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15. Believes that the damage caused by recent events further emphasises that mitigation will be much less costly than the consequences of global warming; recognises also that many of the policies required to stop dangerous climate change will offer win-win situations in terms of reducing oil dependency, improving air quality and generating savings;
16. Calls for forest policy at Union level to be reinforced by giving it greater weight in the multifunctional role of European agriculture, with a twofold aim: maintenance and employment of the rural population and determined, substantial expansion of forested areas;
17. Calls on the Commission to include as an eligible expense within the appropriate financial instruments the possibility of cofinancing for technical equipment, including aircraft, to prevent and combat forest fires;
18. Calls for more stringent penalties for criminal acts that degrade the environment, particularly those connected with starting forest fires;
19. Calls, over and above town planning measures which prevent speculation on land burned by forest fires, for other types of measures to be adopted to make repopulation of the affected areas and proper upkeep of forests by owners compulsory;
20. Calls on the Commission to step up research resources for flood prevention and coordinate the research already carried out in individual Member States in this area, in order to arrive as soon as possible at a coherent energy and transport policy in the area of risk prevention;
21. Undertakes, for its part, to take all necessary steps to ensure that a medium and long-term, future-oriented, preventive strategy on forest fires is adopted at Community level;
22. Calls on the Conference of Presidents:
- to authorise the drawing up of an own-initiative report on fires, droughts and floods by the Committee on Regional Development, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety on the basis of a cooperation procedure;
 - to organise a joint hearing on fires, droughts, and floods;
 - to authorise an official visit to the areas of central and southern Europe affected by natural disasters this summer;
23. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the Member States affected by the fires and the local authorities in the affected areas.
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P6_TA(2005)0335

Basic guidelines for sustainable European tourism

European Parliament resolution on new prospects and new challenges for sustainable European tourism (2004/2229(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission Communication of 21 November 2003 on basic orientations for the sustainability of European tourism (COM(2003)0716),
- having regard to the Council Resolution of 21 May 2002 on the future of European tourism⁽¹⁾,

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 135, 6.6.2002, p. 1.

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- having regard to its resolution of 14 May 2002 on working together for the future of European tourism ⁽¹⁾,
 - having regard to Rule 45 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Transport and Tourism and the opinion of the Committee on Culture and the Committee on Regional Development (A6-0235/2005),
- A. whereas Europe is the world's leading tourist destination; whereas tourist and travel services contribute directly — at a rate of at least 4 % — to the EU's GDP and account directly for more than seven million jobs; whereas more than two million businesses, a large majority of which are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are directly involved in providing tourist services,
- B. whereas the enlargement of the Union to include new Member States with high tourist potential will further contribute to bolstering the sector's economic weight and its importance to European growth; whereas the expansion of tourism in the new Member States should contribute to their growth at a rate of 3 % of GDP and to the creation of three million jobs,
- C. whereas demographic trends in the EU show a gradual ageing of the population, a fact which will imply in the future a broader tourist market for senior citizens interested in seasonal long stay destinations and in low season travel, particularly in the south, which will have effects on social and health services and on the property market,
- D. whereas intra-European tourism also contributes to an awareness of European cultures and heritages and, on this basis, strengthens EU citizens' sense of sharing a common identity and a common destiny,
- E. whereas tourism does not at present constitute a Community policy and, by virtue of the principle of subsidiarity, primarily comes within the remit of the Member States,
- F. whereas tourism is nevertheless affected by many policies which do come under the Community's remit and that means that it should be given greater consideration at EU level, yet, in spite of the various actions undertaken, it does not receive attention commensurate with its importance,
- G. whereas, while tourism contributes directly to development, it can also affect the sustainability factors of interregional cohesion and balances, which means that the Union's policies must be adequately coordinated by means of coherent and integrated programmes,
- H. whereas tourism is helping to create an internal demand for quality services which could contribute to a sharp upturn in the European economy; whereas tourism at European level and the services provided by European operators should constitute a global reference in terms of quality, safety, enjoyment and consumer rights, thereby increasing the sector's competitiveness,
- I. whereas sustainable tourism is aimed at reducing the impact of tourism on resources and generating material and non-material benefits throughout the Community, as well as stimulating an ongoing process of improvement of the areas concerned and the infrastructure in which tourist development is to take place,

Competitiveness and quality of services

1. Notes that tourism is of vital importance to growth, employment and new communication and information technologies; notes that it is therefore at the heart of the Lisbon process;
2. Points out that tourism is one of the economic sectors with the most potential for growth and for job creation, in particular for young people and women; stresses also that it is made up of activities involving a wide range of labour-intensive types of production, providing jobs for a wide variety of occupational profiles both as regards the type of employment and the level of specialisation;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 180 E, 31.7.2003, p. 138.

