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REPORT

on social inclusion in the new Member States
(2004/2210(INI))

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Csaba Óry

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MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on social inclusion in the new Member States (2004/2210(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission staff working paper on social inclusion in the new Member States (SEC(2004)0848),
 - having regard to Articles I-3 and III-117 of the draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe¹,
 - having regard to Rule 45 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (A6-0125/2005),
- A. whereas at the Lisbon, Nice and Stockholm European Councils the Member States undertook to promote the quality and further development of employment in order to reduce poverty and social exclusion, as well as to increase economic and social cohesion using the open coordination method,
- B. whereas non-governmental organisations play a significant role in identifying the problems involved in social inclusion and in informing the public about them by drawing up public awareness programmes and implementing them effectively,
- C. whereas access to employment is one of the most important means of supporting social inclusion, and whereas the social partners play an important part in this area, specifically by supporting access to employment for the most vulnerable groups in the manner defined by the Guideline 7 of the European Employment Strategy,
- D. whereas because of the gender pattern on the labour market, women in the new Member States have been employed mainly in lower paid jobs,
- E. whereas in the new Member States the transition to the market economy brought about significant structural changes in the labour market, with the result that unemployment became one of the most serious obstacles to social inclusion,
- F. whereas one of the reasons for high unemployment in the new Member States is non-existent labour force mobility, preventing workers from moving from regions with high unemployment to regions where there is a shortage of workers,
- G. whereas, without a comparison of indicators based on data harmonised at EU level, it would not be possible to assess the problem of social exclusion in the 25-member

¹ OJ C 310, 16.12.2004.

European Union, taking into consideration the fact that in the 10 new Member States comprehensive, global and current data are not yet available,

- H. whereas the Commission staff working paper states that, from the point of view of social inclusion in the new Member States, major problems include the low level of employment, the inadequacy and insufficiency of health services, and inadequate measures to tackle the problems faced by minorities which suffer discrimination, especially the Roma,
 - I. whereas in the new Member States, in addition to unemployment, another significant problem is the breaking-up of families and the associated impoverishment, which leads to fresh social exclusion,
 - J. whereas all minorities are even more exposed to social exclusion and this is closely connected with the fact that their education and training still does not receive the requisite support,
 - K. whereas, in the new Member States, where economic reforms were and remain necessary in order to achieve strong competitive economies, it is crucial to combat social exclusion, especially of vulnerable groups such as older people, children, minorities and persons with disabilities,
 - L. whereas in the new Member States the funding of the local-government system is causing increasingly serious difficulty, and in the long term this will jeopardise the effectiveness of the system,
 - M. whereas the governments of the new Member States are entrusting more and more duties to local government, while mostly failing to provide the requisite additional budget funding to enable them to be carried out, and whereas, in some of the new Member States, there is a lack of appropriate legislation regulating social services,
 - N. whereas in most of the new Member States the political will to make decisive and widespread use of indirect financial incentives (for example selective relief from taxes and social-security contributions) to enable groups which are struggling with social-exclusion problems to catch up and to become integrated into the labour market is lacking,
 - O. whereas the social partners play a key role in social integration,
1. Considers that the process of social inclusion in the new Member States must be accelerated and that in order to do so more funds must be made available to make it possible to improve fundamentally the situation of women, single-parent households, new entrants to the labour market, older, sick or disabled persons, people providing long-term care to the disabled or to the elderly and children who are disadvantaged or at risk owing to the absence of parental authority, as well as linguistic minorities, refugees, the Roma and all other ethnic minorities in the territory of the Union, without forgetting persons in great distress: the homeless and victims of dependency (alcoholism, drugs);

