process gains democratic legitimacy;
 5. Stresses that the open method of coordination must not evolve into a parallel, but covert, legislative procedure which subverts the procedures laid down in the EC Treaty;
 6. Calls on the Council and the Commission to join in negotiations for an interinstitutional agreement with the European Parliament, laying down rules governing the selection of policies for open coordination, and providing for a coherent application of the method with the full involvement, on equal terms, of the European Parliament;
 7. Underlines that such an interinstitutional agreement must include rules for the involvement of the European Parliament in drawing up objectives and indicators, as well as access to documents, participation in meetings, monitoring and reviews of progress, information about reports and best practices, and a procedure for developing the open method of coordination into the Community method which could be formalised through

the work of the Convention and of the coming IGC;

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Members States and of the applicant countries, and the Convention on the Future of Europe.