



2016/0257(COD)

6.3.2017

*****I**

DRAFT REPORT

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 (COM(2016)0532 – C8-0343/2016 – 2016/0257(COD))

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Anne Sander

Symbols for procedures

*	Consultation procedure
***	Consent procedure
***I	Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
***II	Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
***III	Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

Amendments to a draft act

Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the ■ symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

CONTENTS

	Page
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION.....	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.....	18

DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 (COM(2016)0532 – C8-0343/2016 – 2016/0257(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2016)0532),
 - having regard to Article 294(2), Articles 166(4) and 165(4) and Article 149 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0343/2016),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of ,
 - having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of ,
 - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A8-0000/2017),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) In accordance with Article 149, Article 165(2) and Article 166(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), Cedefop encourages cooperation between Member States and supports their activities through initiatives aimed at developing exchanges of information and best practices in the field of vocational training.

Or. en

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) Since its establishment Cedefop has played an important role in supporting the development of a common vocational education and training policy. At the same time the concept and significance of vocational training has evolved under the influence of changing labour markets, technological developments, particularly in the digital area, and increasing labour mobility. Vocational training policies have evolved accordingly and encompass a variety of instruments and initiatives, some of which, namely related to skills and qualifications, including validation of learning, necessarily go beyond the traditional boundaries of vocational education and training. Therefore the character of Cedefop activities should be clearly spelled out and relevant

(2) Since its establishment Cedefop, ***by virtue of its expertise***, has played an important role in supporting the development of a common vocational education and training policy. At the same time the concept and significance of vocational training has evolved under the influence of changing labour markets, technological developments, particularly in the digital area, ***which add to the challenge of better matching competences and qualifications with a constantly evolving demand***, and increasing labour mobility. Vocational training policies have evolved accordingly and encompass a variety of instruments and initiatives, some of which, namely related to skills and qualifications, including validation of learning, necessarily go beyond the

terminology should be adjusted whilst staying within the remit of the Treaty provisions for vocational education and training.

traditional boundaries of vocational education and training. Therefore the character of Cedefop activities should be clearly spelled out and relevant terminology should be adjusted whilst staying within the remit of the Treaty provisions for vocational education and training.

Or. en

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) The repeal of Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 and its replacement with this Regulation aims to update Cedefop's mandate and tasks to reflect better those of its current activities which go beyond vocational education and training and include work on skills and qualifications and to adapt the mandate and tasks to current policy priorities and strategies, taking into account recent policy developments in the field of vocational education and training, skills and qualifications.

Or. en

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7) As the three *so-called* tripartite Agencies - Cedefop, the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Eurofound) and

(7) As the three tripartite Agencies - Cedefop, the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Eurofound) and the European

the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) - address issues related to the labour market, working environment and vocational education and training and skills, close coordination among the three Agencies is required **and the** ways to enhance efficiency and synergies should be exploited. In addition, where relevant, the Agency should seek to engage in efficient cooperation with the **European Commission's** in-house research capacities.

Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) - address issues related to the labour market, working environment and vocational education and training and skills, close coordination among the three Agencies is required **so that the work of the agencies does not overlap where they have similar fields of interest, while** ways to enhance efficiency and synergies should be exploited **and any duplication among the agencies, as well as between them and the Commission, concerning their mandates, objectives and activities, should be avoided.** In addition, where relevant, the Agency should seek to engage in efficient cooperation with the Commission's **and European Parliament's** in-house research capacities.

Or. en

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The objective of the Agency shall be to assist the Commission **in shaping and implementing** vocational education and training and skills and qualifications policies. To this end the Agency shall provide evidence and services for policy making and knowledge sharing amongst and between Union and national actors, **in particular governments and social partners.**

Amendment

2. The objective of the Agency shall be to assist the Commission, **the other Union institutions and national actors, in particular Member State governments and the social partners, in helping shape and implement** vocational education and training and skills and qualifications policies. To this end the Agency shall provide evidence, **analyses** and services for policy making and knowledge sharing amongst and between Union and national actors.

Or. en

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Agency shall perform the following tasks with respect to *the* vocational education and training and skills and qualifications *policies*:

Amendment

1. The Agency shall perform the following tasks with respect to vocational education and training and skills and qualifications:

Or. en

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point h

Text proposed by the Commission

(h) manage and make available tools, datasets and services for skills, occupations and qualifications to citizens, companies, policy makers, social partners and other stakeholders.

Amendment

(h) *in collaboration with the Commission*, manage and make available tools, datasets and services for skills, occupations and qualifications to citizens, companies, policy makers, social partners and other stakeholders.

