

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2005/0179(COD)

26.6.2006

OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on transnational mobility within the Community for education and training purposes: European Quality Charter for Mobility (COM(2005)0450 – C6-0291/2005 – 2005/0179(COD))

Draftsman (*): Sepp Kusstatscher

(*) Enhanced cooperation between committees – Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

PA_Leg

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Text proposed by the Commission¹

Amendments by Parliament

Amendment 1

Title

Proposal for a RECOMMENDATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on transnational mobility within the Community for **education** and training purposes: European Quality Charter for Mobility

Proposal for a RECOMMENDATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on transnational mobility within the Community for **educational** and **vocational** training purposes: European Quality Charter for Mobility

Amendment 2

Recital 1

(1) Mobility **in education and training** is an integral part of the freedom of movement of persons – a fundamental freedom protected by the Treaty – and one of the main objectives of the European Union’s action in the field of education and vocational training; **indeed**, it is an essential tool for creating a European area of education and training and for developing European awareness.

(1) Mobility is an integral part of the freedom of movement of persons – a fundamental freedom protected by the Treaty – and one of the main objectives of the European Union’s action in the field of education and vocational training; **based both on common values and on respect for diversity**, it is an essential tool for creating a European area of **continuous** education and training, **an instrument for confronting unemployment and poverty** and for developing European awareness **and an active European citizenship**.

Amendment 3

Recital 1 a (new)

¹ Not yet published in OJ.

(1a) Mobility brings citizens closer to one another, improves mutual understanding and furthers closer political integration. It promotes solidarity, the exchange of ideas and a better knowledge of the different cultures which make up Europe; thus mobility furthers economic, social and territorial cohesion and enhances individuals' employability at a time of globalisation.

Amendment 4
Recital 2 a (new)

(2 a) Providing a better framework for mobility for education and training purposes within the EU will help to optimise the development of human capital in effect contributing towards the achievement of a knowledge-based economy central to the creation of employment, sustainable development, research and innovation in the Member States.

Amendment 5
Recital 4

(4) The work of the group of experts set up by the Commission in accordance with point III.a) of the above Recommendation, and the first follow-up report, while showing the progress made both at national and at European level as regards mobility for education and training purposes, demonstrate the need to focus not only on increasing mobility but above all on improving its quality.

(4) The work of the group of experts set up by the Commission in accordance with point III.a) of the above Recommendation, and the first follow-up report, while showing the **modest** progress made both at national and at European level as regards mobility for education and training purposes, demonstrate the need to focus not only on increasing mobility **in quantitative terms** but above all on improving its quality, **which, while undoubtedly necessary, must not result in fewer people benefiting from mobility.**

Amendment 6
Recital 5

(5) This objective can be **achieved** by adopting, in the form of a Recommendation, a Quality Charter for mobility, laying down

(5) This objective can be **pursued, inter alia**, by adopting, in the form of a Recommendation, a Quality Charter for

a set of principles in this field, to be implemented on a voluntary basis.

mobility, laying down a set of principles in this field, to be implemented on a voluntary basis.

Amendment 7
Recital 5 a (new)

(5a) The Quality Charter for Mobility also has to allow for the specific needs of people with disabilities.

Amendment 8
Recital 6

(6) Because the Charter incorporates the underlying principles of educational mobility, it constitutes a reference framework which will help increase exchanges, develop recognition of study periods and help to establish mutual trust between the authorities, the organisations and all the stakeholders in mobility.

(6) The Charter should help increase exchanges, develop the recognition of periods dedicated to education or vocational training as well as the recognition of titles, qualifications and social security benefits and establish mutual trust so as to improve and strengthen cooperation between the authorities, the organisations and all the stakeholders in mobility.

Amendment 9
Recital 6 a (new)

(6 a) The advantages that mobility in education and training bring to the EU workforce can only be realized in practice through a continuous process, taking into consideration the interest of all social partners in the Member States with a particular emphasis on the needs of employers.

Amendment 10
Recital 6 b (new)

(6 b) The Charter, in the respective languages of the recipients, should be furnished to all students and persons undergoing training by the authorities, organisations, and other stakeholders involved in mobility in countries of origin and host countries, and should be treated

as a basic reference framework.

Amendment 11
Recital 7

(7) The advantages of mobility strongly depend on the quality of the practical provisions: preparation, support and recognition. The people and organisations involved can considerably improve its value by careful planning and suitable evaluation.

(7) The advantages of mobility strongly depend on the quality of the practical provisions: **information**, preparation, support and recognition **of the experience and qualifications acquired by applicants during the training programmes**. The people and organisations involved can considerably improve its value by careful planning and suitable evaluation.

Amendment 12
Recital 9

(9) A learning plan should be drawn up in advance. General preparation of the participants is also necessary.

(9) A learning plan should be drawn up in advance. General preparation of the participants is also necessary. **In this connection, the competent authorities and organisations should provide assistance with the minimum of bureaucracy.**

Amendment 13
Recital 11

(11) All questions **related to finance, in particular** what financial support is available and who bears the costs, should be solved before departure.

(11) All **administrative and financial** questions, **such as** what financial support is available and who bears the costs **and insurance cover in the host country, as well as which periods and contents are to be covered**, should be solved before departure.

