



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Development

2013/0238(COD)

28.8.2013

*****I**

DRAFT REPORT

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the European Year of Development (2015)
(COM(2013)0509 – C7-0229/2013 – 2013/0238(COD))

Committee on Development

Rapporteur: Charles Goerens

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

Amendments to a draft act

In amendments by Parliament, amendments to draft acts are highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the draft act which may require correction when the final text is prepared – for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a language version. Suggested corrections of this kind are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

The heading for any amendment to an existing act that the draft act seeks to amend includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend. Passages in an existing act that Parliament wishes to amend, but that the draft act has left unchanged, are highlighted in **bold**. Any deletions that Parliament wishes to make in such passages are indicated thus: [...].

CONTENTS

	Page
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION.....	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.....	22

DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Year of Development (2015)

(COM(2013)0509– C7-0229/2013 – 2013/0238(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2013)0509),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Articles 209 and 210(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0229/2013),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and the opinion of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (A7-0000/2013),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

Amendment 1

Proposal for a decision

Title

Text proposed by the Commission

Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Year *of* Development (2015)

Amendment

Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council for the European Year *for* Development (2015)

Or. en

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) Development cooperation consists of ***promoting*** human development and the fulfilment of human beings in all respects, including the cultural dimension.

Amendment

(1) Development cooperation consists of ***supporting poverty eradication***, human development and the fulfilment of human beings in all respects, including the cultural dimension.

Or. en

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) Combating global poverty is not only a moral obligation; it will also help to build a more stable, peaceful, prosperous and equitable world, reflecting the interdependence of richer and poorer countries.

Or. en

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision

Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3) The Lisbon Treaty has firmly anchored development policy within EU external action in support of the EU's interest in a stable and prosperous world. Development policy also helps address other global challenges and contributes to the EU-2020

(3) The Lisbon Treaty has firmly anchored development policy within EU external action in support of the EU's interest in a stable and prosperous ***and more equitable*** world. Development policy also helps address other global challenges and

Strategy.

contributes to the EU-2020 Strategy.

Or. en

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The EU has been a leader in formulating and implementing the concept of policy coherence for development, which aims at strengthening synergies between non-aid policies and development objectives.

Amendment

(4) The EU has been a leader in formulating and implementing the concept of policy coherence for development, which aims at strengthening synergies **and reducing contradictions** between non-aid policies and development objectives.

Or. en

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) **The fight against** poverty remains the primary objective of the European Union's development policy, as laid down in Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Amendment

(5) Poverty **reduction** remains the primary objective of the European Union's development policy, as laid down in Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Or. en

Amendment 7

Proposal for a decision Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) In 2000, the international community undertook to take concrete steps by 2015 to fight poverty, with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, objectives which were accepted by the Union and its Member States.

Amendment

(6) In 2000, the international community undertook to take concrete steps by 2015 to fight poverty, with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, objectives **and commitments** which were accepted by the Union and its Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 8

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) The European Consensus on Development, adopted jointly by the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the Member States in 2005¹, which remains the most comprehensive basis for Union development cooperation, set out common objectives and principles for development cooperation and underlined Union's commitment to poverty eradication and the principles of ownership, partnership, effectiveness and policy coherence for development as well as the commitment to more, and more effective, development aid.

¹ ***Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission on European Union***

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision

Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) A European Year *of* Development in 2015 will provide a timely opportunity to raise general public awareness of the current orientation of European development policy. Information is needed on how an outward-looking Europe can help to ensure global sustainability. This includes raising awareness of global interdependence and illustrating that development is more than just aid.

Amendment

(10) A European Year *for* Development in 2015 will provide a timely opportunity to raise general public awareness of the current orientation of European development policy. Information is needed on how an outward-looking Europe can help to ensure global sustainability. This includes raising awareness of global interdependence and illustrating that development is more than just aid.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a decision

Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) In its resolution of 23 October 2012, the European Parliament invited the Commission to make 2015 the European Year *of* Development, expressing its hope that this would raise the profile of development cooperation.

Amendment

(15) In its resolution of 23 October 2012, the European Parliament invited the Commission to make 2015 the European Year *for* Development, expressing its hope that this would raise the profile of development cooperation.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a decision

Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) In order to optimise the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities envisaged for the European Year *of* Development, it is important that a set of preparatory actions be carried out in 2013 and 2014.