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3. Notes that, while tourism has reached excessive proportions in certain regions, placing a disproportionate strain on the local populace and environment, other regions have large underdeveloped tourist potential;
4. Observes that, at international level, tourism is extremely competitive, the market shares held by European tourist operators are increasingly vulnerable, and Europe's position at world level is under threat;
5. Points out that the economic growth and development of markets such as Brazil, China, India and Russia will create significant additional demand and European tourism sectors and industry need to be well positioned to meet this demand;
6. Emphasises the importance of ensuring that European regulations on the one hand protect consumers and on the other help to create an environment conducive to the success of the European tourist sector, in particular by promoting quality services;
7. Considers it vitally important to complete the internal market in tourist services and to achieve genuine equality of treatment between tourist operators; proposes, to this end, a Community-wide classification of tourist services, with the cooperation of the industry, to be used in particular for the classification of hotel facilities; also considers that measures should be taken in order to identify clearly and to harmonise professional profiles in the tourist industry in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and guarantee a more transparent service that does not confuse users;
8. Calls on the Council to restart work on the proposed revision of the Council Directive amending Directive 77/388/EEC as regards the special scheme for travel agents (COM(2002)0064); reiterates its support for the objectives of simplifying this special VAT scheme and maintaining the competitive position of operators established in the European Union *vis-à-vis* operators from third countries; calls on the Council urgently to conclude the decision-making process on the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/388/EEC as regards reduced rates of value added tax (COM(2003)0397), so as to enable all Member States to apply in a structured way reduced VAT rates for restaurants, as already exist for other tourism-related activities, such as holiday accommodation, plots on campsites, hotels and amusement parks;
9. Undertakes to support any Commission proposal to promote craft industry SMEs, such as one regarding registered designations of origin for non-food craft products;
10. Points out that the development of farm holidays is vitally important to achieving the objectives of the CAP reform wherever farmers wish to promote accommodation and hospitality services to improve farm incomes, ensure that farmers remain in the area, protect the countryside and maintain the cultural identity of the agricultural environment through the promotion of local traditions and regional food and wine products;
11. Recalls the need to work with all types of partnership such as that with the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) to promote employment, training and occupational skills in tourism in order to offer genuine career prospects to professional operators, reduce the adverse effects of the instability of the seasonal workforce and guarantee a quality of services in tune with new trends and the increasing expectations of consumers; recalls likewise the desirability of strengthening the presence of the tourism sector in the development of European programmes for teacher and student mobility in the field of both vocational training and university study, placing particular emphasis on supporting specific lifelong training programmes adapted to workers' circumstances;
12. Stresses the importance of training in the tourist industry and hence the need to promote the balanced and sustainable development of tourism by means of vocational training and further training leading to qualifications for those employed in this sector, thereby further improving existing services;

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13. Calls on the Commission to assess whether it might be possible to create a specific training network for the tourist sector within Community programmes which are already operating (Erasmus) so as to be able to interact with measures to promote employment and to link up training bodies;

14. Believes that consumer rights in the tourism sector should be defined and better protected and that this should include identifying new forms of protection such as conciliation services for tourists; calls on the Commission and the groups concerned to promote the representativeness at European level of bodies representing tourists as consumers; also calls on the Commission to consider the drafting of a 'tourism package' comprising both a review of the existing directives on consumers' rights with regard to tourism⁽¹⁾ and new measures making it possible to improve consumer protection and quality standards in tourist services (particularly in the hotel and touring sectors) while taking account of new trends on the supply side (electronic sales);

15. Insists on the need for better coordination between Member States on the conditions of entry of third country nationals to EU territory so as to ensure a convergent approach towards tourist flows and their movement within the EU;

