REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport

on International Youth Year 1985

Rapporteur: Mr Kyriakos GERONTOPOULOS
By letter of 12 November 1984 the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport requested authorization to submit a report on 'International Youth Year 1985'.

By letter of 18 January 1985 the committee was authorized to report on this subject. the Committee on Women's Rights, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection were asked for their opinions, the last two on 11 March 1985.

At its meeting of 21 November 1984 the committee appointed Mr GERONTOPOULOS rapporteur.

At its sitting of 23 October 1984 the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution by Mr GLEZOS on a 'Conference of Young Persons and Higher Educational Institutions in Europe' (Doc. 2-723/84) to the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport as the committee responsible and to the Political Affairs Committee, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, and the Committee on Budgets for their opinions. On 21 November 1984 the Committee on Youth decided to include this motion for a resolution in the own-initiative report.


The following took part in the vote: Mrs Ewing, chairman; Mr Fajardie, Mr Selva, Mr Papapietro, vice-chairmen; Mr Gerontopoulos, rapporteur; Mr Barzanti (deputizing for Mr Hersant), Mr Hahn, Mr Howell, Mr McMahon, Mr McMillan-Scott, Mr Munch, Mr Pelikan and Mrs Siebel-Emmerling.

The opinions of the Committee on Women's Rights and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection are attached. The Political Affairs Committee and the Committee on Budgets decided, on 28 November 1984 and 14 February 1985 respectively, not to give an opinion. The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment decided to submit an opinion in plenary in the form of amendments.

The report was tabled on 26 June 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.
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The Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on International Youth Year 1985

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution on Youth Activities (OJ C 77/58, 12.03.1981),
- having regard to the motion for a resolution on a Conference of Young Persons and Higher Educational Institutions in Europe (Doc. 2-723/84),
- having regard to the report drawn up by the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport and to the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection (Doc. A271/85),

A. having regard to the great political and social values to which the free countries of Europe are committed, i.e. a liberal pluralist democracy, the rule of law and a just social system,

B. committed to preserving and developing the state and society in accordance with these principles,

C. whereas the faith of the young people of Europe in the ideals of freedom, democracy and peace is a guarantee of a better future,

D. believing that the existence of a European consciousness is an absolute prerequisite for the creation of a united Europe in which young people will have a decisive part to play,

E. whereas there are many profound aspects to the problems faced by the societies in which young people live today, aspects touching on numerous social, economic, political and cultural issues, of which the most fundamental is the question of youth unemployment,
F. acknowledging that such problems are so important for the Member States of the European Communities and so closely linked to their economic and social development that there is an urgent need for rapid and satisfactory solutions to be found to them,

G. believing that the great majority of European youth condemns violation of human rights, all forms of violence, totalitarianism and racism, the use of narcotics and the destruction of the natural environment, but also aware that some groups of young people are vulnerable to harmful influences

H. fully aware of the sensitivity of young people in the Community to the critical problems faced by the people of other countries in Europe and the rest of the world, and of their interest in participating in the Community's development programmes for the Third World,

I. appreciating the decisive role that the experience of the radical social and technological changes of our time plays in the lives of young people,

J. wishing to contribute, with the prestige which it derives from the direct and universal nature of this Parliament's election, to finding solutions to the specific problems faced by the young people of Europe,

K. wishing to take an active part in the celebration of 1985 as the UN-designated International Youth Year,

L. believing that the realization of a People's Europe must be based on the European people's organizations and especially youth organizations so that their daily contribution to European construction will be fully recognized and taken into account.

I. Calls on the Commission of the European Communities to present as soon as possible concrete proposals on the basis of the resolutions adopted by the European Parliament in the following spheres:
(a) programmes to combat youth unemployment\(^1\),

(b) exchange programmes for young people in the European Community and exchanges of young workers\(^2\),

(c) student mobility; social cover, maintenance of student grants, system of Community student grants\(^3\),

(d) promotion of the teaching of foreign languages: pilot projects and information exchanges\(^4\),

(e) European voluntary youth service programme in the Community\(^5\) and cooperation with Third World countries;

(f) Europe as a school subject\(^6\),

(g) Community measures to develop sport\(^7\);

2. Calls on the Council to take measures as soon as possible, as requested by the European Council meeting of 25 and 26 June 1984, to establish a general system of equivalence of university diplomas to give effect to the right of free establishment in the Community;

3. Reiterates its support for youth organisations by granting them, within the limits of its budgetary power, the resources required for their operation and, in this context, draws attention to the importance of the budget line created in 1985 concerning international non-governmental youth organisations;

4. Welcomes the continued growth in the activities and representativity of the Youth Forum and notes positively the relationship which has developed between Parliament, its committees and the Youth Forum and - taking into account the participation of Spanish and Portuguese youth organizations - reiterates financial support for the Forum;

\(^1\) OJ C 135/22, 24.5.83 and OJ C 12/48, 14.1.85
\(^2\) OJ C 184/22, 11.7.83 and OJ C 337/458, 17.12.1984
\(^3\) OJ C 104/50, 16.4.84
\(^4\) OJ C 127/142, 14.5.84
\(^5\) OJ C 10/286, 16.1.84
\(^6\) OJ C 307/36, 14.11.83
\(^7\) OJ C 127/139, 14.5.84
5. Calls on the Commission to set up a body with responsibility for coordinating the youth policies implemented by the various directorates-general and other Commission departments. This body should carry out its work in constant consultation with the Youth Forum;

6. Calls for a meeting of a Youth Council comprising, in particular, the ministers with responsibility for youth policy;

7. To this end, calls on the Commission to prepare a long-term Community action programme on behalf of youth, taking into account (...) the problems of youth from Spain and Portugal, the countries about to accede to the Community;

I. Action programme on behalf of youth employment

8. Calls for stronger Community action to promote professional training and facilitate the transition from school to working life:

(a) linked work and training (Dual schemes),

(b) the Social Guarantee of training, work experience or higher education for a minimum of two years,

(c) introduction of new technologies in the school systems, as part of a core curriculum

(d) promotion of high technology university centres,

(e) promotion of cooperation between industry, commerce and crafts, on the one hand, and schools and institutions of higher education, on the other;

(f) programme of social education to prepare young people to participate in adult and working life;

9. Calls on the Commission to make concrete proposals to solve youth unemployment by

(a) support creativity and innovation, particularly by providing financial aid to young entrepreneurs, small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives,

(b) provide support for vocational training and ensure that free movement of goods and persons is achieved in the cultural and leisure sectors, which create a very large number of jobs

(c) encourage youth mobility, particularly by harmonizing legislation on social cover, through mutual recognition of vocational training qualifications and by providing support for private or public measures granting young people preferential transport rates;
10. Repeats its call for the common recognition of educational qualifications throughout the Community;

11. Demands a massive increase in the resources of the European Social Fund to finance this programme;

II. Action programme to provide young people with information, education and the right to participate

12. Calls on the Commission, within the context of strengthening measures to provide young persons with information, to set up a Community information network to which all young persons have access;

13. Calls on the Commission to draw up a strategy to give young people the means to express themselves;
   (a) aid to youth bodies and youth events,
   (b) aid to young authors, composers, musicians and artists,
   (c) facilitating access to audio-visual means of communication,
   (d) support for developing television programmes for young people under the auspices of a European television station;

14. Calls for stronger measures to enhance the European dimension of the education and training received by young people, particularly by providing better information for teachers, encouraging closer cooperation between schools and organizing seminars and visits for young people to the European institutions;

15. Calls for the immediate establishment of the Community Youth Exchanges Programme with an appropriate budget;

III. Action programme for youth protection and youth rights

16. Calls on the Member States to ensure that the existing social provisions of labour law are respected and, if necessary, modernized so that, particularly during a period of economic crisis, the rights of young workers are not jeopardized;

17. Calls for concerted action on behalf of the most disadvantaged young people, particularly in the following form:
   (a) social cover for all young people looking for a first job and unemployed young people;
   (b) a concerted action plan to combat illiteracy and poverty,
   (c) positive measures in favour of girls, who are even more disadvantaged during periods of economic crisis, and who need special action in the fields of education, training, employment, social security and participation.
(d) strengthening measures to integrate young disabled people;

18. Calls on the Commission and the Council, in cooperation with the Council of Europe, to deal with the problems of drug-taking, alcoholism and delinquency.