Amendment 14
Recital 13

(13) In order to ensure the overall quality of mobility, it is desirable to apply the principles and recommendations above mentioned to all types of mobility for learning or professional development purposes: education or training; formal and non-formal learning including **youth** volunteering; short and long mobility periods; **for** school, university or **job-based**

(13) In order to ensure the overall quality of mobility, it is desirable **to make the freedom of movement for workers a right for all EU citizens and** to apply the principles and recommendations above mentioned to all types of mobility for learning or professional development purposes: education or training; formal and non-formal learning, including volunteering; short and long mobility periods; school, university or job-

learning; *for* young and adult learners, etc.

related learning; *measures in connection with lifelong learning; measures favouring* young and adult learners, *disabled students, as well as for elderly people*, etc.

Amendment 15
Recital 15 a (new)

(15a) Pilot projects aimed at establishing a voluntary social service year, which could be completed, partly or wholly, in other Member States, could help to encourage mobility.

Amendment 16
Recommendations

HEREBY RECOMMEND: that Member States adopt the attached European Quality Charter for mobility as a means to enhance personal and professional development.

HEREBY RECOMMEND: that Member States:

- adopt the attached European Quality Charter for mobility as a means to enhance personal and professional development;
- *two years after the adoption of this Recommendation and every two years thereafter, draw up evaluation reports, to be submitted to the Commission, assessing the measures taken in response to this Recommendation;*
- *continue to cooperate closely at the highest level with the European Community and coordinate their actions with a view to completely eliminating the obstacles that directly or indirectly impede the mobility of EU citizens;*
- *establish conditions and lay down policies to enable stakeholders to benefit fully from the European Economic Area (EEA) as regards mobility;*
- *provide adequate public funding and suitable infrastructures for mobility for education and vocational training purposes to enhance the education and vocational training levels of their citizens.*

HEREBY INVITE Member States to

include general information and assessment on the actions taken in response to the recommendations set out above in their reporting for the Education and Training 2010 work programme, as from the second year following the adoption of this Recommendation.

HEREBY INVITE the Commission:

- to continue to cooperate with the Member States and the social partners, so that useful information and experience concerning the implementation of the measures advocated in this Recommendation may be exchanged
- to consider the present Recommendation as forming a whole with the Recommendation 2001/613/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and therefore to include its requested biennial reports in the general reports of the Education and Training 2010 work programme.

HEREBY INVITE the Commission:

- to assess the evaluation reports submitted by the Member States and to issue, within one year of receipt of such reports, a Commission report on the measures taken by the Member States to reduce restrictions on mobility, including proposals for improvement of the quality of the mobility programmes;

- to continue to cooperate with the Member States and the social partners, so that useful information and experience concerning the implementation of the measures advocated in this Recommendation may be exchanged;
- to consider the present Recommendation as forming a whole with the Recommendation 2001/613/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and therefore to include its requested biennial reports in the general reports of the Education and Training 2010 work programme.

PROCEDURE

Title	Proposal for a recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on transnational mobility within the Community for education and training purposes: European Quality Charter for Mobility				
References	COM(2005)0450 – C6-0291/2005 – 2005/0179(COD)				
Date submitted to Parliament	23.9.2005				
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	CULT 29.9.2005				
Committee(s) asked for opinion(s) Date announced in plenary	EMPL				
	29.9.2005				
Not delivering opinion(s) Date of decision					
Enhanced cooperation Date announced in plenary	EMPL				
	19.1.2006				
Rapporteur(s) Date appointed	Sepp Kusstatscher 30.11.2005				
Previous rapporteur(s)					
Simplified procedure – date of decision					
Legal basis disputed Date of JURI opinion					
Financial endowment amended Date of BUDG opinion					
European Economic and Social Committee consulted – date of decision in plenary					
Committee of the Regions consulted – date of decision in plenary					
Discussed in committee	20.4.2006	21.6.2006			
Date adopted	22.6.2006				
Result of final vote	+	41			
	–	0			
	0	1			
Members present for the final vote	Jan Andersson, Jean-Luc Bennahmias, Emine Bozkurt, Iles Braghetto, Alejandro Cercas, Ole Christensen, Derek Roland Clark, Luigi Cocilovo, Jean Louis Cottigny, Proinsias De Rossa, Harlem Désir, Harald Ettl, Carlo Fatuzzo, Ilda Figueiredo, Roger Helmer, Stephen Hughes, Ona Juknevičienė, Jan Jerzy Kułakowski, Sepp Kusstatscher, Jean Lambert, Raymond Langendries, Bernard Lohd, Elizabeth Lynne, Thomas Mann, Jan Tadeusz Masiel, Ana Mato Adrover, Maria Matsouka, Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Csaba Óry, Pier Antonio Panzeri, José Albino Silva Peneda, Kathy Sinnott, Anne Van Lancker, Gabriele Zimmer				
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Mihael Brejc, Françoise Castex, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Magda Kósáné Kovács, Leopold Józef Rutowicz, Patrizia Toia				
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Małgorzata Handzlik, Bogusław Sonik				
Date tabled					
Comments (available in one language only)	...				