Basic information

2015/2820(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on a Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market **Subject** 4.15 Employment policy, action to combat unemployment	

Key players

	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
European Parliament	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	CASA David (PPE)	16/07/2015
		LÓPEZ Javi (S&D)	16/07/2015
		ŽITŇANSKÁ Jana (ECR)	16/07/2015
		TOOM Jana (ALDE)	16/07/2015
		LÓPEZ BERMEJO Paloma (GUE/NGL)	16/07/2015
		REINTKE Terry (Verts/ALE)	16/07/2015
		AGEA Laura (EFDD)	16/07/2015
		MARTIN Dominique (ENF)	16/07/2015

	Commission DG	Commissioner
European Commission	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	THYSSEN Marianne

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
28/10/2015	Debate in Parliament		
29/10/2015	Decision by Parliament	T8-0389/2015	Summary
29/10/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
29/10/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2015/2820(RSP)

Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Debate or resolution on oral question/interpellation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/8/03881

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B8-1093/2015	26/10/2015	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0389/2015	29/10/2015	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission document (COM)	COM(2015)0462	17/09/2015	
Commission working document (SWD)	SWD(2015)0176	17/09/2015	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2016)67	15/03/2016	

Resolution on a Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market

2015/2820(RSP) - 29/10/2015 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution tabled by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs on a Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market.

Parliament noted that, as a result of the economic crisis, long-term unemployment had doubled since 2007 and accounted for half of total unemployment, or more than 12 million people, representing 5 % of the EU's active population. Over 60 % of the long-term unemployed had been out of work for at least two consecutive years in 2014. Accordingly, it welcomed the Commission's initiative of proposing a Council recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market, but also stressed that an **earlier release of the proposal, and agreement in the Council, could have prevented part of the long-term unemployment** observed today. Members expressed concern that a Council recommendation might not be sufficient to redress swiftly the situation of the long-term unemployed, and encouraged the Member States to deliver. The latter were asked to **match EU funding – in particular through the European Social Fund – of their national policies** to tackle long-term unemployment. Parliament stressed that the budgetary constraints faced by some Member States (especially those under Economic Adjustment Programmes) must not prevent the swift implementation of the recommendation. It called on the Commission to explore **options for quick access to EU funding** and to mobilise additional resources where possible, as was done in the case of the Youth Employment Initiative.

Parliament supported the **three main components of the proposal**: (i) ambitiously stepping up the registration of the long-term unemployed through an employment service aiming at full coverage; (ii) assessing the individual potential, needs and job preferences of the longterm unemployed before they reach 18 months of unemployment; and (iii) offering a tailor-made, balanced and comprehensible 'job integration agreement' between the long-term unemployed and the services involved, at the latest by the time the person concerned reaches 18 months of unemployment. However, the resolution stressed that an **individual assessment should take place before the person reaches 12 months of unemployment**, so as to ensure that the job integration agreement could be put in place before they reach 18 months of unemployment.

For the **effective implementation of the recommendation**, Members considered that close cooperation between the Commission and the Member States, and at national level between the (sectoral) social partners, civil society organisations, local and regional authorities, public and private employment services, social and health care providers, and local and regional education and training institutes, was paramount, as is the active involvement of employers in order to better understand business requirements and needs.

Lastly, Parliament welcomed the Commission's suggestion of establishing, through the European Semester and the Employment Committee, **multilateral surveillance of the implementation of the recommendation**. This surveillance must be thorough and, if necessary, be followed up by instructions in the Member States' country-specific recommendations. The Commission was asked to facilitate mutual learning processes that bring together those Member States with high rates of long-term unemployment and those that had been successful in quickly reintegrating the (longterm) unemployed into their labour markets.