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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure

on the education objectives of the European Union

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B7-0575/2011

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the education objectives of the European Union

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the education objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and to the EU education report, 'Progress towards the Common European Objectives in Education and Training (2010/2011)',

– having regard to the Commission report 'Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Funding and the Social Dimension – 2011',

– having regard to Rule 120 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas considerable disparities exist between Member States in the field of education, as – despite common strategic objectives – this is a field for which the national States are responsible;

B. whereas the 'Lifelong Learning' initiative and the programmes which it comprises contribute significantly towards the attainment of the education targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy;

1. Calls on the Commission and Member States, despite the difficult economic situation, to refrain from cutting education budgets and instead to regard them as an investment to prevent future crises; recommends, in view of changes in occupational life and in life in general, promoting the provision of full-time education and services;

2. Notes that some Member States have shortages of teachers and that measures must be taken to make the teaching profession more attractive;

3. Notes that more than 70% of teachers are women, but that they are strikingly less well represented in senior posts and considers that appropriate action should be taken to remedy this discrepancy;

4. Calls on the Council and Commission to ensure that the new generation of lifelong learning programmes contributes to quality, equal opportunities and internationalisation of coherent education systems at all levels.