

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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PROPOSITION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs RABBETHGE, Mr BERSANI, Mr WAWRZIK,  
Mr NARDUCCI, Mr VERGEER, Mr KLEPSCH, Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO  
CERRETTI, Mr WEDEKIND, Mrs LENTZ-CORNETTE, Mr GOPPEL and  
Mr VANKERKHOVEN

on behalf of the EPP Group (Christian-Democratic Group)

and by Mr. C. JACKSON, Mr ISRAEL, Mr LEZZI and Mr IRMER

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the legal protection and social security of  
development aid volunteers in EEC countries



The European Parliament,

- A. in view of the fact that in most countries of the European Community there are organizations for development aid volunteers;
- B. whereas there are considerable differences in the legal protection and social security of development aid volunteers in EEC countries;
- C. whereas legal and social security measures for development aid volunteers are frequently lacking or inadequate and this is a problem common to EEC countries;
- D. whereas there is a constant need for qualified, experienced and committed development aid volunteers in EEC countries to support further development in the Third World;
- E. whereas there is a decisive need for development activities if stability and development are to continue in Europe itself in the decades ahead;
- F. whereas the legal and social status of development aid volunteers in EEC countries should be examined with a view to deciding whether they should be considered as employees or residents;
- G. with reference to Article 48 of the EEC Treaty which enshrines the principle of freedom of movement of workers within the Community;
- H. considering that the objective of freedom of movement is to eliminate differences in the treatment of workers of the Member States arising from nationality as regards employment, remuneration and other working conditions and thus gives a development aid volunteer coming from one EEC country the same rights as a 'national' development aid volunteer;
- I. having particular regard to residents of Member States of the Community who are not nationals of a Member State

Recommends that the Commission

- 1. Present EEC Member States with common regulations for the legal protection and social security of development aid volunteers and harmonize these regulations extensively;



2. These recommendations should include:
  - (a) a regulation obliging the central authorities in the individual EEC countries to make social security available to development aid volunteers;
  - (b) a regulation obliging development aid organizations adequately to fulfil their maintenance and social welfare obligations to development aid volunteers; one means of guaranteeing that these organizations adequately fulfil their maintenance and social security obligations would be to make the granting of state subsidies dependent on certain conditions;
3. There are two possible means of integrating development aid volunteers in the state social security systems:
  - (a) by adopting a provision in the relevant laws conferring employee or resident status of this kind on development aid volunteers;
  - (b) by drawing up a special law on social security for development aid volunteers;
4. The aim of these measures is to integrate development aid volunteers in the social security systems of the Member States before, during, and after their activities in developing countries so that on repatriation they have the same claims to social security as other employees;
5. Development aid volunteers are persons sent by private or state organizations of the EEC Member States to, or employed by such organizations in, developing countries where they work without profit with the aim of making a positive contribution to the construction and development of the societies in these countries. Developing countries are those given in the OECD list;
6. The legal regulations should provide cover for the following risks:  
(for development aid volunteers and their families)
  - sickness costs;
  - temporary inability to work (illness);
  - permanent incapacity for work (invalidity);
  - old age and death, pension and accident;



- unemployment;
- claims arising from the exercise of development activities (liability);

7. Member States shall take such measures as are necessary to abrogate all the legal or administrative provisions which are contrary to or even prevent the equal treatment of development aid volunteers and other employees as regards social security;
8. Member States shall incorporate provisions in their national legislations to give development aid volunteers resident or employee status so as to enable them to be integrated into the social security systems in question;
9. Member States shall implement such legal and administrative provisions as are necessary to comply with this directive within two years of publication and shall inform the Commission of this without delay;
10. The protection of the interests of development aid volunteers which is the responsibility of development aid volunteer organizations should be achieved by the following measures:
  - private insurance schemes for development aid volunteers covering them against risks in the host country that are not covered by legal insurance;
  - regulations such as reintegration assistance and medical examination after repatriation;
11. The following regulations should also be envisaged:  
leave for the duration of project activities, with job kept open, for development aid volunteers from public services and border areas.

