Basic information

1994/0199(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision	Procedure completed
Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996 **Subject** 4.40.01 European area for education, training and lifelong learning	

Key players

European Parliament

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP Bárbara (PSE)	21/02/1995

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	1863	1995-07-10
Education, Youth, Culture and Sport	1811	1994-12-05
Education, Youth, Culture and Sport	1839	1995-03-31

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/09/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0264	Summary
24/10/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
05/12/1994	Debate in Council		
23/02/1995	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
23/02/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0038/1995	
15/03/1995	Debate in Parliament		
31/03/1995	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0124	Summary
20/04/1995	Council position published	06260/1/1995	Summary
27/04/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
30/05/1995	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
30/05/1995	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0128/1995	

14/06/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
10/07/1995	Act approved by Council, 2nd reading		Summary
23/10/1995	Final act signed		
23/10/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
26/10/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/0199(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 127 EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 126
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/4/06563

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0038/1995 OJ C 089 10.04.1995, p. 0005	23/02/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0095/1995 OJ C 089 10.04.1995, p. 0113-0123	16/03/1995	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0128/1995 OJ C 166 03.07.1995, p. 0004	30/05/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0297/1995 OJ C 166 03.07.1995, p. 0080-0108	15/06/1995	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	06260/1/1995 OJ C 130 29.05.1995, p. 0013	20/04/1995	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1994)0264 OJ C 287 15.10.1994, p. 0018	07/09/1994	Summary

Modified legislative proposal	COM(1995)0124 OJ C 134 01.06.1995, p. 0006	31/03/1995	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1995)0649	25/04/1995	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(1995)0316	05/07/1995	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1999)0447	15/09/1999	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0244/1994 OJ C 210 14.08.1995, p. 0074	16/11/1994	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1299/1994 OJ C 397 31.12.1994, p. 0015	23/11/1994	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 1995/2493
OJ L 256 26.10.1995, p. 0045 Summary

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 31/03/1995 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal incorporates, in full or in part, 28 of the 39 amendments tabled by the European Parliament at first reading. The main amendments are designed to clarify the objectives and themes of the Year and the means for implementing them: - the Commission subscribes to Parliament's amendments seeking to clarify the objectives of this European Year and decided that 1996 would be the "European year of lifelong learning" in order to: . promote personal development and involvement in democratic decision-making processes, . help develop a labour-intensive European competitiveness model, . increase the awareness of European citizens of the importance of initiatives taken by the Union to get diplomas and the European Union dimension of education and training recognised, . increase recognition of training irrespective of age, sex or ethnic or social origin in order to prevent talent from being wasted, combat exclusion and promote equal opportunities, . encourage parents and the education authorities to accept their responsibilities with a view to encouraging lifelong learning; - the procedures for selecting projects were more clearly defined in the direction requested by the European Parliament: improved cooperation between education structures, companies and social partners, revision of priorities of projects selected (which must demonstrate the benefits of education and training and motivate individuals, including the most disadvantaged, to take up training); - the amendments relating to comitology and the involvement of the social partners were included but amended (the committee is to comprise 2 representatives from the Member States instead of just one and the Commission is to inform the European Parliament, the ESC and the Committee of the Regions of the activities planned during the year and ensure that the social partners are properly involved in implementing them); - the "general provisions" in the annex were deleted, as requested by the European Parliament. The European Parliament's idea of awarding a European certificate to agencies involved in projects during the Year was also incorporated. The Commission also deleted projects listed in the annex which would not receive funds under the EC budget and reinstated good practice information and dissemination projects.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 31/03/1995

