Sport in the European Union

1996/2187(INI) - 22/05/1997

Sport not only holds a prime place in the lives of European citizens, it is also a major economic activity. However, the EU pays it virtually no attention. To change this situation the Committee is recommending the inclusion of a specific reference to sport in the new EU Treaty so its social, cultural and economic importance is given due recognition. The report puts forward proposals for the Commission's attention: the need for a task force on sport and a Green Paper with a view to the establishment of a comprehensive EU action plan for sport. Mrs PACK thought that appropriations for sport should be put in reserve if the task force did not materialize and there was a continuation of the present piecemeal approach in which more than ten directorates-general dealt with sport. One of the objectives of the task force would be to work with the sports associations in the introduction of measures to assist the training of young players and the continued existence of amateur clubs.