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Committee on Development

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PE 357.882v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-77

Draft report

(PE 357.560v02-00)

Manolis Mavrommatis

Exploitation of children in developing countries, with a special focus on child labour

Motion for a resolution

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 1

New Indent

- *having regard to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly's report on the progress made in achieving universal primary education and gender equality in the ACP countries in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, which was adopted in Bamako (Mali) in April 2005,*

Or. es

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 2

Indent 15

- having regard to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the Child in New York in **May 2002**, and its conclusions 'A world fit for children',

Or. en

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Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 3

Recital A

- A. whereas 'child labour' means any form of work carried out by children between the ages of 5 and 18 ***and which can be divided in three categories: work which is extremely harmful to children's physical or mental health requiring urgent removal from work. This corresponds to ILO Convention 182 on the worst forms of child labour; work where rights are violated, but where it is possible to prevent violations through improving work conditions or assisting children to find better alternatives as education; work where rights are not violated and which may contribute to fulfilment of rights;***

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 4

Recital A

- A. whereas 'child labour' means any form of work carried out by children between the ages of 5 and 18 which is harmful to their physical or mental health or prevents their social, moral and psychological development by keeping them away from school ***which is a denial of the child's fundamental right to education which is not negotiable,***

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 5

Recital A

- A. whereas ***(deletion)*** any form of work carried out by children between the ages of 5 and 18 ***(deletion)*** is harmful to their physical or mental health or prevents their social, moral and psychological development by keeping them away from school,

Or. fr

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 6

Recital B

- B. whereas 246 million children ***of both sexes*** in the world are working, 179 million of

whom are victims of what the ILO defines as the worst forms of child labour,

Or. es

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 7

Recital B

- B. whereas **352** million children in the world are working, 179 million of whom are victims of what the ILO defines as the worst forms of child labour,

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 8

Recital D

- D. whereas 5 million children are being exploited at places of work in eastern Europe and the Mediterranean region ***and in particular (it would appear) in EU Member States, which is particularly unacceptable,***

Or. fr

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 9

Recital D a (new)

- Da. whereas in Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Principle 7 of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, education is enshrined as a fundamental human right and, as such, constitutes a universal and indivisible right which does not permit discrimination of any kind on the grounds of sex, disability, ethnic or racial origin, religion or culture,***

Or. es

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 10

Recital E

- E. whereas the **1989** Convention on the Rights of the Child has been ratified by all ***signatory***

states, ***except two***, namely the United States and Somalia,

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 11

Recital E

E. whereas the 1995 Convention on the Rights of the Child has not yet been ratified by ***two signatories***, namely the United States and Somalia,

Or. fr

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 12

Recital F

F. ***whereas poverty does not have to be an insurmountable barrier for poor children to stop working and enjoy full-time education when appropriate actions are taken: ending child labour does not depend on ending poverty first,***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 13

Recital F a (new)

Fa. whereas child labour perpetuates poverty and hampers development by driving wages down, putting adults out of work and denying education,

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 14

Recital G

G. ***whereas every child has the right to registration at birth*** and its direct link with the implementation of ***relevant human right standards that protect children from exploitation through work,***

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 15

Recital G a (new)

Ga. whereas the development of universal education is one of the most effective strategies available for breaking the poverty cycle and is a key element in sustainable human development and in the efforts being made in pursuit of the human-development objectives which (as agreed internationally) are due to be achieved by 2015,

Or. es

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 16

Recital I

I. whereas 121 million children (65 million of whom are girls) have never been to school and a child's right to education is not negotiable,

Or. en

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 17

Recital J

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 18

Recital J

J. whereas child labour prevents many children from going to school, which is considered to be a luxury when their income is an essential supplement to ensure the survival of all the family; whereas 120 million of the total number of working children work standard working hours, with the result that their education is either inadequate or non-existent, whereas in certain instances in countries such as India and China a child's education is interrupted because parents migrate as labourers to work abroad and cannot leave

the child unattended to continue his/her education,

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 19

Recital J

- J. whereas child labour prevents many children from going to school, which is considered to be a luxury when their income is an essential supplement to ensure the survival of all the family; whereas 120 million of the total number of working children work *full-time*, with the result that their education is either inadequate or non-existent,

Or. fr

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 20

Recital K

- K. *whereas a child's right to education is not negotiable* and *whereas* education and vocational training *are of vital importance*, in particular for girls and women, in combating poverty; stressing the Commission's political commitment to increase resources for education and training in the context of development cooperation,

Or. en

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 21

Recital L

- L. whereas the Council has clearly expressed its commitment as regards the Millennium Development Goals, *which provide for the eradication of poverty, the provision of universal primary education and the achievement of equality between the sexes,*

