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Report

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

on a European Community programme to promote youth
exchanges

(European Community Youth Exchange Programme)

Rapporteur: Mr R. BOCKLET



At its sitting of 14 January 1980 the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution by Mrs WIECZOREK-ZEUL and Mr SCHWENCKE on the promotion of exchanges of young people (Doc. 1-646/79) to the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport.

On 11 February 1980 the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr BOCKLET and others on promoting youth exchanges and setting up a European Youth Foundation of the European Communities (Doc. 1-714/79/rev) to the same committee.

On 19 November 1981 the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr HAHN and others on the introduction of a uniform European schoolchildren's and student's pass (Doc. 1-777/81) to the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport as the committee responsible and to the Legal Affairs Committee and the Committee on Budgets for an opinion.

At its meeting of 24 February 1981 the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport decided to draw up a joint report on the first two motions for resolutions and appointed Mr BOCKLET rapporteur.

Subsequently the committee decided to include the third motion for a resolution in its report.

At its meetings of 22/23 February and 16/17 March 1983 the committee considered the draft motion for a resolution and adopted it at the latter meeting by 14 votes to one, with one abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mr BEUMER, chairman; Mr HAHN and Mr SCHWENKE, vice-chairmen; Mr BOCKLET, rapporteur; Mr ALEXIADIS, Mr BEYER DE RYKE, Mr BØGH, Miss BROOKES, Mrs BUCHAN, Mrs GAIOTTI DE BIASE, Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS, Mr HUTTON (deputizing for Mr COTTRELL), Mr MARCK (deputizing for Mr BROK), Mr PAPAPIETRO (deputizing for Mr FANTI), Mr SIMMONDS and Mrs VIEHOFF.

The motion for a resolution was tabled on 21 March 1983.

The opinion of the Legal Affairs Committee on the motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-777/81) is attached to this draft report. By letter of 12 October 1982 the Committee on Budgets announced that it would not draw up an opinion.

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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 A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE YOUTH EXCHANGES
(European Youth Exchange Programme)

The European Parliament,

A. having regard to

- its resolution of 4 May 1966 (Doc. 52/1966-1967) on the setting up of a European Youth Foundation,
- its resolution of 12 March 1981 (Doc. 1-826/80) on youth activities,
- the Council decision of 16 July 1979 (79/642/EEC) on the establishment of a second joint programme to encourage the exchange of young workers in the Community,
- the report from the Commission to the Council on the programme to promote exchanges of young workers (COM (82) 376 final) of 23 June 1982,
- the document 'Youth Exchanges and the European Communities : experience and perspectives' of the European Youth Forum of July 1982,
- the agreement on the establishment of a European Foundation of 25 March 1982 (5837/1/82),
- its motion for a resolution on the European Foundation of 18 September 1981 (Doc. 1-251/81),
- its motion for a resolution on promoting youth exchanges and setting up a European Youth Foundation of the European Communities (Doc. 1-714/79/rev.),
- its motion for a resolution on the promotion of exchanges of young people (Doc. 1-646/79),
- its motion for a resolution on the introduction of a uniform European schoolchildren's and student's pass (Doc. 1-777/81),
- the report of the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport and the opinion of the Legal Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-78/83),

- B. having regard to the EEC Treaty objective of laying the foundations for ever closer cooperation between the peoples of Europe,
- C. convinced that a political community depends on mutual understanding among its people, and that mutual understanding and friendship among the young people of the Member States of the Community represent a decisive basis for cooperation and peace in Europe, and in particular for the existence and further development of the European Community,
- D. aware of the numerous activities of institutions and organizations in the field of youth exchange, in particular the Franco-German Youth Foundation, the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges and the European Council's Youth Foundation,
- E. considering that
 - (a) many people lack basic information concerning the numerous exchange activities,
 - (b) unorganized and disadvantaged young people have less opportunity of taking part in exchange programmes,
 - (c) activities are mainly concentrated on bilateral exchange programmes,
 - (d) the generally high cost of travel, linguistic and special educational services is a serious obstacle to many exchange programmes,
 - (e) the intensity of youth exchange activities declines the nearer one gets to the geographical periphery of the Community,
 - (f) all previous initiatives to promote youth exchanges in the Community on a broad basis have been unsuccessful,
- 1. Stresses the Community's political commitment to the encouragement of youth exchanges, and therefore calls on the Community for a programme for the wide-ranging and intensive promotion of youth exchanges that
 - (a) will be open to all young people up to the age of 25,

