Resolution Booklet

74th International Session of the European Youth Parliament
“Europe on its frontiers – Deepening cooperation”

Tbilisi, Georgia
4–13 October 2013
European Youth Parliament (EYP) – The EYP, founded in 1987, is one of the largest European platforms for intercultural encounters, political educational work and the exchange of ideas among young people. Its mission is to support the development of young people into politically aware and responsible citizens by involving them in European political thinking and promoting intercultural understanding. Each year, the EYP involves thousands of young people in voluntary roles in 41 European countries. The EYP is a programme of the Schwarzkopf Foundation.
General Assembly

11–12 October 2013
Programme and voting results of the General Assembly

Day I – Friday, 11 October 2013

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

With 140 votes in favour, 53 votes against, no abstentions and eight absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

With 100 votes in favour, 91 votes against, four abstentions and six absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Foreign Affairs III

With 92 votes in favour, 96 votes against, eight abstentions and five absent delegates, the motion did not pass.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality

With 122 votes in favour, 64 votes against, eight abstentions and seven absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs I

With 158 votes in favour, 31 votes against, six abstentions and six absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II

With 124 votes in favour, 69 votes against, four abstentions and four absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

With 140 votes in favour, 31 votes against, 10 abstentions and 20 absent delegates, the motion passed.
Day II – Saturday, 12 October 2013

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence

With 85 votes in favour, 109 votes against, one abstention and six absent delegates, the motion did not pass.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Climate Change

With 129 votes in favour, 66 votes against, no abstentions and six absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I

With 110 votes in favour, 85 votes against, one abstention and five absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on International Trade

With 140 votes in favour, 54 votes against, two abstentions and five absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Foreign Affairs II

With 98 votes in favour, 94 votes against, four abstentions and five absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs II

With 132 votes in favour, 59 votes against, two abstentions and eight absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

With 165 votes in favour, 29 votes against, one abstention and six absent delegates, the motion passed.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Foreign Affairs I

With 133 votes in favour, 62 votes against, two abstentions and four absent delegates, the motion passed.
**Procedure of the General Assembly**

**General rules**

The wish to speak is indicated by raising the Committee placard. Each committee may use only one Committee placard.

The authority of the Board is absolute.

**Procedure and time settings**

1. Presenting of the Motion for a Resolution
2. Presenting of the Friendly Amendments
3. Reading of the Operative Clauses
4. Three minutes to defend the Motion for a Resolution
5. Four minutes to attack the Motion for a Resolution
6. One and a half minutes to respond to the Attack Speeches
7. General debate
8. Three minutes to sum up the debate
9. Voting procedure
10. Announcing the votes

**Friendly Amendment**

A last-minute modification to the Motion for a Resolution by the Proposing Committee. Amendments are to be handed in to the Board at least two Resolutions before the Resolution in question, or as soon as possible for the first Resolutions of the General Assembly.

**Point of Personal Privilege**

Request for a Delegate to repeat a point that was inaudible. Failure to understand the language being spoken does not make for a Point of Personal Privilege.

**Direct Response**

Once per debate, each Committee may use the Direct Response sign. Should a Delegate raise the sign during the open debate, he/she will immediately be recognised by the Board and given the floor as soon as the point being made is concluded. A Direct Response can only be used to refer to and discuss the point made directly beforehand. If two or more Direct Responses are requested at once, the Board will decide which Committee to recognise. In this case, the second Direct Response shall only be held if it can be referred to the first Direct Response, so on and so forth.
Point of Order

These can be raised by the Chairperson if a Delegate feels the Board have not properly followed parliamentary procedure. Ultimately, the authority of the Board is absolute.

Defence Speech

One member of the Proposing Committee delivers the Defence Speech from the podium. It is used to explain the rationale of the overall lines of the Resolution and convince the Plenary that the Resolution is worthy of being adopted. This speech can last a maximum of three minutes.

Attack Speeches

An individual Delegate from a Committee other than that proposing the Resolution at hand delivers an Attack Speech from the podium. For each Resolution, there will be two Attack Speeches of two minutes each. It reflects an individual opinion and is used to point out the flaws of the approach taken by the Proposing Committee and should propose alternative solutions.

Summation Speech

One or two members of the Proposing Committee deliver the Summation Speech from the podium; the microphone can only be passed once. It is used to summarise the debate, respond to main, selected criticism and to once more explain why the chosen approach is the most sensible. This speech can last a maximum of three minutes.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

Space, the final frontier: with the European Space Policy in place, how can the EU further utilise space research as a means to gain a global lead on scientific and technological research, and what other uses can space research have?

