Basic information

2021/2952(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on empowering European youth: post-pandemic employment and social recovery **Subject** 4.15 Employment policy, action to combat unemployment 4.40.10 Youth	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	PÎSLARU Dragoş (Renew)	26/10/2021
	Shadow rapporteur WALSH Maria (EPP) HOMS GINEL Alicia (S&D) VAN SPARRENTAK Kim (Greens/EFA) RAFALSKA Elżbieta (ECR) LIZZI Elena (ID) CHAIBI Leila (The Left)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	GABRIEL Mariya

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
20/01/2022	Debate in Parliament		
14/02/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/02/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		
16/02/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		
17/02/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0045/2022	Summary

17/02/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2021/2952(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Debate or resolution on oral question/interpellation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/9/07521

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Amendments tabled in committee		PE700.455	20/11/2021	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0091/2022	16/02/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0045/2022	17/02/2022	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2022)192	13/06/2022	

Resolution on empowering European youth: post-pandemic employment and social recovery

2021/2952(RSP) - 17/02/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 580 votes to 57, with 55 abstentions, a resolution on empowering European youth: post-pandemic employment and social recovery.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on the employment and social situation of young people in Europe. Job losses were higher in the 15-24 age group than the 25-29 age group, in particular among women. Young people were particularly affected by the fact that working hours decreased more than employment as a whole.

Prioritising mental health

The resolution stressed that 2022 should provide an additional impetus for the proper and full implementation of the **European youth strategy** through ambitious actions to address challenges faced by young people and through the concrete implementation of other existing tools such as the reinforced Youth Guarantee to combat the unemployment and social effects resulting from COVID-19.

The fight against youth unemployment should be made a priority. Therefore, Parliament called for a reinforced Youth Guarantee instrument that has the objective of reducing long-term and youth unemployment by at least 50 % by 2030.

The inclusion of mental health is also commended as one of the priorities in the youth goals and should be prioritised in the upcoming EU care strategy.

Parliament called on the Member States to make mental health an integral part of the EU's socioeconomic recovery from the pandemic and an occupational health priority, in particular in educational and workplace environments.

Investing in the young generation

The resolution called on the Commission and Council to make full and optimal use of the funding available under the multiannual financial framework 2021-2027 without prejudice to the programmes already established under the ESF+, following structural problems related to youth unemployment and poverty. The Commission should continue monitoring investment and spending on youth priorities within **NextGenerationEU, the RRF and the ESF+** and to keep Parliament closely involved.

Labour market integration of young people

Member States should facilitate access for young people to **paid, quality and inclusive traineeships and apprenticeships**. Parliament called for the reinforcement of monitoring schemes, ensuring that young people receive adequate and quality first working experiences, opportunities for upskilling and new qualifications or credentials. It called for a **common legal framework to ensure fair remuneration for traineeships and apprenticeships** in order to avoid exploitative practices.

Labour mobility and skills for the future

Stressing that digital skills are essential for young people and all industries in the 21st century, the Commission and the Member States are invited to consider developing permanent, certified and free access for young people to online and offline courses for digital skills and literacy in all EU languages in partnership with public entities and private companies.

The resolution also stressed the importance of green skills development and quality employment opportunities in a climate-neutral, energy efficient and circular economy, especially in the regions most impacted by the green transition, such as those which are heavily dependent on the agricultural sector and those involved in combating climate change, the production of energy from renewable sources, reducing carbon emissions, increasing energy efficiency, waste and water management, improving air quality and restoring and preserving biodiversity.

The Commission is called on to propose in 2022 new tools and initiatives aimed at developing youth entrepreneurship and youth social investment in the action plan for social economy.

Fighting youth exclusion

Parliament called on the Commission to develop a recommendation to ensure that **traineeships, apprenticeships and job placements count as work experience** and consequently grant access to social benefits. There should be a decrease in the minimum period of contributions needed to access social benefits. The resolution suggested looking into the feasibility of merging the existing European Youth Portal, Europass and Eures platforms into a **single digital space** with the aim of providing information and opportunities to every young European concerning training, jobs, internships, vocational education and training offers, financial aid, mobility programmes, advice on setting up a business, mentoring programmes, volunteering schemes, rights associated with European citizenship, access to culture, etc.

Parliament reiterated the importance of access to **decent and affordable housing** and tailored social services for young people, in particular those belonging to vulnerable groups, including young people with disabilities and young people from large families.