

### **3. Draft opinion on "European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018)"**

- Rapporteur: Mr Csaba Borboly (EPP/RO)
- First discussion and adoption
- Amendments: 40 + 7R

**The rapporteur** highlighted the involvement of young people and youth organisations in drafting of the opinion. He emphasised a lack of decision-making dealing with the issues linked to youth and stressed the concern of young people feeling as not being sufficiently involved in the political process. Mr Borboly also elaborated on current challenges linked to radicalisation of unemployed youth; as well as to migration, also within the EU, for which he proposed to develop partnerships between the host and source regions in order to help with the youth integration. Furthermore, he encouraged the creation of a basic package that each MS would guarantee to young people.

Mrs Fabienne Metayer (DG EAC) stressed the current challenge is having the best educated generation that is keen to engage and participate in society, but at the same time faces dramatic situation in terms of exclusion and risk of poverty. The situation, therefore, calls for the focus on inclusion and participation, without forgetting employment – these are also the three priorities of the EC. However, as she emphasized, youth policy cannot work in isolation and requires a cross-sectoral approach at all levels. She emphasized the role of LRAs in exchanging good practices in terms of adjustment to new challenges. She also welcomed the draft opinion which shares the EC's focus and views but addressed the difficulties with harmonizing both, the definition of "young" and the voting age, because of diverse state policies.

#### **Interventions**

Mr Blanc (EPP/FR) reminded that a number of solutions can be found at a local and regional level (e.g. sport) as there is a real wish to act. Mr McCarthy (EA/IE) shared his observations from a youth conference where young people expressed their discontent with a lack of resources and with their views not being taken into account. Mr Ancisi (EPP/IT) emphasised the risk of safety for young people in terms of radicalisation, stating that they often do not realise they might be radicalised. Mrs Kuhn-Theis (EPP/DE) addressed the need of adopting the measures to ensure that young people have better prospects for future, i.e. training and jobs. Mrs Hiller (PES/DE) highlighted the importance of recognising the value of youth labour and informal learning, including the refugees. Mr Lehmann (EPP/DE) among others reminded that education standards are a matter of states' competences.

#### **Amendments**

Accepted: 1, 2R, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21R, 23R, 25, 26, 27, 29, 32, 33R, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39

Rejected: 18R, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 28, 31, 34

Oral compromises: 9, 10, 11, 40R

Fell: 5, 7, 8, 21, 30, 33, 40

**The opinion was adopted by majority. Final adoption is foreseen for the plenary session of 10-11 February 2016.**