

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



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*Committee on Culture and Education*

29.8.2006

PE 376.783v01-00

## AMENDMENTS 1-35

### Draft report

**Luis Herrero-Tejedor**

White Paper on a European communication policy  
2006/2087(INI)

(PE 376.333v01-00)

Motion for a resolution

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Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 1

Recital A

- A. whereas communication is an important element *of both representative and* participatory democracy,

Or. es

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 2

Recital B

- B. whereas for this reason *one of the strengths* of democratic elements of the EU is connected to the communication structures on the European level which link the institutions with citizens,

Or. es

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Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 3

Recital D

- D. whereas there is no *consolidated* European public sphere at present but very lively national public spheres; those national public spheres reveal deep variations as regards the extent to which European issues are debated as well as the content,

Or. es

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 4

Recital E

- E. *Does not affect English version.*

Or. es

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 5

Recital H

- H. whereas communication is also linked to the issues of transparency, *simplification*, citizenship and shared values,

Or. es

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 6

Recital I

- I. whereas the European Council of 15/16 June 2006 put the issue of *institutional* reform back on the agenda,

Or. en

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 7  
Paragraph 1

1. Sees the need to improve communication between the EU and its citizens; therefore supports the attempt to overhaul the way communication with citizens is organised; underlines that better communication cannot compensate for insufficient policies but it can make **conducted** policies better understood;

Or. fr

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 8  
Paragraph 2

2. Urges the Commission to support the creation of a European public sphere, primarily structured through national, local and regional media, though without losing sight of the important role played by quality national newspapers in dedicating sufficient coverage to European affairs; **and to that end, calls on the Member States to include in the specifications for national public audiovisual channels a requirement to inform the public about the policies conducted at European level;**

Or. fr

Amendment by Helga Trüpel

Amendment 9  
Paragraph 2

2. Urges the Commission to support the creation of a European public sphere, primarily structured through national, local and regional media, though without losing sight of the important role played by quality national **and regional** newspapers **and television news** in dedicating sufficient coverage to European affairs;

Or. en

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 10  
Paragraph 6 a (new)

- 6a. Asks the Commission to come forward with a draft for an interinstitutional**

***agreement in order to define the common principles that could channel cooperation between the European institutions as regards communication;***

Or. en

Amendment by Helga Trüpel

Amendment 11  
Paragraph 9

9. Welcomes the desire shown by the Commission to take Europe to all levels, i.e. to take European issues to national, regional and local level in order to decentralise the message ***and insists on the need for communication to be on a very regular basis;*** welcomes the Commission's Action Plan and expects its prompt implementation;

Or. en

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 12  
Paragraph 9 a (new)

- 9a. Welcomes the transparency initiative launched in November 2005 by the Commission which stresses that high standards of transparency are part of the legitimacy of any modern administration; the European public is entitled to expect efficient, accountable and service-minded public institutions;***

Or. en

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 13  
Paragraph 11

11. Supports the idea of enhancing debates on European issues in national ***and regional*** parliaments ***with legislative powers;***

Or. es

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 14

Paragraph 12

12. Underlines the importance of civic education on EU integration; considers that having a certain level of understanding about Europe is a prerequisite for successful two-way communication with the EU, ***and for contributing to a sense of European citizenship***;

Or. es

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 15

Paragraph 12 a (new)

- 12a. Stresses that national parliaments should strive to pay more attention to European legislative projects much earlier in the decision-making process;***

Or. es

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 16

Paragraph 14

14. Is of the opinion that in order to reach the citizen it is important to communicate better and show the relevance of EU decisions ***to, and their impact on,*** daily life;

Or. fr

Amendment by Helga Trüpel

Amendment 17

Paragraph 14

14. Is of the opinion that in order to reach the citizen it is important to communicate better and show the relevance of EU decisions for daily life; ***through cooperation with regional and local institutions, emphasis should be placed on communicating regularly to the citizens about the relevant regional and local projects where the EU participated, for instance from youth organisation activities to a monument renovation;***

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 18

Paragraph 14

14. Is of the opinion that in order to reach the citizen it is important to communicate better and show the relevance of EU decisions ***and of a common European programme to daily life;***

Or. es

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 19

Paragraph 14 a (new)

