DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

towards an EU strategy to promote education for children in the world: mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (2021/2209(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion (*): Sabine Verheyen

(*) Associated committee – Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure
SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Believes that financial assistance in education is a prerequisite to eliminate poverty and enhance human well-being, especially at a time when public resources are increasingly constrained with competing demands in sectors such as health and education;

2. Stresses the importance of improving cost analysis when selecting and monitoring education projects, of ensuring that projects last long enough to address children’s educational needs, of avoiding excessive administrative burdens for implementing partners, and of addressing long-term sustainability in cash-for-education projects;

3. Calls on the Commission to develop methodologies and guidelines that enhance the ability of its aid projects to reach girls by tackling barriers to quality, safe and inclusive education and training at all levels and by supporting the collection of disaggregated data, by gender and age, to better tailor responses to different subgroups of learners;

4. Draws attention to the potential of online platforms such as eTwinning and teacher academies under Erasmus+ in order to empower teachers, even beyond the EU, to help them communicate with their peers, exercise their professionalism and benefit from professional learning opportunities;

5. Calls for the acceleration of North-South and South-North knowledge exchanges and mobility at all levels of education, while acknowledging the complex nature of the history of North-South relationships and emphasising the importance of promoting heritage, cultural identity, history and art through education;

6. Stresses the importance of vocational education and training, particularly for children in third countries, to help them find stable work and give them and their families a reason to finish school.