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A9-0128/ 001-027

AMENDMENTS 001-027

by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Report

Manuel Pizarro

A9-0128/2020

Enhanced cooperation between Public Employment Services

Proposal for a decision (COM(2019)0620 – C9-0117/2019 – 2019/0188(COD))

Amendment 1

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by Commission

Amendment

(1a) Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union refers to sustainable development based inter alia on full employment and social progress as objectives linked to the establishment of an internal market.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1b) Article 9 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union refers to the promotion of a high level of employment as one of the objectives to be taken into account when defining and implementing Union policies and activities. The Network should support the

Union and the Member States in this regard.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The Network aims ***at reinforcing*** Public Employment Services (PES) capacity, effectiveness and efficiency through providing a platform for comparing their performance at European level, identifying good practices and establishing a mutual learning system. It also aims ***at giving*** the PES more opportunities to help develop innovative, evidence-based policies in line with relevant Union policy initiatives.

Amendment

(2) The Network aims ***to modernise and reinforce*** Public Employment Services (PES) ***and their*** capacity, ***the quality of their services, their*** effectiveness and ***their*** efficiency through providing a platform for comparing their performance at European level, identifying good practices and establishing a mutual learning system ***with a view to contributing to decent work and inclusive and sustainable jobs***. It also aims ***to give*** the PES more opportunities to help develop innovative, ***future-oriented and*** evidence-based policies in line with relevant Union policy initiatives ***and the economic, social and employment objectives set out in Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union***.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The Network has been key in encouraging further cooperation between the Member States within the areas of PES responsibility as well as contributing to the modernisation and strengthening of the PES. An evaluation of the state of implementation of Decision No 573/2014/EU¹⁶ shows that the Network has had a positive impact and identifies lessons learned on the basis of the different activities and experiences.

Amendment

(3) The Network has been key in encouraging further cooperation between the Member States within the areas of PES responsibility as well as contributing to the modernisation and strengthening of the PES. An evaluation of the state of implementation of Decision No 573/2014/EU¹⁶ shows that the Network has had a positive impact and identifies lessons learned on the basis of the different activities and experiences. ***Accordingly, the Network has increased its capacity***

and developed innovative evidence-based measures to implement employment policies.

¹⁶ Commission Staff Working Document SWD(2019)1350

¹⁶ Commission Staff Working Document SWD(2019)1350

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) In order to capitalise on the results achieved so far and further foster cooperation *between* PES, the period of establishment of the Network should be prolonged until 31 December 2027.

Amendment

(4) In order to capitalise on the results achieved so far and further foster cooperation, *including the consolidation and expansion of PES initiatives and the modernisation of PES*, the period of establishment of the Network should be prolonged until 31 December 2027.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) The Network should strengthen cooperation between its members and develop joint initiatives for the purpose of exchanging information and best practices in all PES operational areas, by providing comparative analyses and advice and promoting innovative job placement initiatives. In this connection, particular attention should be paid to PES cooperation regarding the employment-related coordination of social security systems. The work of the Network should allow an inclusive, evidence-based and performance-oriented comparison of all PES, so that best practices in their areas of activity can be determined, contributing to better employment service design and

*delivery within their specific remits.
Network initiatives should improve the effectiveness of PES and ensure a more efficient use of public funds.*

Amendment 7

Proposal for a decision Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) The continuation of the Network should support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, which includes the provision of active support to employment among its principles. It should also contribute to ***sustainable development goal 8 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*** by contributing to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.

Amendment

(5) The continuation of the Network should support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, which includes the provision of active support to employment among its principles. It should also ***facilitate the free movement of workers and contribute to a socially just transition towards a circular economy and to the implementation of the relevant principles and objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals***, contributing to inclusive and sustainable economic growth ***and employment as well as*** decent work for all.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a decision Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The Network should continue ***to organise*** cooperation ***and contacts*** with other labour market stakeholders ***to promote synergies between them***, including in particular ***cooperation with*** Union Agencies in the area of employment, social policy, education and training, to ensure a consistent policy framework.

Amendment

(6) The Network should continue, ***intensify and strengthen its systematic and structural*** cooperation with other ***relevant*** labour market stakeholders, including in particular Union Agencies in the area of employment, social policy, ***gender equality***, education and training ***as well as the social partners, service providers in the fields of employment and social affairs, organisations representing vulnerable groups, and local and regional authorities to promote synergies, exchange good practices and*** ensure a

consistent policy framework *where relevant*.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) The role of the PES in providing more effective services for jobseekers and undertakings should be adequately supported at national and, where relevant, regional level, with sufficient human resources and financial support for staff training and equipment. The PES should be provided with the necessary resources to allow them successfully to address the digitalisation of the economy, changing work patterns, including emerging platform economies, and societal and demographic developments.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a decision Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) The Network and its initiatives should be funded in accordance with the financial planning of the Union as appropriate and within the appropriations set by the European Parliament and the Council.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a decision Recital 7 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7b) For projects developed by the Network or identified in the mutual learning activities and then implemented in the individual PES, Member States should have access to funding from relevant Union programmes.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

The aim of this Decision is to encourage cooperation between Member States through the Network in the field of employment, within the areas of PES responsibility, in order to contribute to the implementation of the Union's employment policies. ***This will also help implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals***, thereby supporting:

Amendment

The aim of this Decision is to encourage cooperation between Member States through the Network in the field of employment, within the areas of PES responsibility, in order to contribute to the implementation of the Union's employment ***and social*** policies, thereby supporting:

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 a (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point -a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2a) In Article 3(1), the following point is inserted:

“(–a) the implementation of the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the relevant principles and objectives of the European Green Deal and the United Nations Sustainable Development

Goals;”

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 b (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a

Present text

(a) ***the most*** vulnerable social groups with high unemployment rates, especially older workers and young persons not in employment, education or training (‘NEETs’);

Amendment

(2b) In Article 3(1), point (a) is replaced by the following:

“(a) ***all*** vulnerable social groups with high unemployment rates, especially older workers and young persons not in employment, education or training (‘NEETs’) ***as well as people with disabilities and people facing multiple discrimination;***”

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 c (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c

Present text

(c) the better functioning of the labour markets ***in the EU***;

Amendment

(2c) In Article 3(1), point (c) is replaced by the following:

“(c) the better functioning ***and inclusiveness*** of the labour markets;”

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 d (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2 d) In Article 3(1), the following point is

inserted:

“(c a)gender equality;”;

Amendment 17

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 e (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point d

Present text

(d) the identification of skills shortages and the provision of information on their extent and location, as well as the better matching of the skills of job-seekers with the needs of employers;

Amendment

(2e) In Article 3(1), point (d) is replaced by the following:

“(d) the identification of skills shortages and the provision of information on their extent and location, as well as the better matching of the skills of job-seekers with the needs of employers **through instruments such as vocational training;**”

Amendment 18

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 f (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point h a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2f) In Article 3(1), the following point is added:

“(ha) the cooperation and exchange of best practices regarding the employment-related coordination of social security systems;”

Amendment 19

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 g (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a – point i

Present text

Amendment

(i) contribution to reducing unemployment for all age groups and *for* vulnerable groups;

(2g) In point (a) of Article 4(1), point (i) is replaced by the following:

“(i) contribution to reducing unemployment for all age, **gender** and vulnerable groups;”

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 2 h (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a – point iii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2h) In point (a) of Article 4(1), the following point is inserted:

“(iiia) **career counselling and training, especially regarding future-oriented sustainable jobs;**”

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) contribute to modernising and strengthening PES in key areas, in **line with** the Union’s employment policies, the European Pillar of Social Rights, **and** the **Sustainable Development Goals**;

(c) contribute to modernising and strengthening PES in key areas in **view of** the Union’s employment **and social** policies, the European Pillar of Social Rights, **the European Green Deal and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as well as technological developments, changing work patterns and demographic changes**;

Amendment 22

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3 a (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point f

Present text

(f) adopt and implement its annual work programme setting out its working methods, deliverables and the details related to the implementation of bench learning;

Amendment

(3a) In Article 4(1), point (f) is replaced by the following:

“(f) adopt and implement its annual work programme setting out its working methods, deliverables, the details related to the implementation of bench learning ***as well as dissemination and cooperation strategies;***”;

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3 b (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point g

Present text

(g) promote and share best practices on the identification of NEETs and ***on the development of*** initiatives to ***ensure those young people*** gain the skills necessary to ***enter and remain in the labour market.***

Amendment

(3b) In Article 4(1), point (g) is replaced by the following:

“(g) promote and share best practices on the identification of ***vulnerable groups in the labour market, such as the long-term unemployed, workers with disabilities and NEETs, and on the promotion of their integration into the labour market, including*** initiatives to gain ***new*** skills ***where*** necessary.”

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 4

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 5

Cooperation

The Network shall develop cooperation with relevant labour market stakeholders including other providers of employment services, and where appropriate, EU Agencies in the area of employment, social policy and education and training, ***social partners***, organisations representing unemployed persons or vulnerable groups, NGOs working in the ***field*** of employment, and regional and local authorities, by involving them in relevant activities and meetings of the Network and by exchanging information and data with them.

Amendment

Article 5

Cooperation

The Network shall develop cooperation with relevant labour market stakeholders, including other providers of employment ***and social*** services ***and the social partners***, and where appropriate, ***relevant public employment services from third countries***, EU Agencies in the area of employment, social policy, ***gender equality***, and education and training, organisations representing unemployed persons or vulnerable groups, ***equality bodies, vocational training organisations***, NGOs working in the ***fields*** of employment ***and just transition***, and regional and local authorities, by involving them in relevant activities and meetings of the Network and by exchanging information and data with them.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 4 a (new)

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 6 – paragraph 5

Present text

5. The Board shall be assisted by a Secretariat provided by and based within the Commission. The Secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs, shall prepare the Board meetings, the annual work programme and the annual report of the Network. The Secretariat shall closely cooperate with the EMCO Secretariat.

Amendment

(4a) In Article 6, paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

"5. The Board shall be assisted by a Secretariat provided by and based within the Commission. The Secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs, shall prepare the Board meetings, the annual work programme and the annual report of the Network. The Secretariat shall closely cooperate with the EMCO Secretariat, ***in order to coordinate***

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 5

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 7

Financial support

The global resources for the implementation of this Decision shall be made available in accordance with the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 **as appropriate**, the annual appropriations of which shall be authorised by the European Parliament and by the Council within the limits of the financial framework.

Amendment

Article 7

Financial support

The **necessary** global resources for the implementation of this Decision shall be made available in accordance with the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027, the annual appropriations of which shall be authorised by the European Parliament and by the Council within the limits of the financial framework.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 7

Decision No 573/2014/EU

Article 10

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 10

Review

By September 2026, the Commission shall submit an evaluation on the application of this Decision to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

Amendment

Article 10

Review

By **30** September 2026, the Commission shall submit an evaluation **report** on the application of this Decision to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. **The report shall, inter alia, assess to what extent the Network has contributed to the achievement of the objectives set out in Article 3.**