- (b) will considerably improve, extend and consolidate as an independent sector the exchanges of young workers already arranged by the European Communities,
 - (c) will release substantial additional funds for youth exchanges,
 - (d) will associate organizations already active in this field, in particular youth organizations, with implementation,
 - (e) will be aimed at contacts and exchanges among schoolchildren, students and working and unemployed young people,
 - (f) will include group travel, sporting and other events for young people,
 - (g) will help to improve knowledge of each other's countries through educational visits, student residence periods, seminars and music festivals,
 - (h) will be concerned with the teaching of Community languages and the provision of advanced language courses,
 - (i) will help to develop new structures and methods for youth exchanges,
 - (j) will prepare young people in appropriate terms for contact with each other, and
 - (k) will involve participants in planning, preparations and execution as much as possible;
 - (l) will make possible a full exchange of ideas and experiences between young people from as many different nations, traditions and social classes as possible;
2. Approves the establishment of a voluntary Community service (civilian service) paying due regard to the proposals of the European Youth Forum that will enable young people from different Member States to engage in cooperation on fixed-term activities and projects¹;

¹ see Hutton report (PE 82.560)

3. Stresses that the Community can be responsible only for multilateral youth movements, and that the requirement that an activity be multilateral will also be met if the young people taking part are resident in the country where the project is taking place, but hold the nationality of different Member State' for example, the children of migrant workers,
4. Considers that the promotion of youth exchanges and contacts on a multilateral basis should be additional to, and not a replacement for, the existing bilateral programmes in Europe, since the objectives and the advantages of the two schemes are different but complementary,
5. Regards promotion through national bodies or - as in the case of exchanges of young workers - through the interposition of national representatives as
 - (a) an obstacle to the Community-oriented objectives of the activity to be encouraged,
 - (b) an impediment to the best possible use of resources that imposes an extra administrative burden, and
 - (c) a weakening of the Community impetus,and therefore advocates direct promotion of groups and institutions involved in youth exchange activities;
6. Considers that Community promotion should
 - (a) cover those costs that arise from the multilateral nature of the exchange, such as the cost of travel, interpretation and translation and multi-lingual consultation, and should
 - (b) also include a contribution to the cost of board and lodging;the Community's contribution being, as a matter of principle, subsidiary and non-Community states, young people from which take part in a Community exchange project, contributing as far as possible to the costs of promotion furnished from Community funds;
7. Stresses in this connection the equal status of the Community languages, but is aware that this principle can only be put into practice to the extent that the participants in youth exchange projects desire and therefore favours demand-oriented promotions;

8. Urges that only such activities should be promoted as meet the objectives of the programme and comply with minimum organizational and educational standards;
9. Urges that, to maintain equality of exchange opportunities on the basis of limited funds, priority should be given to activities involving groups from peripheral regions of the Community, unemployed young people, young women or handicapped young people;
10. Calls for the gradual extension and expansion of the Community programme to encourage youth exchanges, and initially for
 - (a) an information office to be set up to provide all groups and institutions involved in youth exchange programmes, and interested young people themselves, with information on supply and demand in respect of multilateral youth exchanges, and to receive information on the assistance required, and
 - (b) subsequently, assistance for youth-exchange activities to be taken up and expanded on the basis of the criteria outlined above (project promotion);
11. Considers that the Community programme to encourage youth exchanges should be concentrated on exchanges between the Member States of the European Community, but should gradually be extended also to include young people from other European countries;
12. Urges that a special programme for exchanges with young people from the ACP States should be set up under the Lomé Agreement, having regard to the special circumstances of inter-cultural contacts;
13. Considers that the programme should be financed from European Community funds, and therefore calls for an appropriate budget line to be entered in the European Community budget; for which 200,000 ECU should be earmarked in the first year and increased as appropriate in the following years;

