



Committee meeting, 19-20 January 2009, Brussels

Votes in committee

Reports

Community participation in the European Audiovisual Observatory

Own-initiative report

Rapporteur: Ivo Belet (EPP-ED, BE)

Mr. Belet emphasised that the Observatory is the only pan-European public service organisation which gathers and distributes detailed information on the European audiovisual industry. He urges the Observatory to extend its activities to cover the latest challenges created by media convergence and technological innovation, by giving more attention to online audiovisual services.

Timetable foreseen: adoption in plenary (February II) (*)

Opinions

Strengthening security and fundamental freedoms on the Internet

Own-initiative report (2008/2160(INI))

Draftsman: Manolis Mavrommatis (EPP-ED)

The draftsman presented his draft opinion, in which he underlined the need to respect fundamental freedoms on the Internet. In particular, measures must be taken to ensure that all the fundamental rights of persons are always safeguarded and protected. He also stressed that, due to their economic and cultural nature, cultural expressions should be protected from abuse on the Internet.

Timetable foreseen: adoption in lead committee LIBE (16-17 February 09)

Equal treatment of persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation

Legislative opinion (Consultation)

2008/0140(CNS)

Draftswoman: Lissy Gröner (PSE, DE)

Timetable foreseen: adoption in lead committee LIBE (16 February 09) (*)

(*) *dates are subject to change*

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Next meeting agenda, 16-17 February 09

Items on the [agenda](#) of the meeting on 16-17 February 09:

16 February (15.00-18.30)

- Educating the children of migrants (H Takkula):

consideration of draft report

- Better schools (P Schmitt):

consideration of draft report

- Renewed social agenda (C

Visser): consideration of

draft opinion

- Coordinators' meeting

17 February (9.00-12.30)

- Multilingualism (V Graça-Moura): vote

- Active dialogue with

citizens on Europe (G

Hegyí): vote

- Artistic studies in the EU (M Badia): vote

- Budget discharge 2007 (H

Trüpel): vote

- Roaming directive (M

Mavrommatis): vote

- Public hearing "Youth

Participation in the EU"

Better careers and more mobility: A European partnership for researchers

Own-initiative report (2008/2213(INI))

Draftsman: László Tőkés (Verts/ALE, RO)

Timetable foreseen: adoption in lead committee ITRE (12 February 09) (*)

Small Business Act

Own-initiative report (2008/2237(INI))

Draftswoman: Helga Trüpel (Verts/ALE, DE)

Timetable foreseen: adoption in lead committee ITRE (12 February 09) (*)

A Common Immigration Policy for Europe: Principles, actions and tools

Own-initiative report (2008/2331(INI))

Draftsman: Zdzisław Zbigniew Podkański (UEN, PL)

The Committee considered and adopted the opinion drafted by Mr. Podkański. It emphasised the importance of integrating immigrants into the host society and considered education crucial in this respect. Language learning and participation in training programmes help immigrants to develop their skills and succeed in their new country. Segregation and social exclusion can thereby be avoided and active participation in society promoted.

Timetable foreseen: adoption in lead committee LIBE (February 09) (*)

On-going work

Reports

Multilingualism: an asset for Europe and a shared commitment

Own-initiative report (2008/2225(INI))

Rapporteur: Vasco Graça Moura (EPP-ED, PT)

The rapporteur recalls the need for full support for language teaching and exchange programmes. He emphasizes the importance of linguistic and cultural diversity in the EU and argues that this constitutes an enormous competitive advantage.

Timetable foreseen: deadline for amendments (27/01/09 - 12.00), adoption in committee (16-17/02/09) (*)

() dates are subject to change*

Hearings & Delegations in 2009

- Public Hearing on "Youth Participation in the EU", 17 February (10.00-12.30)

Practical information to attend the public hearing on 17 February: if you do not have an access badge to the EP, please send a request to ip-CULT@europarl.europa.eu by 9 February at the latest, with your first name and surname, date of birth and place of residence. We will organise your access.

