

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(91) 216 final

Brussels, 5 June 1991

Amendment to the proposal for a

## COUNCIL DECISION

adopting an action programme to promote  
youth exchanges and mobility  
in the Community:  
the "Youth for Europe" programme.

(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 149(3)  
of the EEC-Treaty)

1. The Commission on 22 November 1990 transmitted to the Council a proposal (1) for the amendment and extension of the "Youth for Europe" programme, originally adopted by the Council on 16 June 1988 (2) for a period running from 1 July 1988 to 31 December 1991. Opinions on the proposal were expressed by the Economic and Social Committee on 24 April 1991, and by the European Parliament on 17 May 1991. The purpose of the present amended proposals is to take account of those Opinions.
2. The changes which the Commission has made to its original proposals are designed to clarify certain issues, and to bring out the real need for a clear assessment of the impact of the programme on young people.
3. The Commission has not accepted all proposed amendments, however, and in particular not those proposing a change in legal base to Art 100 A EEC. The scope of this article is not such as to permit the adoption of Council Decisions adopting programmes such as the "Youth for Europe" programme, and the Commission considers that its use could lead to challenges in the Court of Justice, which would have a substantial chance of success. . Other areas where the Commission has not felt able to accept proposed amendments include:
  - a. *the choice and operation of National Agencies for the programme.* Since such agencies are designated by Member States, and operate under diverse legal arrangements, the Commission does not regard it as desirable to lay down too precise regulations in the legal text itself. The principle of subsidiarity requires a degree of flexibility to be maintained.
  - b. *the selection parameters for participants and for projects.* Similarly here, the Commission takes the view that the Council Decision should, where possible, retain a considerable degree of openness in its definitions. Further precision, where appropriate, can be laid down by the Commission after consultation of the Advisory Committee established for the programme.

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(1) COM(90)470 final

(2) Council Decision 88/348/EEC

## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Amended proposal for a Council Decision adopting an action programme to promote youth exchanges and mobility in the Community: the 'Youth for Europe' programme (1)**

(91/C 175/05)

*COM(91) 216 final**(Submitted by the Commission pursuant to Article 149 (3) of the EEC Treaty on 5 June 1991)*<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No C 308, 8. 12. 1990, p 6.

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Title and citations unchanged

Recitals (1) to (7) unchanged

Recital (8)

Whereas project-centred youth exchanges are an appropriate method of enabling young people to understand more about the European Community and its Member States; whereas they thus contribute to the training and preparation of young people for adult and working life and to the development of a greater awareness of their capacities and responsibilities;

Recital (8)

Whereas project-centred youth exchanges are an appropriate method of enabling young people to understand more about the European Community and its Member States, and of promoting social cohesion within the Community; whereas they thus contribute to the training and preparation of young people for adult and working life and to the development of a greater awareness of their capacities and responsibilities;

Remaining recitals unchanged

Articles 1 to 7 unchanged

ANNEX

ANNEX

ACTION I

ACTION I

1. For the purposes of this action the term 'youth exchanges' shall refer to project-centred bilateral exchanges and multilateral exchanges and encounters arranged on the basis of joint plans between individuals or groups of young people between the

1. For the purposes of this action the term 'youth exchanges' shall refer to bilateral exchanges and multilateral exchanges and encounters arranged on the basis of joint plans between individuals or groups of young people between the ages of 15 and 25 years,

## ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

ages of 15 and 25 years, other than those which take place in the context of school or vocational training. These project-centred exchanges will have a minimum duration of one week in a Member State and shall be specifically planned so as to enable them to develop skills for active and working life by:

The first indent stays unchanged

## Second indent

- establishing cooperative relationships between groups of young people from different States within the Community,

Action I from the third indent, to Action II, point 1 stay unchanged

## point 2 (a)

- (a) information to young people and youth workers about the activities supported under this programme, and the application and grant systems relating to each activity;

Action II, point 2 (b) and (c) stay unchanged

## point (d)

(new)

- (d) assessment of the qualitative effect of the programme.

## AMENDED PROPOSAL

other than those which take place in the context of school programmes or vocational training courses. These project-centred exchanges will have a minimum duration of one week in a Member State and shall be specifically planned so as to enable them to develop skills for active and working life by:

## Second indent

- establishing cooperative relationships between groups of young people resident in different States within the Community,

## point 2 (a)

- (a) extensive dissemination of information to young people and youth workers particularly those who are disadvantaged by their geographical isolation (because they live in regions in which little information is customarily available), about the activities supported under this programme and the application and grant systems relating to each activity;