

Resolution on the EURES Activity Report 2004-2005: Towards a single European labour market

2007/2597(RSP) - 05/09/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 5 September 2007, the European Parliament adopted a joint resolution on the EURES Activity Report 2004-2005: towards a single European labour market. Parliament considered that EURES should become an important European labour market communication platform – a one-stop shop for workers' geographical and occupational mobility – intended to :

- remove existing obstacles (especially arising from work-related social security questions) ;
- extend the knowledge of all workers about their individual rights, especially rights to equal treatment ;
- further the EURES advisor network in terms of both quality and quantity ;
- extend access to job vacancy information for seasonal or short-term workers in Member States other than their countries of origin ;
- extend the content of the EURES portal to information on job offers in order to address the needs of third-country nationals, in particular from countries coming under the EU's Neighbourhood Policy.

Parliament pointed out that geographical and occupational mobility is a crucial instrument for the success of the Revised Lisbon Strategy and Council Decision 2005/600/EC on the Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States highlight that mobility is central to allowing more people to find better employment. Member States still limit the geographical mobility of some EU citizens, although free movement of workers is a fundamental principle of the Community.

Parliament further considered that the Commission should promote further the geographical and occupational mobility of workers through the increased budget line for the EURES network in order to support projects in the area of transnational recruitment and cross-border partnerships between 'older' and 'newer' Member States and between 'newer' Member States. It recalled that the EUR 2 000 000 increase in the network of European Employment Services (EURES) budget line for 2007 aimed to further the implementation and operation of the EURES network and the 2006 European Year of Workers' Mobility has led to a significant increase in consultation of the EURES network Job Mobility Portal.

Members noted that the European Year of Workers' Mobility led to a significant increase in demand for EURES services, in particular in the field of information requests by mobile workers and mobility candidates. They welcomed the work done by those contributing to the EURES network, such as EURES advisers, social partners and regional and local stakeholders. Parliament expected that, as a result of the increased visibility acquired by the EURES network in the context of the European Year and the successful organisation of European-wide job fairs, similar initiatives will be repeated in the future.