Amendment

(21) In order to optimise the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities envisaged for the European Year *for* Development, it is important that a set of preparatory actions be carried out in 2013 and 2014.

Or. en

Amendment 12

Proposal for a decision

Recital 24

Text proposed by the Commission

(24) Since, due to the need for multilateral partnerships, transnational exchange of information and Union-wide awareness-raising and dissemination of good practices, the objectives of the European Year *of* Development cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, given the scale of the European Year of Development, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives,

Amendment

(24) Since, due to the need for multilateral partnerships, transnational exchange of information and Union-wide awareness-raising and dissemination of good practices, the objectives of the European Year *for* Development cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, given the scale of the European Year of Development, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives,

Or. en

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision Article 1

Text proposed by the Commission

2015 shall be designated the ‘European Year *of* Development’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the European Year’).

Amendment

2015 shall be designated the ‘European Year *for* Development’ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the European Year’). ***The motto of the European Year shall be 'A Life in Dignity For All'.***

Or. en

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

- to inform EU citizens about ***EU*** development cooperation, highlighting what the European Union can ***already*** achieve as the biggest aid donor in the world ***and how it could do even more with the combined strength of its Member States and its institutions.***

Amendment

- to inform EU citizens about development cooperation, ***in particular those living in Member States without a long-standing tradition in that area,*** highlighting what the European Union can achieve as the biggest aid donor in the world ***and to raise awareness about the potential added value of a joined-up effort of the Union and its Member States.***

Or. en

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

- to stimulate the active interest of European citizens in development cooperation ***and foster a sense of responsibility and opportunity as regards***

Amendment

- to stimulate the active interest of European citizens in development cooperation ***and in the living conditions of***

their participation in policy formulation and implementation; and

people living in developing countries;

Or. en

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to ensure, in particular, the participation of young citizens;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – indent 2 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- increase Union citizens' awareness of their stake in global development and of possibilities to contribute to more equitable global development and make development an integral part of national education programmes;

Or. en

Amendment 18

Proposal for a decision
Article 2 – indent 2 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to foster a sense of joint responsibility and solidarity among Europeans and

people in developing countries;

Or. en

Amendment 19

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – indent 2 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to support and facilitate dialogue with partners in developing countries about the global development agenda after 2015;

Or. en

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – indent 2 e (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- to raise awareness and foster debate about the impact which individual, local, regional, national and European decisions and choices may have on global development and on people living in developing countries, so as to achieve a broader understanding of Policy Coherence for Development;

Or. en

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The measures taken to achieve the objectives set out in Article 2 may include the following initiatives organised at Union, national, regional or local level, as detailed in the Annex to this Decision:

Amendment

1. The measures taken to achieve the objectives set out in Article 2 may include the following initiatives organised ***in close cooperation with development partners*** at Union, national, regional or local level, ***both within the Union and in developing countries***, as detailed in the Annex to this Decision:

Or. en

Amendment 22

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– communication campaigns to disseminate key messages targeted at the general public and more specific audiences, including through social media;

Amendment

– communication campaigns to disseminate key messages targeted at the general public and more specific audiences, ***by adequate pedagogic means in particular in the education sector***, including through social media;

Or. en

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

– undertaking ***studies and*** surveys and disseminating their results.

Amendment

– undertaking surveys and disseminating their results.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The Commission may identify other activities as contributing to the objectives of the European Year and may allow references to the European Year to be used in promoting those activities, insofar as they contribute to achieving the objectives set out in Article 2.

Amendment

2. The Commission may identify other activities as contributing to the objectives of the European Year and may allow references to the European Year **and the motto 'A Life in Dignity For All'** to be used in promoting those activities, insofar as they contribute to achieving the objectives set out in Article 2.

Or. en

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision Article 4 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The national coordinators shall, in close coordination with the Commission, consult and cooperate with a wide range of relevant stakeholders, including civil society, national parliaments, social partners and, where appropriate, the national agencies or contact points for the relevant Union programmes.

Amendment

2. The national coordinators shall, in close coordination with the Commission, consult and cooperate with a wide range of relevant stakeholders, including civil society, national parliaments, social partners, **the private sector** and, where appropriate, the national agencies or contact points for the relevant Union programmes.