- Public Hearing on "The Role of public broadcasters", 5 March (am)
- Delegation to Linz (Austria): 24-27 February

**Artistic studies in the European Union
Own-initiative report (2008/2226(INI))**

Rapporteur: Maria Badia I Cutchet (PSE, ES)

The draft report foresees the expansion of artistic education throughout the European Union and draws attention to the impact of this type of studies on a dynamic and future-oriented market of cultural industries.

Timetable foreseen: deadline for amendments (26/01/09 - 12.00), adoption in committee (16-17/02/09) (*)

Opinions

2007 discharge: EU general budget, Section III - Commission

Discharge (2008/2186(DEC))

Draftswoman: Helga Trüpel (Verts/ALE, DE)

The draft opinion presented in committee focuses on the implementation of the Commission budget in the areas of education, culture, media, active citizenship and communication. The draftswoman welcomed improvements - better control mechanisms and fewer late payments - in the management of the multiannual programmes run by DG EAC, the Executive Agency and national agencies. She also expressed her hope that, if DG COMM improved its control mechanisms, the reservations expressed about its budget management in 2007 might be answered.

Timetable foreseen: deadline for amendments (23/01/09 - 12.00), adoption in committee (16-17/02/09) (*)

Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 717/2007 (mobile telephone networks) and Directive 2002/21/EC (electronic communications)

Legislative report (2008/0187(COD))

Draftsman: Manolis Mavrommatis (EPP-ED, EL)

The rapporteur presented his draft opinion on the Commission proposal to amend the current rules on mobile telephone networks and electronic communications (Roaming II). The rapporteur focuses in particular on the particular situation of students and media professionals regarding SMS.

Timetable foreseen: deadline for amendments (23/01/09 - 12.00), adoption in committee (16-17/02/09) (*)

**CULT meetings in 2009,
Brussels**

Monday 16 February, 15.00-18.30

Tuesday 17 February, 9.00-12.30

Thursday 5 March, 9.00-12.30

Thursday 2 April, 15.00-18.30

Thursday 30 April, 15.00-18.30 (TBC)

Constituent meetings in week 30 TBC

Wednesday 2 September, 15.00-18.30

Thursday 3 September, 9.00-12.30

Monday 5 October, 15.00-18.30
Tuesday 6 October, 9.00-12.30

Monday 9 November, 15.00-18.30

Tuesday 10 November, 9.00-12.30

Monday 30 November, 15.00-18.30

Tuesday 1 December, 9.00-12.30

CULT News archives

All CULT News editions are available [online](#) on the CULT webpage.

Exchanges of views

Presentation of the priorities of the Czech Presidency: exchange of views with Ondrej Liska (Minister for Education, Youth and Sports) and Vaclav Jehlicka (Minister for Culture)

A full account of the presentations made by the ministers is available online: EP [press release on the Czech priorities](#).

More on the Czech Presidency website:
<http://www.eu2009.cz/en/default.htm>

Exchange of views with Odile Quintin (Director-General, DG Education and Culture, European Commission)

Mrs. Quintin looked back over the work that Parliament and Commission have carried out during the parliamentary term so far; in particular the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008, and looked forward to the Year of Creativity and Innovation 2009. She also outlined likely developments in 2009 concerning the European Institute for Technology, partnerships between university and business, youth and mobility initiatives. Her [draft speech](#) (in French and English) is available online.

Presentation of the study on "Multilingualism: between policy objectives and implementation" by Joe Cullen (Menon Network EEIG)

The [presentation](#) made in committee is available online. The full [study](#) is also available online in several languages.

Exchange of views with representatives from Regione Toscana, Assemblea Regionale Siciliana and other town representatives from the Festival Sete Sóis Sete Luas:

The Festival Sete Sois Sete Luas, celebrating its 16th edition in 2008, is promoted by a cultural network of 30 towns from nine different countries: Cape Verde, Croatia, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Portugal and Spain. It promotes projects of popular music, street theatre, involving important personalities of European and Mediterranean culture. Over the years, the Festival has received grants from a number of European programmes (Kaleidoscope Prize, Culture 2000 Programme, Interreg IIIB Medocc Programme). The Honorary Presidents of the Festival are the Nobel Prize José Saramago and Dario Fo.

The [presentation \(in French\)](#) is available online. More information on: <http://www.7sois7luas.com/>

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