- 14a. Welcomes the initiatives taken by certain Commission representations and by national administrations so as to collaborate on EU-related information campaigns; such collaboration could contribute to the creation of a more direct link between citizens and institutions;***

Or. es

Amendment by Helga Trüpel

Amendment 20

Paragraph 15

15. Stresses the importance of the media as intermediaries, creators of opinion, and carriers of messages to the citizen in the European public sphere which the Commission is aiming to develop; ***in that context, urges the Commission to support concrete initiatives such as discussion forums on European cultural and political issues where materials would be available in several languages so that many European citizens could interact and exchange;***

Or. en

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 21  
Paragraph 15 a (new)

**15a. *Emphasises that the informed citizen is the basis of a functioning participatory democratic system;***

Or. en

Amendment by Karin Resetarits

Amendment 22  
Paragraph 16

16. Asks the Commission to define, with the greatest precision possible, which role it would like to assign the media and stresses the need to find a formula that involves national, regional and local media more closely in communication policy, ***for which the use of alternative media as a communication channel should also be considered;***

Or. de

Amendment by Ivo Belet and Mia De Vits

Amendment 23  
Paragraph 16 a (new)

**16a. *Takes the view that cross-border cooperation on European policy projects between regional and local media must be stepped up; believes that European cooperation between media and journalists benefits reporting on the European Union, and asks the Commission to set up, as part of the budget, a ‘European Fund for (Investigative) Journalism’ that supports projects in which journalists from several Member States together explore a European subject in depth and apply it to the differences in local and regional situations;***

Or. nl

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 24  
Paragraph 18

18. Recommends that the Commission use pristine and concise language when communicating with citizens and the media, ***and take care systematically to address***

*the latter only in their mother tongue*; believes that EU jargon increases rather than closes the gap between the EU institutions and citizens;

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 25  
Paragraph 19

19. Recommends the creation of regular exchanges of views on European communication matters between the European institutions, *particularly the European Parliament*, and the media;

Or. es

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 26  
Paragraph 19

19. Recommends the creation of regular exchanges of views on European communication matters between the *Community* institutions, *the media and European non-governmental organisations*;

Or. fr

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 27  
Paragraph 20

20. Sees *it as the (deletion) responsibility of the Commission in general, and the Member States in particular, to provide* objective, reliable and impartial information on European policies as a basis a for well-informed debate; *accordingly calls on the latter to improve efforts to inform the Member States' civil servants about policies conducted at European level*;

Or. fr



Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 28

Title after paragraph 21

**Creating** European public opinion

Or. fr

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 29

Paragraph 24

24. Asks the Commission to draw up concrete proposals for the implementation of the communication policy and **evaluate** its legal and financial implications;

Or. fr

Amendment by Maria Badia I Cutchet

Amendment 30

Paragraph 26

**deleted**

Or. es

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 31

Paragraph 26 a (new)

**26a. Calls on the institutions to examine the possibility of setting up a second-level coordination group, on which the competent DGs of the various institutions and representatives of the European Parliament's committees are represented, to coordinate the specific activities implementing the guidelines laid down by the IGI;**

Or. es

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 32

Paragraph 27 a (new)

**27a. Points out that the Prince Programme has traditionally been based on a partnership between the Commission and the Member States; in its most recent report on the EU's communication strategy the European Parliament underlined the need for parliamentary involvement in establishing the Prince Programme's priorities, and therefore takes the view that MEPs should be fully involved in the events organised under the programme's auspices;**

Or. es

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 33

Paragraph 28

**28. Recommends *increasing the appropriations allocated to* existing funding programmes *for the purpose of better communication of European integration*, such as Lifelong Learning, Youth, Citizens for Europe, Media, and Culture (*deletion*), provided that the objectives of the individual programmes are fully respected;**

Or. fr

Amendment by Luis Herrero-Tejedor

Amendment 34

Paragraph 28 a (new)

**28a. Supports replacing the five budgetary lines for the Prince Programme that exist at present with a single programme run by the Directorate-General for Communication, as this would bring greater flexibility and a central interlocutor;**

Or. es

Amendment by Guy Bono

Amendment 35

Paragraph 29

**29. Stresses that for successful communication the active *involvement of the* Member States is essential and therefore invites *them to find the technical and financial***

*means for contributing* to the joint communicative efforts of the EU;

Or. fr