14. Takes the view that the European Community programme to promote youth exchanges can at present only be effectively administered by the Commission, and therefore calls for its implementation to be made the responsibility of the department now responsible for exchanges of young workers;
15. Considers that the subsequent transfer of responsibility for the programme to the European Foundation would be acceptable only if
 - (a) the European Foundation is prepared, once operational, to implement the programme in terms of the guidelines laid down, and
 - (b) the possibility exists for the European Parliament to exercise guidance and control rights on the Community contribution to the Foundation;
16. Considers that the European Youth Forum should be consulted by the Commission on the formulation of the exchanges programme and that it should be able to play an appropriate part in its implementation;
17. Calls on the Commission, on the basis of this resolution, to submit without delay a proposal for a European Community programme to promote youth exchanges;
18. Calls on the Council to take without delay the decision necessary for the implementation of the Community programme, so that a start can be made with its implementation in 1984;
19. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs WIECZOREK-ZEUL and Mr SCHWENKE
pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure
on the promotion of exchanges of young people
(Doc. 1-646/79)

The European Parliament,

- convinced that the education and experience received by young people through spending periods of time in countries other than their own, can contribute enormously towards mutual understanding and cooperation and the promotion of peace,
 - believing that it is essential therefore that a comprehensive, wide-ranging system of youth exchanges be encouraged, encompassing not merely Community countries, but also those of the rest of Europe, and other countries, particularly those associated with the Community through the Lomé Convention and other agreements,
1. Calls on its Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs, Education, Information and Sport to examine in depth the possibilities of such a wide-ranging system of youth exchanges, including the examination of the proposal that a grant be made to the European Youth Foundation to enable it to carry out the work of coordinating such youth exchange activities, and also to make the necessary budgetary provision for the 1981 Budget;
 2. Calls on the Commission to report, by June 1980, on the situation relating to youth exchanges, including the involvement of young people from the ACP and other associated non-ACP countries, and the possibility of cooperation with the European Youth Foundation.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BOCKLET, Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI, Mr POTTERING, Mr SALZER, Mr von WOGAU, Mr FUCHS, Mr FRIEDRICH, Mr LEGA, Mr PENDERS, Mrs MAIJ-WEGGEN, Mr McCARTIN, Mr FISCHBACH, Mr ESTGEN, Mr PFENNIG and Mr van AERSSSEN

on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democratic Group)

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on promoting youth exchanges and setting up a European Youth Foundation of the European Communities

(Doc. 1-714/79/rev.)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the activities of the Youth Foundation set up by the Council of Europe with a view to promoting contacts between representatives of youth organizations in the Member States
- having regard to the activities of the European Youth Forum set up by the European Communities with the aim of involving young people in the decision-making processes of the European Community,
- having regard to the success of the Franco-German Youth Foundation which since its establishment has made an important contribution to promoting contacts and mutual understanding between young people in France and Germany,
- convinced that personal contacts between young people from the Member States do much to improve mutual understanding and strengthen the links of friendship between the young people of these countries,
- recognizing that support from public funds is essential to the success of contacts between young people in view of the expense of trips abroad and the limited financial resources available to this section of the population,
- recognizing that contacts between young people must not be restricted to meetings between youth organization officials but should be backed up by a broadly based system of exchanges,
- recognizing that such a system needs to be institutionalized at Community level to become an effective instrument backed by public funds,
- convinced that mutual understanding and bonds of friendship between young people in the Member States represent a vital foundation for cooperation and peace in Europe and in particular for the continued existence and development of the European Community,

1. Calls on the Council to set up a European youth foundation at Community level to promote contacts between young people in the Member States and thus strengthen the bonds between these people and improve mutual understanding; the European Youth Foundation should encourage, promote and where necessary organize contacts and exchanges between young people. Its activities should centre particularly on the following areas:

- (a) contacts and exchanges between schoolchildren, students and young workers;
- (b) group travel, sporting and other special events for young people;
- (c) exchanges in the vocational sector;
- (d) exchange and training schemes for specialist and ancillary youth workers;
- (e) improvement in mutual familiarity with the various countries by means of public relations activities, study tours, periods of study abroad, seminars and artistic activities;
- (f) expansion of extramural activities to promote knowledge of the respective languages.

