

RESOLUTION

On the Development of Human Resources under Conditions of Labour Migration

The Baltic Assembly,

taking into consideration the fact that Europe's population is aging and the number of working-age people is decreasing;

noting that investment in human resources and technologies is the cornerstone of competitiveness in all EU member states and that it is one of our main long-term tasks;

with regard to labour force migration

acknowledges that free flow of the labour force from the new EU member states, including the Baltic States, is an important issue related to EU's basic freedoms and also a social, economic and political challenge because it creates changes in the structure of the Baltic States' labour force;

emphasizes that, first of all, it is particularly essential for each country to work out timely and sustainable solutions in forming a national migration policy and to coordinate cooperation of institutions responsible for migration-related issues;

calls on the Baltic States' governments and the Baltic Council of Ministers

- to strengthen interstate cooperation in dealing with migration issues in order to more effectively take advantage of the benefits offered by free movement of the labour force;
- to ensure sustainable development of the region by involving its cooperation partners – the Nordic Council and the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council – in exchanging information and carrying out specific tasks;

with regard to return of the labour force

stresses that it is particularly essential for the Baltic States to implement a balanced regional development policy aimed at developing entrepreneurship, infrastructure and the transportation system, as well as to promote labour force mobility within the country;

notes that a more flexible education system would make it possible to respond more adequately to the increasing needs and demands of the labour market;

calls on the Baltic States' governments and the Baltic Council of Ministers:

- to develop and implement initiatives aimed at promoting the return of people to their native country and their reintegration into the local labour market;
- to maintain and strengthen relations with diasporas in their host countries in order to retain ties with potential reemigrants;

with regard to increasing the efficiency of human capital

acknowledges that increasing labour productivity is one of the main guarantors of balanced development and a rapid increase of the welfare level in any country;

particularly emphasizes that growing opportunities offered by the Internet, a rapid increase of available information and other conditions characteristic of the modern era obligate countries to continuously increase the capabilities of human potential, as well as to diversify people's skills and abilities by studying and improving themselves throughout their active lives, i.e., to ensure lifelong learning;

calls on the Baltic States' governments and the Baltic Council of Ministers:

- to determine which changes are necessary for dynamic transformation of the education system in order to meet labour market needs;
- to develop and implement the most appropriate models for the use of human resources;
- to promote businesses which offer new products and services with high added value;
- to purposefully invest EU funds in developing human resources and increasing their efficiency;
- to more fully take advantage of the human potential of specific groups of inhabitants – young and pre-pension age persons.

Riga, 24 November 2007