2. Maintains that those who, because of illness, old age, or disability, or because there is no suitable work to be had, cannot earn a livelihood must be guaranteed a decent income through social security, taking greater account than has been the case to date of subsistence levels; considers that the level of benefits must be such as to avert poverty when social risks become manifest; believes that the help provided in cases of hardship should eliminate the causes of poverty and prevent long-term dependence on welfare aid;
3. Calls on the new Member States to pay greater attention to legislation in the area of social services, with particular regard to intervention, and to encourage the inclusion of groups in the social economy, the development of which should be supported through the targeted use of the European Social Fund and of other structural funds;
4. Urges the governments of the new Member States, in formulating their policies, to treat social inclusion as a social problem falling under the Lisbon Strategy;
5. Calls on the new Member States to extend educational measures, tackle illiteracy (including, equally, functional illiteracy and actual illiteracy), with special reference to the requirements of all minorities, especially, in some countries, the Roma, and eliminate segregated education and in particular to take account of educational needs in rural areas;
6. Points to the need to allow more effectively than hitherto for conditions on a fast-changing labour market, in a high-quality education system accessible to all on equal terms; and maintains that lifelong learning has to be accessible to all, irrespective of their earlier educational path, social standing, or financial solvency;
7. Calls on the new Member States to increase the range of services provided for families, in order to improve the situation of breadwinners with children or elderly family members in need of care;
8. Calls on the new Member States to develop proactive policies to ensure the inclusion of immigrants facing particular difficulties or at risk of poverty;
9. Calls on the Member States to mobilise civil, professional and social organisations, particularly non-governmental organisations, confessional or non-confessional associations, trade unions and employers' organisations to participate actively in combating poverty, without however taking the place of the efforts made by the public authorities of the Member States; calls on the Member States to create the legal and financial conditions for the involvement of these organisations in the fight against poverty and social exclusion;
10. Calls on governments, in formulating their policies for promoting social inclusion, to devote particular attention to eliminating child poverty;
11. Urges the Commission to complete the harmonisation of poverty statistics and the criteria defining poverty as soon as possible, so that the prevalence of social exclusion can be compared throughout the territory of the EU-25 on the same basis as it used to be assessed in the EU-15, taking into account the specific characteristics of each Member State;

12. Regrets that statistical data from the new Member States is scarce and calls therefore on the new Member States to regularly collect and publish updated and comparable data broken down by gender, in order to monitor progress in the new Member States with regard to social inclusion; believes that a two-way exchange of experience and good practice must take place and that more intensive networking of Member States facing broadly similar challenges is required;
13. Calls on the Council, and especially on the governments of the new Member States, to consider the possible dangers arising from the increasing indebtedness of local authorities in the new Member States which may effectively undermine their ability to perform their duties, thereby creating territorial divisions within the European Union, and to draw up a long-term strategy so as perceptibly to improve this situation;
14. Calls on the Council, and especially on the governments of the new Member States, to consider drawing up a long-term strategy which will make it possible to improve perceptibly the financial situation of local authorities;
15. Calls on the Council, and especially on the governments of the new Member States, to consider contributing more than at present to funds for carrying out local government responsibilities related to social inclusion;
16. Calls on the Commission to promote mechanisms for interaction with the Member States in order to produce texts with a view to ensuring real access to the legal system for vulnerable groups and minorities (legal aid, information centres, provision of advice free of charge, etc), and to encourage Member States to devise common, harmonised strategies on social inclusion at local level;
17. Calls on the new Member States to make greater efforts than at present to solve the housing problem, by increasing the supply of more affordable housing and, in particular, by supporting the construction projects of local authorities, so as to help the most vulnerable groups;
18. Calls on the new Member States to include in their social inclusion policy the issue of homelessness, as an extreme form of social exclusion, since it affects thousands of people, particularly women, in each country;
19. Calls for government concessions to make housing loans more affordable for target groups in a socially weaker position;
20. Calls on the new Member States to make sufficient funds available to ensure access to quality systems of lifelong learning for all, allowing individuals to increase their level of qualification; at the same time not to forget special measures facilitating the integration of those most at risk into the employment process;
21. Calls on the new Member States to promote more effectively than at present the social inclusion of minorities and improvements in the conditions for the education of the Roma, drawing up a supplementary support system for deprived children, together with appropriate social integration programmes;

