Basic information

2006/2083(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Multilingualism: framework strategy for language learning and linguistic diversity **Subject** 4.40.08 Language learning, regional and local languages	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CULT Culture and Education	JOAN I MARÍ Bernat (Verts /ALE)	23/01/2006

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	FIGEĽ Ján

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/11/2005	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2005)0596	Summary
06/04/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
09/10/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
23/10/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0372/2006	
15/11/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0488/2006	Summary
15/11/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/11/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2083(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/6/34557

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE374.485	29/06/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE376.698	01/08/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0372/2006	23/10/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0488/2006	15/11/2006	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2005)0596	22/11/2005	Summary

Multilingualism: framework strategy for language learning and linguistic diversity

2006/2083(INI) - 15/11/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Bernat **JOAN I MARÍ** (Greens/EFA, ES) on the Commission's new framework strategy for multilingualism. (For a summary of the main points of the report, please refer to the document dated 09/10 /2006.) The report was adopted by 537 votes in favour to 50 against and 59 abstentions.

Multilingualism: framework strategy for language learning and linguistic diversity

2006/2083(INI) - 22/11/2005 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: the presentation of a new framework strategy for multilingualism.

CONTENT: this Commission Communication is the first report to explore the role of multilingualism in Europe and reflects the fact that a European Commissioner has, for the first time, been given explicit responsibility for multilingualism. The report seeks:

- to reaffirm the Commission’s commitment to multilingualism in the EU;
- to set out the Commission’s strategy for promoting multilingualism;
- to propose a number of specific actions which stem out of this strategic framework.

The Commission reminds its readers that the EU is founded on the concept of “unity in diversity”, which naturally includes the twenty official languages of the Union as well as the 60 or so other indigenous languages and scores of non-indigenous languages spoken by the migrant community.

In this document, the term multilingualism is used to describe the new field of Commission policy that promotes a climate conducive to the full expression of all languages. As such the Commission’ policy in this field is centred on three main objectives:

- to encourage language learning in society;
- to promote a healthy multilingual economy;
- to give citizens access to EU legislation, procedures and information in their own languages.

The Commission, however, reminds the Member States that progress rests in their hands – be it at a national, regional or local level.

In its conclusions, the Commission states that multilingualism is essential for the functioning of the EU. The Commission proposes that the current state of multilingualism can, indeed must, improve for the sake of job security and better jobs in a global environment. Within this context it urges the Member States to take additional measures to promote widespread individual multilingualism and to foster a society that respects all citizens’ linguistic identities. In order to promote this issue the Commission will:

- set up a High Level Group on Multilingualism to provide support and advice on initiatives;
- organises a ministerial conference on multilingualism in order to allow Member States to share progress thus far and to plan future work;
- present a further Communication proposing a comprehensive approach to multilingualism in the EU.

For further information concerning the financial implications of this measure, please refer to the financial statement.