Or. es

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 22

Recital M

deleted

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 23

Recital N

N. whereas enterprises, including the multinationals, have ***an ethical corporate social*** responsibility to help eliminate child labour ***in every aspect of manufacture and production,***

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 24

Recital O (new)

Oa. whereas single-sector responses to child labour are seldom effective,

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 25

Recital P a (new)

Pa. whereas poor quality and / or irrelevant education may repel children and render them "at risk" of exploitation,

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 26

Paragraph 2

2. ***Urges the two*** EU Member States which have not ratified ILO Conventions 138 and 182, to ratify and enforce them, ***since any other stance would run counter to the Charter of Fundamental Rights***;

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 27

Paragraph 2 a (new)

- 2a. ***Recommends that the Commission make the implementation of fundamental labour standards a permanent element in bilateral talks at all levels, both with countries where violations occur and with countries which are involved with them through investment and trade***;

Or. nl

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 28

Paragraph 2 a (new)

- 2a. ***Considers ratification of and compliance with ILO Conventions 138 and 182 to be two of the requirements which the Commission and the Council should impose on countries applying to join the European Union***;

Or. fr

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 29

Paragraph 4

4. Urges the Commission to fully integrate ***children's rights, including*** the elimination of ***harmful*** child labour, in all its actions in a coherent way, particularly in the country and regional strategy papers and in national/regional programmes, as well as in the revision process of the Development Policy Statement and to focus its attention on the essential role of education;

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 30

Paragraph 5

5. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the EU's trade policies are consistent with its commitment to protect and promote children's rights ***and to investigate the possibility of implementing "child-labour free" labels for products manufactured without child labour. In the interim, products and produce from developing nations will be labelled "responsibly grown/manufactured without child labour";***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 31

Paragraph 5 a (new)

- 5a. Recommends that the Commission include in all bilateral trade agreements and strategic partnerships a clause on the implementation of fundamental labour standards, including the banning of child labour;***

Or. nl

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 32

Paragraph 6

6. Urges the Commission to ensure that the problem of ***harmful*** child labour ***and the protection of children from any form of abuse, exploitation and discrimination*** become a key issue within the committees or subgroups on human rights which were set up under the trade and cooperation agreements;

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 33

Paragraph 7

7. Calls on the Council and the Commission to incorporate the practice of official birth

registration in development cooperation policy as a fundamental ***right and an instrumental*** means of protecting children's rights;

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 34
Paragraph 9

9. Welcomes the establishment, within the Commission, of a group of Commissioners for fundamental rights and calls on that group to make the protection ***and promotion*** of children's ***rights*** and the elimination of ***harmful*** child labour one of its top priorities;

Or. en

Amendment by Manolis Mavrommatis

Amendment 35
Paragraph 9 a (new)

- 9a. Calls on the Commission to promote a technical support strategy for those States in which of the problem of the absence of official registration of children is widespread;***

Or. el

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 36
Paragraph 10

10. Welcomes the appointment of a personal representative on human rights, and calls on him to make ***the protection and promotion of children's rights*** and the elimination of ***harmful*** child labour one of his priorities;

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 37
Paragraph 11

11. Calls on the Commission to draw up an annual communication on children's rights and thus provide a cohesive framework for the protection of children's ***rights*** and the

elimination of ***harmful*** child labour;

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 38

Paragraph 13

13. Calls on the Council and its presidency, as the voice of the EU, to promote children's rights and the elimination of ***harmful*** child labour at the UN High Level Millennium Event in September 2005 in New York;

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 39

Paragraph 14 a (new)

- 14a. Calls upon the Commission and the Council to take action (including in particular the suspension of cooperation agreements) against EU partner countries which allow child labour to be practised within their borders;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 40

Paragraph 15

15. Reiterates its view that ***the elimination of child labour and the universalisation of education are inextricably linked, making the elimination of child labour an essential means of achieving the Millennium Development Goals 2 and 3 in 2015;***

Or. en

Amendment by Manolis Mavrommatis

Amendment 41

Paragraph 15

15. Reiterates its view that there is a mutually reinforcing relationship between lack of education and child labour, ***making education the basic instrument for achieving Goal 2***

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 42

Paragraph 15 a (new)

- 15a. *Calls for particular attention to be paid to the primary education of girls, who encounter more barriers and obstacles than do boys (cultural factors such as early marriage, discrimination, social and family role, etc.) preventing them from enrolling and remaining in school and from completing their studies; furthermore, girls who have been educated have smaller, healthier families and they help to increase productivity and reduce poverty;***

Or. es

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 43

Paragraph 16

- 16. *Calls on the Commission to use its position as the principle donor of humanitarian aid in international institutions **such as UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and the IMF**, to urge these multilateral donors to exert pressure to design and implement education policies and programmes that integrate all working and other out-of-school children into formal full-time education until the permissible age of employment according to ILO Convention 138;***