In particular:

(a) with regard to prevention, information campaigns should be developed, medical research coordinated and educational programmes implemented,

(b) measures should be taken to facilitate the circulation of information and exchange of experience relating to the social reintegration of young drug addicts or delinquents,

(c) support should be given to charitable or other bodies helping young drug addicts or alcoholics,

(d) measures to facilitate continuation of vocational training whilst in detention or undergoing therapy,

(e) full cooperation between police and customs forces in the fight against drug trafficking and harmonization of drugs legislation;

19. Calls for an education policy which fosters in young people principles, ideals, tolerance and a sense of social responsibility, and stresses the responsibility of the media and community bodies in giving substance to these values;

20. Calls on the youth of Europe to assist in overcoming national differences in Europe and to contribute to the further unification of Europe within the framework of the European Community;

21. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the governments of the Member States.
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

As part of the worldwide initiatives which it undertakes, the United Nations has declared 1985 International Youth Year and laid down various procedures for investigating, identifying and solving at least some of the problems affecting the young people of our planet. The European Parliament, which has agreed to be involved, is playing an active part.

In the next few years, it is essential that a specific policy of institutional measures aimed at making all-round improvements in the social and economic position of young people within the European Communities be adopted. Such a policy must be based on guiding principles, which must underlie the whole range of institutional measures and events.

The European Parliament, acting on motions for resolutions tabled by its Members and through the Committee on Youth, has already addressed itself to important problems affecting young people in Europe, and has worked out certain positions designed to produce definitive solutions to them.

I. COMMUNITY SCHEMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Many proposals have been put forward in this area by the European Parliament since 1979, at the instigation either of the Youth Committee or of another committee, in particular the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment. These proposals were either directly concerned with young people or placed in the more general context of measures to combat unemployment, economic recovery, Community action in the cultural sector or the action programme in the education sector, for example.

The European Parliament's proposals have not always had the expected results owing either to lack of appropriations (0.5% of the budget allocated to education and culture) or to lack of political will (lack of a legal basis invoked by the Commission, lack of a decision by the Council of Ministers), or, lastly, to a lack of information or flexibility in the channels between the Community and the persons or organizations concerned.
A. Reports by the Youth Committee


This general report tackled many questions relating to youth: education and training, sport, youth exchanges, voluntary service, drugs and alcohol, thus putting forward an initial table of schemes which might be carried out at Community level for young people. Subsequently, the Youth Committee drew up reports adopted by the European Parliament on more specific subjects.

Taking as our basis the proposals contained in the Pruvot report and the reports which followed it, we can present a brief summary of Community action for youth.

1. Education and training

In this vast sector, the Pruvot report invited the Commission to draw up a report on the application of the principle of equal opportunity listing the measures taken in favour of disabled young persons, children from economically underprivileged social classes, girls and the children of migrant workers.

The Commission has never drawn up reports on these points with the exception of a report on the application of the directive on the education of migrant workers' children. This report is currently being considered by the committee. However, this subject has already been considered by Parliament, in a report adopted on 18 September 1981 (OJ C 260, 12.10.1981, p. 128).

As regards equal opportunities for girls, on 17 December 1982 the Council adopted a resolution dealing more generally with the Community action programme on the promotion of equal chances for women during the period 1982-1985.

As regards vocational training, the report stressed the need to increase the European Social Fund's appropriations earmarked for this purpose (but this is not a matter for the Youth Committee) and invited the Commission to put forward proposals regarding the introduction of the new technologies in education.
A new budget line was entered in the 1984 budget for this purpose - Item 6301 'Education and new information technologies' (100,000 ECU in 1984, rising to a proposed 200,000 ECU in 1985).


This new text has been referred to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, which has not yet given its views.

The Youth Committee's 1981 report on youth activities pointed out that the recognition of diplomas and study periods laid down by the Treaties is vital to enable freedom of circulation and establishment of young people in the Community. But Parliament has to note how little progress has been made in 25 years, in an area of particular concern to young Europeans, as can be seen from the number of petitions on this subject addressed to Parliament.


The Fontainebleau European council in June 1984 called attention to the importance of this question by making it a subject for reflection and proposal for the Ad Hoc Committee on a People's Europe and by calling on the Council of Ministers to come up before 30 June 1985 with a general system of equivalencies for university diplomas, particularly as regards research workers and university teachers.
Recognition of diplomas must permit the development of exchanges and of student mobility throughout the Community. On this point, on the basis of a Council resolution of 9 February 1976 (OJ No. C 38, 19.2.1976, p. 1), the Commission took an initiative which enabled joint study programmes between higher education establishments in the ten countries of the Community to be introduced.

In its report on higher education adopted by the European Parliament on 13 March 1984 (OJ No. C 104, 16.4.1984, p. 50), the Youth Committee considered that this initiative should be strengthened and extended and, to this effect, a specific budget line was entered in the 1984 budget (Item 6302: Cooperation between European universities: 400,000 ECU in 1984, the same sum intended for 1985). In that report, the Youth Committee stressed that one of the necessary conditions for developing student mobility was an extension of their social protection to include insurance cover and the continuation of grants in particular.

Finally, the Youth Committee repeated its request that the Council finally pass a resolution on the promotion of language teaching. Although the Council of 4 June 1984 did not adopt a resolution, it did reopen the dossier by calling on the Member States for cooperation in this field with the support of the Commission to the extent of its available resources.

In its outline report on youth activities, the Youth Committee also considered it necessary for a European dimension to be introduced into study programmes of managers of the Community countries. With this in mind, on 12 October 1983 the European Parliament adopted a resolution (OJ No. C 307, 14.11.1983, p. 36) on the establishment of a school textbook commission. No action has been taken on this resolution.

2. Youth exchanges

In this field, Parliament, on the basis of a report by the Youth Committee, approved on 16 November 1984 the third young workers' exchange programme submitted by the Commission and adopted by the Council in November 1984. While welcoming the fact that, as had already been requested in the report on youth activities, young job-seekers would henceforth have the benefit of this programme, the Youth Committee criticized the inadequacy of the appropriations allocated and the inadequacy of information for young people on the existence of this programme (Budget Item 6430 - 2,250,000 ECU in 1984, and 2,475,000 ECU proposed for 1985).
However, the Youth Committee expressed the wish that these exchanges be extended to other categories of young people. In the outline report on youth activities it had already called on the Commission to provide for Community action along these lines and as early as 1982 advocated the introduction of pilot projects.

On 7 June 1983, the European Parliament adopted a resolution tabled by the Youth Committee on a European youth exchange programme (OJ No. C 184, 11.7.1983, p. 22). This report called for the introduction of a Community programme to promote multilateral exchanges for young people under 25 with, in the first place, the creation of an information service for youth exchange organizations and the people concerned.

In this report, Parliament also came out in favour of inclusion in the Lomé agreements of a provision relating to an exchange programme between young people of the ACP countries and the countries of the Community.

Finally, the European Parliament created a new budget line in 1984: Item 2732 'Exchanges between young people' - for which 200,000 ECU were earmarked, rising to a proposed 400,000 in 1985.

The Commission has not yet put forward any proposals, although invited to do so.

3. Youth activities

We can gather together under this heading the various ideas put forward by the European Parliament concerning young people.

Thus, in 1981, in an outline report on youth activities, the European Parliament came out in favour of the creation of a voluntary social service for young people, and the creation of a European peace corps. In the report on youth exchange programmes mentioned above, the European Parliament included the idea of voluntary community service for young people of both sexes. On this subject, the Youth Committee submitted a report adopted by the European Parliament on 16 December 1983 (OJ No. C 10, 16.1.1984, p. 286) creating a European voluntary service scheme for young people.
Parliament invited the Commission to prepare a pilot programme covering a voluntary service of a maximum of one year for young people between the ages of 16 and 25, with a central office responsible for the posting of volunteers and for collecting and circulating information, to be run by existing national organizations. It is proposed later to extend this European voluntary service to cooperation with developing countries. Despite the fact that it was asked for in the report, no budget line has been entered for this purpose in the 1985 budget.

The Commission has taken no action on this proposal.

In the field of sport, the framework report on youth activities expressed the wish that a Community scheme be proposed for the organization of sporting events for young amateurs and that the Regional Fund be in a position to make a financial contribution to the construction or improvement of the necessary sports facilities.

