


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1998/2074(INI)	Procedure completed
Jobs of the future in Europe		
Subject 4.15 Employment policy, action to combat unemployment		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	FEMM Women's Rights	GUE/NGL SORNOSA MARTÍNEZ María	22/09/1998

Key events			
03/04/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
01/12/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
01/12/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0475/1998	
27/01/1999	Debate in Parliament		
09/02/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0078/1999	Summary
09/02/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/05/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/2074(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Committee dossier	EMPL/4/09979
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Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A4-0475/1998 OJ C 104 14.04.1999, p. 0003	01/12/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T4-0078/1999 OJ C 150 28.05.1999, p. 0018-0068	09/02/1999	EP	Summary

Jobs of the future in Europe

Tourism, different types of services, TIME- industries (telecommunication, information, media and electronics) and biotechnology will provide the most promising job opportunities in the future. Rapid technological development will lead to accelerating change in career patterns and people's lives. In addition to good qualifications, employees will need to have communications skills, the ability to resolve conflicts, work in a team and constantly adjust to new requirements. Since SMEs will be the strongest generator of new jobs, they should be granted the same competitive opportunities and conditions as large companies. These conclusions were shared by the members of the Committee when they unanimously adopted an own-initiative report by Mr. Thomas MANN (EPP, D) on the jobs of the future. The Committee called for a reform of education and training, especially continued professional training in order to meet the requirements of the information and service society. It stressed that it is necessary to make university degrees more transparent and comparable and constantly review the content of vocational training. The Committee believed that companies will increasingly demand workers for which life-long learning forms a natural part of personal development. Society should therefore provide more resources for ongoing training for workers and those seeking work. Member States and the two sides of industry should develop their training systems to reflect technological change and open up the opportunity for further training. The Committee suggested that life-long learning can be made a reality by enshrining an entitlement to annual training leave in law. The Committee stressed that the whole spectrum of talented people should be used in society. Therefore, women should be prepared for managerial positions and setting up businesses through specific training courses. ?

Jobs of the future in Europe

The resolution by Thomas Mann (PPE,DE) on jobs of the future in Europe was adopted by the European Parliament. The report welcomes the inclusion of the title on employment in the Community treaties by Amsterdam and calls on Member States to implement the employment guidelines laid down at the Luxembourg employment summit. The Parliament continues to be concerned by indirect and direct discrimination against women with regard to employment and calls for action in this respect within the context of the Treaty of Amsterdam as well as by the Commission. It points to the challenges to employment in Europe posed by new technologies, globalisation and structural change and places a particular stress on innovation as the Community's primary area of employment opportunity for the future. The report stresses the need for educational and training courses to be reformed in order to allow individuals to adapt to these new challenges as well as the need for comparability of qualifications to encourage occupational mobility. At the same time it underlines the responsibility of employers to provide training and the importance of the principle of life-long learning by advocating the enshrinement of annual training leave in law. The Parliament believes that a large number of new jobs could be created by fundamentally changing the organisation and legal framework of the current labour market and recommends that the Commission make proposals to facilitate this. It would welcome measures to foster a positive public attitude to the provision of services and calls for a particular focus on tourism within that sector. The Parliament also calls for the Philoxenia programme, which treats tourism, the environment and culture as single entity to be implemented in the Member States and looks for more budgetary support for job-creation in the tertiary sector. It also repeats its urgent call for an easing of the tax burden on labour. The report urges the encouragement of the high-tech sector and the speedy implementation of the major TENs projects in order to maintain the Community's competitiveness, while warning against splitting society and the world into people and regions which are participants in progress and those whose access thereto is blocked. It singles out the opportunities offered by the biotechnology sector and urges encouragement of ongoing research and production in this area. The Parliament wishes to see SMEs given the same competitive opportunities as large companies and their administrative burdens reduced. It calls for stronger cooperation between industry and science and advocates consistent support for the multimedia sector. Finally the report draws attention to the importance for the EU workforce of acquiring and developing social skills, multilingual skills, communication skills, conflict resolution skills, team skills, creativity, flexibility and management know-how in order to be able to compete in a changing labour market. ?