Safety and security of tourism

16. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to set up a contact group at European level involving the Member States and tour operators in order to coordinate information on the management of health crises, natural disasters or acts of terrorism as well as problems of personal, legal and criminal insecurity (arrest, kidnapping, and so on) and on the basis of recent crisis assessments to put forward measures to ensure a rapid and coordinated response for the protection of European tourists and for the support of operators affected by such events;

17. Calls on the Commission to evaluate the effectiveness of the Council Recommendation on fire safety in hotels⁽²⁾ (Report from the Commission on application of the Council Recommendation of 22 December 1986 on fire safety in existing hotels) (COM(2001)0348) and to promote at EU level voluntary standards concerning measures to improve the safety aspects of tourism services, including those relating to European camp sites and guide services for adventurous or dangerous trips or activities; calls on the Commission, if necessary, to submit a new proposal;

18. Notes the large proportion of women employed in the tourist sector and stresses accordingly the need not only for policies to promote training, opportunities, prospects and appropriate working conditions for female employees, but also positive measures to promote business initiatives by women in this sector;

19. Takes the view that the Commission should coordinate the establishment of a network for good practice exchange between high risk sports and leisure organisations and the provision of information on risk prevention and management, in particular for young people; calls on the Commission, in this context, investigate the desirability of requiring the maximum possible transparency and professionalism from companies managing this type of high risk leisure activity, asking that they take out compulsory care insurance;

20. Calls on the Commission to work with the Member States to improve the operation and awareness of the European emergency number 112 for the benefit of all citizens but in particular for tourists, having regard to the linguistic, technical and rapid response aspects of providing the 112 services;

New sustainable tourism activities

21. Welcomes the Commission's proposals on sustainable tourism in its communication on basic orientations for the sustainability of European tourism (COM(2003)0716);

22. Considers tourism to be a means of promoting environmental resources which can highlight its conservation and protection aspects;

⁽¹⁾ Directive 90/314/EEC on package travel (OJ L 158, 23.6.1990, p. 59) and Directive 94/47/EC on the right to use immovable properties on a timeshare basis (OJ L 280, 29.10.1994, p. 83).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 384, 31.12.1986, p. 60.

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23. Highlights of the dangers of mass tourism which, in terms of the uncontrolled growth of transport and reception capacities and of seasonal fluxes, represents a threat to local natural and socio-economic balances; calls on the Commission, in this context, to study and report on the effectiveness of certain formulae already being applied (such as moratoria) or of other new formulae to tackle and offset these imbalances; calls on the Commission to put initiatives which can remedy the current imbalance between destinations which have reached maximum congestion levels and others which receive little publicity and yet are of major environmental, or historical and artistic significance, situated in the same tourist region;

24. Notes that, in regions with brief and intensive tourist seasons and slack off-seasons, employment levels in this sector fluctuate sharply, making it difficult to provide services of a consistently high quality; is of the opinion that efforts must therefore be made to provide more sustainable and consistent services; calls on the Commission to consider means of offsetting the under deployment of manpower, capital and services arising from the seasonal nature of work in this sector;

25. Calls on the Commission therefore to endeavour to coordinate national holiday arrangements so as to even out the burden on access routes and tourist infrastructures and achieve a more efficient and sustainable deployment of human resources by reducing seasonal fluctuations in employment levels;

26. Stresses the need for all parties in the sector to take steps to capture new demand outside the high season, to spread visits over the year and to make better use of hotel and accommodation facilities; for that purpose, points to the positive repercussions of conference and business tourism, medical and thermal tourism, commemorative tourism, cultural tourism in every shape and form, gastronomic, naturalist, sports-based, spiritual, historical and language-related tourism, religious tourism, social tourism and so on;

27. Stresses the need to create services for management and redistribution, in terms of time and space of tourist flows, including measures aimed at tourist mobility wherever destinations are congested and near maximum capacity;

28. Also considers that the gradual ageing of the population will lead to an increase in the number of off-season tourists; calls on the Commission to encourage the development of senior citizens' tourism within the European Union as well as cooperation between the Member States in this area, giving priority to exchanges between, and reception of, groups of senior citizens from other countries outside the peak season; considers that this action should be seen as an opportunity to establish greater North-South cooperation; call on the Commission to launch a low-season 'third-age' tourism programme, which will help to improve the quality of life of senior citizens, create jobs and generate demand and growth in the European economy; suggests that this programme might be named 'Ulysses';