These ideas were taken up and developed in the resolution on sport and the Community adopted on 13 April 1984 (OJ No. C 127, 14.5.1984) which called for the establishment of 'Community Games' at junior, intermediate, school and university levels. Although proposed in the report, no budget line was entered for this purpose in 1985.

The Commission has taken no action on this proposal.

4. Support for youth organizations

In the report on youth activities, Parliament wholeheartedly supported the Youth Forum. An organization set up under the auspices of the European Communities in 1969. It acts as a political platform covering many youth organizations of the Ten countries of the Community. It is a privileged partner of the Commission and Parliament and puts forward its own proposals on subjects relating to youth. Parliament invited the Commission to consult the Youth Forum and to report on its work to the parliamentary committees concerned.
Year after years, Parliament has voted for an increase in appropriations for the Youth Forum under Article 154: 500,000 ECU in 1983, 535,000 in 1984, and a proposed 555,000 in 1985.

In the context of International Youth Year, the European Parliament intends also to support international non-governmental youth organizations. The Youth Committee has proposed to this end a new budget line A 297 with an entry of 200,000 ECU. These organizations which work at European level do not receive subsidies from the national governments.

5. Youth protection

In the outline report on youth activities, Parliament expressed alarm at the development of alcoholism and drug abuse among young people. However, as this matter does not come within the terms of reference of the Youth Committee, the latter raised other points which were just as important, by calling on 22 May 1984 for a common approach by the Member States of the European Community towards various infringements of the Law by new organizations operating under the protection afforded to religious bodies (OJ No. C 172, 2.7.1984, p. 41).

Similarly, in the Youth Committee's resolution adopted by Parliament on 24 May 1984 on the market in violent and horrific video cassettes (OJ No. C 172, 2.7.1984, p. 174), the Commission was invited to look into the legal opportunities for Community action in this field and to organize a conference open to the various responsible bodies in the Member States and to experts in the field.

No action has been taken on these proposals.

B. Reports by other committees

1. On youth unemployment, on 28 April 1983 the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the basis of a report submitted by the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment (OJ No. C 135, 24.5.1983, p. 22) calling for specific measures to be taken at Community level to combat youth unemployment as part of a general scheme to combat unemployment.
Parliament made several proposals: the reduction or reorganization of working time, a financial support for vocational training, guidance and vocational training at school, the introduction of new technologies at school, creation of a European vocational training passport and aid for young businessmen.

In its opinion for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, the Youth Committee had put forward other proposals which were not included in the final report. Of particular note here are the strengthening of the role of CEDEFOP (European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training), and the extension of Community pilot projects with a view to facilitating the transition from school to work. In this field, the Youth Committee deplored the fact that the Council had reduced the number of projects scheduled for 1982-1983 and, consequently, the resources required to 18 million ECU. Finally, the opinion of the Youth Committee drew attention to the need to create jobs in the service sector in view of the increase in leisure activities. Thus, it is necessary to look more closely at the proposals on the creation of jobs in the cultural sector together with specific training.

Parliament subsequently adopted several resolutions on youth unemployment, in particular on 12 December 1984, condemning the reduction in appropriations earmarked in the 1985 budget for measures to combat youth unemployment and calling for a new 'Jumbo Council' on employment.

The Council adopted on 23 January 1984 a resolution on the promotion of employment for young people (OJ No. C 29, 4.2.1984, p. 1). This resolution falls far short of Parliament's proposals by proposing only an annual exchange of information between the Member States on measures taken for young people and by inviting the Commission to encourage and coordinate demonstration projects, for example: the creation of 'special guidance and counselling centres for young people to promote cooperation at local level between all the various agencies and voluntary organizations concerned with the problems of young people'.

2. The combating of drugs

In a resolution adopted on 14 May 1982 on the basis of a report submitted by the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection (OJ No. C 149, 14.6.1982, p. 120), the European Parliament called on the Commission to centralize and coordinate information, studies and research on drug problems and to organize information campaigns for young people. Finally, it expressed the wish that this question be discussed by the Council of Health Ministers.
After thus describing some of the measures for young people requested by the European Parliament and the action taken on them, we must now outline the practical schemes to be proposed not only for the current year but for the next five years.

II. Having regard to Parliament's initiatives so far, and whereas the following are taken as self-evident:

(1) The belief of the young people of our continent in the ideals of freedom, democracy and peace, which are the characteristic feature of European civilization and the guarantee of a better, more secure future. Unhappily these ideals are not a reality for a large part of the peoples of Europe and of the rest of the world.

(2) The need for there to be European consciousness as an absolute precondition for the creation of a United Europe within which young people will have a decisive part to play. At the present time, the attainment of European consciousness is an aim which has not been achieved because the policies whereby the partners to the Community would take uniform action to confront and solve problems, an essential condition for giving substance to such a consciousness, do not exist. The existence of European consciousness is a definite precondition for the building of the Europe of tomorrow.

(3) The fact that the problems of the societies in which young people live today are complex and interdependent and touch on numerous social, economic, political and cultural issues. The current crisis makes it difficult to find solutions to the problems of young people because policies to overcome and solve them are predetermined, limited and undermined by unfavourable socio-economic parameters. This situation is a challenge to all those who have espoused the problems and anxieties of young Europeans and understood how closely European progress is linked to the harmonious and unimpeded creation and development of the young generation.

(4) An acknowledgement of how important these problems are for the Member States of the Community and how closely linked they are to its economic and social development, making the need to find rapid and satisfactory solutions to them urgent.
(5) The fact that the overwhelming majority of European youth condemns all forms of violence, the use of narcotics and the destruction of the natural environment. The question of violence is of primary importance to all citizens, particularly young people, since the 'politics' and practice of violence find more supporters among young people.

The logic of violence militates against the logic of democracy, because it replaces dialogue with force of arms, and moderation and a spirit of conciliation with arrogance and blind hatred. It undermines the foundations of democratic society by replacing smooth and unrestrained social enquiry and understanding with increasingly intensified social agitation. The practice of violence has a destabilizing effect on democratic institutions and serves the interests of those working to finish the democracies off completely. It is the duty of us all to play an active part in creating solid social fronts to defend the institutions and freedoms of the European peoples, so that democracy does not become a glorious interval of a few decades in a human history marked by a trampling of personal freedoms and human rights in general.

(6) The majority of young people condemn the use of narcotics, whether 'soft' or 'hard'. They reject this artificial separation which attempts to turn them into mindless dependents, directed by others, the obedient executors of lawless and dark decisions. In addition, young people, in so far as they are able, also strive to prevent the creation of such social conditions as might favour the emergence of escapist tendencies. If there is a feature of society which we do not like, the only thing we must do is fight to improve it and not take refuge in artificial paradises, which does not solve the problem but merely makes it worse, since dropping out leads to self-destruction, which is a personal matter but does have repercussions on society as a whole.

(7) The question of protecting the natural environment is bound up with that of economic development and expansion. It hits a sensitive nerve in the developed industrial states of our time and, by being present as a problem, serves as a reminder of the need for planning and long-term projection. It is only by maintaining the balance of nature that man will be able to enjoy the benefits of technological progress. It is not incumbent merely on governments to concern themselves with this issue and safeguard the natural environment from violent and thoughtless use; joint action is required at European level.
(8) The demand made by the young people of today for unimpeded and full access to news and information. Respect for this demand is one of the criteria whereby the degree of commitment to democracy in a society can be judged. Untrammelled access to events and the freedom to present and criticise them are fundamental premises of a democratic society, which, to be worthy of the name, cannot allow the emergence within itself of citizens who 'know' and citizens who do not 'know'. In our era, with the enormous developments taking place in the information field, it is easy to see how vitally important it is that the public should have free access to events and news. Pluralism in reporting news, as in the expression of attitudes and opinions, is a component feature of democracy because, by ensuring social cohesion and continuity, it paves the way for modernization and renewal in the context of seeking out what is most socially acceptable and attainable.

Information must not be a one-way traffic. If we view young people not as a monolithic whole, but as an age-group with a variety of interests and different needs, if we think of them as real citizens and not simply as individuals on the receiving end of aid, we must give them the right to speak and, consequently, give them the means to express themselves: access to the media, aid for producing their own publications and support for young people's organizations and activities.

