

THE SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

9TH TERM

178th

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 8th session held on 25th April 2013

on the Proposal for a Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee / Senate Press N 014/09/

on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Towards a Quality Framework on Traineeships Second-stage consultation of the social partners at European level under Article 154 TFEU /Senate Press K 015/09/

on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Moving Youth into Employment /Senate Press K 016/09/

The Senate

I.

1. Is well aware

of the critical job market situation for the young and graduates in the EU, noting that this group is among those most affected by the protracted economic crisis;

2. Warns

of the long-term consequences of this adverse situation that may contribute to a vicious circle of social exclusion and related serious social impacts, such as loss of work habits, negative repercussions on health and demographic slump, because the worsening of economic conditions of young people makes it effectively impossible for them to start a family and raise children;

3. Supports,

therefore, initiatives of the EU and individual Member States in the field of youth employability, such as the youth guarantee, education reforms and education mobility assistance;

II.

1. Is aware

of the importance of political recommendations to the Member States to ensure that young people up to 25 years of age are offered a job, further

education, traineeship or work-focused training at the latest four months after leaving formal education or after becoming unemployed;

2. Draws, however, attention to the fact

that ensuring such a guarantee for young people at the current state of lacking demand for labour would, above all, significantly burden public finances, which have been grappling with the aftermath of the financial and sovereign debt crises;

3. Agrees, therefore,

with the promise of earmarking substantial resources from the European Social Fund to finance these guarantees, while this political commitment will also be affirmed by the creation of the Youth Employment Initiative, whose budget envelope will amount to 6 billion EUR for the years 2014-2020;

4. Recalls

that efficient education systems, that would react swiftly to the labour market needs and motivate young people to choose their professional qualification and subsequent career path with responsibility, play an important role in solving the youth unemployment issue;

5. Refers

to the fact that the consequences of the current economic and financial crisis are felt to the same degree by other social groups as well (such as those over 50 years of age, women returning from parental leave) that would also deserve appropriate attention in the framework of active labour policies;

6. Recommends

cooperating further on transfers of best practises from those EU Members States which cope with youth unemployment with greater success, for instance by means of the newly established Programme for social change and innovation and the Open Method of Coordination;

7. Supports

the establishment of a quality framework on traineeships on the national level that may allow young people at the very beginning of their careers to deepen their knowledge, acquire work habits and learn useful skills for further professional growth;

8. Disagrees, however,

with a growing practice of replacing regular workforce with young trainees who are given no or low remuneration and work in unsuitable working conditions, and their internships lack any educational value whatsoever;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with further information on the proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch sign manual President of the Senate

Libor Michálek