Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Opinion 215 (2000)[1]

Draft convention on the promotion of a transnational long-term voluntary service for young people

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Assembly welcomes the draft convention on the promotion of a transnational long-term voluntary service for young people, which will provide a legislative framework for voluntary activities of young people undertaken all over Europe.

2. The draft convention is a recognition de jure of transnational long-term voluntary service as an effective way of providing non-formal education and training opportunities for young people and the people with whom they collaborate.

3. The Assembly welcomes the fact that the draft convention does not permit any reservations.

4. The Assembly recommends that the Committee of Ministers introduce the following amendment: "In paragraph 6 of the preamble after the words 'transnational long-term voluntary service' add 'while providing mutual non-formal education for volunteers and for the people with whom they collaborate'."

5. Recalling the fact that the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers, the Assembly urges the Committee of Ministers to open the convention for signature as soon as possible and encourages the member states of the Council of Europe and other states party to the European Cultural Convention to sign and ratify the convention so that it can enter into force in 2001.

1. Assembly debate on 24 January 2000 (1st Sitting) (see Doc. 8597, report of the Committee on Culture and Education, rapporteur: Mr Dumitrescu). Text adopted bythe Assembly on 24 January 2000 (1stSitting).