(9) The sensitivity of young people in the Community to the critical problems faced by the other peoples of Europe and of the rest of the world in general and their interest in participating in the Community's development programmes for the Third World.

(10) The decisive role that the experience of the radical social and technological changes of our time plays for young people. These changes make it essential to adopt and apply such policies as will put these developments to the best use, with young people themselves as the driving force.

The European Parliament, the elected body of the peoples of Europe, is an instrument that records the desires and decisions of European public opinion but it is also a shaper of that opinion. I believe that, deriving prestige from the direct and universal character of its elections, and conscious of its responsibilities to the peoples of the Community, it must make a substantial contribution to identifying and solving the specific problems faced by the young people of Europe today. On the occasion of International Youth Year, integrated institutional measures must be applied and measures must be taken to promote contact between young people more effectively.

- 21 -  PE 95.667/fin.
In other words:

**Institutional steps** should be taken to improve the position of young people within the Community by giving them an opportunity to participate in the decision-making procedures on matters which affect them directly. Such a policy will create an appropriate institutional framework in which to upgrade the role of young people in the Community. All this, however, at the same time presupposes, indeed requires, the active participation of young people through an understanding and realization of the critical nature of the problems they face today.

Steps must be taken to facilitate contact between young people in the Community and promote exchanges of views on common approaches to the problems which concern them. The need to apply such measures throws the dimension of the problem today into sharp relief, in that it underlines the impossibility of overcoming the problem in any local or national context and calls for the adoption of measures at pan-European level. This is, indeed, natural, since the crisis is felt all over Europe. Furthermore, facilitating contacts among young people promotes the emergence of a mutual spirit of understanding and concord, helps them to get to know and serve one another and advances the cause of cultural progress and development.

A. **INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES**

(1) Unemployment is, in our time, an acute social and economic problem which particularly affects young people. One of the greatest problems facing a young person in Europe today, more than ever before, is the uncertain job situation, which is due chiefly to the existence and long-term maintenance of a high level of unemployment. There was a time when, by planning his career and with systematic preparation, he was able to overcome adversities and secure a place in the work process. Today, however, the wave of unemployment defeats even the most serious and persistent endeavours.

The present-day worsening of the situation is not unconnected with the fact that the Community Member States did not react at the right time or in the right way to the new technological opportunities opening up in the field of production, marketing and provision of services. So it was that the changed international distribution of labour and the absence of European investment in the new technologies had an averse effect on employment levels. Economic
development without a restructuring of the productive sectors of the European economy would have no effective influence on combating unemployment. Indeed, the significant economic progress made last year was not accompanied by any corresponding developments on the employment front. The 2.25% economic development achieved in 1984 did not lead to any reduction in unemployment, which continued to rise and will, it is estimated, reach 11.5% of the workforce in the current year. Unemployed young people account for 40% of the jobless total, although they represent a much smaller section of the active population.

Unemployment among young people, however, is a feature of the overall employment situation and can be dealt with effectively only in the context of an overall policy through which an upturn in economic activity and a restructuring of Europe's productive system can be achieved. Action programmes to help young people will therefore have to be part of a total plan to combat unemployment in the Community by creating new jobs, and we must avoid displacing other groups of workers from their jobs. Such programmes must therefore be orientated towards activities which open up new vistas, taking due account of the opportunities afforded by the new technologies.

It must be understood that youth unemployment cannot be dealt with by handing out aid: young people must be given the means to develop their full potential. And such action can and must be identified with efforts to restructure the European economy.

These efforts will not aim to resuscitate the traditional branches of the European economy but to develop the latest new high technologies and increase flexibility in the labour market. The technological revolution we are living through at the present time signals a transitional period at the end of which a new world division of labour will have been created. In this world-wide rearrangement, it is those countries which have contributed to the new developments by their pioneering and decisive policies which will have the first say. If Europe falls behind and is unable to keep up with the technological reforms introduced by its rivals, its international position in the economic sphere will inevitably be downgraded, and this will naturally be reflected in correspondingly unfavourable effects on the employment front.
The Community countries must establish and implement educational and training programmes which take account of the new technologies, so that young people may become familiar with their applications and their impact on society. Occupational training must not merely provide young people with professional skills but also prepare them for the new opportunities for mobility in the sphere of training, so that they can find their way when circumstances change and, should the need arise, acquire a new skill to keep them in work.

The problem must be confronted at Community level, taking a long-term view which will provide definitive solutions and give a fresh boost to the European economy with the aim of achieving and maintaining full employment.

(2) The provisions governing safeguards for the employment of minors need to be more strictly applied in countries where there is a problem, and the relevant legislation needs to be brought up to date. This is a very serious question affecting one particular aspect of the democratic system of government, as it is an indicator of the way in which the modern state acts towards vulnerable social groups with little resistance and few bargaining powers, such as under-age workers. The degree of sensitivity shown by the contemporary state to the demands of such social groups is, when all is said and done, a determining factor for the assessment of how democratic such a state actually is and how far it respects basic and fundamental humanistic values.

(3) It is a commonplace that contemporary economic and technological developments have created a sphere of action in the world arena which constitutes a real challenge to the European educational system. Europe must make the essential internal changes in its educational system which will enable it to modernize its productive machinery so that it can make its stand as an equal partner with the USA and Japan in the international arena. The main feature of this educational change, which must be common to all the Community Member States, is the linking of education to the actual requirements of a modernized the European economy. The common educational policy is, of course, necessary not merely in order to achieve a developed production system, but is essential for the cultivation of a European consciousness, a fundamental condition for achieving the genuine unification of our continent. European education must be based on the traditional, humanistic values of the individual as a self-existent unit and not as a cog in some productive mechanism. A Community education policy must therefore be worked out, in the interests of the citizens and peoples of Europe.
(4) It should be made compulsory to learn at least one Community language from the earliest years of primary school. Such a step satisfies social and cultural but also economic requirements.

Learning a foreign language properly and in full widens the horizons and the speculative powers of the individual and develops and strengthens his or her personality. Furthermore, one of the principles underlying the functioning of the Community is freedom of movement for the workforce. This, however, presupposes some knowledge of languages. Indeed, in a period of unemployment such as the present day, such a grounding becomes exceptionally important in that, by contributing to free and unimpeded mobility for working people, it is also a way of contributing to reducing the percentage of unemployment, which is always increased when obstacles are put in the way of movement by working people.

(5) An Inter-University High Technology Centre should be established and information should be exchanged between national universities and research centres. The Inter-University High Technology Centre will, by its operation, contribute to the economic and technological progress of the Community by stimulating scientific research and supplying the productive mechanism with adequately trained staff capable of helping to increase the productivity of the Community economies. The foundation of the IHTC will also meet a major need emerging today with the rapid development of the new technologies, such as those connected with data-processing, computers and biochemistry. These are fields in which the EEC lags considerably behind its main partners in the world market: the USA and Japan. The founding of the IHTC will be an important step in the major changes which need to take place in the educational policy of the Member States if they are to bring education up to the level required by present day economic conditions and, what is more, if education itself is to be a factor in promoting economic and technological development.

The cost of setting it up and maintaining it will be borne by all the Community Member States. In addition to the IHTC, steps must also be taken to institutionalize the exchange of information between national universities and the various research centres.
Such scientific exchanges promote scientific research and reduce its cost. They also foster scientific and technological solidarity and cooperation among Community partners and lay the foundations for the common economic and educational policy which the Community must pursue if it is to overcome the crisis.

(6) The establishment of mutual recognition of university qualifications and years of study within the Community serves the principle of freedom of study and of education in general. It does away with the closed doors which exist in the sphere of education, and which prevent it from developing to the level required by present-day conditions. There is no point in endeavouring to devise a common European educational policy when educational practice is dictated exclusively by local considerations and patterns of thought.

Mutual recognition of qualifications and years of study, together with the freedom of movement and establishment for academics and scientists which it will bring in its wake, will help to stimulate scientific inquiry and make the new technological achievements the property of millions of young scientists.

Consequently, as the European Council in Fontainebleau itself asked of the Council and the Member States, a generalized system needs to be established whereby university qualifications are mutually recognized and years of study completed are attested to, so as to give real substance to the right of freedom of establishment within the Community.