The European Youth Foundation should benefit from the experience gained with the Franco-German Youth Foundation;

- 2. Calls on the Commission to submit an appropriate proposal on the organization of such a foundation;
- 3. Calls on the Council to make the necessary resources available;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr HAHN, Mr PEDINI, Mr BROK, Mr DEL DUCA, Mr WEDEKIND, Mr ESTGEN, Mr BERSANI, Mr MICHEL, Mr GHERGO, Mr MERTENS, Mrs MAIJ-WEGGEN, Mr HELMS, Mr TOLMAN, Mr DALSSASS, Mrs SCHLEICHER and Mr WAWRZIK

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the introduction of a uniform European schoolchildren's and students' pass (Doc. 1-777/81)

The European Parliament,

- whereas any private or national institution that chooses to do so can issue 'international' schoolchildren's and students' passes,
 - whereas in consequence there exist no uniform national and international schoolchildren's and students' passes and that difficulties over the recognition of these passes therefore continually arise,
 - believing that a uniform European schoolchildren's and students' pass will encourage a feeling of unity among European youth and thus promote European integration,
1. Calls on the Commission of the European Communities to initiate negotiations with the competent authorities in the Member States for the introduction of a uniform European schoolchildren's and students' pass;
 2. Believes it to be necessary to extend the validity of this pass to all member countries of the Council of Europe at some time in the future;
 3. Requests that the European pass be issued only by state bodies and on identical conditions in all Member States;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the other Institutions of the European Community.

OPINION OF THE LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Draftsman: Mr K. GONTIKAS

At its meeting of 26 February 1982 the Legal Affairs Committee appointed Mr Gontikas draftsman of an opinion.

At its meeting of 18 and 19 May the Legal Affairs Committee considered the draft opinion and adopted it unanimously.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Luster, acting chairman; Mr Turner, vice-chairman; Mr Dalziel, Mr D'Angelosante, Mr Gontikas, draftsman of the opinion; Mr Janssen van Raay, Mr Megahy, Mr Poniridis, Mr Prout and Mr Sieglerschmidt.

1. The motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-777/81) was duly referred to the Legal Affairs Committee pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure.
2. The third recital of the motion for a resolution, which states that 'a uniform European schoolchildren's and students' pass will encourage a feeling of unity among European youth and thus promote European integration', is consistent with the basic requirement governing the tabling of motions for resolutions and the passage cited above undoubtedly confirms that the motion for a resolution falls within the sphere of the Community's activities.
3. The committee considers that this motion for a resolution is based on the fundamental principle of the Treaty concerning the free movement of persons.
4. In the preamble to the Treaty the signatory countries declare that they are 'determined to lay the foundations of an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe' and Article 3(c) refers to 'the abolition, as between Member States, of obstacles to freedom of movement of persons, services and capital'.

It is obvious from the wording of Article 3(c) that its sole purpose is to ensure freedom of movement for workers and therefore it is not applicable to persons not engaged in economic activity.

5. Nevertheless, the freedom of movement of persons cannot be restricted by reference to their socio-economic activity, especially when it is certain that the persons referred to in this motion for a resolution - schoolchildren and students - will very shortly be employed in different kinds of economic activity within the Community. Furthermore, restrictions on the right to freedom of movement cannot be placed on persons who, because of external circumstances, are at present unable to perform any socio-economic activity.
6. It is therefore my opinion that the legal basis of the motion for a resolution is to be found in Article 235 of the Treaty which states that 'If action by the Community should prove necessary to attain, in the course of the operation of the common market, one of the objectives of the Community and this Treaty has not provided

the necessary powers, the Council shall, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the Assembly, take the appropriate measures.'

Furthermore, the Legal Affairs Committee has in the past frequently invoked Article 235 of the Treaty as a legal basis for opinions and proposals which fall within the sphere of the Community's activities but are not covered by any specific provisions in the articles of the Treaty.

7. The committee fully agrees with the content of the motion for a resolution and underlines how important it is that the Community take measures and action in this area.

