

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(94) 186 final - COD 474  
Brussels, 16.05.1994

Amended proposal for a  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL DECISION

adopting the "Youth for Europe III" programme designed to promote  
the development of exchanges among young people and of  
youth activities in the Community

"Youth for Europe" programme

(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 189 A (2)  
of the EC-Treaty)

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994, the Commission is presenting the Council, by virtue of Article 189A§2 of the TEU, with an amended proposal for a Decision. In general, the Commission's amended proposal retains the same structure and the same objectives as the initial proposal, but develops certain measures in greater detail. The text relates principally to two types of changes:

-a group of amendments providing further useful information and clarification of the initial proposal;

-a second group of amendments which improve this proposal in the sense of strengthening cooperation between Member States, the Community and youth organizations, thereby enhancing Community involvement in this area.

Of the 35 amendments proposed by the European Parliament, eight have been entirely or partly rejected and four have been slightly modified.

The Commission has not accepted that national agencies' internal management procedures be defined by the Decision, thus respecting the principle of subsidiarity.

Nor has the Commission accepted a broadening of the target group for youth worker training (Action B), in order to safeguard the specific character of this action and to guarantee the quality of the proposed activities.

Finally, the amendment aimed at broadening the composition of the Advisory Committee was not accepted, by virtue of the rules laid down in the Council Decision of 13 July 1987, which sets out the procedure for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission.

The Commission has accepted the principle of a Community stimulus to policies of cooperation in the youth field, and the key importance of critical and objective information available to all young people, and has slightly modified the two amendments relating to these two aspects.

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,</b></p> <p>Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 126 thereof,</p> <p>Having regard to the proposal from the Commission<sup>1</sup>,</p> <p>Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,</p> <p>Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of Regions,</p> <p>1. Whereas on 16 June 1988 the Council adopted Decision 88/348/EEC adopting an action programme for the promotion of youth exchanges in the Community - "Youth for Europe" programme<sup>2</sup> and, on 29 July 1991, Decision 91/395/EEC adopting the "Youth for Europe II" programme, second phase<sup>3</sup> for the period running from 1 January 1992 to 31 December 1994;</p>	

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No

<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 158, 25.6.1988, p. 42.

<sup>3</sup> OJ No L 217, 6.8.1991, p. 25.

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Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>2. Whereas Council Decision 87/569/EEC of 1 December 1987 concerning an action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life<sup>4</sup> (PETRA), as amended by Decision 91/387/EEC<sup>5</sup>, sets out to encourage the development of entrepreneurial skills, creativity and initiative among young people;</p> <p>3. Whereas in Council Decision 89/489/EEC of 28 July 1989 establishing an action programme to promote foreign language competence in the European Community (Lingua)<sup>6</sup> it was stressed that the "Youth for Europe" programme would not fully achieve its stated objectives without accompanying measures to promote training in foreign languages, and whereas the Lingua programme provided assistance only for projects organized by teaching and training establishments;</p>	

<sup>4</sup> OJ No L 346, 10.12.1987, p. 31.

<sup>5</sup> OJ No L 214, 2.8.1991, p. 69.

<sup>6</sup> OJ No L 239, 16.8.1989, p. 24.

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>4. Whereas the Resolution of the Council and of the Ministers meeting within the Council of 26 June 1991 on priority actions in the youth field<sup>7</sup> affirmed the wish, on the basis of experience acquired in the framework of the "Youth for Europe" programme, to intensify their cooperation on exchanges and mobility of young people with the EFTA countries, with the Central and Eastern European countries and in the context of the North-South dialogue;</p> <p>5. Whereas the European Parliament has repeatedly actively supported the development of actions and programmes at Community level in the youth field, in particular in its report of 24 May 1991 on "Community policies and their impact on youth";</p> <p>6. Whereas the conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council, meeting on 11 and 12 December 1992, reiterated at the Copenhagen European Council, meeting on 20 and 21 June 1993, underline the requirement that activities taken to develop the independence and creativity of young people must be maintained and that vigorous and effective measures must be taken to combat racism and xenophobia, particularly through the education of young people;</p>	<p><u>6a. Whereas , in view of the decisions by the Edinburgh and Copenhagen European Councils referred to in Recital 6, to the effect that there is a particular need for vigorous measures to combat exclusion and racism, it is incumbent on the Community institutions responsible to make available the financial resources required for the additional responsibilities which have conferred on the Community</u></p>

<sup>7</sup> OJ No C 208, 9.8.1991, p. 1.

