Basic information

2000/2337(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004 **Subject** 4.40.01 European area for education, training and lifelong learning	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CULT Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport	MAURO Mario Walter (PPE-DE)	18/09/2000

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	COSTA NEVES Carlos (PPE-DE)	27/02/2001
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	GRÖNER Lissy (PSE)	23/01/2001

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Education, Youth, Culture and Sport	2349	2001-05-28

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2000)0318	Summary

24/05/2000	Non-legislative basic document published		
15/01/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/04/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
25/04/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0152/2001	
14/05/2001	Debate in Parliament		
15/05/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0250/2001	Summary
15/05/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/05/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		Summary
07/02/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/2337(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/5/13830

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0152/2001	25/04/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0250/2001 OJ C 034 07.02.2002, p. 0028-0153 E	15/05/2001	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	00720/2001 OJ C 204 20.07.2001, p. 0003	13/07/2001	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2000)0318	24/05/2000	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	COM(2001)0172	28/03/2001	Summary

Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2001)0526	28/03/2001	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2002)0236	28/02/2002	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0314/2000 OJ C 144 16.05.2001, p. 0034	14/12/2000	
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1322/2001 OJ C 036 08.02.2002, p. 0063	17/10/2001	

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 28/03/2001 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

The purpose of this Action Plan, which covers the period 2001-2004, is to present ways and means of implementing the eLearning initiative. The intention is to involve education and training players, as well as the relevant social, industrial and economic players, in order to make lifelong learning the driving force behind a cohesive and inclusive society, within a competitive economy. It will help promote the employability and adaptability objectives under the European Employment Strategy, rectifying the shortage of skills associated with new technologies, and improve social inclusion. First of all the proposed Action Plan explains how eLearning fits into the context of eEurope, identifies the areas in which it will contribute, and mentions the programmes and instruments that will enable EU Member States and other European countries participating in these programmes to act. It is not a question of new budgetary resources, but rather of the coordinated and coherent use of those which exist already. In this light, the Commission has taken a look at the resources available at Community level and is proposing a method of action designed to provide back-up and encouragement for initiatives at regional and Member State level. Secondly, the Action Plan sets out concerted key measures for each of its lines of action (infrastructure, training, services and content, cooperation). Finally, a useful practical guide to the services and instrument involved completes this document.

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 24/05/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: to present a Commission Communication on e-Learning - Designing tomorrow's education. CONTENT: the Lisbon European Council 23-24 March 2000 underlined the importance of incorporating new information and communication technologies in the EU's education and training systems. The eEurope Action Plan developed as a result, followed by the eLearning initiative. eLearning brings together the different education components of eEurope actions, of the employment guidelines of the Luxembourg process and in other Community actions, such as, for example, research to ensure their global coherence and their effective presentation to the education world. Against this background, the Communication outlines four main lines of action on which the eLearning initiative is based: - equipment: the efforts here will concentrate on multimedia computers, for the connection and improvement of access to digital networks in the different forums of learning, training and knowledge; - training at all levels: this must focus on the development of the skills required to use the new technologies. It must be an integral part of initial and continuing training for each teacher and trainer; - the development of good quality multimedia services and contents: by the end of 2002, the capacity of the vocational guidance services should be substantially strengthened so as to allow everyone to access information on initial and continuing training opportunities in the new technologies and on the skills and qualifications required on the jobs market and be able to pilot or adjust their training and career pathways; - the development and networking of centres for acquiring knowledge: this refers to transforming teaching and training centres into centres for acquiring knowledge which are versatile and accessible to everyone and, of course, equipping them and training their teachers. With regard to the framework for implementation, the Commission will prepare a framework for attaining the goals of eLearning. In particular, benchmarking of education and training policy actions will be carried out in line with the Lisbon conclusions by using indicators which have been defined in the Luxembourg process and in the eEurope action plan. The Commission's role is to support the Member States as they implement the eLearning initiative and to co-ordinate and strengthen their efforts, mainly be co-financing certain activities. In October 2000, a Commission working document will comprehensively describe all the actions planned at Community level to support the eLearning initiative. The eLearning initiative should be integrated into the European Social Agenda to be adopted by the Nice European Council in December 2000. To achieve the eLearning Community framework of support, the Commission will give special focus to the following areas: the recognition of qualifications, language learning, education in communication and the media and virtual mobility. At the Community level, the Commission will undertake specific actions bringing together the players involved in education, training and

culture through the following means: strengthening of the cooperation developed inthe framework of the European Schoolnet; creation of European gateways; general framework for discussion; setting up observation mechanisms; training network to provide trainers; setting up an eLearning Internet site; promoting employability and finally, stimulating personal fulfilment and motivation among 'learners'.