Or. en

Amendment by Manolis Mavrommatis

Amendment 44

Paragraph 16

- 16. *Calls on the Commission to use the position of the EU, as the principal donor of humanitarian aid among the international institutions, to exert pressure for the framing of policies to eliminate child labour, including efforts to achieve the objective of education without discrimination, thereby reflecting its vital importance for the future of children; also calls on the Commission to exert pressure to ensure that the age for completing basic education and the age at which working is permitted coincide or that they do not vary by more than one year from the provisions existing in national legislation;***

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 45

Paragraph 16

16. Calls on the Commission to use the position of the EU, as the principal donor of humanitarian aid among the international institutions¹, to exert pressure for the framing of policies to eliminate child labour, including efforts to achieve the objective of education without discrimination ***on the grounds of sex, disability, ethnic or racial origin, religion or culture***, thereby reflecting its vital importance for the future of children;

Or. es

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 46

Paragraph 16

16. Calls on the Commission to use the position of the EU, as the principal donor of ***official development assistance*** among the international institutions², to exert pressure for the framing of policies to eliminate ***harmful*** child labour, including efforts to achieve the objective of education ***for all*** without discrimination, thereby reflecting its vital importance for the future of children;

Or. en

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 47

Paragraph 18

18. Believes that no child should be excluded from education ***because of an inability to pay, and reiterates its call on all governments to establish a clear timetable for rapidly eliminating direct and indirect fees for primary education, while maintaining a high level of, or enhancing the quality of education;***

Or. en

¹ Such as UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

² Such as UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 48

Paragraph 18

18. Believes that no child should be *deprived of his or her fundamental right to* education and notes that the abolition of tuition fees and charges for basic education, the creation of new schools and the awareness that education *holds* out a better future for children, *give* children and their families an incentive to return to the classroom;

Or. es

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 49

Paragraph 18

18. *Stresses that every child should enjoy the right to education* and notes that the abolition of tuition fees and charges for basic education, the creation of new schools and the awareness that education can hold out a better future for children, would give children and their families an incentive to return to the classroom, *and by including children and communities themselves in decision making about schools, help to make schooling more relevant to children's needs;*

Or. en

Amendment by Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 50

Paragraph 18

18. Believes that no child should be excluded from education and notes that *free* education *at all levels*, the creation of new schools and the awareness that education can hold out a better future for children, would give children and their families an incentive to return to the classroom;

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 51

Paragraph 18 a (new)

- 18a. Calls on the Commission to monitor all EU funding for basic education as part of its contribution to the fight against those forms of child labour that keep children out of full-time schools with a particular focus on the effectiveness of strategies to get working children into formal daytime education;*

Or. en

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 52

Paragraph 18 a (new)

18a. Considers information concerning existing education and training programmes to be a key factor in the successful implementation of those programmes and calls upon the Commission to devote particular attention to ensuring that women and children receive adequate information, since education may help them to ward off any form of exploitation;

Or. es

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 53

Paragraph 19

19. Calls on the Commission to set clear objectives for the promotion of universal basic education **of the highest quality** in the national **indicative** programmes, with particular focus on the access of girls, **children in conflict-affected areas** and children from marginalised social groups to education programmes;

Or. en

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 54

Paragraph 19

19. Calls on the Commission to set clear objectives for the promotion of universal basic education in the national action programmes, with particular focus on the access of girls and children from marginalised **and more vulnerable** social groups to education programmes;

Or. es

Amendment by Manolis Mavrommatis

Amendment 55

Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Proposes that the Commission promote special educational programmes, in addition to

basic school education, to provide children who have never received education with the opportunity to be integrated into the school environment with the assistance of accordingly specialised teaching staff;

Or. el

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 56

Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Calls on the Commission to support mobilisation programmes and transitional education programmes such as bridge schools and classes as a means of enabling working and other out-of-school children of school age to still be able to integrate into the formal daytime education system in an appropriate age group;

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 57

Paragraph 19 a (new)

19a. Calls on the European Union to compel countries with statutes banning child labour already in place to completely eliminate child labour in their countries and get these children and backlogged adolescents into schools over a three year grace period;

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 58

Paragraph 19 b (new)

19b. Asks the EU to increase budget support to increase the number of schools and teachers in needed areas;

Or. en

Amendment by Margrietus van den Berg

Amendment 59

Paragraph 20

20. *Believes that the fight against child labour can be accelerated by balanced socio-economic development and the reduction of poverty; recommends that the EU link its efforts to eliminate child labour with equally strong efforts to achieve other labour standards and a living wage for adult workers;*