29. Notes that every European citizen has a right to be a tourist and that appropriate action should therefore be taken to ensure that categories of users with special needs can exercise that right; in this connection, invites the Commission to put forward a similar initiative to make tourist and leisure establishments, facilities, services and itineraries accessible to people with reduced mobility, and to ensure that they receive sufficient publicity; stresses also the importance of taking appropriate action to train those employed in the reception of and provision of assistance to elderly and disabled tourists and the need to help to prepare and distribute tourism advertisements to which these various categories of users will have access;

30. Recognises the contribution of itinerant tourism, such as touring caravanning, in mitigating the negative effects of mass tourism by dispersing concentrations of tourists; stresses the need to promote measures aimed at contributing to its development, in particular by remedying the lack of appropriate facilities for parking and providing multifunctional sites and storage facilities for caravans and motor caravans throughout the Community;

31. Welcomes the initiative announced by the Commission on the implementation of an Agenda 21 for European tourism; recommends that this programme be aimed, above all, at guiding and supporting, by means of sustainable tourism indicators, the implementation of local Agenda 21s and coordinating action in Member States with a view to good practice exchange in the field of sustainable tourism;

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32. Welcomes the setting up of the public-private partnership made possible by the Sustainable Tourism Group; wishes to be involved and informed of the group's work and the progress thereof with a view to the elaboration of Agenda 21 with a view to European sustainable tourism; asserts that participation by organisations from this sector in the analysis, planning, monitoring and evaluation of policy at various levels in the tourist sector must be a fundamental and guiding principle;

33. Stresses the fundamental role played by education in promoting responsible tourism; calls on the Commission to ensure that its programmes after 2006 focus even more on educational exchange, apprenticeship and volunteer programmes to make young people aware of the local cultures and heritage of regions in which they are to be holidaying or staying, so as to encourage civic tourism, which respects local people and their communities; recommends that the Commission also encourage the process of acquisition and transfer of knowledge and innovations between tourist undertakings;

34. In the same context of the demand for responsible tourism, reiterates its call to the Commission and the Member States to apply dissuasive penalties to agencies and hotel chains which encourage sexual tourism and child exploitation;

35. Considers that the tourism industry occupies a key place in the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin and is a vector for *rapprochement* in the cultural dialogue; calls for consideration to be given to the possibility of setting up a training exchange programme for people working in tourism in the Mediterranean regions, within the framework of the Barcelona process;

36. Emphasises the need for a well-balanced standard of eco-labelling in the field of sustainable tourism and supports further initiatives that contribute to better inclusion of local social and economic concerns, climate protection, respect for the local natural environment, energy saving, water and waste management, sustainable intermodal mobility chains etc.;

37. Calls on the Commission to encourage measures to ensure that the specific question of sustainability is included in training and further training courses in the tourist sector; supports the initiative 'how to set up a tourism learning area' and calls for it to be further developed;

38. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to place tourism high on the agenda of employment strategies and priority measures to assist the underprivileged, given the major impetus it provides for the economy and the employment market in Europe;

Knowledge and promotion of European tourism

39. Welcomes the action taken by the Commission to promote the implementation of reliable, harmonised macroeconomic data (tourism satellite accounts) required to strengthen the identity of Community tourism; calls on the Member States to pursue their efforts on this issue, and on the Commission to propose an amendment of Council Directive 95/57/EC of 23 November 1995 on the collection of statistical information in the field of tourism⁽¹⁾, to include a framework for tourism satellite accounting;

40. Stresses the need to introduce co-ordination of the new Member States' tourism operators and public bodies into the networks and structures which exist at European level, with a particular view to fully associating them, by means of exchanges of experience and good practice, with the tourist destinations of the older Member States;

41. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to assess the possibility of a scheme, along the lines of the European Capital of Culture initiative, to designate outstanding European tourist destinations, to allow one or more regions or micro-regions to be selected yearly on the basis of quality indicators linked to the preservation and upgrading of cultural and natural heritage and the development of sustainable tourist services; accordingly, calls on the Commission and the Member States to study the desirability of proposing an EU tourism mark or destination, characterised by tremendous diversity and high social quality and sustainability, and to promote it both within and outside the EU through a suitable communication campaign;

42. Points out that preserving the cultural heritage (in particular that which is designated world heritage by UNESCO) is of major importance to the sustainable development of tourism in the EU; calls upon the Commission to make more money available for preserving the cultural heritage;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 291, 6.12.1995, p. 32.

