

# European Training Foundation. Recast

2007/0163(COD) - 02/04/2008

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs adopted the report by Bernard **LEHIDEUX** (ALDE, FR) amending, under the codecision procedure, the recast proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Training Foundation. The proposed amendments, which are of a technical nature, aim to clarify the proposal and to reinforce the Parliament's information on the operation of this Community organ.

The main amendments can be summarised as follows:

- **Strengthening the European Parliament's information:** in order to better control the operation of the Foundation, MEPs ask that the Governing Board include 3 representatives from the European Parliament. The European Parliament shall appoint its own representatives, while the Commission shall appoint its own representatives and the representatives of the partner countries on the basis of their experience and expertise in the Foundation's areas of work;
- **Third countries:** MEPs believe that it is necessary to enlarge the scope of cooperation with third countries (not limited to countries involved in the Neighbourhood Policy or pre-accession programmes). For this reason, they propose increasing the flexibility of the procedure permitting the Foundation to take action outside the areas specified in Articles 1(a) and 1(b) of the Regulation;
- **Promoting knowledge and analysis of national and local labour markets:** MEPs believe that the concept of the 'labour market' must be emphasised by specifying that the core tasks of the Foundation include improving awareness of local labour markets in order to promote the European dimension of human resources development;
- **Avoiding overlap:** MEPs ask that any overlap between the Foundation's activities and those of CEDEFOP, or other Community bodies, must be avoided in order to prevent the squandering of human and financial resources;
- **Duration of the mandate:** MEPs ask that the Director of the Foundation be nominated by the Governing Board for a period of five years, on the basis of a list of at least 3 candidates presented by the Commission;
- **Report:** the Parliament asks that the Director of the Foundation present its annual report before the relevant committees of the European Parliament.

It should be noted that the proposal, as amended by the parliamentary committee, takes into account the recommendations of the Consultative Working Party of the Legal Services of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.