22. Calls on the new Member States to promote the social integration of persons with disabilities more effectively than hitherto and to draw up appropriate educational, professional training and employment promotion programmes;
23. Calls on the new Member States to revise their economic policies in the light of the conclusions of the European Union in its mid-term review of the Lisbon Strategy; calls for this revision to be undertaken with the aim of promoting the creation of permanent, high-quality jobs; calls for measures to facilitate freedom of enterprise, without this resulting in any form of intra-Community dumping;
24. Points to the need, with a view to making significantly more effective use than hitherto of labour resources in the light of the goals charted in the Lisbon Strategy, to take steps in the new Member States to even out wage differences between men and women educated to the same level and working in jobs of equal status;
25. Urges the Commission to regularly review all legal provisions to combat discrimination, based on Article 13 of the EC Treaty, and bring appropriate proceedings against all Member States which do not transpose or apply the relevant directives in the required way or within the required time limit;
26. Calls on the governments of the new Member States to make appropriate preparations to ensure that the introduction of the euro will not plunge large social groups into poverty, particularly those living on small pensions or social welfare payments, the vast majority of whom are women;
27. Calls on the Commission to reorient the measures set out in its working paper in terms of an approach based on an across-the-board synthesis, recentring it more closely on failure to respect civil liberties, access to fundamental rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination, and to recommend suitable control mechanisms that will facilitate the task of preparing any sanctions that may be needed;
28. Calls on the Commission to define and construct a common tableau or 'red line' which could serve as a shared basis for access to the law and unification of approaches to the law in this field within the Union;
29. Calls on the Commission and the new Member States jointly to allocate more funding than hitherto to the new Member States to finance the drawing-up of national action plans and to support the attainment of the objectives of the Luxembourg Employment Summit and calls on the Commission to promote exchanges of good practice between the new and old Member States;
30. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and to representatives of local authorities of the Member States; also asks the Member States to forward this resolution for information to the representatives of each ethnic minority recognised as such on their territory.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Introduction

Since the early 1990s, unemployment has been an extremely sensitive problem in the European Union, with many adverse side effects, and this situation has not changed with the accession of the ten new Member States. Increasing employment is a key element in the Lisbon Strategy, which, by simultaneously improving growth, competitiveness and employment, could partly solve social and economic problems as well.

As it improves social cohesion, social inclusion is closely linked to the Lisbon objectives, because the standard of living of the impoverished social strata can be improved primarily by increasing employment among their ranks. Combating social exclusion is thus indissolubly linked to the Lisbon Strategy, and in a sense is a precondition for enabling the European Union to genuinely attain the Lisbon objectives. Creating a knowledge-based society and the most economically competitive region in the world will be possible only by applying economic policy models which take account of, and respect, the specific characteristics of the European social model and alleviate the damaging phenomenon of social exclusion as effectively as possible.

Unless the process of social inclusion in the new Member States is accelerated and funding for it increased, there is no realistic hope of attaining the Lisbon objectives by 2010. One of the biggest difficulties in this context is that, in the new Member States which have to make a success of economic restructuring, albeit at the expense of severe social dislocation, local authorities carry out a significant proportion of the tasks involved in integrating the socially disadvantaged (improving education and training conditions, advising on career choices, housing benefit, promoting mobility, crime prevention, etc.), but in general local authorities do not receive from the central budget the resources they need in order to carry out these tasks successfully, while on the other hand they are unable to finance them themselves.

A general feature of the situation at local government level in the new Member States is the acute shortage of resources, and most Member States lack any strategy for solving this problem. One possible way of doing so would be to increase local government budgets, while another would be by means of a thorough overhaul of the local government system so as to increase its efficiency.

The present situation

In the new Member States, we might define the principal problems involved in attaining social inclusion as follows: the low level of employment, shortcomings in health-care provision and the education system, and the problem of social exclusion of minorities.

On average, the level of employment in the new Member States is 8% lower than in the old Member States, and a further difficulty is that regional disparities are significantly greater.

EU surveys show that increasing employment in the new Member States would create a basis for significant progress in combating poverty, but employment policy by itself cannot entirely

eliminate poverty. Nonetheless, combating poverty is a far greater challenge in the new Member States than in the old ones.

Shortcomings and measures not yet taken - where is progress most vital?

As far as the shortcomings are concerned, the first point to which attention should be drawn is that very little use has been made in the new Member States of financial incentives which indirectly promote job creation, and, although these are unquestionably an effective instrument of economic policy, they are being insufficiently applied at present.

Particularly in the case of SMEs, it may be observed that, while this part of the business sector possesses significant potential for job creation, in the absence of financial incentives this currently remains largely unexploited. An increase in the number of people employed by SMEs would in general help to attain the objectives of the Lisbon Strategy, and would represent a partial solution to the problems of groups suffering from the consequences of social exclusion. In this field, significant progress is called for in most of the new Member States.