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>7. Whereas youth exchanges are an appropriate method for improving understanding and becoming better acquainted with the diverse cultures of the Member States, and therefore help strengthen and deepen the whole fabric of interrelations being woven between the people of Europe; whereas, in that context, young people's active participation in preparing, implementing and monitoring their own projects can be used to underpin the relations between young people in the Community <u>in a framework of active citizenship</u>;</p> <p>8. Whereas, in that respect, it is important to promote the active participation of disadvantaged young people in these activities; whereas it is necessary to promote this by the selection of actions centred on the social and educative role of youth leaders; and whereas the establishment of such a Community action, on the basis of previous experience, gives added value at Community level;</p> <p>9. Whereas the Commission Communication to the Council and the European Parliament of 2 September 1992 on the Youth Information Action Plan affirmed the importance for the Community of an information drive among young people at European level;</p>	<p>7. Whereas youth exchanges are an appropriate method for improving understanding and becoming better acquainted with the diverse cultures of the Member States, and therefore help strengthen <u>democracy, tolerance and cohesion in the Community</u> and deepen the whole fabric of interrelations being woven between the people of Europe; whereas, in that context, young people's active participation in preparing, implementing and monitoring their own projects can be used to underpin the relations between young people in the Community <u>and their active citizenship</u>;</p>

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<p>10. Whereas it is necessary to reinforce the links between the actions undertaken under the "Youth for Europe" programme and those pursued within the framework of social policy, the fight against racism and xenophobia, and cooperation with non-member countries;</p> <p>11. Whereas Community action in the youth field is developed in the context of the objectives set out in Article 126 of the Treaty, that is the promotion of youth exchanges and of youth workers, in conjunction with cooperation with non-member countries;</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>12. Whereas implementation of the "Youth for Europe" programme must be based on decentralized structures set up by Member States for the purpose of reinforcing cooperation with the national authorities responsible for youth questions, whilst continuing to respect the principle of subsidiarity, as defined in Article 126 of the Treaty,</p>	<p><u>12a. Whereas the 'Youth for Europe' programme should make provision for the participation of the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe, following the conclusions of the European Council in Copenhagen (June 1993); whereas the Commission is called on to make proposals for opening up the Community programme to these countries, taking as a starting point the programmes which are already open to the participation of the EFTA countries and earmarking the necessary additional appropriations;</u></p> <p><u>12b. Whereas Community action in the field of youth policies requires an increased allocation of financial resources and constant diversification of the measures to be undertaken.</u></p>

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:



Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>Article 1: Establishment of the "Youth for Europe III" programme</b></p> <p>1. This Decision establishes the Community action programme "Youth for Europe III" (hereinafter referred to as "the programme") covering youth exchanges inside and outside the Community and youth policy.</p> <p>The programme is adopted for the period running from 1 January 1995 to 31 December 1999.</p> <p>2. For the purposes of this Decision, 'youth policy' means any measures undertaken for young people by Member States <u>which, in the specific pedagogical context of the youth sector, aim to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- allow young people to play an active role in society and its institutions, and encourage them to do so;</li> </ul>	<p>2. For the purposes of this Decision, 'youth policy' means any measures undertaken for young people by Member States <u>and the European Community; the 'Youth for Europe' programme is part of this policy of cooperation in the youth field .</u> Its aim is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- allow young people to play an active role <u>in the context of active citizenship,</u> in society and its institutions, <u>by helping them to assimilate their historical, social, cultural and political background</u> and encourage them to do so;</li> <li>- <u>increase awareness of the importance of democracy in the organization of society;</u></li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- encourage independence, creativity and an entrepreneurial spirit among young people, in particular at the social, civic, cultural and environmental levels;</li>   <li>- allow young people to express their opinions on the organization of society and encourage the various public authorities involved to take heed thereof;</li>   <li>- combat all forms of exclusion, including racism and xenophobia;</li>   <li>- encourage young people to become aware of and recognize the intrinsic value of cultural diversity;</li>   <li>- allow young people to view the European Community as an integral part of their political, cultural and social environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>make young people aware of the situation of women in the world, give them the means to defend themselves against sex discrimination and encourage women to lead an active life in all sectors of society;</u></li>   <li>- encourage young people to <u>find out about</u>, become aware of and recognize the intrinsic value of cultural diversity;</li>   <li>allow young people to view the European Community as an integral part of their <u>historical</u>, political, cultural and social environment.</li>   <li>- <u>encourage young people to take an active part in society via non-profit-making associations and organizations;</u></li> </ul>