Or. en

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. In carrying out its tasks, the Agency shall maintain a close dialogue particularly with specialised bodies, whether public or private, national or international, public authorities and educational institutions and with workers' and employers' organisations. The Agency, without prejudice to its own aims, shall ensure cooperation with other European Union

Amendment

3. In carrying out its tasks, the Agency shall maintain a close dialogue particularly with specialised bodies, whether public or private, national or international, public authorities and educational institutions and with workers' and employers' organisations. The Agency, without prejudice to its own aims, shall ensure cooperation with other European Union

Agencies aimed at avoiding overlaps and promoting synergy and complementarity in their activities, in particular with the European Training Foundation, Eurofound and EU-OSHA.

Agencies aimed at avoiding overlaps and promoting synergy and complementarity in their activities, ***including the possibility of working jointly***, in particular with the European Training Foundation, Eurofound and EU-OSHA.

Or. en

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The term of office for members and their alternates shall be four years. That term shall be ***extendable***. Upon the expiry of their term of office or in the event of their resignation, members shall remain in office until their appointments are renewed or until they are replaced.

Amendment

4. The term of office for members and their alternates shall be four years. That term shall be ***renewable***. Upon the expiry of their term of office or in the event of their resignation, members shall remain in office until their appointments are renewed or until they are replaced.

Or. en

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. A representative of Eurofound and a representative of EU-OSHA shall have observer status at the meetings of the Management Board in order to enhance the efficiency of the three tripartite agencies and synergies between them, and to avoid overlaps in their activities.

Or. en

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) give **general** orientation for the Agency's activities and adopt each year the Agency's programming document by a majority of two-thirds of members entitled to vote and in accordance with Article 6;

Amendment

(a) give **strategic** orientation for the Agency's activities ***taking into account that the prime role of the Management Board is the strategic governance of the Agency's work, such as its priorities and the specific themes on which it works and their coherence with the needs of stakeholders and*** adopt each year the Agency's programming document by a majority of two-thirds of members entitled to vote and in accordance with Article 6;

Or. en

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) adopt and regularly update the communication and dissemination plans based on an analysis of needs;

Amendment

(g) adopt and regularly update the communication ***activities*** and dissemination plans based on an analysis of needs ***and reflect this in the Agency's programming document;***

Or. en

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point n

Text proposed by the Commission

(n) ***take all decisions on the establishment of the Agency's internal structures and, where necessary, their***

Amendment

deleted

modification, taking into consideration the Agency's activity needs as well as having regard to sound budgetary management;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The annual work programme shall comprise detailed objectives and expected results including performance indicators. It shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed and an indication of the financial and human resources allocated to each action, in accordance with the principles of activity-based budgeting and management. The annual work programme shall be coherent with the multi-annual work programme referred to in paragraph 4. It shall clearly indicate tasks that have been added, changed or deleted in comparison with the previous financial year.

Amendment

3. The annual work programme shall comprise detailed objectives and expected results including performance indicators, *as well as activities and programmes to be subject to ex-ante or ex-post evaluations.* It shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed and an indication of the financial and human resources allocated to each action, in accordance with the principles of activity-based budgeting and management. The annual work programme shall be coherent with the multi-annual work programme referred to in paragraph 4. It shall clearly indicate tasks that have been added, changed or deleted in comparison with the previous financial year.

Or. en

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The Management Board may invite any person whose opinion may be of interest to attend its meetings as an observer.

Amendment

4. The Management Board may invite any person whose opinion may be of interest to attend its meetings as an observer, *in particular Eurofound, EU-*

OSHA and the European Training Foundation, in order to avoid duplication and to promote synergies and complementarity.

Or. en

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. The term of office of members of the Executive Board shall be two years. That term shall be ***extendable***. The term of office of members of the Executive Board shall end when their membership of the Management Board ends.

Amendment

5. The term of office of members of the Executive Board shall be two years. That term shall be ***renewable***. The term of office of members of the Executive Board shall end when their membership of the Management Board ends.

Or. en

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Executive Board shall meet three times a year. In addition, it shall meet on the initiative of its Chairperson or at the request of its members.

Amendment

6. The Executive Board shall meet ***at least*** three times a year. ***Each coordinator shall inform members of its own group.*** In addition, it shall meet on the initiative of its Chairperson or at the request of its members.

Or. en

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 5 – point j a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ja) taking all decisions on the management of human resources and on the establishment of the Agency's internal structures and, where necessary, their amendment, taking into account the needs relating to the Agency's activities and sound budgetary management;

Or. en

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Executive Director shall also be responsible for deciding whether it is necessary for the purpose of carrying out the Agency's tasks in an efficient and effective manner to establish one *or more* local offices in *one or more Member States*. That decision *requires* the prior consent of the Commission, the Management Board and the Member State where the local office is to be established. That decision shall specify the scope of the activities to be carried out at that local office in a manner that avoids unnecessary costs and duplication of administrative functions of the Agency.