Submitted by: Aslıhan Başak Akalin (TR), Leonard Burges (DE), Margarita Christodoulidou (CY), Andrei Crețu (RO), Alens Juns (LV), Jakub Kneppo (CZ), Maciej Kryński (PL), Tamara Macharashvili (GE), Thomas Michel (FR), Massimo Pillosu (IT), Jacob Röing (SE), Cécile Schluep (CH), Mateu Tomi (ES), Varvara Tyurina (RU), Jonathan Piepers (Chairperson, BE)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Deeply concerned that decision-making in matters of space policy is fragmented into two civilian and military strategies, i.e. the normal legislative procedure and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP),

B. Aware of the fact that national space policies co-exist with EU space policies, complicating the decision making process due to diverging priorities,

C. Taking into account the need for a well-structured space programme in order to retain a lead amongst key international players within a globalised, competitive and ever-expanding space sector,

D. Bearing in mind that all EU Member States have influence on the policy framework of the European Space Agency (ESA) regardless of possession of membership status,

E. Deeply concerned that inadequate funding on research and development triggers delay and shutdown of several important space-related projects,

F. Aware of the fact that the ESA is provided with a budget of 4.28 billion Euros whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has a budget four times this size,

G. Noting with approval that the private sector annually contributes €950 million to the space industry,

H. Emphasising the unequal distribution of the budget within ESA programmes,
I. Viewing with appreciation that investment in space related activities generates a highly positive return,¹

J. Aware of the fact that Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) have great potential for the cost-effective and sustainable deployment of space related projects,

K. Bearing in mind that an exclusive partnership of space agencies with certain private companies may pose the threat of monopolisation,

L. Recognising the constant need for innovation in the EU space sector to maintain and further develop the competitive position of the Union on the global market,

M. Affirming that international cooperation with national space agencies such as Roscosmos, NASA or the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency are vital for the future success of a comprehensive European space strategy and multiple ESA missions;

1. Endorses the dual approach adopted by the EU institutions for space policy;
2. Proposes amending article 4.3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union by establishing a shared competence on space;
3. Fully supports further integration on matters pertaining to military space applications that are governed by the CSDP thus endorsing the Final Report of the Future of Europe Group;
4. Encourages all Member States to strive towards full membership or close affiliation with the ESA;
5. Encourages the ESA and Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry to prioritise technological research related to more cost-efficient projects, such as close-to-earth observation;
6. Urges the DG Enterprise and Industry to prioritise close to earth research and monitoring, focusing on completing existing pilot projects such as, but not limited to the Galileo and Copernicus programmes;
7. Requests the ESA to further involve the private sector by means of Private Public Partnerships through the redirection of public procurement policies towards short-term engagements;
8. Suggests that the ESA strives to fulfil its commitments in the completion of the International Space Station (ISS) and the Space Situational Awareness Programme;
9. Recommends further developing the Networking Partnering Initiative between educational institutions and the ESA;
10. Calls upon the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to host a summit to:
   a) draft the basic principles regarding international cooperation between national and regional space agencies,
   b) provide a future platform for discussion and potential cooperation between these agencies.

FACT SHEET
THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

One of the most important elements of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union (EU) that covers the main part of competences relating to space and is mainly still subject to intergovernmental decision making.

European Space Agency (ESA)

ESA is an intergovernmental organisation dedicated to the exploration of space and strongly affiliated with, though not an agency of, the EU. ESA exploits the European Spaceport in Kourou (French Guyana) and is in charge of several space exploration and research missions.

Public Private Partnership

A business relationship between a private-sector company and a government agency for the purpose of completing a project that will serve the public.

Roscosmos

The Russian Federal Space Agency responsible for the Russian space science program and general aerospace research.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

Japan’s national aerospace agency.

Dual approach in space policy

The practice with which the EU structures its space policy around the dual use of infrastructure, such as satellites, this results in an inevitable connection between military and civil policy aspects.

Article 4.3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

This is the article establishing a parallel competence for the EU in matters of research, development and space thus making sure that the national policies regarding space are on equal grounds with the EU ones.
Final Report of the Future of Europe Group

More commonly referred to as the Westerwelle report, this document by the foreign ministers of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and Spain discusses and proposes ideas on organisational and structural change in the EU.

Directorate General Enterprise and Industry

Subdivision of the European Commission that has the mission to promote a growth-friendly framework for European enterprises and has a key role in the Europe 2020 agenda of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Galileo programme

A global navigation satellite system, set to replace the American GPS system, currently being built by the European Union and European Space Agency.

Copernicus programme

The European Commission’s Earth Observation Programme, this research programme aims at gathering information through space and earth based monitoring for environmental and security applications.

