

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

6.3.2007

PE 386.350v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-20

Draft opinion

(PE 384.586v01-00)

Benoît Hamon

Global Europe – External aspects of competitiveness
(2006/2292(INI))

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 1

Paragraph 1

1. Considers that the development of trade is not an end in itself but must be assessed in the light of its impact on economic growth, employment and sustainable development; ***points out that analysis of European economic competitiveness, instead of being confined to trade figures, should also focus on the proportion of total world output accounted for by European production and on employment trends;***

Or. es

Amendment by Benoît Hamon and Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 2

Paragraph 1 a (new)

- 1a. Considers greater external competitiveness to be vital in order to attain the Lisbon growth and employment goals and help promote sustainable development worldwide; believes that EU external action must encourage reforms and international cooperation in the economic sphere so as to create a favourable environment; intends, to that end, to work towards greater consistency and compatibility in the farther reaching macroeconomic policies, improved monetary***

AM\656012EN.doc

PE 386.350v01-00

and financial security, and cooperation in tax matters and the elimination of damaging tax competition;

Or. es

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 3
Paragraph 1 a (new)

1a. Maintains that European citizens equate globalisation with falling European output and job losses; points to the need for the EU to adopt a suitable strategy for implementing the reforms needed to enable us to take advantage of globalisation, thereby boosting production and employment;

Or. es

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 4
Paragraph 1 b (new)

1b. Considers it necessary, firstly, to pursue a monetary policy serving to finance technological progress and favouring SMEs by enabling them to enter markets outside the euro area; secondly, to establish business-friendly taxation systems likely to increase the number of start-ups and, to that end, to cut the taxes that undermine efficiency and job creation, especially for particular social groups such as women, the long-term unemployed, and older people; and, thirdly, to increase competition on the internal market, bearing in mind that the more competition there is at internal level, the more able our companies will be to compete at external level;

Or. es

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 5
Paragraph 2

2. Notes that exchange rates are a major factor in the development of international trade; calls on the Commission to make concrete proposals on measures to be taken **when** exchange **rates are such as to erode our competitiveness**;

Or. es

Amendment by Heide Rühle and Alain Lipietz

Amendment 6

Paragraph 2

2. Notes that exchange rates are a major factor in the development of international trade; calls on the Commission to make concrete proposals on measures to be taken in the event of dumping by means of exchange rate levels, with particular reference to the debates held in the US Senate on the Schumer-Graham bill, ***and to consider the inclusion of such measures in the upcoming revision of the EU's trade defence instruments;***

Or. en

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 7

Paragraph 3

3. Notes with interest the Commission's concern to take account of the environmental impact of trade; considers that this should take the form of impact studies assessing effects on the environment and the climate, and of corrective measures where necessary; ***(deletion)***

Or. es

Amendment by Heide Rühle and Alain Lipietz

Amendment 8

Paragraph 3

3. Notes with interest the Commission's concern to take account of the environmental impact of trade; considers that this should take the form of impact studies assessing effects on the environment and the climate, and of corrective measures where necessary; ***points out in this context that increased greenhouse emissions from transport, which mostly result from a spiralling demand for road and air transport, remain a key obstacle to the EU reaching its Kyoto climate targets; recalls the need to manage transport demand so as to address the environmental aspects of transport such as climate change, noise and landscape fragmentation which are closely linked to increasing transport volumes;*** calls on the Commission to consider ***(deletion)*** the desirability of ***a border adjustment tax for products originating in countries that have not signed the Kyoto Protocol, or to consider any other form of*** environmental tax on imported goods produced using methods which generate more CO₂ emissions than European methods;

Amendment by Benoît Hamon

Amendment 9

Paragraph 3

3. Notes with interest the Commission's concern to take account of the environmental impact of trade; considers that this should take the form of impact studies assessing effects on the environment and the climate, and of corrective measures where necessary; calls on the Commission to consider in this context the desirability of an environmental tax on imported goods produced using methods which generate more CO₂ emissions than European methods, ***following the recommendations of the High-Level Group on Competitiveness, Energy and the Environment***;

Or. fr

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 10

Paragraph 4

4. Notes that the Commission intends to take into account the transformation of supply and production chains at global level, characterised by outsourcing; ***(deletion)***

Or. es

Amendment by Heide Rühle and Alain Lipietz

Amendment 11

Paragraph 4 a (new)

- 4a. ***Remains unconvinced by the Commission's strategy to increase the EU's global competitiveness that is oriented mainly towards the particular interests of European-based transnational corporations in minimising intra-firm transaction costs in their global production chains; insists that the backbone of the EU's economic success is the activity of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that produce within the EU and which must be enabled to maintain high-quality production at the upper end of value chains;***

Or. en

Amendment by Heide Rühle and Alain Lipietz

Amendment 12

Paragraph 4 b (new)

- 4b. *Is convinced that the social model that remains at the base of European industrial relations has enabled the EU to maintain a high degree of global competitiveness vis-à-vis its main competitors; considers that the biggest challenge facing the EU is to uphold the functioning of this social model despite existing pressures in increasingly competitive global markets to further lower social and environmental costs of production;***

Or. en

Amendment by Cristobal Montoro Romero

Amendment 13

Paragraph 5

- 5. *Calls for action to combat protectionism both within the EU and in relation to the outside world; urges that world trade liberalisation be consolidated through the Doha Round and by establishing a free trade area including the United States;***

Or. es

Amendment by Heide Rühle and Alain Lipietz

Amendment 14

Paragraph 5

- 5. *Deems it essential that the Commission's call for more 'regulatory convergence' with trade partners does not lead to the downgrading of EU standards; insists on the contrary that trade must be used to disseminate European standards to a greater extent than hitherto, in the light of recent developments particularly in the transatlantic field (acquisition of stock markets, IFRS, etc.);***

Or. en

Amendment by Benoît Hamon

Amendment 15

Paragraph 5 a (new)

- 5a. *Believes that commercial services should be distinguished from services of general***

interest and services of general economic interest; points to the need for services of general interest to remain outside the scope of the negotiations, in particular services designed to meet basic needs and affording access to essential public assets such as health, education, water, and energy, and services central to cultural diversity, for example audio-visual services;

Or. fr

Amendment by Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 16

Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. *Believes that if the EU were to promote basic multilateral rules on competition policy and international cooperation in this area were to be strengthened, markets could be made more open, balanced, and efficient;*

Or. es

Amendment by Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 17

Paragraph 5 b (new)

5b. *Maintains that the EU has to promote the dissemination and recognition of international accounting and auditing standards and practices so as to make for more dependable and transparent markets and for greater certainty and better information for operators where their external activities are concerned;*

Or. es

Amendment by Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 18

Paragraph 5 c (new)

5c. *Maintains that to develop a knowledge-based economy, reputation and intellectual property rights have to be properly protected and counterfeiting and piracy, stamped out; considers, therefore, that these aims must be encompassed within EU commercial policy;*

Or. es

Amendment by Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 19

Paragraph 5 d (new)

5d. *Maintains in particular that in order to foster its external competitiveness, the EU has to take measures under its commercial policy to strengthen the security of electronic transactions and trade and increase data protection.*

Or. es

Amendment by Benoît Hamon and Antolín Sánchez Presedo

Amendment 20

Paragraph 5 b (new)

5b. *Believes that opening up the market in financial services and facilitating capital movements must go hand in hand with tangible progress as regards transparency and measures to combat money laundering, financial support for terrorism, and tax fraud, not least involving offshore financial centres.*

Or. fr