The Council agreed on the common position. The text largely takes account of the European Parliament’s amendments and of the amended Commission proposal, since it incorporates fully, partially or in essence 26 of the 39 amendments passed and included, in various forms, in the revised proposal. Under the terms of the common position, the aim of the Year is the promotion of the personal development and sense of initiative of individuals, their integration into working life and society, their participation in the democratic decision-making process and their ability to adjust to economic, technological and social change. During the European Year information, awareness-raising and promotional actions will therefore be undertaken concerning opportunities for life-long education and vocational training. Preparation of the actions will take place in 1995. According to the Council common position, the themes for the European Year will be as follows: 1. The importance of a high-quality general education, open to all without discrimination of any kind, including the ability to learn by oneself, as a preparation for life-long education and training. 2. The promotion of vocational training leading to qualifications for all young people, as a precondition for a smooth transition to working life and as a basis for further personal development, for re-adaptation in the job market and for achieving equality of opportunities between men and women. 3. The promotion of continuing education and training, in harmony with school education and initial vocational training and in relation to new requirements in the world of work and society, whilst ensuring the quality and transparency of such education and training. 4. Motivation of individuals for continuing education and training and developing such education and training for the benefit of groups of people who have hardly or not at all benefited from it but who particularly need it, such as girls and young women. 5. Further cooperation on education and training between institutions in these areas and the economic world, in particular small and medium enterprises. 6. The raising of awareness of the social partners of the importance of the creation of new opportunities for life-long learning in the context of European competitiveness and employment-intensive economic growth. 7. The raising of awareness of parents of the importance of education and training of children and young people in the perspective of life-long learning and the role that they can play in this respect. 8. The development of the European dimension of initial and continuing education and training, the promotion of understanding and mobility in Europe, as well as a European space for cooperation in education; the raising of awareness among European citizens of the activities of the European Union, particularly with regard to the academic and vocational recognition of qualifications and diplomas under the systems of the Member States and the promotion of linguistic abilities. The total appropriation for implementation of this theme-based measure was set at ECU 8 million.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 16/03/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

This proposal for a decision was approved by the European Parliament subject to the following amendments: - 1996 would be the European year of lifelong learning (in order to illustrate that education and training are an on-going process during the various stages of a person's life); - the objective of this year would be to help develop a labour-intensive European competitiveness model and promote personal development through greater involvement in democratic decision-making processes: public awareness-raising should encompass all stages of a person's life (recognition of training irrespective of age, sex, ethnic origin and profession (or none as the case may be, such as in the case of parents raising children); - the methods and procedures for selecting projects have been more clearly defined: they must highlight the importance of cooperation between education and training structures, companies and social partners and the potential of a common area of education and training. Projects should illustrate the benefits of education and training and motivate individuals to take up training (projects relating to particularly disadvantaged persons should be encouraged); - the composition of the advisory committee to assist the Commission has been more clearly defined (2 representatives from the Member States + an equal number of representatives of the social partners). The Commission is to inform the European Parliament, the ESC and the Committee of the Regions of the activities planned during the year on a regular basis and ensure that the social partners are properly involved in organising them; - the "general provisions" in the annex have been deleted, as have certain examples of communication products to be implemented (good practice information projects have been deleted). However, the European Parliament felt that a European certificate should be awarded to agencies involved in activities during this year in order to give their commitment added value.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 10/07/1995

The Council approved two amendments proposed by the European Parliament to its common position of 20 April 1995 concerning the proposal for a decision on this topic. It therefore amended its common position (see Press Release 6123/95, Presse 102) and adopted the Decision establishing 1996 as the ‘European Year of Life-long Education and Training’.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 25/04/1995 - Commission communication on Council's position

In its communication setting out its opinion on the Council's common position, the Commission highlighted the fact that the principle of the European year of lifelong learning had been unanimously supported by the Council, which had not made any substantial amendments to the text of the Commission's amended proposal. However, it regretted that the Council had not retained a budget of ECU 8 million for this initiative, despite the fact that this amount corresponded to the total proposed by the Commission before enlargement.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 07/09/1994 - Legislative proposal

The purpose of this proposal for a decision by the European Parliament and the Council is to implement a European year of lifelong learning in 1996. The four main objectives of this European year are to: - raise public awareness in Europe of the importance of education and training; - promote better cooperation between education and training structures and enterprises in the Union; - help create a European education and training area by recognizing academic qualifications and introducing a European dimension to education and training; - highlight the contribution of education and training to equal opportunities between men and women. The Commission proposes to achieve these objectives by staging a series of thematic or general events and funding specific projects: . Projects funded from the Community budget: - seminars and meetings, - information and publicity campaigns (creation of a logo on the subject of the year, video clips, multimedia terminals for trade fairs etc., public awareness projects channelling the television media and a competition at European level; . Projects cofinanced (50%) from the Community budget: - promotion within a national or regional framework; - projects to highlight and disseminate examples of good practice, - local competitions. . Projects with no repercussion on the Community budget, such as voluntary projects by public or private operators (granting the EC logo and exploiting the subjects of the European year). A total of ECU 8 million has been budgeted in order to organize this European year (3 million in 1995 and 5 million en 1996).

