Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2000/2316(INI)	Procedure completed
Implementation of Youth programme		
Subject 4.40.10 Youth		

uropean Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CULT Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport		09/01/2001
		PSE GRÖNER Lissy	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		15/01/2001
		PPE-DE WENZEL-PERILLO Brigitte	
	BUDG Budgets		27/02/2001
		PPE-DE WENZEL-PERILLO Brigitte	

Key events			
18/01/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/01/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
22/01/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	<u>A5-0019/2002</u>	
28/02/2002	Debate in Parliament	-	
28/02/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0089/2002	Summary
28/02/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/11/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2316(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Implementation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54; Rules of Procedure EP 142-p2

Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/5/14257

Documentation gateway				
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0019/2002	22/01/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0089/2002 OJ C 293 28.11.2002, p. 0022-0109 E	28/02/2002	EP	Summary

Implementation of Youth programme

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Lissy GRÖNER (PES, D) on the implementation of the 'YOUTH' programme. It was critical of the Commission's failure to provide clear figures for the implementation of the programme in 2000, with the result that it was impossible to track exactly how funds were disbursed. This needed to be remedied in future, and the Commission was also urged to draw up an annual report on the implementation of the programme, in conjunction with the national agencies. The committee stressed the need for the programme countries and the Commission itself to ensure prompt payment to the national agencies' funds. It also issued a reminder to the Member States that the programme was intended to support and supplement national projects and should not be used as a pretext for reducing the funds they allocated to youth exchange programmes. The report expressed concern about the administrative bottlenecks created by the decentralised management of the programme. The Commission should also simplify and streamline its own internal procedures for the approval of projects, with a view to reducing the four- to five-month period currently required to a maximum of three months. There was support for the Commission's move to fund projects primarily by means of flat-rate amounts, which should help inter alia to reduce the hitherto high administrative costs of the programme. The committee also expressed concern that disadvantaged young people were not participating in the programme in sufficient numbers and called on the Commission to look into the reasons for this. The Commission was also urged to promote projects to help integrate young immigrants in Europe. Other points taken up in the report included the need to ensure that the ratio of male to female participation was approximately equal and that participants in the 'Youth' programme were able to obtain visas free of charge and without excessive red tape.

Implementation of Youth programme

By adopting by 423 votes to 11, with 9 abstentions, the report by Mrs Lissy Gröner (PSE, D) on the implementation of the Youth programme, the European Parliament has expressed its overwhelming support for the position adopted by its lead committee (see the summary for 22 January 2002). Like the committee, the House emphasised the lack of coordination between the national agencies, procedural complexity, significant regional differences in the implementation of the programme, lengthy delays - up to four months - in authorising decentralised projects organised by the European Voluntary Service (EVS) and the role assigned to the organisations sending volunteers abroad, which had not been fully developed. Parliament also expressed concern at the insufficient numbers of disadvantaged young people participating in the programme and at the delay in involving the applicant countries in the programme.