

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2001/2199(INI)	Procedure completed
The importance and dynamics of theatre and spectacle arts in the enlarged Europe		
Subject 4.45.08 Cultural and artistic activities, books and reading, arts 8.20.24 Tourism, culture and enlargement		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CULT Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport	GUE/NGL FRAISSE Geneviève	15/10/2001

Key events			
13/12/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
11/07/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
11/07/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0264/2002	
21/10/2002	Debate in Parliament		
22/10/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0496/2002	Summary
22/10/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
11/12/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2199(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/5/15586

Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0264/2002	11/07/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0496/2002 OJ C 300 11.12.2003, p. 0026-0156 E	22/10/2002	EP	Summary

The importance and dynamics of theatre and spectacle arts in the enlarged Europe

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Geneviève FRAISSE (EUL/NGL, F) on the importance and dynamics of the theatre and the performing arts in an enlarged Europe. The report called for support for the performing arts sector and wider cultural cooperation between the Member States and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The committee pointed out that the Member States were primarily responsible for the situation of culture in Europe and that their cultural policies favoured dissemination at national level rather than European exchanges. Productions should be disseminated more widely, through aid for translation and surtitles for dramatic works. National and regional theatres and festivals should give more space in their programmes to writers and productions from other European countries. The Commission was urged to support the creation of a database of contemporary plays, an incidental music and sound creation fund and a database of technical information on entertainment halls. The report also looked at the current constraints on the mobility of those working in the performing arts, and called for greater coordination between various social and tax laws. The Member States and the Commission were urged to abolish double taxation by the State of origin and the host State, to abolish all tax discrimination against non-nationals working in the performing arts and to establish tax measures to encourage mobility of performers and those working in the cultural field. MEPs also stressed the importance of basic and continuing training and called on the Council and Commission to include on the political agenda mutual recognition of performing arts qualifications between Member States. Member States were urged to give more weight to foreign language teaching in training courses for performers and to introduce performing arts education in schools from an early age. Amongst its other recommendations, the report called on the Commission to increase Eurostat's productions of cultural statistics and urged Member States to apply the minimum VAT to cultural goods and grant tax relief to patrons of the arts. Lastly, Member States were reminded that public television had a cultural mission to promote broadcasts of the performing arts and provide cultural information, including during prime-time viewing hours. ?

The importance and dynamics of theatre and spectacle arts in the enlarged Europe

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report by Genevieve FRAISSE (EUL/NGL, France) on the performing arts. (Please refer to the document dated 11/07/02.) Parliament stated that the development of a European area of the performing arts presupposes the following specific objectives: -supporting the mobility of those working in the performing arts through additional information and technical and financial assistance; -facilitating a wider dissemination of productions through aid for translation, subtitles for dramatic works and support for European festivals; -promoting public information campaigns in respect of the performing arts; -developing vocational training for performers, technicians and others to enable them to benefit from the European dimension of their occupation. The review of the Culture 2000 programme should result in a better distribution of the budget so that there is a specific annual budget to the performing arts, fine arts, heritage, translation and reading. Parliament pointed out that East and West share a common past and future. Enlargement is a matter of renewing old ties in this respect. The strong Central and East European traditions in theatre, choreography, circus and music, backed up by a high standard of training and the heritage of a substantial network of cultural institutions will enable the sector to consolidate its position. Co-operation in this field may contribute to the success of enlargement and public support for the European project. ?