

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1998/2137(INI)	Procedure completed
The situation and the role of artists in the European Union		
Subject 4.45.08 Cultural and artistic activities, books and reading, arts		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
19/06/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/02/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
23/02/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0103/1999	
09/03/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0148/1999	Summary
09/03/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/06/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/2137(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	CULT/4/10246

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE226.151	14/05/1998	EP	
Committee draft report		PE229.306	21/01/1999	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0103/1999 OJ C 175 21.06.1999, p. 0006	23/02/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0148/1999 OJ C 175 21.06.1999, p. 0016-0042	09/03/1999	EP	Summary

The situation and the role of artists in the European Union

particular. It also changes the definitions of the arts and culture. Only 20% of artists in the EU earn a livelihood and only 4% to 5% have a successful career. The report highlights the problems facing by artists in Europe and the importance of mobility for their creativity and their work. It examines the employment situation of artists, their earnings, social security, taxation and artists' professional associations. The role of government as regards support or copyright and private sponsorship are also examined. Another key issue is the links between culture and education. The report calls on the different parties concerned (the Member States, the EU institutions, the artists themselves, art schools/colleges/universities) to collaborate in identifying ways of improving the integration of artists in society and enabling the arts and creativity to play a large enough role. The committee asks the Commission to include an exchange programme for young artists as part of the Culture Framework Programme and provide financial support to encourage mobility. This also applies to the LEONARDO, SOCRATES and PHARE Programmes. All amendments were adopted unanimously, many of them were tabled by the rapporteur herself. The principal amendments call on : - the Commission to draw up a proposal for possible new forms of funding; the arts at European level (e.g. with a lottery) ; - the Commission to create a European card for artists; - the Member States to coordinate their legislation on social and fiscal matters; - the Members States to provided premises and training opportunities for amateur artist' organisations; - and encourages local and regional authorities to provide work space for artists. ?

The situation and the role of artists in the European Union

The Parliament adopted its report, drafted by Ms. Helena VAZ DA SILVA (EPP, Portugal), without debate. The Parliament calls for the examination by the Commission of possible ways of approximating social protection and tax legislation relating to artists and their works, and for it to ensure that its forthcoming proposal on multimedia technology takes account of the fact that it could constitute a threat to the legitimate interests of creative artists and performers. It stresses the importance of sponsorship in the field of artistic creativity and calls on the Commission to encourage partnerships between foundations and between private companies seeking to develop artistic activities at European level. It calls on the Commission to - step up action on the professional training of artists within the framework of the Social Fund; - establish a system of study and training grants for young artists within the Leonardo programme; - ensure that the Socrates programme includes a properly balanced proportion of students doing artistic training. It calls on the Member States to discuss in detail the possibilities of bringing their social and fiscal laws as close together as possible on the basis of the Commission's proposals. ?