Space Situational Awareness programme

An observation programme by ESA that monitors space debris and weather in order to create a safe environment for satellites and other aerospace equipment.

Networking Partnering Initiative

This initiative is a programme by the ESA that supports work carried out by universities and research institutes on advanced technologies with potential space applications, with the aim of fostering increased interaction between ESA, European universities, research institutes and industry.

UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

This is a subcommittee of the General Assembly of the United Nations that aims to review the scope of international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space, to devise programmes in this field to be undertaken under United Nations auspices, to encourage continued research and the dissemination of information on outer space matters, and to study legal problems arising from the exploration of outer space.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND
FOOD SAFETY

Talking about sex: in light of young people in Eastern Europe often lacking adequate sex education, what measures should be taken on the local and administrative levels to tackle the issue and consequent problems related to reproductive health?

Submitted by: Davide Acierno (IT), Thina Amalie Bjørn Rosø (NO), Aybike Çaltekin (TR), Dan Mihai Ghită (RO), Saskia Jöers (EE), James Joy (IE), Lisa Labadie (FR), Isabella Leandersson (SE), Matthieu Loup (CH), Anna Pikuta (PL), Martí Roset (ES), Mike Rozhkov (UA), Christos Varsamis (GR), Kristaps Zeltiņš (LV), Kristina Chelmakina (Chairperson, UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Noting with deep concern that sexual education doesn’t function properly in Eastern European countries due to different religious beliefs, diverse mentalities, unique social backgrounds and poor cooperation between the Western and Eastern European countries,

B. Observing the need for an increased awareness in the field of sexual education,

C. Recognising insufficient communication between parents or legal guardians and educational institutions that results into misunderstanding of the sexual education classes’ content,

D. Deeply disturbed by inadequate of sexual education curricula in many Member States due to:
   i) insufficient information on contraception methods and LGBT relationships,
   ii) inappropriate age for sexual education in schools,
   iii) focusing mainly on biological aspects rather than a balanced presentation of social and emotion aspects,
   iv) lack of comprehensive information on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs),
   v) representation of intimate relationships in all visual media,
   vi) the fact that sexual education is optional in some countries,

E. Noting with regret the lack of reliable knowledge on sexuality outside of state institutions, resulting in a need to watch pornographic material in order to satisfy the need for knowledge on the topic,

F. Convinced that the absence of qualified experts on sexual education evokes negative attitudes towards sexual education from the perspective of teachers and students,
G. Taking note of sexual education teachers who often appear to be incompetent for teaching this subject,
H. Noting with regret the lack of comprehensive statistics regarding the effectiveness of sexual education programmes in the Member States;

1. Calls upon the European Commission to use its existing media tools to create a media advertising campaign to emphasise the importance of non-violent approach to sexuality;
2. Strongly recommends EU institutions such as European Parliament, Council of the European Union, European Commission and other stakeholders to promote reproductive health via social media;
3. Requests the European Commission to create a framework for sexual education in Europe involving experts from the EU institutions, Member States, World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), neighbouring countries and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), that covers:
   a) accurate information on contraception methods and the recent STDs,
   b) balanced combination of psychological, emotional and physical aspects of sexuality,
   c) explanation the difference between real sexual interactions (including LGBT) and their simplified representations in media,
   d) deliver information to parents and legal guardians about the content of sexual education their children receive via hotlines, a website and leaflets;
4. Recommends the European Commission to establish an executive agency to implement the aforementioned framework through investments in:
   a) existing and future relevant local and national projects,
   b) evaluation of these projects;
5. Calls for the cooperation between the European Parliament and The Association for Teacher Education in Europe to provide teachers with an adequate course and create an appropriate certification for educators;
6. Urges the EU to introduce the Health for Growth Programme 2014–2020 within the countries of Eastern Partnership so as to improve reproductive health by launching a long-term agreement on sexual education,
7. Recommends the Member States to moderate the conditions under which sexual education is conducted with a particular regard to:
   a) start sexual education at an early age,
   b) applying science based approach to teaching,
   c) introducing optional consent for participation in sexual education classes,
d) supplementing the curricula with the study of feelings and emotions.
 MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY 
THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS III 

Building partnerships: with the Vilnius Summit approaching, what should the EU’s strategy for the summit and with the Eastern Partnership countries be?