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43. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to create the 'Iron Curtain Trail', an initiative analogous to the 'Boston Freedom Trail' in remembrance of the American Independence War or to the 'Berliner Mauerweg' in remembrance of the construction and fall of the Berlin Wall, in order to promote European identity;

44. Welcomes the Innovating Regions in Europe (IRE) initiative which makes it possible to develop a good practice exchange network in the field of innovative regional initiatives; calls on the Commission specifically to identify tourism within the framework of the IRE network and to promote sustainable tourism pilot projects to be supported by the European Union;

45. Invites the Commission, with a view to boosting the Community's contribution to the sustainability of European tourism, to help to promote and foster pilot projects such as the 'Green Card' scheme in the Balearic Islands, since such projects constitute good practice and show that it is possible to create new formulae to achieve a balance between the development of the tourism industry and the protection of the environment;

46. Supports actions to promote Europe as a destination at world level by means of a European Tourism Portal accessible to European tourists and those from the main non-European tourist source countries; urges the Commission, the European Travel Commission (ETC) and the project's other partners to promote the putting online of general information (the practical guide 'Travelling in Europe') and data on common tourism resources and subjects (gastronomy, hill walking, island tourism, health cures, church/cultural tourism, conference and business tourism, and so on); proposes likewise that access to national portals from the European portal be facilitated by means of a harmonised thematic link page;

47. Notes that, given the new framework for assessing tourist activities and the challenges of the enlarged Europe, it is even more necessary to achieve effective coordination and cooperation between the public and private sector not only at local or national level but also at European level, this being essential in order to achieve sustainable policies and practices, improved investment and greater competitiveness between the Member States;

48. Welcomes any kind of initiative which brings the people of Europe closer together through tourism, such as European rural, social or cultural tourism networks and itineraries, and calls for them to be made better known through the media;

Tourism and transport

49. Recalls that transport is essential to tourism, especially in the case of island regions and the most remote regions in general, both as a contribution to the quality of the tourist services chain and in terms of the accessibility of destinations;

50. Emphasises the need to promote combined train and bicycle travel and considers the 'Eurovelo' network to be a good basis for this; also requests that railway enterprises allow bicycles on trains, including long distance and cross-border trains, as is already the case with the French TGV;

51. Urges national and regional authorities to stimulate inland waterway tourism by seeing to it that recreational waterway networks are provided and maintained in Europe, on the basis of internationally agreed classifications;

52. Welcomes the Commission's initiative to establish state-aid guidelines for regional airports and low-cost companies, so as to improve legal certainty and ensure fair competition in favour of tourist accessibility and regional development; recalls nevertheless that with a view to the goal of sustainability, steps should be taken to ensure that the development of low-cost airlines is supervised, so as to avoid a proliferation of air links to specific regions or neighbouring regions, and on the contrary develop to the full the interconnection of air transport and collective land transport;

53. Welcomes the Commission's proposal in respect of air carriers' identification and the planned extension of passenger information arrangements beyond air transport; furthermore, hopes for a specific Commission initiative laying down safety standards and monitoring procedures applicable to small carriers, minor airlines and secondary airports; considers that, in any case, the activities of the European Aviation Safety Agency must be stepped up and that coordination with the Member States' authorities must be improved;

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54. Stresses likewise the importance to making tourist services attractive of promoting integrated ticketing systems;

55. Welcomes likewise the Commission's initiative on making air transport accessible to people with reduced mobility, whose share of tourist demand is growing; stresses the importance of making provisions for extending such measures to land passenger transport;

Structural intervention co-funded by the Community

56. Recalls that tourism plays a real role in regional development and diversification, particularly in rural and island areas; recalls that projects should be co-funded on the basis of an integrated approach, bringing together all the resources which contribute to the quality of services to users and to the success of the destinations, with a view to the economic viability of these projects, particularly by means of quality public-private partnerships;

57. Welcomes the way in which tourism is taken into account through the convergence objective and the action in rural areas set out in the new proposal for a European Parliament and Council Regulation on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) (COM(2004)0495); calls likewise for the proposal's regional competitiveness objective to benefit tourism SMEs; welcomes the goal of encouraging tourist activities found in the Proposal for a Council Regulation on supporting rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (COM(2004)0490), by diversifying the rural economy;

