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(Preparatory Acts)

COMMISSION

Proposal for a Council Decision establishing a trans-European mobility scheme for university studies 'Tempus'

COM(90) 16 final/2

(Submitted by the Commission on 24 January 1990)

(90/C 85/18)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 235 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the European Council meeting at Strasbourg on 8 and 9 December, 1989, on the basis of a proposal from the Commission, requested the Council to adopt measures to allow for the participation of Central and Eastern European countries in Community programmes of an educational character, similar to existing programmes;

Whereas the Council has adopted Community programmes in the training field, providing, amongst other things, for inter-university as well as university-industry cooperation and for measures to increase the mobility of students, teachers, university staff and industry personnel;

Whereas the Council has adopted Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 ⁽¹⁾ on economic aid to Poland and Hungary, and whereas it is appropriate to benefit from the committee structure set up by this Regulation;

Whereas training has been identified as one of the priority areas for cooperation, particularly in providing the opportunities for mobility and exchange with Community Member States, in order to provide an immediate response to identified training needs in Central and Eastern Europe, starting with Poland and Hungary;

Whereas the experience and expertise gained within the Community in the areas particularly of inter-university cooperation and student exchange as well as of industry-university cooperation should be drawn on to create a companion programme designed to develop cooperation and mobility between the European Community and countries in Central and Eastern Europe in the training field, starting with Poland and Hungary;

Whereas such a scheme forms a part of the overall programming of priorities and funding for Community assistance to Poland and Hungary;

Whereas there exist in the Community and in third countries universities and other institutions and bodies capable and willing to cooperate in the context of such a companion programme;

Whereas in order that the maximum benefit may be derived from this programme, it is appropriate to coordinate action with other related initiatives by third countries;

Whereas all countries which are active in support of the reform process in Central and Eastern Europe should be able to associate themselves with this programme;

Whereas the Treaty has not provided the specific powers necessary for setting up such action,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The trans-European mobility scheme for university studies (Tempus) is hereby adopted, within a perspective of five years, for an initial pilot phase of two years beginning on 1 July 1990, and subject to the review procedures of Article 11.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 375, 23. 12. 1989.

Article 2

Tempus shall concern the countries of Central and Eastern Europe starting with Poland and Hungary. Extension of the scheme to other countries may be determined by the Commission, in line with the Community's general policy on cooperation with the region.

Article 3

In the context of Tempus, the term 'university' shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary vocational training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called.

Article 4

The objectives of Tempus are the following:

- (i) to coordinate the provision of assistance to Central and Eastern European countries in the field of exchange and mobility, particularly for university students and teachers;
- (ii) to improve training in Central and Eastern European countries, and to encourage their cooperation with partners in the European Community;
- (iii) to enable students from Central and Eastern European countries to spend a period of study at university or to undertake industry placements within the Member States of the European Community, while ensuring equality of opportunity for male and female students as regards participation in such mobility;
- (iv) to enable students from the Community to spend a similar period of study or placement in a Central or Eastern European country;
- (v) to increase opportunities for the teaching and learning of foreign languages in Central and Eastern European countries;
- (vi) to promote the increased mobility of teaching staff.

Article 5

1. Tempus shall be implemented by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Annex.

2. In performing this task, the Commission shall be assisted by the committee set up in Article 9 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89.

3. The Commission shall ensure that committees set up under the different Community programmes covering the same fields as Tempus are kept regularly informed of the implementation of the programme.

Article 6

The Commission will cooperate with appropriate agencies in each of the beneficiary countries, set up to coordinate the links and structures necessary for the effective implementation of the programme, including the allocation of matching funds.

Article 7

The Commission shall evaluate the needs for university cooperation and for the mobility of staff and students with respect to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the framework of the general financial orientations on economic aid to these countries. It shall establish on this basis the necessary credits to be included in the preliminary draft Community budget.