Submitted by: Paul Cătălin Crișan (RO), Jeffrey Clark (SE), Jakub Gabryś (PL), Maria Gómez-Bestué (ES), Christina Kattami (GR), Jianan Liu (CH), Jack McGann (IE), Aleksandra Shabelnikova (RU), Kenneth Sullivan (CZ), Isidora Šmigić (RS), Karlo Zangurashvili (GE), Oona Kiiskinen (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Recognising the existence of the Eastern Partnership (EaP)² built on the achievements of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)³,

B. Fully aware of the shortcomings of the Eastern Partnership Roadmap 2012–2013⁴,

C. Noting with regret that the EaP lacks a clear long-term strategy,

D. Deeply concerned by conflicts undermining the relations between the EaP countries,

E. Noting with regret that the Association Agreement (AA)⁵ have not been signed due to the partner countries not having met the set requirements,

F. Welcomes the prospect of signing the Association Agreement in the future by following conditions:
   a) the Association Agreements requirements cannot be lowered as a certain EU standard must be maintained,
   b) the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA)⁶ being beneficial for both parties is inseparable from the Association Agreement,

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² Eastern Partnership is an initiative between the EU and the six Eastern Partners, namely Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

³ European Neighborhood Policy is a policy instrument through which the EU works with its southern and eastern neighbours in order to achieve the closest possible political association and the greatest possible degree of economic integration.

⁴ A working paper by European Commission mapping out a roadmap to the autumn 2013 Summit taking place in Vilnius, attempting to name the conditions to accelerate political association and deepen economic integration.

⁵ A treaty between the European Union and a non-EU country creating a structural framework for cooperation between the two

⁶ An agreement by the EU for cooperation with non-European countries covering trade in goods, including energy, services and traditional flanking measures such as rules of origin, customs and trade facilitation.
G. Welcoming the EaP countries’ desire for visa liberalisation in accordance with the Intragrated Border Management (IBM)\(^7\) structures to facilitate mobility of people, while recognising the potential threat of mass migration,

H. Aware that most of the EaP countries depend on imported energy in order to meet domestic demand,

I. Taking into account the lack of public awareness about the EaP and its aims, both in the partner countries and within the EU,

J. Taking into consideration the lack of democracy and violations of basic human rights in some of the EaP partner-countries exemplified by existence of political prisoners, the lack of transparency in political institutions and fraudulent judicial system;

1. Urges the European Commission (EC) to set as the main long-term goal for the EaP to be the partner countries to become more stable both in economic and in political terms;

2. Urges the EC to further discuss and clarify the nature of this partnership by both the EU and the EaP countries at the upcoming Vilnius Summit\(^8\);

3. Recommends the EC to propose the foreign minister meetings of EaP to be changed from annual to biannual in order for the talks and the constant reviews of the EaP to be intensified;

4. Suggests the EC to increase the provision of financial aid (Eastern Partnership Funds) in order to speed up the EaP countries ability to meet the standards required for the signing of the AA, whilst emphasising that the monitoring of these funds is vital to ensure the correct use of them;

5. Calls for the EC to recognise economic development levels of EaP countries as a criteria for visa liberalisation regarding the AA;

6. Calls upon the EC to request EaP countries to further improve border protection standards in accordance with the Integrated Border Management Programme by:
   a) increased document security,
   b) further utilisation of biometric documents,
   c) Increased exchange of information and coordination among the six Eastern partners EaP thematic platform (Panel on Integrated Border Management);

7. Supports the European Commission to continue monitoring and report on the progress before extensive visa liberalisation can occur;

8. Further requests the EC to propose the governments of EaP countries to provide tax-breaks and subsidies to private firms (local investors);

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\(^7\) Integrated Border Management Programme is a part of the Eastern Partnership Flagship Initiative providing training, equipment, infrastructure and advice on border management issues.

\(^8\) The third Eastern Partnership Summit taking place in Vilnius in November 2013.
9. Calls for the EU and the Member States to provide support in the diversification of energy sources, in order to reduce the dependency on the current energy sources of both EU and the Eastern Partner countries implying:
   a) deepening the cooperation of both parties regarding energy issues by further investing in existing initiatives,
   b) encouraging use of alternative energy sources,
   c) cooperation with energy exporters worldwide;
10. Encourages the EC to promote public awareness through cultural and exchange programmes like Tempus and Erasmus Mundus;  
11. Calls upon the EC to demand Eap countries to maintain the fundamental human rights and improve the transparency of their political institutions; 
12. Calls upon the EC to cooperate with Civil Society Forum in facilitation of the work of NGOs in EaP countries.

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9 European Union’s exchange programmes for international cooperation, aiming at fostering people-to-people connections in the area of higher education.

10 An initiative set up to promote co-operation between the civil-societies of the EU and the partner countries.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND
GENDER EQUALITY

Prostitution and its impact on gender equality: in light of the varied legal practices across Europe, how best should the European governments review their prostitution legislation in order to minimise the negative consequences of prostitution for European societies?