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>3. The programme shall not cover projects carried out in the context of education and vocational training structures.</p> <p><b>Article 2: Objectives</b></p> <p>1. The main objective of the programme is to contribute to fostering quality education by developing exchange activities within the Community, by other supplementary activities in the youth policy field connected with such exchanges, and by exchanges with non-member countries with which the Community has cooperation agreements.</p>	

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<p>2. Against this backdrop the programme's specific aims are to:</p> <p>(a) promote youth exchanges for young people aged 15 to 25 <u>living</u> in the Community;</p> <p>(b) support projects and initiatives run by young people for young people, which allow them to play an active and acknowledged role in society and to develop their personal abilities, creativity, sense of solidarity and independence;</p> <p>(c) allow young people to benefit from joint Community-level actions linked to the general aims of youth policy at national or Community level;</p>	<p>(a) promote youth exchanges for young people aged 15 to 25 <u>whose main place of residence is</u> in the Community;</p> <p><u>(ba) create favourable conditions for meetings of a high standard;</u></p> <p>(c) allow young people to benefit from joint Community-level actions linked to the general aims of youth policy at <u>local, regional,</u> national or Community level;</p>

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<p>(d) step up cooperation among Member States and between them and the Commission through exchanges of experience and joint initiatives at Community level, and thus to support Member States in their endeavours to improve the quality of services and measures for young people, in particular through activities aimed at providing young people with information;</p> <p>(e) promote exchanges with young people in non-member countries.</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>Article 3: Positive action for disadvantaged young people</b></p> <p>1. Special attention will be paid to ensuring that disadvantaged young people have access to activities run under the programme and to improving the quality of the projects undertaken for this target group.</p> <p>The term "disadvantaged young people" refers to young people who experience the most difficulties in being included in the existing action programmes both at Community as well as national, regional and local levels due to cultural, social, economic, physical, mental or geographic reasons.</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>2. The Commission and the Member States shall ensure that at least one third of the appropriations made available for Actions A, B and C set out in the Annex are used for the benefit of disadvantaged young people and that a similar effort is undertaken with regard to Actions D and E.</p>	<p><u>2a. The Commission shall also consider ways in which the programme can be made more flexible so that it can be adapted to the needs of particularly disadvantaged young people who, on account of long-term insecurity as regards employment or training, live in a situation in which the precarious nature of their existence is aggravated and the forms of social exclusion they experience are compounded, which reduces them to destitution and prevents them from assuming their responsibilities or enjoying their basic rights.</u></p>

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>Article 4: Cooperation with Member States</b></p> <p>1. The Commission shall encourage Member States to take appropriate measures to preserve and develop the structures set up to achieve the objectives of the programme and to make suitable arrangements for evaluating and monitoring the actions set out in the programme and for applying consultation and selection mechanisms.</p> <p>2. The Commission shall also support Member States in their efforts to develop youth policy in the regions where few opportunities have existed hitherto.</p> <p>3. Each Member State shall endeavour, as far as possible, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure that young people participating in transnational activities and exchanges under the programme do not lose their entitlements, in particular those linked to social <u>security</u>.</p>	<p>3. Each Member State shall endeavour, as far as possible, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure that young people participating in transnational activities and exchanges under the programme do not lose their entitlements, in particular those linked to social <u>protection</u>.</p>



Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>Article 5: Committee</b></p> <p>The Commission shall be assisted by a committee of an advisory nature composed of the representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission. A representative of the Council of Europe and of the Youth Forum of the European Community shall participate in the committee as observers.</p> <p>The representative of the Commission shall submit to the committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft, within a time limit which the chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter, if necessary by taking a vote.</p> <p>The opinion shall be recorded in the minutes; in addition, each Member State shall have the right to ask to have its position recorded in the minutes.</p> <p>The Commission shall take the utmost account of the opinion delivered by the committee. It shall inform the committee of the manner in which its opinion has been taken into account.</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p><b>Article 6: Implementation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Commission shall ensure the implementation of the programme.</li> <li>2. Decisions on the general balance between the Member States participating in the programme and the different types of actions shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 5.</li> </ol>	<p><u>2a. The Commission shall take all the steps necessary to ensure the transparency in all stages of implementation of the programme.</u></p> <p><u>2b. The 'Youth for Europe' programme must be opened up (in ways to be agreed on) to the participation of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe which have association agreements with the European Community, on the basis of additional appropriations which will have to be increased.</u></p>

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<p><b>Article 7: Links with other Community actions</b></p> <p>The Commission and the Member States shall ensure that this programme is compatible with and complementary to other actions undertaken for young people by the Member States and the Community.</p> <p><b>Article 8: Monitoring and evaluation</b></p> <p>The Commission shall take the necessary measures to ensure the monitoring and continuous evaluation of the programme.</p> <p>During the third year of the programme the Commission shall present an evaluation report covering the first two years of programme implementation.</p> <p>Done at Brussels,</p> <p>For the Parliament      For the Council</p> <p>The President                      The President</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ANNEX</b></p> <p>1. There are to be five main actions, each with its own specific objectives, in pursuit of the general objectives defined in Article 2 in order to ensure greater cohesion among the various activities in the youth field:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Action A: Intra-Community activities directly involving young people</li> <li>(2) Action B: Youth workers</li> <li>(3) Action C: Cooperation between Member States' structures</li> <li>(4) Action D: Exchanges with non-member countries</li> <li>(5) Action E: Information for young people and youth research</li> </ul>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>2. <b>Action A: Intra-Community activities directly involving young people</b></p> <p>2.1 Involvement, initiative and solidarity form the main foundations for the specific objectives of Action A which are based on two major elements:</p> <p>    Action A.I: Youth exchanges and mobility</p> <p>    Action A.II: Spirit of initiative, creativity and solidarity among young people</p>	<p><u>2.1a. Whatever projects are submitted the Commission shall ensure that they promote an awareness of European citizenship amongst young people.</u></p>

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<p>2.2 <b>Action A.I: Youth exchanges and mobility</b></p> <p>1. The Community shall continue to develop its system of direct financial assistance for bilateral exchanges and multilateral exchanges and encounters lasting at least one week and taking place on the basis of joint projects within the Community between groups of young people aged 15 to 25 from two or more Member States, to the exclusion of projects operated in the framework of education or vocational training structures.</p> <p>2. Special attention shall be paid to interlinking these projects with other youth activities provided for in the current programme.</p>	<p><u>1a. In special cases the Commission may allow young people who do not meet this age criterion to take part in the programme, but this will be restricted to 10% of the members of a group taking part in an exchange.</u></p>

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>3. Assistance for exchanges under this action may not exceed 50% of the total expenditure involved (travel and programme), except as provided for in Point 5 below.</p> <p>4. When calculating the assistance to be granted to each Member State, account must be taken of the need to guarantee a balance in the flow of exchanges and equal opportunities in gaining access, together with certain elements in the situation of young people in each country. In this context, such calculation must take account of weighting factors currently being determined in consultation with the Member States for use as a guideline: geographic remoteness, re-balancing of exchange flows taking account of the linguistic situation in Member States, the gross national product of each country taking part, etc.</p>	