(7) Special education programmes for the children of migrant workers should be introduced in which their national languages are taught and their cultural heritage is preserved at one and the same time. This measure may be applied in collaboration between the host country and the country of origin of the migrant workers. Respect and care for the maintenance of the national and cultural identity of the migrant worker is, moreover, an acknowledgement of the real contribution which he makes to the development of the host country.

(8) A European Library open to all young people in the Community via computer terminal systems should be established. The European Library will be a source of knowledge, a centre for the gathering of valuable facts and information for all young scientists and a valuable adviser and helper in their academic work. It will also contribute to the exchange of scientific knowledge while at the same time being of considerable assistance to scientific research work.
An effort should be made to eradicate illiteracy for good. Illiteracy is a distressing social reality, whose size and scope are not adequately defined. The fact is that it is more widespread than would appear from statistics. The problem of illiteracy occurs in varying degrees of severity in all the Member States and is an inhibiting factor in the qualitative development of societies. It degrades the human personality, but also the democratic system, because democracy without knowledge is a term devoid of content. Ignorance and semi-ignorance are the features which totalitarianism exploits in its attempt to overthrow democracy. In the fight to safeguard and secure democracy, knowledge is an ally — indeed, the safest and most effective ally.

The Member States of the Community must apply a uniform, coordinated policy, with shared costs, to create appropriate infrastructures to serve the objective of combating illiteracy. It must be stressed here that illiteracy is a phenomenon which affects all age groups in Europe and must therefore be dealt with jointly and be made the subject of a uniform programme designed to eradicate it for good.

An information and ideas bank should be established for young people. This bank will make an effective contribution to combating unemployment by providing rapid and timely information concerning jobs on offer.

It will provide young people with information on education and training opportunities offered by the Community Member States. It will supply information on possibilities for Community financing of initiatives by young people. It will be a way of concentrating and capitalizing on young people's ideas and proposals concerning contemporary problems.

Preventative and inhibitory measures should be taken to deal in a uniform manner with young people suffering from drug use. The measures must relate to drugs as a whole and make no distinction between 'soft' and 'hard' drugs. In the area of prevention, what is required are training seminars, lectures, informative broadcasts by specialists using the mass media, as also articles in the press and any other type of social arrangements which promotes the flow of facts and information explaining the results of drug use. In the area of suppression, modern establishments with adequate infrastructure need to be set up to treat patients effectively. The Member States must improve and reform
the services responsible for preventing and suppressing such phenomena, while at the same time showing a proper respect for the personality of the patient. State surveillance and severity in applying the law must be ruthless where drug pedlars are concerned. Going beyond this, however, the disturbing spread of this social phenomenon is also a challenge to Europe itself. This is because drug-taking is an expression of pessimism, social nihilism, disappointment and escapist tendencies, phenomena which arise from present day conditions, because the refusal and rejection of fundamental ideals and values which meet with general indifference and the existence of models of anti-social behaviour deprive the individual of that spiritual support which is required if he is to cope with certain difficult situations.

(12) Steps should be taken to institutionalize sexual equality in full and ensure that young women and men enjoy equality of opportunity.

(13) Steps to deal with the problems of disabled and backward children, appropriate occupational guidance, the learning by such children of a skill attested to by a diploma and psychological preparation will make them capable of being integrated as painlessly as possible into society as a whole. The establishment of the required material and technical infrastructure, the training of appropriate staff and the integration of disabled and backward children as far as possible into normal schools and classes must be intrinsic features of the social policies of the Community and the Member States, policies which remove once and for all the likelihood of this particular social group being marginalized in the future.

(14) Juvenile crime seems to be on the rise at the present time. One contributing factor is the inadequate penitentiary facilities, which fail to bring any positive influence to bear on the personality of the young delinquent.

If increased sums were made available for improving the penitentiary system for minors, and if the provisions in penal law applying to them were brought up to date, it might lead to more hopeful and beneficial developments. There should be penitentiary institutions exclusively for minors, the living conditions prevailing in such institutions should be made more humane and their operating methods must be reformed; all these are essential if young people emerging from them are to be integrated normally into society.
(15) Young people have an increased need for social security protection in the health sphere. The Community, in cooperation with the Member States, must make sure that the preconditions exist for making preventive medicine and medical and pharmaceutical treatment available to all young people in the Community free of charge.

B. FACILITATING CONTACTS

(1) Increased funds should be made available for visits to the European Parliament by as many young people as possible every year.

(2) Larger grants should be approved so that the number of young people taking part in Community exchange programmes may be increased. Exchange programmes promote mutual knowledge, understanding, contact and dialogue among young people. They broaden their capacity to ask questions and share their anxieties in the midst of the variety of stimuli which they receive from meeting people from different backgrounds in this way. Chiefly, though, getting to know each other in this way helps young people discover features and customs which they share, and they thereby acquire a consciousness of their European identity and shared cultural heritage. Exchange programmes cultivate the European ideal in depth by providing a suitable framework in which it may develop and blossom, and they are one of the main policies which must be resolutely aided and supported. If there is no real communication among the peoples of the Community and if they do not develop links which go beyond the bounds of mere formality, they will not be able to discover a shared language and shared features. They will not perceive their common past and, most importantly, they will not grasp the necessity for a common future.

(3) Every year during the celebrations to mark Olympic Day (6 April), games should be held in the ancient stadium in Olympia, including the same events as at the Olympic Games in antiquity and with the participation of European athletes who have not previously taken part in international meetings. The aim of the event will be to promote amateur sport and friendly competition without the use of anabolic drugs.
(4) A week devoted to the protection of the natural environment should be established. The events held during the week will highlight the dimensions of this constantly growing ecological problem, help to raise public awareness of it and emphasize the need for economic and technological development to be combined with action to preserve the balance of nature. The young people of Europe can undertake initiatives and play an active part in specific schemes planned by the Community or the Member States to preserve and upgrade the natural environment.

(5) Pan-European culture and art competitions for young people should be organized. They will encompass literature, poetry, painting, sculpture, music and drama and, generally speaking, anything related to the arts and letters. This will promote rivalry to the advantage of the cultural development of our continent. The prizes to the winners of the various competitions will include scholarships to enable them to continue and complete their studies.

(6) A common regular television programme about young people and their problems should be established under the supervision of the Commission of the European Communities. This transmission will keep young people informed about the subjects which concern them, and the programme will be open to all points of view and attitudes and to contemporary political and ideological schools of thought.

(7) It should be pointed out that the European Year of Music instituted on the European Parliament's initiative and put into effect in collaboration with the Council of Europe forms an entirely appropriate part of International Youth Year, as it is largely aimed at young musicians and audiences.

CONCLUSION

All the measures proposed above obey one overriding imperative, namely to make the young people of Europe a pivotal force in socio-economic development and cultural advance. This is because the Community, as it was set up after the Second World War, does not fulfil the expectations of Europeans 30 years later. The original motive forces, peace and cooperation among the peoples of Europe, have faded from memory, swamped in a wave of social and economic developments. Europe, however, is still the hope for tomorrow, provided realistic efforts are made to transform it, on new bases and fresh premises, with due regard for aspirations, needs and ideas and not just for economic dimensions.
That is when young people will identify with and take an interest in this Europe of ours and, with their boundless abilities, their creative capacity of intellectual inquiry, their democratic attitudes and their faith in peace, they will give the old continent a fresh, dynamic impetus.

Herein lies the responsibility of the Community institutions, particularly the European Parliament, which, within the limits of its powers, must employ all the resources at its command to achieve the establishment of a genuine European Community. Set on that course, Parliament will make its own contribution to International Youth Year.
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND IYY

A. The United Nations and IYY

Introduction

In 1979 the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 1985 International Youth Year (IYY) with the themes of participation, development and peace.

1. Main IYY goals

The main goals of IYY, as broadly stated by the UN, are:

a) to raise awareness among policy-makers and public of the situation, needs and hopes of young people;

b) to promote policies and programmes for young people as an integral part of economic and social development;

c) to encourage active participation by young people in social progress and especially in promoting and realising the goals of development and peace;

d) to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples; and

e) to encourage cooperation at all levels on matters of interest to youth.
2. **Priority areas**

Priority areas within the above goals include broadening the participation of young people at local and national levels; increasing employment opportunities and eliminating discriminatory employment conditions for young people; ensuring access to education and to technical and vocational education; granting special attention to the concerns and role of young women in development; and promoting intersectoral community activities with respect to hygiene, nutrition, family planning, and other forms of social protection aimed at encouraging personal initiative. They also include action on behalf of young members of minority groups and immigrants as well as of other disadvantaged and non-organised young people, and measures to combat drug abuse and its causes.