Submitted by: Alizée Mazel (FR), Christina Kapatou (GR), Diana Gabriela Raicu (RO), Elisabed Gedevanishvili (GE), Elmar Nazirli (AZ), Flora Böwing (AT), Judia Abdullah (SE), Katsiaryna Shynkarenka (BY), Linde Tvedt (NO), Marko Ivanović (RS), Marlies Derden (BE), Mikaela Karaiskaki (CY), Roma Vaessen (NL), Valeria Garau (IT), Pınar Akkor (Chairperson, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Recognising that there is no shared European law regarding prostitution,

B. Noting with regret that prohibiting prostitution forces sex workers to work illegally, violating the universal human right to bodily autonomy and further fuelling the black market,

C. Affirming that outdoor prostitution endangers sex workers, in particular self-employed workers,

D. Alarmèd by the lack of respect and awareness of sex workers’ rights,

E. Deeply concerned by the fact that prostitution is not recognised as an official occupation which creates social and economic challenges for sex workers, such as:
   i) exploitation of prostitutes due to lack of labour rights,
   ii) increase in the prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) deriving from the absence of health checks and insurance,

F. Deeply disturbed by the fact that demand for sexual services increase Trafficking in Human Beings (THB),

G. Aware of the fact that despite their ongoing efforts, governments and institutions remain unable to provide aid to victims of THB,

H. Taking into account the poor working conditions of the sex workers in brothels,

I. Keeping in mind the inefficiency of governments and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in protecting the sex workers and monitoring the brothels,
J. Noting with deep concern the oppression and financial exploitation of sex workers by their procurers,

K. Deeply disturbed that the vast majority of sex workers are forced to enter the sex industry due to economic hardships;

1. Urges a uniform approach within Europe taking into consideration already existing legislation in an attempt to combat the black market, that;
   a) legalises indoor prostitution with strict regulations and restrictions,
   b) prohibits outdoor prostitution;

2. Calls for the recognition of prostitution as an official occupation by the national governments and the EU;

3. Notes the importance of registration of prostitutes as occupation holders which entitles sex workers to labour rights such as pensions and health insurance;

4. Notes that it is the employee’s responsibility to provide a medical sheet to the clients no older than two weeks and referring to his/her health;

5. Further requests the client to present a medical sheet in case they request unprotected sexual intercourse;

6. Further recommends the introduction of national unions that will:
   a) closely monitor the working conditions of brothels,
   b) encourage sex workers to communicate their opinions,
   c) invite government officials and representatives of NGOs to play an active role in the monitoring of brothels,
   d) propose a cooperation with the national law enforcement to perform undercover operations to reveal violations of regulations and cases of human trafficking;

7. Strongly suggests transparent financial management by reorganising the brothels as registered companies monitored by the unions;

8. Proposes the introduction of alternative work programs to provide sex workers an option other than prostitution;

9. Further invites all countries, especially those who do not adopt legalising of prostitution, provide facilities where prostitutes can see to their health without being judged or seen as violators of the law.
Motion for a Resolution by
The Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Of the people, for the people, by the people: with the voter turnout for the 2014 election of the European Parliament expected to reach an all-time low, what measures should the EU take to revitalise the culture of democratic participation and ensure the democratic legitimacy of its Parliament?

Submitted by: Gregor Bauer (CZ), Merel Blok (NL), Karen Briscoe (IE), João Costa Cardoso (PT), Iryna Dobrohorska (UA), Lien Franssen (BE), Jussi Hakosalo (FI), Kevin Jagschitz (AT), Areg Kochinyan (AM), Mathias Marveaux (FR), Christine Meiser (DE), Alina Shastavets (BY), Valentina Mina (Vice President, CY)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Noting with deep concern the steady decline in voter turnout for the elections of the European Parliament, reaching an all-time low of 43% in the 2009 election,

B. Bearing in mind that, according to the Spring 2012 Euro barometer, 84% of the European Union (EU) citizens believe that the 2014 voter turnout would be higher if more information was provided,

C. Further noting that, according to the same Euro barometer, only 31% of the European citizens have trust in the European project,

D. Alarmed by the lack of information about the EU in the media and educational systems of the Member States11,

E. Observing that certain social groups, especially the youth, tend to have less involvement in the democratic process,

F. Believing that for the majority of European citizens the connection between European and national parties is unclear,

G. Recognising the need to improve accessibility of voting to increase voter turnout,

H. Taking note of the influence lobbying has on the legislative procedure of the EU,

I. Aware of the fact that the European Parliament can only approve or reject the European Commission as a whole,

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11 A recent study by the London School of Economics on youth participation underlines that ‘free political education is seen as a prerequisite for more participation’. Youth Participation in Democratic Life, LSE Enterprise, February 2013.
Bearing in mind that the only executive body of the EU is not directly elected by the European citizens,

