

Eblul-France

Draft amendments to the proposal for a resolution on multilingualism (2008.2225(INI) culture éducation) de M. Vasco Graça Moura.

Preliminary comments

It is not easy to submit proposals on this draft resolution for it is fundamentally very far from the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity, and it seems that it ignores what are the most favorable conditions to promote a real linguistic diversity and multilingualism expansion

This draft resolution does not take notice of the notable progress brought by bilingual or multilingual communities in Europe in development of people skills in multilingualism (read Bernat Joan i Mari résolution A6-0372/2006)

Trying to put forward a kind of equality between official languages, it shows actually a neo-colonialist vision that aims to give to previous colonial European languages a new supremacy in the world

It should be better that this draft resolution would not be voted. But, if not possible, we can try to change it towards respect for linguistic diversity and human dignity, having regard to the Universal declaration of human rights, the UNESCO convention against discrimination in Education, the UN Declaration on the rights of minorities, the UN declaration on the rights of indigenous people, and the UNESCO Universal declaration on cultural diversity;

Draft amendments

Amendment n° 1

page 4 after « E » :

add an F :

« F. having regard that official, regional or minority European language diversity is part of European cultural patrimony and that the safeguard and promotion of these languages, in particular those which suffered from policies of exclusion, are « an ethical imperative, inseparable from respect for human dignity » according to the UNESCO Universal declaration on cultural diversity

Amendment n° 2

page 4 ,

after § 3. « insist on the need for recognition of parity between the EU's official languages; »

Add :

« and the need for a strong policy to give to regional or minority languages the means to exist and to grow normally into public life as into private life in particular for their safeguard in regions where they are traditionally used ».

Amendment n° 3

Rewrite article 8 :

8. Stresses the vital importance of preserving the possibility for parents and guardians of choosing the official, **regional or minority language** in which their children are to be educated in countries with more than one official, regional **or minority language**;

Amendment n° 4

Rewrite article 10 as below :

10. Emphasises the vital need for a thorough grounding in one's mother ~~official, regional or minority~~ tongue, ~~particularly by introducing, in accordance with real situations, an early bilingual or multilingual education~~, not only for educational success in general but, especially, also for the acquisition ~~of high level acceptable levels of~~ competence in other languages;

Amendment n° 5

Rewrite article 15 as below:

15. ~~recommends teaching in regional or minority native languages as a base for bilingual or multilingual education~~ and encourages and supports the introduction of mother-tongue ~~minority local and~~ foreign languages within school programmes and/or in the context of extracurricular activities open to the Community;

21. incite l'UE à retirer les bénéfices inhérents ~~aux~~ ~~au principe de respect de la diversité des~~ langues européennes européennes, ~~officielles, régionales ou minoritaires~~ dans ses relations

Amendment n° 6

Delete the last part of article 21 and change like below :

21. Encourages the EU to reap the potential dividends offered by ~~the principle of respect of official, regional or minority European languages diversity~~ in its external relations, and calls for further development of this asset in cultural and economic dialogue with the rest of the world ~~with a view to strengthening the EU's role on the international scene;~~

Nota : The french version is worse than the english one because it says « supremacy » and not only « role »

Amendment n° 7

Delete article 22 :

This provision aims only to promote previous colonial languages and can only damage the European Parliament image in the world. Is it really necessary to promote the strongest languages in the world ?