The UN stresses the importance of involving youth directly in all stages and levels of preparation, observance and follow-up to IYY.

3. **Organisational structure**

A three-tier organisational structure for IYY may be identified:

a) **at the UN level:**
   - a Consultative Committee composed of 24 States (EC members: West Germany, Ireland and the Netherlands);
   - an IYY Secretariat in Vienna;
   - an IYY Information Officer at UN Headquarters in New York;
   - an unofficial working group to coordinate the activities of the various UN Agencies for IYY.

b) **at the national level:**
   - a network of some 80 national organising committees (addresses available from the IYY Secretariat in Vienna);

c) **at the transnational level:**
   - the activities of youth and student non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

4. **Funding**

Aside from studies to be carried out under the regular budget of the UN, a Special Fund was opened to receive voluntary contributions for IYY. Contributions as at February 1985 stood at US$74,000, of which nearly half donated by Japan for the purpose of conducting a statistical survey.
Perhaps in part on account of the scarcity of UN funding, certain initiatives launched by young people themselves are designed to become self-financing. One example is a project to clean up the St. Laurent River in summer 1985.

5. **Activities in the European region**

UN activities for IYY have been decentralised to take account of regional specificities. A plan of action was worked out for the European region at a meeting in Costinesti (Romania) in September 1983. 'Europe' in this context is understood as including East and West Europe and North America.

a) **European activities during IYY**

Aside from the pursuit of programmes already undertaken in the spirit of IYY as conceived by the UN, the Costinesti meeting proposed a series of specific concrete events to mark IYY itself.

i) **Nationally**

- adoption of legislation concerning the right of young people to work;
- a day of voluntary work to promote the principle of voluntary service;
- activities to promote mutual aid and solidarity among the young;
- campaigns for projects of national or local public interest (e.g. tree-planting; irrigation; construction of housing or roads);
- events aimed at safeguarding and strengthening international peace and security, preventing nuclear war, slowing down the arms race and building a climate of mutual trust and understanding between peoples;
- encouraging young people to take an active part in defending human rights and all types of trade union activities;
- film festivals and essay and poster competitions on subjects of interest to youth and/or on IYY;
- theatre, music, poetry, song and dance festivals and competitions for young creators and performers;
- travelling exhibitions of photographs on the themes of IYY;
- exhibition of inventions by young scientists and other young people;
- exhibition on services rendered by young people to illustrate their contribution to society;
- selection of important manuscripts of interest to young people (e.g. novels), possibly for purposes of publication;
- issues of commemorative stamps and postcards;
- placing in the mass media of items designed to publicise IYY and other youth issues;
- promotion of holiday camps to enable young people to study such diverse subjects as the cultural heritage, languages, history, etc.
ii) Regionally, the activities proposed were:

- special sessions of European regional organisations, both inter-
  and non-governmental, devoted to IYY;
- gatherings of young people in the framework of IYY;
- music, dance, film and other festivals, exhibitions and sporting
  tournaments sponsored by governments and organisations;
- exchange of information and other forms of cooperation.

iii) Internationally, the following activities were proposed:

- participation of young European volunteers in projects carried
  out in various countries or in some of the less advanced countries;
- special gatherings and events in favour of peace and security in Europe.

b) European activities to follow up IYY

i) At national level

In general terms, it was proposed that governments might, as

appropriate,

- review and update relevant national legislation concerning young
  people in the framework of comprehensive national youth policies;
- formulate youth policies which take account of the basic needs
  and hopes of young people;
- ensure continuing and/or more appropriate forms of participation
  by young people in the decision-making process;
- be encouraged to set up appropriate administrative structures
  to coordinate youth programmes and ensure effective implementation
  of legislation bearing upon youth;
- set up or preserve bodies responsible for coordinating the youth
  activities of governmental and non-governmental organisations
  and for implementing measures affecting young people;
- pay particular attention to the budgetary implications of
  youth programmes and activities;

More specific proposals were also made with respect to

- access to employment, training and education;
- health care (including family planning, sex education, and
  publicising the dangers of drug abuse, alcoholism, environmental
  pollution, etc.);
- crime prevention (including treatment and rehabilitation of
  drug addicts, juvenile delinquents and young people in prison,
  and improvement of leisure facilities).
ii) at regional level

Regional follow-up activities would aim at backing up national programmes and would be designed essentially to enhance coordination and exchange of information between the relevant bodies.

iii) at international level

Designed to back up initiatives at national and regional levels, activities at the international level would aim at

- identifying those needs in the field of technical assistance which could be satisfied better by the UN system than by Member States;
- helping governments which so request to analyse their specific problems with respect to youth policy;
- ensuring the dissemination and exchange of information between international NGOs.
B. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and IYY

Working to the same basic IYY themes as the UN, Unesco's focus is more specifically on youth policy as it relates to its own fields of competence: education, science, culture and communication.

Unesco's mandate under its Constitution may be summarised as knowledge for peace. The Organisation is mandated to construct the defences of peace through international understanding; and to promote the latter in turn by international cooperation in all spheres of the intellect and by all means of communication.

A Unesco round-table was held in Costinesti in 1982 to review the state of youth policy around the world and to prepare for IYY. The meeting addressed a series of recommendations to Unesco concerning various aspects of the three fundamental themes, including the following:

1. Youth and peace, international understanding and mutual respect of cultures
   - studies on youth in connexion with issues of war and peace;
   - peace education programmes;
   - increased cooperation with youth NGOs involved in peace education;
   - youth, tourism, travel and exchanges to promote mutual awareness between cultures.

2. Youth and development (some activities in connexion with the International Labour Office)
   - studies of and measures to combat youth un-, under- or misemployment (including relationship of education to employment);
   - improvement of training and protection of young workers;
   - promotion of new forms of youth employment schemes of a local nature and aimed at financial self-sufficiency (co-operatives, self-managed enterprises and programmes to promote linked work and training);
   - fostering youth voluntary services at national and international levels;
   - improving knowledge and understanding of interdependence and under-development and its causes;
   - raising public awareness of the impact of decisions taken by international monetary institutions;
   - enhanced support for development education (teacher training and preparation of materials);
increased efforts to disseminate information on a 'New International Economic Order';
innovations in international cooperation for development, notably youth participation in various operational projects;
reflection on existing models of development, problems of 'mal-development', and alternative models.

3. **Youth and participation**

- studies on legal, political and other aspects of youth participation;
- fostering youth initiatives and effective involvement of young people in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes concerned with education, training, productive work, culture and leisure, including sport and physical education;
- possible preparation of a Convention or Charter of the rights and responsibilities of youth;
- enhancing cooperation between international youth NGOs.

4. **Miscellaneous**

The meeting also adopted certain recommendations relevant to all three themes. One referred to the need to accord special importance to activities whose contribution to the three IYY themes had not always been fully recognized, for example sport and aesthetic expression and creation. Another concerned communication, and urged governments and intergovernmental organisations to help the young to disseminate their ideas, obtain access to the mass media and set up their own communication organs. Similarly, Unesco was asked to consider the possibility of publishing an international youth magazine to spread information of interest to young people.

A list of meetings to be held in connexion with IYY under the auspices of the UN, UNESCO, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the International Labour Office (ILO) is attached.

A fuller indication of the events scheduled for IYY at national, regional and international levels is provided in the UN booklet *Programme of Activities for the International Youth Year 1985* dated November 1984.
THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND IYY

Introduction

The Council of Europe was founded in 1949 to achieve greater unity between the European parliamentary democracies. The principal institutional means by which the Council involves young people in the process of European cooperation are:

a) **the European Youth Centre (EYC)**
   
   Set up in 1972 as a residential educational establishment, the EYC was designed as a meeting-place for international non-governmental youth organisations (INGYOs). It organises seminars, training-courses for future leaders of youth organisations, conferences on topics of interest to youth, and language courses for INGYO members;

b) **the European Youth Foundation (EYF)**
   
   Operational since 1973, the EYF is a fund with an annual budget of some 8.5m. FF (in 1984) for the support of international youth activities, notably those serving the promotion of peace, understanding and cooperation between the people of Europe and the world in a spirit of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**Council of Europe activities for IYY**

The principal initiatives launched under the auspices of the Council of Europe for IYY are threefold:

a) a series of 31 'study sessions'

b) European Youth Week; and

c) a Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth Questions.