Desiring more interaction between Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and European citizens in their districts,

Confident in the potential of the European Citizens Initiative (ECI) to increase the direct involvement of citizens in EU policy making;

1. Calls for informative media campaigns to provide further information about the EU and the means of democratic participation available to European citizens;
2. Requests Member States to offer free political education in secondary schools to improve their understanding of the EU amongst the youth and encourage them to get involved in the democratic life of the EU;
3. Further invites Member States to increase accessibility to voting by:
   a) introducing postal voting and advance voting for the 2014 elections,
   b) assess the possibility of implementing e-voting by the 2019 elections;
4. Encourages the European Parliament parties to expand their electoral campaigns at national level through the promotion of informative online platforms, such as www.myvote2014.com;
5. Calls for an annual review of lobbying activities within the EU to ensure its transparency and legality;
6. Urges the European Commission to extend the Europe for Citizens programme until 2020;
7. Further requests the European Commission to improve the Citizens Dialogue by including MEPs in the debate with citizens about the future of Europe;
8. Calls for the European Parliament to be given the right to impeach European Commissioners individually;
9. Recommends that the EU raises awareness for the ECI and its successes through various forms of media.

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12 A programme that strives to fund projects, run by local authorities, NGOs, think tanks, universities or others, which encourage European citizens to participate in shaping the future of the EU.
13 An initiative of the European Commission to engage European citizens in the debate about the future of Europe. European Commissioners are visiting towns across Europe and asking them directly for their views.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS II

Freedom of religion and the limits of multiculturalism: in an increasingly multicultural Europe, to what extent should governments respect religious values, attitudes and traditions in order to ensure the integration of minorities and cohesion of European societies?

Submitted by: Audrey Agenjo (FR), James Bradfield (IE), Ana García (ES), Fiona Gogescu (RO), Kristin Graf Verpe (NO), Hannah Kierspel (CH), Doroteja Kovacevic (RS), Styliana Papachristoforou (CY), Marta Sznajder (PL), Alexandra Thuresson (SE), Christina- Anthi Tourkomiciha (GR), Matteo Vespa (IT), Mazens Zibara (LV), Nathan Hunter (Chairperson, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Believing that laws such as the Burqa ban can cause division between religious majorities and minorities within a country since:
   i) the majority feels empowered by the government to act against the religious minority,
   ii) the minority unites against the oppression of the majority and may resort to extremist behaviour,

B. Alarmed by the inefficiency of the integration of the religious minorities due to the aforementioned conflict,

C. Observing that the immigrant members of religious minority groups are unable to influence policies concerning their beliefs such as the Minaret construction ban and Burqa ban,

D. Perturbed by the lack of understanding and dialogue between the religious minorities and majority groups,

E. Deeply discouraged by the partisan nature of the media which can have an influence on the content of legislation concerning minority religions,

F. Noting with regret that religious minorities are not completely aware of their rights,

G. Fully aware that the line between freedom of expression and respect for others’ opinion is a grey area within national law,

14 In both France and Belgium it is now illegal to cover one’s face in public due to security issues.
H. Taking note of the fact that the media tends to exaggerate the phenomenon of immigration, causing a rise in discriminatory attitudes,
I. Deeply disturbed by the fact that both Muslim culture and religion are taboo subjects,
J. Noting with deep concern that banning religious practices and institutions leads to an increase in the desire for extreme religious statements,
K. Regretting the fact that Article 9 of the European Charter on Human Rights (ECHR) has broad interpretations and thus is ineffective in defending minority rights,
L. Disturbed by both the unwillingness of certain minorities to integrate and certain majorities to accept their integration,
M. Aware that the Canadian model for citizenship is not applicable for Europe, because of the extremely selective criteria for Canadian citizenship;

1. Calls for the re-evaluation of any laws infringing freedom of religion based on their impact on society rather than just their coherence in theory with the European Charter on Human Rights;
2. Recommends national governments to ensure that for immigrants, both language and history classes of the host country as well as language classes of their country of origin, are part of their national curriculum;
3. Requests Member States to proclaim multiculturalism within all public schools as national policy by introducing various religion classes in combination with philosophy classes, following the Belgian model, in order to promote better understanding of religious minorities;
4. Encourages intercultural religious exchanges through programs such as the American Field Service Intercultural Program;
5. Considers the establishment of five years as the standard amount of time one must reside in a EU Member State before applying for citizenship, which will be granted upon passing a language and civic test;
6. Congratulates Austria on its policy coming to a compromise over the Burqa controversy;
7. Further invites all Member States to consider restricting or limiting religious practices rather than banning them outright;