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 28/02/2002 - Follow-up document

This is an Interim Report on e-learning as requested by the Council Resolution of 13 July 2001. The Commission states that progress has been very encouraging since the adoption of the eLearning Initiative in May 2000 shortly after the Lisbon summit, and the development of the corresponding Action Plan in March 2001. The main objective of involving key education stakeholders has been largely achieved. Special mention should be made of the interest shown by industry and by European universities, two sectors for which e-learning development is crucial. The four action lines and the ten key actions identified in the Action Plan have provided the right impetus for change. There is momentum for sustained progress in infrastructures and equipment and a trend towards quality development, paying special attention to pedagogical and social values. Virtual universities and European content and services issues emerge clearly as priority concerns. The second main objective of strengthening dialogue and cooperation between the Commission and the various players has also progressed. Useful tools are flexible working groups, support of key European education and training networks, relevant conferences and professional meetings. The third main objective, providing a framework for increased transparency and coherence of European action in this field, also shows positive development. The volume and richness of the contribution of the different Commission services is remarkable. The e-learning Initiative can be described as a good example of the Lisbon "open co-ordination" approach. The following have been highlighted as key challenges for the future: - greater emphasis is needed on demonstrating the added value of e-learning through tangible benefits such as increased access to learning, more flexibility and independence, improved cost-efficiency etc. Evaluation methodologies need to be developed for these new learning paradigms; - decision-makers need relevant benchmarks and indicators, for policy and investment decisions. Considerable investments are still needed in e-learning infrastructure and services. - Emphasis must now be placed on quality, standards and pedagogy, to ensure that the quality of e-learning products is appropriate; - organisational issues and teacher/tutor training need greater consideration; - research must be strengthened with increased emphasis on sharing experience and best practice; - public/private partnerships need to be explored; - the market for e-learning content needs to be developed; - the use of e-learning needs to be encouraged as a mechanism for addressing the skills gap - a modern workforce needs essential skills for knowledge economy (ICT, eSkills, etc) and e-learning is seen as an effective mechanism for delivering the necessary continuous, just-in-time, on -the job training.

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 15/05/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament voted to endorse the report by Mr Mario MAURO (EPP/ED, I) on the e-Learning initiative, which it regards as a top priority in the field of education. (Please refer to the previous document).

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 28/03/2001 - Document attached to the procedure

In the framework of the eLearning Initiative, the Commission proposed the 2001 Action Plan on 28 March 2001 with the aim of defining the context and the conditions of the implementation of the eLearning initiative (description of Community and national resources and sector by sector actions to be taken from now until 2004). As a complement to this Action Plan, the Commission proposes, in a annexed working paper, a practical guide to related Community programmes and available instruments in this context as well as the modus operandis with a view to accessing various potential sources of funding.

Education, training and new technologies: eLearning initiative and action plan 2001-2004

2000/2337(COS) - 28/05/2001

Following the conclusions of the Lisbon European Council on the creation of a knowledge-based economy and the conclusions of the Stockholm European Council, which reaffirmed that improving basic skills is a priority, the Council held a debate on eLearning. In its resolution, it invited Member States to continue their efforts concerning the effective integration of information and communications technology (ICT) in education and training systems, as an important part of the adaptation of the system requested by the Lisbon European Council and by the Report on concrete future objectives of education systems. It made some recommendations on the initial and in-service training of teachers and the provision of ICT equipment, as well as on the communication potential of ICT to foster European awareness. The Council invited the Commission to have particular regard in its implementation of the eLearning Action Plan to the priorities expressed in the Report on the concrete future objectives of education and training

systems such as exchange of good practice and experience between Member States. It also made some recommendations on the stimulation of European networking about products, services and resources.