



**European Committee  
of the Regions**

**COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL POLICY,  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT,  
RESEARCH AND CULTURE (SEDEC)**

KT/VS/lhp/NI 1875/2019

Brussels, 3 April 2019

**Note to:** **Mr Jiří BURIÁNEK, Secretary General, CoR**  
**Mr Thomas WOBEN, Director, Directorate C – Legislative Work 2**

**Object:** **Summary of decisions of the 23rd meeting of the commission for social policy, education, employment, research and culture (SEDEC) held in Brussels on 2 April 2019**

**PRESENT: 76**

**Full Members: 38**

**Alternate Members: 38**

The meeting was chaired by **Mr José Ignacio Cenicerros González**, Chair of the SEDEC Commission

#### **1. Organisation of Future Work**

The SEDEC Commission:

- Decided to request the Bureau to instruct SEDEC to draw up an own-initiative opinion<sup>1</sup> on **Brain drain in the EU: addressing the challenge at all levels**, rapporteur: **Mr José Ignacio Cenicerros González (ES/EPP)**

The calendar for adoption is:

- Bureau approval: 25 June 2019
  - Exchange of views at SEDEC Commission: 30 September 2019
  - First discussion and adoption at SEDEC Commission: 27 November 2019
  - Adoption at plenary session: first plenary in 2020
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- Decided to request the Bureau to instruct SEDEC to draw up an own-initiative opinion<sup>2</sup> on **Platform work – local and regional regulatory challenges**, rapporteur **Dimitrios Birmpas (EL/PES)**

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<sup>1</sup> Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure

<sup>2</sup> Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure

The calendar for adoption is:

- Bureau approval: 9 April 2019
  - Exchange of views at SEDEC Commission: 11 July 2019
  - First discussion and adoption at SEDEC Commission: 30 September 2019
  - Adoption at plenary session: 4-5 December 2019
- Decided to issue an opinion through motivated renunciation in the form of a letter, as provided for in Rule 67.2 of the CoR Rules of Procedure, regarding the Proposal for a Council decision on **Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States**, COM (2019) 151 final
- Decided to issue an opinion in the form of a letter on **the Commission Recommendation on Cybersecurity of 5G networks**, C(2019)2335 final

#### 4. Opinions

Opinion on **A sustainable Bioeconomy for Europe: Strengthening the connection between economy, society and the environment**

Document	COR-2018-06433-00-01-PA-TRA
Type of opinion	Rule 41 b)i) of the RoP
Dossier	SEDEC-VI/048
Rapporteur	<b>Jacint HORVATH (HU/PES)</b>

Statement by Waldemar Kütt, Head of Unit, DG Research and Innovation. 34 amendments and 12 rapporteur's amendments were tabled. 26 amendments were accepted (AM4 as oral compromise), 3 were rejected and 17 fell. The draft opinion was put to the vote and adopted by **unanimity**. This opinion will be presented for adoption at the plenary session of 26-27 June 2019.

Opinion on **Strengthening STE(A)M education in the EU**

Document	COR-2018-06435-00-01-PA-TRA
Type of opinion	Rule 41 b) ii) of the RoP
Dossier	SEDEC-VI/049
Rapporteur	<b>Csaba BORBOLY (RO/EPP)</b>

Statement by Monika Kepe Holmberg, deputy Head of Unit, DG Education and Culture. 23 amendments and 7 rapporteur's amendments were tabled. 15 amendments were accepted and 15 fell. The draft opinion was put to the vote and adopted by **unanimity**. In view of the upcoming Council meeting (Education) on 22-23 May 2018, the SEDEC commission proposed to the President of the CoR to transmit this draft Opinion to the Council, Commission and European Parliament for information. The opinion will be submitted to the Plenary Session of 26-27 June 2019 for adoption, according to Rule 26 of RoP.

#### 5. Exchange of views on the proposals of the CoR for the new European Union legislative mandate 2019/2024

After a short introduction to the topic by the SEDEC Chair, the following SEDEC members **Ms Hendrickx, Ms Karjalainen, Mr Gonzalez Westling, Mr Clergeau, Mr McCarthy, Ms Melchior, Ms Kuhn-Theis, and Mr van Asten** intervened highlighting the importance of the topics for the new legislative mandate for the SEDEC Commission.