15 “Freedom to manifest one’s religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others”.
16 In 1972 Canada was the first country to have multiculturalism as a national policy involving two main elements: equal rights to all citizens and a dedication to the preservation of all minority cultures.
17 Belgium provides for different religion classes as well as classes on philosophy that recognise religious diversity within the school population.
18 AFS is a non-profit international exchange organisation for students and adults that operates in more than 50 countries, and organises and supports intercultural learning experiences.
19 Rather than banning the Burqa for security reasons the following compromise was made: one may wear the Burqa in public but must remove it when proving one’s identity to a police officer.
8. Supports the establishment of free mandatory civic and practical courses for new immigrants in order to promote integration;

9. Calls upon the media to follow the media code regarding impartial information sources and news presentations;

10. Request the national governments to establish multilingual information centres and issue multilingual pamphlets to inform immigrants about their rights and obligations;

11. Emphasises the necessity for national governments to help existing organisations which promote human rights by:
   a) providing more funding opportunities,
   b) supporting their activities through the media;

12. Requests mandatory surveys and consultations with the representatives of religious minorities’ civil society organisations before passing legislation that specifically affects them;

13. Recommends the European Commission to establish a European Day on Multiculturalism in schools consisting of multicultural festivals and forums on integration and the issues of multiculturalism;

14. Congratulates the social analysis on cultural minorities produced by the EMILIE programme20;

15. Further encourages Member States to base their policies on such analysis.

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20 This interdisciplinary project is a response to the current ‘crisis of multiculturalism’ and the lack of a common EU intellectual framework to discuss the relevant challenges.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

The end of austerity? In light of growing concerns about the effects of austerity policies on economic growth, how should European governments balance their budgets while maintaining economic growth and social stability?

Submitted by: Jill Baer (GE), Sam Browne (IE), Julia Coquard (SE), Anton Dirlinger (AT), Catarina Ferreira (PT), Henriikka Hakala (FI), Sviatoslav Kalantieiev (UA), Yulia Mahazinshchykava (BY), Samson Martirosyan (AM), Bety Mehide (EE), Robert Pretorius (BE), Ya’gel Schoonderbeek (NL), Julia Schwarzer (DE), Andys Theocharous (CY), Milana Yandieva (CZ), Jan Bubienczyk (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Affirming that investors tend to prefer investing in financially stable countries,
B. Noting with concern that irresponsible behaviour of financial institutions can have a negative impact on the society,
C. Bearing in mind that budget cuts may have an adverse effect on public services and transfer payments can lead to:
   i) increase in unemployment,
   ii) reduced output,
   iii) increase in the Gini coefficient,
   iv) social unrest,
   v) decrease in Gross Domestic Product (GDP),
D. Taking into account that a decrease in disposable income would result in a fall in demand of essential consumer goods and services,
E. Noting with regret that an increase in taxation results in the decrease of disposable income, which in the long run may lead to:
   i) the decrease of demand based on the elasticity of the good,
   ii) rise in unemployment and social instability,
   iii) public debt,
F. Considering that the creditors’ confidence in Member States and the level of interest rates on loans are very dependent on Credit Rating Agencies (CRAs), such as Moody’s and Standard and Poor’s, which do not allow sufficient public access to their evaluation methods,

G. Fully alarmed by inappropriately implemented government budget cuts and their negative impact on social welfare and economic growth,

H. Realising that the lack of consumer and business confidence is more harmful to the economy in times of low levels of government spending,

I. Fully aware that the insufficient supervision of governments’ spending leads to a lower income as well as higher and inefficient government spending,

J. Recognising the impact of social instability in the form of strikes and riots, which leads to a short term decrease in economic output and increase in public debt,

K. Aware of the arguably absurd nature of certain economic manoeuvres carried out by strong European economies in the attempt to minimise the budget deficit of their economically weaker counterparts, leading to the creditors benefiting from the deficit instead of decreasing the debt of weaker economies,

L. Regretting how the criteria of fiscal discipline under the Stability and Growth Pact have not been be met by numerous Member States putting the democratic foundation of the EU in jeopardy,

M. Keeping in mind that economic measures take time to fully unfold and show noticeable effects after being implemented;

1. Invites all Member States receiving a bailout package to lower their corporate tax to welcome more foreign direct investments, thus producing a marginal loss in the short run and an increase in output and employment in the long run;

2. Recommends that individuals responsible for failure of large-scale financial institutions through occupational negligence be:
   a) put on trial in civilian and criminal courts by national governments,
   b) required to pay fines to national governments proportional to the amount of the profit personally acquired;

3. Encourages Member State to allocate tax revenue between economical stimuli and debt payments by transfer payments and investments;