Or. en

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. By 1 June 2014, Member States are invited to transmit to the Commission their proposed work programme, which shall set out details of the national activities planned for the European Year *of* Development, according to the objectives listed in Article 2 and the details of the measures set out in the Annex.

Amendment

3. By 1 June 2014, Member States are invited to transmit to the Commission their proposed work programme, which shall set out details of the national activities planned for the European Year *for* Development, according to the objectives listed in Article 2 and the details of the measures set out in the Annex.

Or. en

Amendment 27

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall convene meetings of the national coordinators to coordinate implementation of the European Year and to exchange information on implementation at EU and national level.

Amendment

3. The Commission shall convene meetings of the national coordinators to coordinate implementation of the European Year and to exchange information on implementation at EU and national level.
The Commission shall invite to those meetings, as observers, representatives of civil society and representatives of the European Parliament.

Or. en

Amendment 28

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. The Commission shall make the *theme*

Amendment

5. The Commission shall make the

of the European Year a priority in the communication activities of its Representations in the Member States and the *European* Union Delegations in partner countries. *Similarly, relevant key Union-level networks receiving support from the general budget of the Union for their running costs shall make the theme of the European Year a priority in their work programmes.*

European Year a priority in the communication activities of its Representations in the Member States and the Union Delegations in partner countries. *Union Delegations shall support development partners in third countries with a view to their participation in activities related to the European Year, whether they take place in the Union or in third countries.*

Or. en

Amendment 29

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) Relevant Union-level networks receiving support from the general budget of the Union for their running costs shall make the European Year a priority in their communication activities during the year and highlight its motto.

Or. en

Amendment 30

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 5 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5b) The European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Union Delegations shall make the European Year an integral part of their dialogue with developing countries and enhance the visibility of the Union as an actor for peace, development, human rights and democracy.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission may award co-financing to each national coordinating body in accordance with the procedure set out in Part C of the Annex.

Amendment

3. The Commission may award co-financing to each national coordinating body in accordance with the procedure set out in Part C of the Annex, ***whereby priority shall be given to those Member States which have become development aid donors more recently or where appreciation and awareness of development challenges among the population is particularly low.***

Or. en

Amendment 32

Proposal for a decision Article 10

Text proposed by the Commission

By ***31 December 2016***, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the initiatives provided for in this Decision.

Amendment

By ***31 July 2016***, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the initiatives provided for in this Decision ***in order to prepare appropriate follow-up action.***

Or. en

Amendment 33

Proposal for a decision Annex — paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Implementation of the European Year will centre on a broad Union-wide information and communication campaign complemented by action taken by the Member States. Both Union and national action *can also* involve civil society, social partners and other stakeholders with a view to creating a sense of ownership among key actors.

Amendment

Implementation of the European Year will centre on a broad Union-wide information and communication campaign complemented by action taken by the Member States. Both Union and national action *should* involve *development cooperation stakeholders such as* civil society, *youth organisations*, social partners, *parliaments, bilateral development agencies* and other stakeholders with a view to creating a sense of ownership among key actors.

Or. en

Amendment 34

Proposal for a decision Annex – point A – indent 1 – sub indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

- establishment of an information website on Europa (http://europa.eu/index_en.htm) dedicated to action taken in the context of the European Year.

Amendment

- establishment of an *open and interactive* information website on Europa (http://europa.eu/index_en.htm) *and other internet-based communication means (such as social media)* dedicated to action taken in the context of the European Year;

Or. en

Amendment 35

Proposal for a decision

Annex – point A – indent 1 – sub indent 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- a prize for innovative and successful communication concepts and campaigns which help, or have helped, to raise awareness and foster reflection about development issues in unusual or original ways, in particular those designed to reach target audiences which previously have had little or no exposure to global development issues.

Or. en

Amendment 36

Proposal for a decision

Annex – point B

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

High-visibility events on a *European* scale that aim to raise awareness of the objectives of the European Year, ***possibly organised in cooperation with the*** Member States holding the Council Presidency in 2015, may receive a Union grant of up to 80 % of the final costs of the activities.