Article 8

The Commission shall ensure consistency between Tempus and other actions at Community level, both within the Community and in assistance to Central and Eastern European countries, with particular reference to the activities of the European Training Foundation.

Article 9

1. The Commission shall ensure the necessary coordination with actions developed by countries which are not members of the European Community or by universities and enterprises or other institutions or bodies in these countries which relate to the same field of action as Tempus, including, where appropriate, participation in Tempus projects.

2. Such involvement can take various forms, including one or more of the following:

- addition of funds from the countries concerned for the purpose of augmenting the budget available for the programme,
- coordination with Tempus of those national initiatives which are related to the same aims but which are financed separately,

— providing full information on national, regional and institutional initiatives in this field.

Article 11

Article 10

An annual report on the functioning of Tempus shall be submitted by the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, as well as to other participating countries.

The Commission shall establish a review procedure of the experience acquired in the implementation of Tempus. It shall present an Interim Report before 31 December 1992, as well as, if appropriate, a proposal to adapt it. A final Report shall be presented by the Commission by 31 December 1995.

ANNEX

ACTION 1

Joint European Projects

1. The Community will provide support for Joint European Projects linking universities and/or enterprises in Central and Eastern European countries with partners in the European Community. These partners may include universities, public or private firms or other bodies. Joint European Projects will as far as possible comprise at least one university or enterprise from a Central or Eastern European country and partner institutions in at least two Community Member States.
2. Joint European Project grants may be awarded for a wide range of activities according to the specific needs of the institutions concerned, including notably for curricular reform, development of teaching materials, in-service teacher training, the provision of short, intensive programmes, the development of language and area studies and of distance learning. Support equipment necessary for the implementation of a Joint European Project could also be eligible for funding. Such projects may be linked, as appropriate, to existing networks, notably those funded in the framework of the Erasmus, Comett, Lingua and Spes programmes.

ACTION 2

Mobility grants for teachers/trainers, students/trainees and administrators

1. The Community will introduce a scheme for direct financial support of students at Central or Eastern European universities as defined in Article 3 carrying out a period of study at a university or an industrial placement in a Community Member State. Grants will be awarded to students for full-time study at a university for a period of normally between three months and one academic year.
Priority will be given to students whose studies are part of a Joint European Project, or who intend to become teachers or trainers on their return.
2. The Community may also provide grants to students from Community universities to spend a period of study in a Central or Eastern European university, or to undertake an industrial placement in these countries.
3. The Community will provide support for teaching/training assignments for teaching staff at universities or for industry personnel in Community countries to carry out teaching/training assignments for periods from one week to one academic year in Central/Eastern European countries or vice versa. Special attention will be paid to language lecturers who will teach their own language as mother tongue in the Central or Eastern European country or the Community Member State concerned.
4. The Community will provide support for practical placement for teachers/trainers, students, and university administrators to undertake a practical training period in public or private firms, universities or other bodies. Grants will be awarded for placements in Community Member States and in Central and Eastern European Countries.
5. The Community will also provide support for short visit grants for teachers/trainers, university administrators and other training experts to visit for a period of one week to one month a Community Member State or a Central or Eastern European country in order to carry out such activities as participating in congresses, preparing teaching materials, exchanging experience and in particular, preparing Joint European Projects.

ACTION 3**Complementary activities**

1. Support will be provided to projects involving exchanges of young people between Community Member States and Central and Eastern European countries. Priority will be given to reciprocal exchanges and activities such as language summer schools.
 2. Grants will be made to enable Central and Eastern European countries to participate in the activities of European associations, notably associations of universities.
 3. Support will be provided to facilitate publications and other information activities of particular importance in view of the overall objectives of Tempus.
 4. Support will be provided for studies and surveys designed to analyse the development of the higher education/training systems in Central and Eastern European countries and to monitor and evaluate the impact of Tempus.
 5. The necessary technical assistance will be provided at Community level to underpin the activities undertaken in accordance with this Decision.
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