There would be ample scope for boosting the interest which businesspeople take in social inclusion by political means, but this would require the use of the appropriate economic-policy tools (relief from tax and social security contributions, targeted incentives, etc.).

In some Member States, indirect financial incentives are already in use which may be described as successful, but at present these are far more the exception than the rule.

As regards the use of indirect financial incentives, measures which may be considered exemplary include the legal provision which waives the requirement for employers to pay the employer's contribution and personal income tax on wages if they recruit an unemployed university graduate (Slovenia). Another measure which represents a step in the right direction is that whereby, as from 2005, if employers recruit young people who are entering the labour market for the first time or people who are returning to it after drawing GYES or GYET benefits to enable them to care for children or after drawing benefit to enable them to nurse relatives, the employers enjoy 50% relief from social insurance contributions, while if they recruit people aged over 50 who are registered as long-term unemployed, they are completely relieved of the obligation to pay the statutory health-insurance contributions, and they are also entitled to this relief if they recruit people who are in receipt of GYES or GYET benefit (and the employee is recruited to work part-time) (Hungary).

In general it may be said that the new Member States ought to adopt a bolder approach to providing indirect financial incentives to promote social inclusion.

In the case of disadvantaged social groups, it should again be stressed that, fundamentally, finding work is the biggest problem. It is jobs, guaranteeing a secure income, that would most improve the situation of people with disabilities, the unskilled, older persons, the Roma and refugees, although it is also essential to alleviate specific worries about rent subsidies, health and education.

Experience during the period since the adoption of the Joint Inclusion Memorandums (JIM) already makes it possible to compare the effectiveness of those policies, programmes and

support instruments which the ten new Member States have used to enable disadvantaged groups to catch up. EU incentives should be provided to encourage the emulation in other Member States of programmes which have proved successful, while the less effective programmes should be replaced with more successful ones.

The situation of minorities requires attention in the context of social inclusion. Above all, the problems of the Roma minority must be mentioned here, as the problems of poverty are far worse in their case than in other sections of society. In view of the particular social situation of the Roma, it should be borne in mind - and it is regrettable - that at present the new Member States are not yet making sufficient use of communal support instruments to improve the quality of life of the Roma community (e.g. the establishment of communal laundries and hygiene centres in Slovakia).

Sharing experience and joint exploitation of results at EU-10 level

It is a regrettable fact that it has not so far proved possible to apply more widely the innovative, effective and successful methods, techniques and ideas of those Member States which are in the vanguard in dealing with particular problems; this means that the ten new Member States as a whole still cannot jointly exploit the results.

A good example of an innovative and progressive approach is the crime prevention programmes which are being carried out in the Czech Republic on a large scale, using various techniques, including the employment by local authorities of experts known as 'street-workers' to implement first-level prevention projects. Others include the introduction, in Slovakia, of a 'zero' class to prepare children for entry to primary school, the creation of the post of 'teacher's assistant' to help Roma children more effectively (also in Slovakia), the payment by the Slovenian State of 50-80% rent subsidies and exemption of employees who are aged over 55 from paying social security contributions. All of these are innovative and exemplary methods whose application at regional level would be in the fundamental interests of the EU, but this is currently prevented by the limited state of development of information exchanges between the Member States.

To sum up: although well-formulated policies and successful measures exist in many Member States, on the whole there is a failure to copy them and exploit their results in other Member States. For precisely this reason, therefore, it would be extremely useful to encourage exchanges of experience among the 25 Member States, which the Commission also considers a prime objective.

31.3.2005

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on social inclusion in the new Member States
(2004/2210(INI))

Draftswoman: Marie-Line Reynaud

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The Commission working paper is a mid-term document on the comparative situation of social inclusion in the ten new Member States. It is a synthesis of the joint memorandums on social inclusion signed by the Commissioner with responsibility for Employment and Social Affairs and by the social affairs ministers of the new Member States.

The report reviews the main challenges faced by the new Member States in combating poverty and social exclusion and in promoting greater social cohesion. It has three aims:

1. to provide a basis for the promotion of exchange and best practice among all 25 Member States;
2. to assist the new Member States in developing their policies on social inclusion and in preparing their first national action plans to combat poverty and social exclusion;
3. to highlight the issues that need closer attention in the development of the EU's social inclusion policy.