1. **Study Sessions**

   The study sessions are organised by various INGYOs and are on the following topics related to the three IYY themes:

   - Peace education: what are our differences and what can be our common actions?
   - European Jews' links with Israel;
   - Christian identity and a new way of life;
   - Participation in society;
   - The role of trade unions in the implementation of European youth policies;
   - Creative peace activities in youth clubs;
   - East-West relations: a background study;
   - Racism and xenophobia;
Foreign investments in the Third World: contribution or obstacle to development?

The Non-Aligned Movement;

Practical environmental education - a way for the future?

Education - for what?

Young women and the militarisation of a society undergoing an economic crisis;

The violation of trade union rights: a European concern?

Scouting and ecology;

A pedagogy of hope in a time of crisis - youth and commitment in Europe today;

Young people and military service;

Search for common points and discussion of joint action;

The problem of child maltreatment and the convention on children's rights;

Youth action for employment: appraisal and prospects;

Europe 2000: Communication technology and value transfer;

Political doctrine and working methods: the Western democratic parties and the Marxist-Leninist model;

Regional questions in Europe;

Youth organisations and non-integrated marginal youth;

Building solidarity;

Ecological crisis and voluntary work;

Community development at international level;

The participation of young rural youth in youth work and policy at European level;

The educational work of Young Nature Friends in Western Europe in the fields of culture and leisure;

Developing European awareness.

2. European Youth Week (synoptic chart attached)

Organised jointly by the EYC and EYF, European Youth Week will take place in Strasbourg from 1 to 6 July 1985 in the Palais de l'Europe. The Week is expected to gather together 500 young people aged from 16 to 25 years of age and representing 36 INGYOs (rank and file members) and 21 national delegations. Conceived as a concrete experiment in 'participation' in its own right, the Week will be organised around the following 4 thematic axes:

- unemployment, education, employment ...
- Third World, peace and development ...
- Racism, xenophobia, migrants ...
- Life-styles ...

Also attending the Week as observers will be decision-makers in the relevant fields of policy.

3. Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth Questions

The Conference is scheduled for 6 to 9 November 1985 in Strasbourg.
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<td>ILO</td>
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<td>Themes: youth education and work, youth and cultural values, youth mutual understanding and international cooperation.</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>26 August - 6 September</td>
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<td>International Tree Clearing House composed of NGOs</td>
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<td>International tree-planting campaign</td>
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| Federation of International Youth Travel Organisations | -        | -             | Photographic competition on the theme "Youth Travel in the 90s" for 1985
EUROPEAN YOUTH WEEK ON ONE PAGE

PARTICIPANTS

- 500 YOUNG EUROPEANS
- OTHER YOUNG EUROPEANS
- YOUNG PEOPLE FROM STRASBOURG and the Alsace region

being 18 today and

A CHALLENGE: living in Europe, 30 in 2000 A.D.

AN EXPERIMENT: 'JOINING IN'

A WEEK: from 1 to 6 July 1985
A PLACE: THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

4 KEYNOTE THEMES:
- Unemployment, education, work
- Third World, peace and development
- Racism, xenophobia, migrants
- Lifestyles

FOLLOW-UP action?

1 to 6 July 1985

A PRODUCTION TEAM
production techniques
A TEAM OF OBSERVERS
to analyse and summarize

AN APPROACH:
- meeting
- communicating
- proposing-building
- a closing party
- going home

PLACES AND TIMES:
- a mini-forum for flying ideas
- socio-cultural programme No. 1
- a FORUM
- socio-cultural programme No. 2
- at the Palais des Congrès
- Council of Europe
- in various link-up venues in Strasbourg

A PROGRAMME:
MONDAY 1:
participants arrive, welcoming party
TUESDAY 2:
lifestyles
WEDNESDAY 3:
Third World, peace
THURSDAY 4:
Racism, xenophobia
FRIDAY 5:
Unemployment, work, educ.
SATURDAY 6:
closing party
### NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEES FOR IYY IN WESTERN EUROPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People to contact</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr GLEZOS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on a Conference of Young Persons and Higher Educational Institutions in Europe
The European Parliament

A. having regard to the speech by the President, Pierre PFLIMLIN, delivered at the European Parliament's first part-session stressing that:

1. the European Parliament has a special responsibility for instilling a new spirit into the European Community, something which it badly needs,

2. the peoples of Europe have given the European Parliament their imperative mandate to take energetic steps to break out of the current impasse,

3. progress is called for through the introduction of a policy of major steps for creating a 'citizens' Europe',

4. special efforts must be made in the field of information,

5. a primary aim of the European Parliament is to restore the faith of young persons in Europe,

6. the Members of the European Parliament should win over young people to the European Idea - which is a revolutionary idea in that it completely changes the traditional pattern of relations between the peoples of Europe - and work for a Europe that will stand as an example to all peoples as a place of peace, freedom and social justice,

B. whereas the UN has declared 1985 as the Year of Youth,

1. Calls on the competent committee to consider and propose all measures necessary for the organization of a Pan-European Conference for the representatives of Young Persons and Higher Educational Institutions in Western and Eastern Europe, with the ten countries of the Community playing a central part;

2. Requests that all democratic youth organizations, all popular youth movements including the various forms of student, pupil and young workers' organizations, cultural bodies, sports bodies, parents associations, professor-teacher associations and other organizations whose work concerns young persons at national or European level take part in this conference;

3. Requests that this conference be held in Greece below the Acropolis in the ancient public agora in August 1985; Greece will undertake to organize the conference giving the main responsibility for this task to the Department
of Youth and Sport in cooperation with the European Parliament's Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport;

4. Requests that the draft budget of expenditure for this Pan-European Conference of Young Persons be examined in detail and the European Parliament undertake to meet the costs;

5. Requests that consideration be given to the conference's work programme and topics proposed with regard to young people's belief in and efforts towards a united, peaceful, free and socially just Europe and with a view to raising consciousness on the questions of peace and disarmament in Europe and examining the topics of work and unemployment; physical and mental health; training, education and further education; culture; sport; leisure; and the provision of information to young people.
OPINION

(Rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure)

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection

Draftsman: Mr Diego NOVELLI


On 26 June 1985 the Committee considered the draft opinion and adopted its conclusions by 10 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mrs Weber, chairman; Mr Schleicher, vice-chairman; Mr Novelli, rapporteur; Mrs Banotti, Mr Bombard, Mr Elliott (deputizing for Mr Hughes), Mr Gaibisso (deputizing for Mr Michelini), Mr Roelands du Vivier, Mrs Rothe (deputizing for Mr Wittinghoff), Mrs Squarcialupi and Mr Van der Lek.

- 49 - PE 95.667/fin.
The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection calls on the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport, as the committee responsible to include the following points in its conclusions:

1. Calls on the Commission to implement the European Parliament's proposals on alcoholism and tobacco and drug addiction on the basis of the resolutions it has adopted, which constitute a minimum programme for tackling these important social and health problems;

2. Undertakes, therefore, to give further consideration of these problems in the near future in order to assess subsequent developments;

3. Hopes that the controversy over the Committee of Inquiry into the drugs problem in the Community, which was set up pursuant to Rule 95 of the Rules of Procedure but has in fact been prevented from functioning by the failure of certain political groups to submit nominations, will soon be resolved;

4. Considers that the protection of health at work must begin very early in working life in order to guarantee a genuine prevention policy designed to avoid the kind of damage to health that grows worse with age. To this end, occupational training should include notions of accident prevention, health education and information on relevant legislation;

5. Undertakes to support a consumer policy that includes specific measures for young people, namely:
   a. safer leisure time facilities, such as compulsory helmets for motorcyclists and adequate road signals for cyclists;
   b. further information on consumer goods (right to information) to make it possible to choose freely instead of indiscriminately accepting advertised models;

6. Recognizes that young people have often drawn the European Parliament's attention, through environmental associations, to problems concerning damage done to the environment and invites them to step up their action in this field;

7. Considers that, on the occasion of Youth Year, the dialogue between young people and the European Institutions should be intensified and improved, especially with the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment whose discussion topics have always proved to be close to the main concerns of young people.