Amendment

6. The Executive Director shall also be responsible for deciding whether it is necessary for the purpose of carrying out the Agency's tasks in an efficient and effective manner to establish one local offices in *Brussels as a liaison office to further the Agency's cooperation with the relevant Union institutions*. That decision *shall be subject to* the prior consent of the Commission, the Management Board and the Member State where the local office is to be established. That decision shall specify the scope of the activities to be carried out at that local office in a manner that avoids unnecessary costs and duplication of administrative functions of the Agency.

Or. en

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The Commission shall send the draft estimates to the budgetary authority together with the draft general budget of the Union.

Amendment

4. The Commission shall send the draft estimates to the budgetary authority together with the draft general budget of the Union. ***The Commission shall, simultaneously, send those draft estimates to the Agency.***

Or. en

Amendment 21

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 6**

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Executive Director may be removed from office only upon a decision of the Management Board acting on a proposal from the Commission.

Amendment

6. The Executive Director may be removed from office only upon a decision of the Management Board acting on a proposal, ***based on a reasoned assessment,*** from the Commission.

Or. en

Amendment 22

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 4**

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The Agency may establish ***local offices in one or more Member States, subject to their consent and*** in accordance with Article 11(6).

Amendment

4. The Agency may establish ***a liaison office in Brussels*** in accordance with Article 11(6).

Or. en

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 22 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The translation services required for the functioning of the Agency shall be provided by the Translation Centre of the bodies of the European Union.

Amendment

3. The translation services required for the functioning of the Agency shall be provided by the Translation Centre of the bodies of the European Union ***or, where necessary, by other translation services.***

Or. en

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 23 – paragraph -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

-1. The Agency shall act with a high level of transparency.

Or. en

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Article 27 – paragraph -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

-1. In accordance with Article 30(4) of Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council^{1a}, the Agency shall carry out ex-ante evaluations of those of its activities which entail significant expenditure as well as ex-post evaluations.

^{1a} Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament

***and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on
the financial rules applicable to the
general budget of the Union and
repealing Council Regulation (EC,
EURATOM) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298,
26.10.2012, p. 1)***

Or. en

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) is one of the longest established EU agencies. The quality of the analyses and data it provides on vocational education and training systems and policies and its ability to foster exchanges of ideas and good practice have given it a high profile and a high degree of credibility with political decision-makers.

As a leading centre of expertise, over the years Cedefop has broadened the scope of its activities to cover skills and qualifications, as part of its efforts to take account of economic, social, political and technological developments. The advent of the digital age has completely changed the way we look at vocational education and training policies. Tomorrow we will certainly be doing jobs which do not exist today. This means that skills and qualifications will constantly have to be developed to meet the changing needs of businesses. This also means that lifelong learning needs to be encouraged.

With those aims in view, and on the basis of Cedefop's data and analyses, in June 2016 the Commission launched 'A New Skills Agenda for Europe' to help the 70 million EU citizens who do not have adequate reading, writing, arithmetical and digital skills. In so doing the Commission stated its intention of drawing on Cedefop's expertise and skills in implementing this large-scale project. The agency's precise role should be clarified, however, in order to maintain good relations among the stakeholders and ensure that Cedefop's remit is not undermined.

It was against this specific backdrop that on 23 August 2016 the Commission proposed a revision of Cedefop's Founding Regulation, which dates back to 1975, the year in which the agency was set up.

The revision has twin aims: bring some provisions of the Founding Regulation into line with the Common Approach on Decentralised Agencies, and update Cedefop's objectives and tasks in such a way that the Founding Regulation reflects the real nature of the agency's work.

In her draft report, the rapporteur welcomes the fact that the common approach is finally being implemented; that approach was the subject of a strongly worded joint statement, issued by the Commission, the Council and the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 12 June 2012, in which the three institutions called for the governance and efficiency of the decentralised agencies to be enhanced so that they can support the implementation of public policies more effectively.

The rapporteur also welcomes the updating of the agency's objectives and tasks to bring them into line with the work it does already, which is entirely in keeping with the current priorities of European vocational education and training policy. She likewise applauds the retention of the agency's unique tripartite governance system involving governments and employers' and workers' organisations.

The rapporteur questions the timing of the revision, however. However beneficial it may be for Cedefop's functioning and effectiveness, it would have made more sense to arrange the

work programme in such a way that the revision could incorporate the conclusions which will be delivered at the end of the year, following the completion of the external assessment of the agency and its work.