Social inclusion has become a serious challenge for most new Member States, which have had to overhaul their societies and gear them towards what we may broadly term the 'market economy'. However, this generalisation masks a wide divergence in situations, even allowing for Cyprus and Malta, which have not had to undergo this transition.

Evidence shows that the socio-cultural 'heritage' of the recent past may be digested only gradually, through an ongoing process of applying the rights available to all of the many new citizens of the EU, with particular emphasis on those considered to be the most vulnerable and

the most exposed, principally ethnic or cultural minorities and immigrants from third countries.

The task is, therefore, huge, because the consideration and analysis of any progress made in providing the most vulnerable citizens of the EU in the new Member States with access to fundamental rights in terms of social inclusion and the fight against discrimination of all kinds is proving to be the weakest link in an unbroken chain of often binding commitments that the Member States have undertaken to enforce.

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Calls on the Commission to:
 - (a) reconsider the appropriateness of using the open method of coordination, which, with regard to examining access to fundamental rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination, does not appear to be entirely suitable for achieving the assigned objective;
 - (b) implement the new strategy for fighting social exclusion using appropriate financial means, with a view to bringing the citizens and residents of the new Member States closer to the European project;
 - (c) reorient the measures set out in its communication in terms of an approach based on an across-the-board synthesis, recentring it more closely on failure to respect civil liberties, access to fundamental rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination, and to recommend suitable control mechanisms that will facilitate the task of preparing any sanctions that may be needed;
 - (d) highlight more clearly the problems relating to access to the law and justice in the new Member States, with a more detailed analysis of migration patterns, distinguishing between immigration of third-country nationals and the situation of other ethnic or cultural minorities (Roma, German-speaking communities, etc);
 - (e) review the existing division of responsibilities among the Union, the Member States and the regions with regard to social inclusion, and propose means of institutionalising the 'best practice' approach;
 - (f) promote mechanisms for interaction with the Member States in order to produce texts with a view to ensuring real access to the legal system for vulnerable groups and minorities (legal aid, information centres, provision of advice free of charge, etc), and to encourage Member States to devise common, harmonised strategies on social inclusion at local level;
 - (g) streamline and simplify the emergency procedures, with a view to achieving the objective of reducing poverty and exclusion in the Member States in general;
 - (h) define and construct a common tableau or 'red line' which could serve as a shared basis for access to the law and unification of approaches to the law in this field within the Union;
2. Points out that in several Member States there are still unresolved issues as regards the fact that citizenship and/or the right of residence continue to be denied to stateless and other affected persons.

4.4.2005

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on Social inclusion in the new Member States
(2004/2210(INI))

Draftswoman: Edit Bauer

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas in terms of social exclusion, the most vulnerable groups are single-parent families, elderly women, women belonging to minority groups, disabled people, etc.,
 - B. whereas the highest proportion of those at risk of poverty are children,
 - C. whereas the transition towards a market-oriented economy in the new Member States has created a new social phenomenon in the form of unemployment, closely linked with poverty and social exclusion,
 - D. whereas in order to combat poverty and social exclusion, the new Member States have either strengthened the social net, which has led to a dependency on social benefits, or considered poverty simply as a personal failure, drawing up measures on that basis,
 - E. whereas because of the gender pattern on the labour market, women in the new Member States have been employed mainly in lower paid jobs,
1. Urges the new Member States to create policies to promote social inclusion based on solidarity, considering it as a social phenomenon and as a requirement under the Lisbon Strategy; urges the new Member States to translate the common objectives of the EU into their national strategies and coordinate their policies for combating poverty and social exclusion;