- 50 -

PE 95.667/fn.
At its meeting of 18 March 1985 the Committee on Women's Rights appointed Mrs PANTAZI draftsman.

At its meeting of 21 May 1985 the committee considered the draft opinion. It adopted its conclusions on 26 June 1985 by 11 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

The following were present: Mrs CRAWLEY, vice-chairman, acting chairman; Mrs CINCIARI RODANO and Mrs GIANNAKOU, vice-chairmen; Mrs PANTAZI, rapporteur; Mrs d'ANCONA (deputizing for Mrs Lizin), Miss BROOKES, Mrs DALY, Mrs HEINRICH, Mrs LARIVE, Mrs MAIJ-WEGGEN, Mr NEWMAN, Mr PEARCE, Mrs PEUS (deputizing for Mrs De Backer-van Ocken), Mrs WIECZOREK-ZEUL and Mrs VAN ROOY (deputizing for Mrs Lenz).
GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The Committee on Women's Rights believes that, since 1985 is the final year of the U.N. decade for women, special attention must be given to the problems of young women and the opportunities the U.N. International Youth Year may create for them.

2. Young women not only share the problems facing all young people but in addition they suffer from discrimination on the grounds of their sex.

3. While in theory young women have access to the same educational and training opportunities as young men, they have difficulty in availing themselves of this right because sex discrimination, both overt and covert, is prevalent in the education and training systems themselves and in the attitudes of teachers, parents, their friends, and in many cases the young girls themselves.

4. Furthermore, the increasing reaction against married women working, coupled with difficulties in training and job-seeking, often obliges young women to opt out of economic life; this forces young women back into a traditional role, which checks their progress towards equality.

5. The problems of young women from underdeveloped regions are particularly acute: owing to special social and economic conditions they are prevented from participating in any form of education or professional training.

6. Young women of migrant families are often victims of prejudice and xenophobia and condemned to marginalization and dejection.

7. The Equality Directives and the institutional measures in this field taken by the Member States at various times in respect of working women have proved unable to eliminate discrimination in the fields of pay, access to promotion, vocational training, further education and social security (see the European Parliament's resolutions of February 1981 and January 1984). Furthermore, sexual harassment at the workplace remains a serious problem.
8. There is general agreement that radical changes are needed both as regards attitudes to the education and vocational training of young women and existing structures. The decisions of the Council of the Education Ministers of 3 June on this matter are a welcome development.

CONCLUSIONS

The Committee on Women's Rights is very much aware that, in spite of these existing Community policies, much remains to be done before young women are in a position to play a full role in economic, social, political and cultural life. Even existing legislation is not being fully implemented, and Member States and the Council are not showing the political will to introduce further measures towards achieving equality.

The Committee believes that priority should be given to:

- monitoring the existing Directives
- adopting those already prepared by the Commission and approved by Parliament
- preparation of further legislation to ensure the full implementation of those already adopted
- measures to increase employment and to reorganize and reduce working time
- radical measures in the area of education and training, in particular with reference to the new technologies

It calls on the committee responsible to include the following in its motion for a resolution, under the heading 'Action in favour of young women':

(a) The Community should help to create conditions such that its citizens can live in peace and democracy and are not subject to racism or other forms of discrimination which are a daily threat to women and young women in particular.
(b) The Commission must continue and reinforce its actions vis-à-vis the Member States to ensure full implementation of the existing Equality Directives; it must also persevere in the drafting of institutional measures, which are necessary to block loopholes in the existing system.

(c) Before the end of the year the Council must adopt those draft Directives before it which are of considerable interest to all women but should have a greater influence on young women's lives.

(d) The first Action Programme on equal treatment must be analysed and its results integrated into the proposals for the Second Programme; further, the Positive Action Programme must be monitored closely and Member States must implement its provisions to the full.

(e) On the question of taxation, the Parliament's proposals must be accepted (see ROBERTS Report)

Employment policies

(f) In order to improve the employment situation, appropriate economic policies must be pursued to ensure an increased supply of job opportunities.

(g) These policies must include the reduction and reorganization of working time which is essential both to ensure the sharing out of available work fairly, but also to allow for a more balanced sharing of roles within the family.

- In addition, with a view to encouraging employment in the context of the positive action required to encourage more young women to take up employment, the need for adequate child care facilities is imperative;

- positive action should be taken to enable liaison and exchanges of experience to take place between businesses set up and run by and for women;

- pilot projects should be aimed at supporting young women who seek to set up small enterprises or cooperatives in areas such as handicrafts, tourism etc., especially in the underdeveloped areas of the Community (in Italy, Greece and Ireland).
Education and training

(h) As regards education, the committee wishes to stress the following points:

- in this area priority should be given to eliminating sexist stereotypes from school-books and in education generally;

- media campaigns should be launched to encourage young women to take up 'non-traditional' subjects in education;

- in-service training projects for teachers, careers guidance officers and youth workers must be set up to raise awareness of the special needs and aspirations of young women; subjects dealt with should include antisexism and sexual stereotyping in the distribution of roles between the sexes;

- the problems of young girls, especially in rural and underdeveloped areas of the Community, who are forced to leave school at an early age should be investigated;

(i) The committee acknowledges the positive contribution made by the Commission's programme of pilot projects on transition from education to working life and calls for the speedy preparation of an appropriate legal instrument based on their findings.

New technologies

(j) Women, especially young women, should be trained and encouraged to go in for the new types of production involving the new technologies;

- these new technologies require new qualifications and skills which women are capable of acquiring if only the necessary resources are provided. Girls must be guided in this direction when still at elementary school.

The Commission's Communication to the Council on new information technologies and the school system (COM(84) 722) must be put into practice.
EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

(k) The inadequacy of the funds, principally the European Social Fund, devoted to combating unemployment among young people (and consequently among girls and young women) has been condemned by Parliament on two resolutions adopted at the part-session in December 1984, as well as by the Committee on Women's Rights in its Opinion on the 1985 budget; this committee has called for an equitable distribution of the Fund between women and men; further, it calls for a separate section for young women which must, inter alia, provide for encouragement for young women to enter non-traditional work areas.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND HEALTH

(l) In relation to social security and health, the committee calls for the following:

- that young people must have independent access to social security and health care facilities. It goes without saying that from now on equal treatment must be ensured in all the Member States;

- in order to increase the mobility of young women in the labour market, pensions should be non-discriminatory and transferable;

- the concept of 'indirect discrimination' in the social security directive must be further defined and must take into consideration the experience women face as well as the analyses made by women's organizations or groups;

- health protection for girls means providing sex education at school where they must be given full information on all aspects of parenthood and on contraception and birth control, and the necessary means must be available;

- similar provision must be made for boys;
the scourge of drug addiction affects young people of both sexes. Emphasis must be placed on prevention and cure rather than on suppression. No wide-ranging action can be taken without proper social back-up structures.

MEDIA AND INFORMATION

(m) (i) The committee believes that the attitude of the media to the role and position of women in society must be changed drastically if there is to be any change in the attitudes of the public.

(ii) Further, women themselves are not aware of their rights nor the possibilities open to them. Therefore, the committee proposes;

- pertinent information about the rights of women should be distributed through youth organizations, women's organizations, personnel offices and career guidance offices. Workplaces must provide women with an information pack which would include basic data on their rights;

- pilot projects should be given more publicity through the media.

INvolvement of young people in decision-making

(n) A working party should be set up among the ESF bodies, consisting of youth organizations, women's organizations, equal opportunity committees and the trade unions, to provide women with specific information as to their rights. The directives should be amended to allow that not only an aggrieved individual may take legal proceedings, but that associations should also be able to do so.

(o) The Commission, the Member States and also youth organizations themselves must ensure that young women are equally represented in any programmes, conferences, delegations etc. in which they are involved, including in particular, the Community's Exchange of Young Worker Programme.
SPORT

(p) Moves are currently under way to establish a charter of women's rights in sport, aimed particularly at banning anabolic drugs, preventing discrimination, achieving a fairer distribution of funds, etc. (See motion for a resolution by SQUARCIALUPI, CINCIARI RODANO and TRUPIA). These moves must be supported.

EVENTS

(q) A youth week is being organized in Strasbourg in July by the Council of Europe.

Rather than any spectacular arrangements, plans should be made for a 'Youth and Peace' day, which could be organised as part of the European Parliament's September part-session.