



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 – 2014

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*Committee on Culture and Education*

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**2011/2020(BUD)**

5.10.2011

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Budgets

on Parliament's position on the 2012 Draft Budget as modified by the Council  
– all sections  
(2011/2020(BUD))

Rapporteur: Morten Løkkegaard

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Emphasises that the European education programmes bring clear and demonstrated European added value, enhance mobility and are vital for the Europe 2020 strategy to succeed; regrets that the Commission draft budget does not propose any additional funding for education and training, beyond the financial programming; encourages the Commission, and all other relevant actors, to place the humanities on an equal footing with the natural sciences in the implementation of European education programmes; calls for greater visibility to be afforded to the humanities in the Education programmes to be proposed under the next multiannual financial framework; calls for a significant increase in appropriations for the Lifelong Learning Programme in the 2012 budget and for a doubling of the funds for education in the next MFF;
2. Points out the importance of cultural policies, especially public policies, for education and training, and for universal access to culture;
3. Bemoans the fact that the Council is seeking to reduce the commitment appropriations for 2012 in respect of the Culture programme; considers it imperative that, in these difficult economic times, we do not neglect the role of culture in further enhancing European identity and enriching our societies; accordingly calls for funding and investment in culture to be maintained, if not increased;
4. Recalls that Article 165 TFEU gives the Union new competences in the area of sport; highlights the value of sport to society, not only in terms of health benefits, competition, social inclusion and the promotion of values such as solidarity, teamwork and excellence, values upheld and embodied by the European project, but also in terms of economic growth and job creation; calls, therefore, for sufficient funding to prepare for and establish an ambitious EU programme on sport;
5. Stresses that journalists and the media play a leading role in creating a European public sphere which enables citizens to participate in European integration; stresses the importance of a comprehensive EU strategy for communication in order to bring increased legitimacy to the Union and to strengthen the European citizenship; expresses concern, therefore, at the fact that the Commission has discarded its own pan-European media networks strategy by closing down its initiative of a pan-European TV network; urges the Commission to set up the intended TV network as soon as possible and to come up with a comprehensive strategy for communication in order to bring increased legitimacy to the Union and to strengthen the European public sphere; and strongly asks the Commission to reconsider the actual operation of Parliament's initiative on cross-border investigative journalism so as to safeguard its independent and impartial implementation and to better clarify its position on the future perspectives for the pan-European media networks strategy;
6. Opposes the proposed cuts in funding for the European Schools, which are likely to affect the quality of teaching, teacher training and the teacher-pupil ratio, not to mention creating

discrimination among pupils on grounds of linguistic origin or disability, infringing the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;

7. Underlines the vital contribution of the MEDIA programme to Europe's audiovisual sector and the economic, cultural, educational and social benefits thereof; calls therefore for increased funding to support this fast-growing sector.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	5.10.2011
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 25 -: 2 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Magdi Cristiano Allam, Maria Badia i Cutchet, Zoltán Bagó, Malika Benarab-Attou, Lothar Bisky, Jean-Marie Cavada, Santiago Fisas Aixela, Mary Honeyball, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Morten Løkkegaard, Marek Henryk Migalski, Katarína Neveďalová, Doris Pack, Chrysoula Paliadeli, Marie-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid, Marietje Schaake, Marco Scurria, Hannu Takkula, Sampo Terho, László Tőkés, Helga Trüpel, Sabine Verheyen, Milan Zver
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Ivo Belet, Luigi Berlinguer, Nessa Childers, Seán Kelly, Iosif Matula, Georgios Papanikolaou
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Jacky Hénin