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 15/06/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The European Parliament approved the Council's common position with the following amendments: - it stressed the importance of raising the awareness of the social partners of the creation of, and participation in, new opportunities for life-long learning and encouraging them to play an active part in actions to promote training, with due respect for national laws or by means of collective agreements.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 16/11/1994 - Committee of the Regions: opinion

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 23/10/1995 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: implementation in 1996 of a "European year of lifelong learning" aimed at promoting, through information and awareness-raising, personal development and sense of initiative of individuals, their integration into working life and society, their participation in the democratic decision-making process and their ability to adjust to economic, technological and social change. COMMUNITY MEASURE: European Parliament and Council Decision 2493/95/EC establishing 1996 as the "European year of lifelong learning". SUBSTANCE: - The following shall be the themes for the European Year: . the importance of a high-quality general education, open to all without discrimination of any kind, . the promotion of vocational training leading to qualifications for all young people, . the promotion of continuing education and training, . motivation of individuals for lifelong learning (particularly girls and women), . further cooperation on education and training between institutions in these areas and the economic world (in particular SMEs), . the raising of awareness of the social partners of the importance of the creation of, and participation in, new opportunities for lifelong learning, . the raising of awareness of parents of the importance of education and training of children and young people, . the development of the European dimension of initial and continuing education and training, the promotion of mutual understanding and mobility in Europe, the raising of awareness among European citizens of the activities of the European Union; - Actions that may be financed under this European year include general or theme-based events, the dissemination of communication products, and studies and surveys; - The Commission shall be responsible for implementing this decision. It shall be assisted by an advisory committee composed of two representatives from each Member State and chaired by the representative of the Commission. It shall ensure complementarity and consistency between this European year and the Socrates and Leonardo da Vinci programmes; - The financial framework for the decision is set at ECU 8 million; - A report shall be submitted to the Council and European Parliament by 31 December 1997 at the latest assessing the actions provided for under this decision. IMPLEMENTATION: preparation of the actions will take place in 1995; ENTRY INTO FORCE: 26 October 1995.

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 23/11/1994 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

Training, education: establishment of a European Year of Lifelong Learning, 1996

1994/0199(COD) - 20/04/1995 - Council position

In its common position, the Council retained the essence of the Commission's amended proposal, although it added several amendments that did not directly affect the substance of the text. The main amendments related to: - the inclusion of an article (Article 6) devoted to the financial envelope for the Year: ECU 8 million within the limits of the financial perspective (this amount corresponded to the amount proposed by the Commission in its financial statement); - a reorganisation of the themes for the Year: the Council provided for eight themes, which covered and, in certain cases, extended the themes set out in the Commission's amended proposal (particular emphasis was placed on access to continuing education, which should be open to all without discrimination of any kind and, in particular, those who had had most difficulty accessing continuing training, especially women); - changes to the text of the annex: inclusion of information actions and actions disseminating examples of good practice, as well as actions receiving no financial aid from the Community budget; - the clarifications added by the EP and the Commission with regard to the selection of actions were restructured and the content of the actions financed was described in more detail: projects promoting the themes of the Year, distribution of communication products, studies and surveys (the Council rejected the proposal to give priority to actions concerning the disadvantaged or socially excluded); - the Council stressed that this initiative should be developed in line with the Community programmes Socrates and Leonardo. However, for reasons relating to subsidiarity, the Council did not accept the amendment aimed at providing for the participation of the social partners and, where necessary, regional and local authorities in the implementation of this Year. Similarly, it rejected the EP's proposal to issue a European certificate to participants in the European Year.