



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 05.07.1995

COM(95) 316 final

94/0199 (COD)

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

**pursuant to Article 189 b (2) (d) of the EC Treaty,
on the European Parliament's amendments
to the Council's common position regarding the**

**proposal for a
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL DECISION**

establishing 1996 as the "European Year of Lifelong Learning"

AMENDING THE PROPOSAL OF THE COMMISSION

pursuant to Article 189 a (2) of the EC Treaty

Explanatory memorandum

The Commission submitted its proposal to the Parliament and Council on 29 September 1994.

The Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions delivered their opinions on 23 November and 16 November 1994 respectively.

The Standing Committee of EFTA States of the EEA transmitted its common position on 15 December 1994.

The European Parliament voted on the proposal at first reading on 16 March 1995 and put forward 39 amendments.

The Commission submitted its amended proposal on 31 March 1995. 27 Parliament amendments were accepted, some of them in part or in spirit. 12 were rejected.

The Council adopted a common position on 20 April 1995. 26 amendments were adopted, in spirit if not in the precise form.

The European Parliament voted on the proposal at second reading on 15 June 1995 and put forward two amendments.

Opinion of the Commission on the European Parliament amendments

The Commission accepts the two amendments voted by Parliament.

These amendments provide a better balance to the reference to the role of the social partners in lifelong learning and identify collective agreements, which must be consistent with national rules, as a means of fulfilling this role.

**Amended proposal relating to the proposal for a
Parliament and Council Decision
establishing 1996 as the "European Year of Lifelong Learning"**

In accordance with Article 189a (2) of the EC Treaty, the Commission is presenting below an amended proposal taking account of the two European Parliament amendments and the common position of the Council.

Amendment 1

Article 2 (6)

The raising of awareness of the social partners of the importance of the creation of new opportunities for lifelong learning in the context of European competitiveness and highly employment-intensive economic growth.

Article 2 (6)

The raising of awareness of the social partners of the importance of the creation of and participation in new opportunities for lifelong learning in the context of European competitiveness and highly employment-intensive economic growth.

Otherwise unchanged

Amendment 2

Article 3

..., those promoting amongst employers a willingness to contribute to the provision of initial training and continuing training, those which show the contribution made by international cooperation, and those which disseminate the results of Community interventions.

Article 3

..., those promoting amongst the social partners, in a manner consistent with national rules and, where applicable, through collective agreements, a willingness to contribute to the provision of initial training and continuing training, those which show the contribution made by international cooperation, and those which disseminate the results of Community interventions.

Otherwise unchanged

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