



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Plenary sitting*

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19.12.2012

B7-0000/2012

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B7-0000/2012

pursuant to Rule 115(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on a Youth Guarantee  
(2012/0000(RSP))

**Pervenche Berès**

on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

*P. Berès*

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**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

**B7-0000/2012**

**European Parliament resolution on a Youth Guarantee  
(2012/0000(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission on 5 December 2012 for a Council Recommendation on a youth guarantee (COM(2012)0729),
  - having regard to the Commission Communication on the implementation of the Youth Opportunities Initiative (COM(2012)0727),
  - having regard to the Commission Communication "Youth Opportunities Initiative" (COM (2011) 933), and its resolution<sup>1</sup> and its question for oral answer<sup>2</sup> put to the Commission thereon,
  - having regard to the Statement of the Members of the European Council "Towards Growth-Friendly Consolidation and Job-Friendly Growth", sent out on 30 January 2012,
  - having regard to its resolution of 14 June 2010 on "Promoting youth access to the labour market, strengthening trainee, internship and apprenticeship status"<sup>3</sup>,
  - having regard to the Eurofound report "Youth Guarantee: Experiences from Finland and Sweden"<sup>4</sup>,
  - having regard to the Commission Communication "Youth on the Move" (COM (2010) 478),
  - having regard to the ILO's "Global Employment Outlook: Bleak Labour Market Prospects for Youth" (September 2012) and "The Youth Unemployment Crisis: A Call For Action",
  - having regard to Rules 115(5) and 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, due to the economic crisis, the overall unemployment rate has risen to an unprecedented level of 10.7% in October 2012 equalling 25.91 million people looking for a job<sup>5</sup>;
- B. whereas the youth unemployment rate has soared to 23.4% leaving 5,68 million young people unemployed, partly due to mismatches between labour market demands and skills supply, but often also regardless of their level of education; whereas research shows that youth unemployment often result in permanent scars, such as an increased risk of future unemployment and permanent social exclusion;

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<sup>1</sup> T7-0224/2012 of 24 May 2012

<sup>2</sup> B7-0113/2012 of 16 May 2012

<sup>3</sup> P7\_A(2010)0197

<sup>4</sup> Eurofound 13 June 2012

<sup>5</sup> Eurostat, November 2012 - [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_PUBLIC/3-30112012-BP/EN/3-30112012-BP-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-30112012-BP/EN/3-30112012-BP-EN.PDF)

- C. whereas the Members of the European Council in their statement of 29 June 2012 urged the Member States to step up efforts to increase youth employment with 'the objective that within a few months of leaving school, young people receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or a traineeship';
- D. whereas a Youth Guarantee contributes to three of the Europe 2020 strategy targets, namely that 75 % of the age range 20-64 should be employed, that early school-leaving rates should be below 10 %, and that at least 20 million people should be lifted out of poverty and social exclusion;
- E. whereas the crisis has led to a rise in precarious forms of employment for young people where short-term contracts, part-time contracts and unremunerated work placement schemes all too often replace existing jobs;
- F. whereas the cost of inaction concerning young people with no employment, education or training (NEETs) is estimated to amount to 153 billion Euros across the EU, corresponding to 1.2% of European GDP and that there are currently 7.5 million NEETs under 25 in the EU;
- G. whereas the European Commission demands in its Youth Employment Package a Youth Guarantee;
1. Strongly supports the initiative by the Commission to propose a Council Recommendation on Youth Guarantee Schemes;
  2. Calls on the Ministers for Employment and Social Affairs to agree on a Council Recommendation during the EPSCO Council in February 2013 aimed at implementing Youth Guarantee Schemes in all Member States; emphasizes that the Youth Guarantee is not a job guarantee but an instrument ensuring that all young EU citizens and legal residents up to the age of 25 years and recent graduates under 30 receive a good-quality offer of employment, continued education or apprenticeship within four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education; stresses that Youth Guarantee Schemes should effectively improve the situation of young people neither in employment nor in education or training; underlines that Youth Guarantee Schemes should be eligible to specific forms of European funding, especially in the Member States with the highest youth unemployment rates;
  3. Considers that Union funding of Youth Guarantee Schemes should play a key role and that the ESF in particular should be structured to enable the guarantee to be financed, and therefore should be allocated at least 25% of cohesion funds; believes, however, that an appropriate balance between EU and member state funding should be strived for;
  4. Recognises that young people are not a homogenous group and that they face different social environments, and therefore that Member States have different level of readiness for the adoption of a youth guarantee. In this framework, all young people should firstly receive a personalised assessment of their needs, and be provided with tailored and personalised services;
  5. Emphasizes that for Youth Guarantee Schemes to be effectively implemented a close

cooperation between the Commission and the Member States, and at national level, between (sectoral) social partners, local and regional authorities, public and private employment services, local and regional education and training institutes, is of utmost importance;

6. Notes that Youth Guarantee Schemes should be accompanied by a quality framework in order to ensure that the education, training and jobs offered include appropriate pay, working conditions and health and safety standards;
7. Welcomes the Commission's suggestion to establish through the "Employment Committee" a multilateral surveillance of the implementation of the Youth Guarantee schemes and asks for the European Parliament to be associated;
8. Calls on Member States to reform in particular the education and training standards for young people in order to increase their employment and life opportunities significantly.
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council.
10. Recognizes that Member States have different level of readiness for the adoption of youth guarantee and calls on the Commission in particular to support those Member States who are suffering from financial constraints. Urges the Commission within the framework of the European Semester to monitor closely and report on the implementation of Youth Guarantees and where needed, to name those Member States who do not establish Youth Guarantees;