


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2006/2080(INI)	Procedure completed
Media and development		
Subject		
3.30.01 Audiovisual industry and services		
6.30 Development cooperation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	DEVE Development		21/02/2006
		PPE-DE MAVROMMATIS Manolis	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	CULT Culture and Education		20/03/2006
		ALDE RESETARITS Karin	
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Development	MICHEL Louis	

Key events			
06/04/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/08/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
31/08/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0264/2006	
26/09/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/09/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0360/2006	Summary
26/09/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2080(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	DEVE/6/35358

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE374.431	14/06/2006	EP	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE374.481	13/07/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE376.613	17/07/2006	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0264/2006	31/08/2006	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0360/2006	26/09/2006	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2006)4772	19/10/2006	EC	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2006)5076	13/12/2006	EC	

Media and development

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Manolis MAVROMMATIS (EPP-ED, GR) on the media and development. The report called on the European Union, Member States, acceding countries and the ACP countries to involve civil society organisations, including private enterprises, and particularly the media, in attaining their objectives for development.

It drew attention to the important role the media could play with regard to government transparency, accountability and the public scrutiny of decision-makers in power, by highlighting policy failures, maladministration by public officials, corruption in the judiciary and scandals in the corporate sector. The committee also said that it was important to improve the dialogue and consultation between local non-State players and national authorities in developing countries in crucial areas, such as the media, in order to strengthen the abilities, accountability and transparency of public institutions and to increase public sector effectiveness in applying the principles of respect for human rights and good governance and in fighting corruption.

MEPs said that funding programmes with a mandate on and for development should include a more systematic integration of State-independent media. And they called for women to have effective access to the media so that they could play a greater part in production and contribute to economic development.

Among other points, the committee underlined the role of the media in the education of people in developing countries, especially in terms of health care (sexual and reproductive health, malaria, etc.), employment, agriculture, trade, and environmental sustainability, such as the BBC World Service Trust for the use of communications for development. It acknowledged the problem of the "personalisation" of news, "which can manipulate both the audience of developing countries and the western public", and encouraged the organisations that provide training to journalists to give particular importance to the achievement of a minimum salary for people working in the media, which would make them less vulnerable to corruption. MEPs also stressed the decisive role of the media in promoting the protection of human rights in developing countries and in raising public awareness in countries in the West and, by extension, increasing their contribution to humanitarian aid. Finally, the report called on governments and public authorities throughout the world "to end in particular the culture of impunity regarding violence against journalists" by investigating and punishing those responsible for attacks on media professionals, and by taking the necessary precautions that would enable journalists to continue to provide citizens with the essential knowledge and objective information that flow from a free and independent press.

Media and development

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Manolis MAVROMMATIS (EPP-ED, GR) on the media and development. The resolution was adopted by 443 votes in favour to 19 against with 13 abstentions. (Please see the summary of 28/08/2006.)