The strategic key proposals of the background document were validated.

## **6. Debate on the Sustainable Development Goals related to social policy, education and innovation**

Statements by Ms Themis Christophidou, Director-General of DG Education and Culture, Mr Olivier Bontout, Deputy Head of Unit DG Employment, and Mr Arnoldas Abramavičius, CoR Rapporteur on "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): a basis for a long-term EU strategy for a sustainable Europe by 2030".

Ms **Begoña Martínez Arregui**, Ms **Ligita Gintere** and Mr **Markku Markkula** presented best practices in La Rioja (Spain), Jaunpils (Latvia), and Espoo (Finland).

**Ms Karjalainen, Mr McCarthy, Mr Buchanan, Mr Borboly, and Ms Hendrickx** intervened highlighting the importance of the SDGs at local and regional level.

## **7. Opinions - Exchange of views**


### **7.1 Opinion on Research Infrastructures – the Future of the European Research Area (ERA) from a Regional and Cross-border Perspective**

Document	COR-2019-00896-00-01-DT-TRA
Type of opinion	Rule 41 b) ii) of the RoP
Dossier	SEDEC-VI/050
Rapporteur	<b>Eamon DOOLEY (IE/ALDE)</b>

Statements by Ms Magda De Carli, Head of Unit, DG Research and innovation and Ms Keji Adunmo, Policy Officer, DG Research and innovation.

## **8. Date of the next meeting**

The Chair informed members that the next meeting of the SEDEC commission will be held on **11 July 2019 in Brussels**.

  
**Kyriakos Tsimiriagos**  
Head of Unit

**COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL POLICY, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, RESEARCH AND CULTURE (SEDEC)**  
**ONGOING WORK PROGRAMME**  
*(April – October 2019)*

Documents (rapporteur)	Legal basis	Interinstitutional framework	134th CoR plenary session 10-11 April 2019	23rd SEDEC meeting 2 April 2019	135th CoR plenary session 26-27 June 2019	24th SEDEC meeting 11 July 2019	25th SEDEC meeting 30 September 2019	136th CoR plenary session 8-9 October 2019	26th SEDEC meeting 27 November 2019	137th CoR plenary session 4-5 December 2019	138th CoR plenary session Date tbd (2020)
Opinion on A sustainable Bioeconomy for Europe: Strengthening the connection between economy, society and the environment Rapporteur: Jácint Horváth (HU/PES) SEDEC-VI/048	Opinion on the basis of Rule 41 b) i) of RoP COM(2018) 673 final	Commission's proposal published on 11 October 2018		First discussion and adoption	Adoption						
Opinion on Strengthening STE(A)M education in the EU Rapporteur: Csába Borboly (RO/EPP) SEDEC-VI/049	Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure			First discussion and adoption	Adoption						
Opinion on Research Infrastructures: the Future of the European Research Area (ERA) from a Regional and Cross-border Perspective Rapporteur: Eamon Dooley (IE/ALDE) SEDEC-VI/050	Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure			Exchange of views		First discussion and adoption		Adoption			
Opinion on Platform work – local and regional regulatory challenges Rapporteur: Dimitrios Birmanas (EL/ES) SEDEC-VI/051	Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure					Exchange of views	First discussion and adoption			Adoption	

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<a href="#">Opinion on Brain drain in the EU: addressing the challenge at all levels</a> <a href="#">Rapporteur: José Ignacio Genteros González (ES/EPP)</a> <a href="#">SEDC-VI/052</a>	<a href="#">Opinion under Rule 41 b) ii) of the CoR Rules of Procedure</a>						<a href="#">Exchange of views</a>		<a href="#">First discussion and adoption</a>		<a href="#">Adoption</a>

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The secretariat suggests not to draw up opinions on the following dossiers which have been attributed to the SEDEC Commission by the CoR president

<b>6TH MANDATE - COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL POLICY, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, RESEARCH AND CULTURE (SEDEC)</b>		
<b>EC document No / Date of consultation</b>	<b>Titles</b>	<b>Comments by the secretariat</b>
COM(2019) 151 - 2019/0056 NLE 28/02/2019	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States	Mandatory Renunciation

Cut-off date: 4 March 2019