

EUROPEAN UNION



COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

6th SEDEC Commission
meeting
19 November 2015

EN
SEDEC-VI/006

AMENDMENTS

DRAFT OPINION

Commission for Social policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC)

**THE INTEGRATION OF THE LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED INTO
THE LABOUR MARKET**

Rapporteur: Enrico Rossi (IT/PES)

President of the Tuscany Region (Presidente della Regione Toscana)

Am. 38

COR-2015-04871-00-01-AMC-TRA Am. 1-50

EN

AMENDMENT 38

Csaba BORBOLY

The integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market

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Point 2

Amend as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
notes the importance of the fact that the proposal puts the emphasis on re-integrating unemployed people into the labour market, giving employment services the task of taking charge of the person, and involving all business and social stakeholders to support their integration;	notes the importance of the fact that the proposal puts the emphasis on re-integrating unemployed people into the labour market, giving employment services the task of taking charge of the person, and involving all business and social stakeholders <i>and the public sector</i> to support their integration;

Reason
Local and regional authorities as well as certain public institutions are just as concerned as other stakeholders by efforts to combat unemployment. They should therefore be involved in these efforts.

AMENDMENT 43

Csaba BORBOLY

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Point 6

Add a new point:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
	<i>advocates closer cooperation between Member States in order to reduce the EU unemployment rate as effectively as possible by giving these types of programme more space in the media. For example, the EURES network could be promoted through an advertising campaign involving television, the internet or other mass media in order to enable jobseekers looking for work abroad to get up-to-date information on employment opportunities; therefore recommends establishing international cooperation between employment services and other social services in order to ensure a more efficient and faster exchange of information and data;</i>

Reason
Information on job opportunities and vacancies in other Member States needs to be made available and notified to anyone who might be interested. To this end, they should be as widely advertised as possible, using all forms of mass communication.

AMENDMENT 46

Csaba BORBOLY

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Point 7

Add a new point:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
	<i>emphasises the importance of investing in human capital; nevertheless points out that, since this is a long-term investment, businesses tend to give preference to young people and recent graduates, which puts mature or middle-aged prospective workers at a disadvantage. Combating unemployment requires incentives that encourage mature and middle-aged jobseekers to retrain and ensure that the private and public sectors are interested in these types of people;</i>

Reason
Although adult education and training schemes facilitate the acquisition of new vocational skills, employers need more incentives to be flexible in recruiting and training older workers.

AMENDMENT 48

Csaba BORBOLY

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Point 8

Add a new point:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
	<p><i>points out that the proposed reorganisation of employment services promises to be a long and difficult process, especially in Member States where the current system is inflexible and bureaucratic. The smooth operation of the one-stop, single points of personal contact will be heavily dependent on the flexibility of the institutions concerned and on appropriate and fast information dissemination. These single points of contact could be responsible for preparing personalised support services, but it must be borne in mind that, depending on the number of jobseekers, this could constitute a substantial administrative burden. These contact points would in any case have to have sufficient and adequately qualified staff, who would not only know how to disseminate existing vacancies but also to assess the personalities and core skills of jobseekers. The Committee therefore calls on Member States to take these factors into consideration when setting up such mechanisms;</i></p>

Reason
<p>In order to be successful, the reorganisation will require quick and fluid circulation of information and an assessment of skills available on the labour market. It would then be necessary to do as much as possible to adjust labour market supply and demand at national and regional level.</p>

AMENDMENT 49

Csaba BORBOLY

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Point 11

Add a new point:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
	<i>emphasises that training courses to get people back into work must be organised in close cooperation with the institutions concerned in order to make sure that Member States get the best results at all levels, and to reduce labour market and social isolation and poverty levels. The Committee draws attention to the fact that measures like these have a positive impact because they encourage EU citizens who have gone to work in another Member State for financial reasons or to secure a livelihood to return to their country of origin. Economic migration decreases as work and subsistence opportunities on the local labour market increase;</i>

Reason
It is also necessary for economic development to get the long-term unemployed and returning migrants back into jobs since their work generates revenues, which enables them to contribute to national, regional and local growth and welfare.

AMENDMENT 50

Csaba BORBOLY

The integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market

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Point 12

Amend as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
highlights the central role of regional and local authorities, as they are the natural key players in this effort to improve employment services and because in most Member States planning and implementing Structural Funds is their responsibility;	highlights the central role of regional and local authorities, as they are the natural key players in this effort to improve employment services and because in most Member States planning and implementing Structural Funds is their responsibility. <i>Furthermore, these authorities can play an important role in organising and developing vocational and adult training programmes since there is a shortage of adult training centres in many regions, and especially in villages. The role of local and regional authorities is particularly important since they know the local labour market and have contacts with local businesses, which can facilitate practical vocational education.</i> <i>Moreover, people wishing to participate in adult or vocational training have to travel back and forth for several months. This incurs additional costs that jobseekers on a small allowance – or no benefits at all – can ill afford;</i>

Reason
Local authorities can play a crucial role in establishing measures since they have access to local knowledge and contacts that they can use to bring down unemployment rates.