High-visibility events on a *Union* scale that aim to raise awareness of the objectives of the European Year, ***proposed by international networks and platforms of non-governmental development organisations or by*** Member States holding the Council Presidency in 2015, may receive a Union grant of up to 80 % of the final costs of the activities.

Or. en

Amendment 37

Proposal for a decision Annex – point C

Text proposed by the Commission

Each national coordinating body may submit a work programme for Union co-financing to promote the European Year. The work programme shall describe the national coordinating body's specific actions, to be funded. The application shall be accompanied by a detailed prospective budget setting out the total costs of the initiatives or work programme proposed and the amount and sources of possible co-funding. The EU final co-financing may cover up to 80% of the final costs of the activities. The Commission shall determine indicative amounts to be made available for co-financing to each national coordinating body and the deadline for submission of the applications. The criteria should take into account the population, the cost of living and a fixed amount per Member State to guarantee a minimum level of activities.

Amendment

Additional funding shall be allocated to activities falling within the scope of the European Year for Development, as was the case for previous European Years. Each national coordinating body may submit a work programme for Union co-financing to promote the European Year. The work programme shall describe the national coordinating body's specific actions, to be funded. The application shall be accompanied by a detailed prospective budget setting out the total costs of the initiatives or work programme proposed and the amount and sources of possible co-funding. The EU final co-financing ***shall cover in principle no more than 65 % of activity costs related to the European Year. In duly justified cases, and only for those type of actions which were not recurrently organised by the Member State in previous years, co-financing*** may cover up to 80% of the final costs of the activities ***if there is sufficient proof that the activities could not be organised without that level of Union funding.*** The Commission shall determine indicative amounts to be made available for co-financing to each national coordinating body and the deadline for submission of the applications. The criteria should take into account the population, the cost of living and a fixed amount per Member State to guarantee a minimum level of activities, ***and the specific need to raise awareness on development issues in a given Member State as well as the capacity of the Member State to finance activities from national resources.***

Or. en

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The legislative proposal which is the subject of this report is the result of awareness-raising campaign involving representatives of the Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, Concord and Parliament. A round table held during the 2012 European Development Days provided an opportunity to share the idea with a wider audience. Finally, in its debate on the report on an Agenda for Change, Parliament adopted an amendment calling on the Commission to declare 2015 European Year for Development. The proposed legislative text is thus the result of a great deal of hard work on raising awareness.

Your rapporteur now expects all development actors to become involved in a broader-based process designed to raise public awareness of the European Union's work in developing countries. Parliament's Committee on Development understands only too well that any discussion of poverty elsewhere in the world cannot simply disregard the fact that there are more than 100 million poor people in the European Union itself. There can be no question of ignoring the poor in our own countries or of pitting them against the poor and destitute elsewhere. This would be impossible anyway, as the legislation governing both citizenship and EU external action fully reflects the EU's fundamental values.

The mere fact that someone lives 5 000 kilometres away from the European Union is no reason for them to be deprived of the right to human dignity. 2015 will provide an opportunity to ram home the message that the right to human dignity is not contingent on where a person lives or how wealthy they are, and that the irreducible nature of human dignity is the principle underpinning all EU policy. For this reason, 'Dignity for All' could well be the motto of the 2015 campaign.

This in no way lessens the need to tackle the major challenges of development cooperation policy: achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 agenda, development policy coherence, the role of the Commission and the European External Action Service, the work of non-State actors, in particular NGOs, coordination of action in this field by the 28 Member States and the positive effects of development programmes on donor countries.

In their eagerness to boost public acceptance of development aid policy, some politicians tend to focus on the upsides for donor countries. Whilst it is undeniable that official development aid (ODA) does produce benefits in the long term for both donors and recipients, we must not fall into the trap of adopting a purely utilitarian approach which would detract from the intrinsic nobility and universality of development as a concept.

2015 will be a test of the degree to which the European Union's development policy is accepted. Both its achievements and its new objectives will need to be highlighted. It will offer the many organisations active in the development field an opportunity to present their work, to familiarise the public with the basic principles of international cooperation and to introduce us to our partners in the south.

The modest budget earmarked for the 2015 campaign will have to be spent carefully so that those organisations that need it most, in particular NGOs and youth movements, benefit.