2. Requests that, when formulating their social inclusion policy, the new Member States focus special attention on the eradication of poverty suffered in particular by women and children and ethnic minorities;
3. Points to the need, with a view to making significantly more effective use than hitherto of labour resources in the light of the goals charted in the Lisbon Strategy, to take steps in the new Member States to even out wage differences between men and women educated to the same level and working in jobs of equal status;
4. Calls on the new Member States to include in their social inclusion policy the issue of homelessness, as an extreme form of social exclusion, since it affects thousands of people, particularly women, in each country;
5. Stresses that in joining the Eurozone, the new Member States should make the necessary transitional arrangements in order to ensure that the adoption of the Euro does not sweep large groups of society into poverty, notably elderly people living on low pensions and people living on social benefits, who are largely women;
6. Regrets that statistical data from the new Member States is scarce and calls therefore on the new Member States to regularly collect and publish updated and comparable data broken down by gender, in order to monitor progress in the new Member States with regard to social inclusion; believes that a two-way exchange of experience and good practice must take place and that more intensive networking of Member States facing broadly similar challenges is required;
7. Calls for active labour market measures to be implemented more effectively in the new Member States in order to reduce structural unemployment and increase employment in general, channelling support first and foremost towards the long-term unemployed and other groups at risk to enable them to find jobs and remain in work;
8. Believes that, in the general context of the renewed Lisbon Strategy, where social questions ranked behind, there is a risk that the promotion of social inclusion may be seen as a secondary goal subordinate to competitiveness or economic growth; believes that it is important to emphasise the coherence of policies and strategies aiming for economic growth and social cohesion;
9. Points to the need to allow more effectively than hitherto for conditions on a fast-changing labour market, in a high-quality education system accessible to all on equal terms; and maintains that lifelong learning has to be accessible to all, irrespective of their earlier educational path, social standing, or financial solvency;
10. Maintains that those who, because of illness, old age, or disability, or because there is no suitable work to be had, cannot earn a livelihood must be guaranteed a decent income through social security, taking greater account than has been the case to date of subsistence levels; considers that the level of benefits must be such as to avert poverty when social risks become manifest; believes that the help provided in cases of hardship should eliminate the causes of poverty and prevent long-term dependence on welfare aid;

11. Calls for government concessions to make housing loans more affordable for target groups in a socially weaker position;

PROCEDURE

Title	Social inclusion in the new Member States
References	2004/2210(INI)
Committee responsible	EMPL
Committee asked for its opinion Date announced in plenary	FEMM 18.11.2004
Enhanced cooperation	No
Draftsperson Date appointed	Edit Bauer 25.11.2004
Discussed in committee	16.3.2005 31.3.2005
Date amendments adopted	31.3.2005
Result of final vote	for: 17 against: 1 abstentions: 0
Members present for the final vote	Edit Bauer, Edite Estrela, Věra Flasarová, Nicole Fontaine, Lissy Gröner, Zita Gurmai, Lívia Járóka, Piia-Noora Kauppi, Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou, Urszula Krupa, Astrid Lulling, Angelika Niebler, Siiri Oviir, Doris Pack, Marie-Line Reynaud, Raül Romeva i Rueda, Eva-Britt Svensson, Anna Záborská
Substitutes present for the final vote	Katerina Batzeli, Christa Klaß.
Substitutes under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	

PROCEDURE

Title	Social inclusion in the new Member States		
Procedure number	2004/2210(INI)		
Basis in Rules of Procedure	Rule 45		
Committee responsible Date authorisation announced in plenary	EMPL 18.11.2004		
Committee(s) asked for opinion(s) Date announced in plenary	CULT 18.11.2004	LIBE 18.11.2004	FEMM 18.11.2004
Not delivering opinion(s) Date of decision	CULT 25.11.2004		
Rapporteur(s) Date appointed	Csaba Óry 10.11.2004		
Discussed in committee	31.1.2005	30.3.2005	20.4.2005
Date adopted	20.4.2005		
Result of final vote	for: 32 against: 4 abstentions: 4		
Members present for the final vote	Roselyne Bachelot-Narquin, Philip Bushill-Matthews, Milan Cabrnock, Ole Christensen, Derek Roland Clark, Luigi Cocilovo, Jean Louis Cottigny, Proinsias De Rossa, Harald Ettl, Richard Falbr, Carlo Fatuzzo, Ilda Figueiredo, Joel Hasse Ferreira, Roger Helmer, Stephen Hughes, Ona Juknevičienė, Jan Jerzy Kułakowski, Sepp Kusstatscher, Jean Lambert, Raymond Langendries, Bernard Lehideux, Elizabeth Lynne, Thomas Mann, Jiří Maštálka, Ana Mato Adrover, Maria Matsouka, Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Csaba Óry, Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou, Jacek Protasiewicz, José Albino Silva Peneda, Jean Spautz, Anne Van Lancker, Gabriele Zimmer		
Substitutes present for the final vote	Mihael Brejc, Françoise Castex, Leopold Józef Rutowicz, Elisabeth Schroedter, Patrizia Toia, Anja Weisgerber		
Date tabled – A6	29.4.2005		A6-0125/2005