58. Calls on the Commission and Council, when adopting the new structural policy instruments for 2007-2013, to ensure that the strategic guidelines provide for an integrated approach to tourism, allowing the EAFRD and the ERDF actions to be coordinated in a spirit similar to that of the LEADER programme and the Interreg and Urban programmes. This approach should allow the implementation of a genuine regional strategy for sustainable tourism;

59. Calls on the Member States to establish objectives within their national strategic frameworks and operating programmes which will enable the regions to set up and fund coherent projects for developing sustainable tourism, tailor-made to local conditions and possibilities, including partnerships between different areas and institutions so as to build up appropriate local tourist systems;

60. Calls also on the Member States to cover the tourist issue by means of *ex ante*, *in itinere* and *ex post* assessments of projects financed by Community funds, piloted by national thematic groups for tourism on the basis of criteria and indicators reflecting the economic viability and sustainability of the projects planned;

61. Calls on the Commission to draw up a mid-term global assessment report on the involvement of Community tourism-linked programmes and the total impact thereof on the quality of the tourism products on offer and the sustainable development of European destinations;

62. Calls for the setting up of support mechanisms for the public at large and for SMEs and local authorities in particular which present and analyse the conditions for implementing and using Structural Fund programmes and other Community actions (culture, environment, and so on) that contribute to the quality of tourism;

63. Stresses that, while tourism is a policy which falls within the competence of the Member States, cross-border initiatives which demand social cooperation, and which bind regions together (church/cultural tourism, pilgrimages, water tourism and so on) need support in the context of the Interreg programme;

64. Calls on the Commission to create a sufficient budget line in the light of the tourist sector's importance for the European economy;

Tourism and coordinating Community legislation

65. Asks that any draft secondary legislation which has an impact on the tourist sector be identified at the outset of the implementation of the Commission's work programme, and be subject to an impact assessment, with the involvement of bodies representing industry, employees and consumers; asks also that there be a report on the implementation of these measures on the tourist sector; asks that these *ex ante* and *ex post* assessments be systematically forwarded to Parliament;

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66. Asks likewise that within the framework of the interservices consultations within the Commission, the interests of the sector and the goals of sustainable tourism set out in the Commission's communication be taken into account;

67. Calls on the Commission to consider setting up a network of tourism correspondents/ coordinators in all Commission Directorates whose remit affects tourism activities (Enterprises and Industry, Regional Policy, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development, Energy and Transport, Internal Market and Services, and so on), which could be coordinated by the department in charge of tourism within the Enterprise and Industry DG;

Tourism in the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe

68. Welcomes the insertion of a specific section on tourism (Section 4, Article III-281) in the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe; believes that this legal basis will make more consistent support action possible, and that it will be given extra weight by the full involvement of the European Parliament in the adoption of legislative measures;

69. Calls on the Commission to work together with its main institutional partners and the sector's representative bodies on the various avenues of action to encourage the development of an environment more favourable to business competitiveness and coordination between Member States; calls on the Commission to propose, from 2007, the implementation of a multiannual action plan ('tourism package') to strengthen the consistency of Union action on tourism by bringing together the Member States and their regional local authorities, in accordance with the principles of good governance;

70. Calls on the Commission to include tourism among the principal guidelines and priorities for cooperation with partner countries in the context of European initiatives to promote neighbourly relations, for example the Euro-Mediterranean partnership arrangements;

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71. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

P6_TA(2005)0336

European Schools

European Parliament resolution on options for developing the European Schools system (2004/2237(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on options for developing the European Schools system (COM(2004)0519),
- having regard to the Convention defining the Statute of the European Schools⁽¹⁾,
- having regard to its resolution of 17 December 2002 on the financing of the European Schools⁽²⁾,
- having regard to the annual report of the Secretary General of the European Schools to the Board of Governors meeting in Brussels on 1-2 February 2005⁽³⁾,
- having regard to Rule 45 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Culture and Education and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A6-0200/2005),

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 212, 17.08.1994, p. 3.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 31 E, 5.2.2004, p. 91.

⁽³⁾ Document 1612-D-2004-en-1; http://www.eursc.org/SE/htmlEn/IndexEn_home.html