Or. en

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 60

Paragraph 20

20. Considers that child labour is a product of unbalanced socio-economic development; recommends that the efforts to eliminate child labour should take account of social conditions and poverty in developing countries and should propose measures designed to increase the incomes of households by, for example, guaranteeing a minimum wage for adult workers *since child labour destroys adult wages;*

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 61

Paragraph 20

20. Considers that child labour is a product of unbalanced socio-economic development; recommends that the efforts to eliminate *harmful* child labour should take account of social conditions and poverty in developing countries and should propose measures designed to increase the incomes of households by, for example, guaranteeing a minimum wage for adult workers;

Or. en

Amendment by Manolis Mavrommatis

Amendment 62

Paragraph 20 a (new)

- 20a. *Calls on the Commission to monitor and evaluate all Community funding, though without setting limits on consignments of humanitarian aid, which is not confined to food products but also includes aid to develop the infrastructure of the regions;*

Amendment by Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 63

Paragraph 20 a (new)

20a. *Considers that the elimination of poverty is the only way to create the conditions for the eradication of child exploitation and stresses the importance that the micro-credit system can have in raising family income;*

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 64

Paragraph 20 a (new)

20a. *Urges the Commission and the Member States to advocate that the age of completing compulsory education and the minimum age of employment must coincide in national laws and development programming on education in line with ILO Convention 138 which stipulates that the permissible age of entry into employment ‘shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years’;*

Or. en

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 65

Paragraph 20 a (new)

20a. *Points out the fact that a requirement of universal full-time education is an education system which includes strategies for bringing all children who work (or who do not go to school for some other reason) into a full-time school system; calls upon the European Union to ensure that all education programmes financed by the Community include broad strategies such as social motivation and remedial courses for older pupils;*

Or. es

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 66

Paragraph 20 a (new)

- 20a. ***Calls upon the Commission and all relevant organisations to consider the feasibility of policies designed to provide children and their families with financial compensation for the income which they would lose if the children were to stop work and to return to school;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 67

Paragraph 23

23. Calls on the Commission to support programmes ***combating the*** uncommon forms of child labour such as domestic work and the selling of children to pay off family debts (debt bondage);

Or. en

Amendment by Feleknaš Uca

Amendment 68

Paragraph 24

24. Welcomes ***the announcement of a*** Commission communication on trafficking in human beings (2005);

Or. en

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 69

Paragraph 24

24. Welcomes ***the fact that the Commission has taken the initiative to draw up a*** communication on trafficking in human beings (2005);

Or. fr

Amendment by María Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco

Amendment 70

Paragraph 25

25. Reiterates its proposal to appoint an EU special representative for children who are victims of armed conflict, ***wars, displacement, drought, hunger, natural disasters or AIDS, or children who are caught up in the trafficking of human beings***, and to ensure that due attention is given to such situations;

Or. es

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 71

Paragraph 25 a (new)

- 25a. Calls for the support of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in the form of a ban on child labour in trade and that child-labour free products will be marked and labelled as such for consumer awareness of responsible practices;***

Or. en

Amendment by John Bowis

Amendment 72

Paragraph 25 a (new)

- 25a. Calls on the Commission to remind European Union and developing countries of their obligations under the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption and in particular to ensure that all countries in receipt of EU aid have signed and ratified the Convention; and to help those countries prevent damage to children caused by inappropriate or unauthorised adoption procedures within or between countries;***

Or. en

Amendment by Glenys Kinnock

Amendment 73

Paragraph 25 a (new)

- 25a. Involving children
Calls for the EU to support organisations run by working children, which can play an instrumental role in achieving children's right to participate and associate, and help children to achieve their right to be free from harmful work;***

Amendment by Bernard Lehideux

Amendment 74

Paragraph 26

26. Welcomes *the fact that the Commission has taken the initiative to draw up a* communication on corporate social responsibility, *which was* due in April 2005;

Or. fr

Amendment by Nirj Deva

Amendment 75

Paragraph 28 a (new)

- 28a. *Calls on local governments to cooperate with international organisations to monitor industry and agriculture to prevent child labour and to cooperate in the building and maintenance of adequate full-time educational facilities with qualified ,teaching staff free transport and meals so all children may attend school;***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 76

Paragraph 29

29. Calls on the Council to support *(deletion)* the UN's Global Compact *and extend the OECD's guidelines for multinational enterprises from investment to trade, expand implementation instruments and reach agreements with the governments of developing countries on ways in which enterprises can contribute to the actual abolition of child labour;*

Or. nl

Amendment by Maria Martens

Amendment 77

Paragraph 29 a (new)

- 29a. *Encourages transnational enterprises to adopt socially responsible business practices in all their operations and supply chains, in cooperation with all relevant parties, and to report thereon;***

Or. nl