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<p>5. As part of the positive action for disadvantaged young people at the geographic, mental, physical, cultural, social or economic level, in addition to the minimum of 30% of the appropriations being made available for this action and earmarked for disadvantaged young people in accordance with Article 3 of this Decision, the Commission shall set up a reserve fund for granting financial assistance exceeding the 50% stipulated in Point 3 above or for supporting, if necessary, other activities likely to foster participation by disadvantaged young people.</p>	<p><u>As regards the highly disadvantaged young people referred to in the second sub-paragraph of Article 3(1), the Commission shall make appropriate adjustments to make the programme more readily accessible to such people, taking into account the special difficulties they encounter in their social environment, and to improve the preparation and monitoring of the exchanges organized for their benefit.</u></p>



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<p>2.3 <b>Action A.II: Spirit of initiative, creativity and solidarity among young people</b></p> <p><b>A.II.1: Youth initiatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Community shall support projects in which young people actively and directly participate in innovative and creative initiatives and initiatives centring on solidarity among young people at local, regional, national or European level.</li> <li>2. Such activities may be linked to the exchange and mobility activities pursued under Action A.I. because they form the first stage or the outcome thereof.</li> <li>3. Initiatives to combat all forms of exclusion shall be encouraged and stimulated in a specific manner.</li> </ol>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>4. Furthermore, special attention shall be accorded to initiatives involving cultural and artistic expression by young people at Community level and aimed at arranging joint artistic productions.</p> <p>5. Assistance for youth initiatives may be spread over two consecutive years and cover projects at local, regional or national level and promotion of the transnational aspect, as well as effective establishment of cooperation networks or partnership schemes.</p>	<p><u>5a. Support for youth initiatives shall have the necessary degree of flexibility in order to encourage any initiatives of a particularly innovative nature.</u></p>

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<p><b>A.II.2: Periods of voluntary service</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Community shall support transnational projects aimed at allowing young people to undertake periods of voluntary service in another Member State. Such activities shall be aimed at fostering a sense of solidarity among young people, promoting a form of social creativity among young people in the Community and giving them the opportunity to try out new forms of work benefiting the community at large.</li> <li>2. As in the case of the youth initiatives supported under Action II, such activities may be linked with the exchange and mobility activities pursued under Action A.I because they constitute the outcome or the origin thereof.</li> </ol>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>3. The Community shall also ensure, during the preliminary phase, that networks of cooperation are developed between Member States and the creation of adequate infrastructures fostered.</p> <p>During this preliminary phase priority shall be accorded to study visits, in-service training in existing structures, contact seminars and pilot projects in this field directly involving young people.</p> <p>4. This provision does not relate to community service activities or activities which are an alternative to compulsory military service.</p>	<p><u>4a. With a view to preparing exchanges aimed at the highly disadvantaged young people referred to in Article 3(1), second subparagraph, young people who have completed a period of voluntary service in another Member State may be authorized by the Commission to continue it in their own country with a non-profit-making organization whose main activity is to help young people who are destitute or socially excluded and for a period equivalent to half of what has already been completed in another Member State.</u></p>

