



Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2009/2547(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on migrants' children left behind in the country of origin		
Subject		
4.10.02 Family policy, family law, parental leave		
4.10.03 Child protection, children's rights		
4.15.04 Workforce, occupational mobility, job conversion, working conditions		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
10/03/2009	Debate in Parliament		
12/03/2009	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/03/2009	Decision by Parliament	T6-0132/2009	Summary
12/03/2009	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2009/2547(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Debate or resolution on oral question/interpellation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Oral question/interpellation by Parliament		B6-0014/2009	09/03/2009	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0112/2009	10/03/2009	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0132/2009	12/03/2009	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2009)3244	06/10/2009	EC	

Resolution on migrants' children left behind in the country of origin

Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 10 March 2009, the European Parliament adopted by 579 votes to 21 with 13 abstentions, a resolution tabled by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs on migrant children left behind in the country of origin.

Parliament recalls that in 2008 almost 350 000 children had at least one parent who was working abroad, and nearly 126 000 were affected by the migration of both parents. Whilst migration can have a positive impact on households in the sending country through remittances, for the children left behind by parents working in another Member State, there are also possible negative aspects including the risk of general lack of care as regards physical and mental health.

Parliament calls on the Commission to undertake a study to assess the extent of the phenomenon of migrants' children left in the country of origin at the European level and to collect EU-wide data on this phenomenon.

It calls on Member States to do the following:

- take steps to improve the situation of the children left by their parents in the country of origin and ensure their normal development in terms of education and social life;
- set up cooperation mechanisms to prevent the detrimental effects on families, especially children, of living apart and of the distances they have to bridge;
- better inform migrants about their rights and the rights of their family members concerning free movement and about the information available at national and European level on living abroad and the terms and conditions of working in another Member State;
- Members want the Commission and Member States actively to involve the social partners and the NGOs in actions targeting the improvement of migrants' children.