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>3. <b>Action B: Youth workers</b></p> <p>3.1 In addition to the activities directly involving young people, the Community shall also support activities targeted at socio-educational instructors directly responsible for youth activities or connected therewith, and at those responsible for their training.</p> <p>3.2 The term "socio-educational instructors" or "youth workers" refers to people working in the youth field as defined in Point (a) above, and working directly with young people outside the framework of education and training structures whether on a paid or unpaid basis.</p> <p>Two categories of activity shall be considered:</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>3.3 <b>Action B.I: Indirect support for Action A</b></p> <p>(i) Activities (particularly brief study visits, partnership exchanges, contact seminars) aimed at facilitating the search for partners and/or launching exchange or cooperation projects and making youth workers aware of the reality in the Community and the youth work being done in the various Member States.</p> <p>(ii) Training of youth workers, with priority going to training those actively involved with disadvantaged young people.</p> <p>3.4 <b>Action B.II: Direct support for European cooperation on training youth workers</b></p> <p>(i) Activities (in particular study visits, seminars, in-service training) allowing those responsible for training youth workers in the Member States to exchange experience and information.</p>	<p>(i) Activities (particularly brief study visits, <u>language study periods abroad</u> partnership exchanges, contact seminars <u>and seminars on the management of intercultural exchanges</u>) aimed at facilitating the search for partners and/or launching exchange or cooperation projects and making youth workers aware of the reality in the Community and the youth work being done in the various Member States.</p>

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>(ii) Activities (in particular development of training modules common to Member States, materials for training youth workers, studies) aimed at promoting a Community dimension in training and further training for youth workers.</p> <p>4. <b>Action C: Cooperation between Member States' structures</b></p> <p>4.1 Assistance shall be given for activities (in particular study visits, seminars, in-service training) aimed at promoting cooperation between Member States' structures, both governmental and non-governmental, responsible for and working in the youth field.</p> <p>4.2 Activities supported under this action shall cover people responsible for youth associations as well as public services in charge of youth questions.</p> <p>4.3 Special attention must be paid to those responsible for regional and local structures.</p>	

Initial proposal of the Commission	Amended proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament of 19 April 1994
<p>4.4 A reserve fund shall be set up by the Commission to support pilot projects aimed at setting up multilateral networks among the Member States' structures.</p> <p>5. <b>Action D: Exchanges with non-member countries</b></p> <p>5.1 The Community shall support youth exchange activities involving non-member countries.</p> <p>5.2 During the first three years of the programme (preliminary phase) assistance may be granted to:</p> <p>(a) youth exchange activities such as those supported under Action A.1 of this Decision, and to pilot exchanges;</p>	<p><u>4.4a. In the context of this Action, activities and initiatives of Community interest promoted by non-governmental youth organizations shall also be supported.</u></p>



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<p>(b) activities aimed at laying down solid and lasting foundations for improving the quality and ensuring diversification of such exchanges. Such activities shall cover youth workers, those responsible for youth structures and the information field.</p> <p>5.3 During the last two years of the programme (consolidation phase) priority shall be given to activities directly involving young people, the forms and arrangements of which must be adapted in the light of the findings from evaluation of the preliminary phase and the overall evaluation of the programme.</p>	

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<p>6. <b>Action E: Information for young people and youth research</b></p> <p>6.1 The Commission may undertake measures aimed at encouraging and promoting cooperation activities at European level concerning provision of information for young people and youth research.</p> <p>6.2 As regards provision of information for young people, the Community will have a decisive role to play among multipliers of information and shall base its action mainly on five major areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- developing the capacities of the structures set up by Member States in the process of providing information for young people;</li> </ul>	<p><u>6.1a</u>The Commission shall aim to contribute to the provision of <u>objective and critical information to inform them about their rights and duties and shall encourage active, constructive and detailed discussions</u> about active citizenship in the framework of the European Community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- developing the capacities of the <u>public and private structures (both government bodies and associations)</u> set up by Member States in the process of providing information for young people;</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- using existing youth information networks at European level;</li> <li>- creating youth media networks for and/or run by young people;</li> <li>- using the media to promote the programme's objectives;</li> <li>- operating and networking data banks.</li> </ul> <p>6.3 As regards youth research, the Community shall focus its efforts on analysis and dissemination of data, as well as use thereof for socio-economic research purposes, promotion of exchanges of know-how among Member States and between Member States and the Commission, and promotion of Community cooperation in this field.</p> <p>6.4 The Community shall cooperate closely with the Council of Europe and the international organizations active in the youth information and youth research field.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>a special effort to ensure that the information reaches the target groups, in particular disadvantaged young people.</u></li> </ul>

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