4. Expresses its hope for the public sector cuts to be a measure of last resort and executed gradually;

5. Strongly supports Member States to always devote at least a minimal percent of their budgets to stimulate and boost:
   a) education,
   b) healthcare,
   c) primary sector,
   d) secondary sector,
e) infrastructure;

6. Calls for all credit rating agencies operating in the EU to be certified by the European Securities and Market Authority and strive for transparent rating criteria and political independence;

7. Urges an EU-wide campaign for freedom of information through educational institutions and media with the aim to better understanding of austerity measures and combat social instability;

8. Further recommends that Member States strictly adhere to the principle of progressive taxation when levying taxes including, but not limited to, increasing excise duty on demerit and luxury goods with inelastic demand;

9. Endorses the measures that have already been implemented as amendments of the SGP, such as the Two Pack, Six Pack and Euro Plus Pact;

10. Demands the prohibition of the tax levied on bank deposits.
Fact Sheet

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Stability and Growth Pact (SGP)

Consists of two cornerstones: the preventive arm and the corrective arm. Firstly, the preventive arm demands a country specific medium-term budgetary objective to be fulfilled by submitting their budgetary plans in Stability and Convergence Programmes (SCP's). Secondly, the corrective arm asks for a step-by-step corrective procedure for correcting exceeding budgets, under the Excessive Budget Procedure (EBP). Countries cannot exceed a 3% budget deficit in relation to their GDP and public debt cannot exceed 60% of GDP, else the terms of the TFEU are breached.

In 2005 and 2011 new reforms were added to the SGP that consist of the Euro Plus Pact and the Six Pack. These increased the surveillance and enforcement of the SGP, and then made them even more comprehensive with the Two Pack in 2013.

Excise duty

Also known as an excise tax or a duty of excise special tax is an inland tax on the sale, or production for sale, of specific goods or a tax on a good produced for sale, or sold, within a country or licenses for specific activities.

Gini Index

A measurement of the income distribution of a country’s residents. This number, which ranges between 0 and 1 and is based on residents’ net income, helps define the gap between the rich and the poor, with 0 representing perfect equality and 1 representing perfect inequality.

Inelastic demand

A change in price of the good has a proportionally small effect on the demand of the good.

Gross domestic product (GDP)

The market value of all officially recognized final goods and services produced within a country in a given period of time.

Credit rating agency (CRA)

A company that assigns credit ratings. Rating of the debtor's ability to pay back the debt making timely interest payments and the likelihood of default.
Tbilisi 2013 – 74th International Session of the European Youth Parliament
General Assembly, 11–12 October 2013

**Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence**

Egypt’s game of thrones: with the situation remaining ever more fragile and violent and with stable development nowhere in sight, how should the EU approach the question of Egypt?

Submitted by: Tim Abt (DE), Susanna Carta (IT), Juan Granero (ES), Asiya Gubaydullina (RU), Ioana Ispir (RO), Kārlis Jonāss (LV), Moma Kovačević (RS), Lyudmyla Krasnytska (UA), Teva Lavaud (FR), Jan Przerwa (PL), Ida Steenfeldt-Foss (NO), Anıl Şimşek (TR), Alexander Stoffel (CH), Jorge Simelio Jurado (Chairperson, ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Recalling that Egypt is a partner of the EU under the European Neighbourhood Policy,
B. Recognising the divergent standpoints within the international community regarding the current situation in Egypt,
C. Viewing with appreciation the efforts of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to position the European External Action Service (EEAS) as a peaceful mediator in Egypt’s transition to a democratic system,
D. Fully alarmed by the excessive political influence of the Egyptian Armed Forces and their ongoing abuse of power,
E. Approving the Foreign Affairs Council’s decision on 21 August 2013 to suspend weapons export licenses to Egypt,
F. Deeply conscious that the Egyptian military plays a key role in fighting terrorism in the Sinai and preserving peace treaties with neighbouring countries such as Israel,
G. Desiring to prevent the escalation of violence in Egypt and to protect the rights and safety of the Egyptian population,
H. Bearing in mind the dissolution of Egypt’s democratically elected government and the imprisonment of ex-President Mohammed Morsi in July 2013 by the Egyptian Armed Forces,

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21 The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) was developed in 2004, with the objective of avoiding the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and our neighbours and instead strengthening the prosperity, stability and security of all. It is based on the values of democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights.

22 The EEAS was established under the Lisbon Treaty (2009) as the EU’s diplomatic arm. It operates under the supervision of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, a post which is currently held by Catherine Ashton.
I. Guided by the absence of a democratically elected government in Egypt,
J. Deeply disturbed by the lack of transparency in Egyptian politics,
K. Taking note of the low voter turnout during the last Egyptian presidential elections in June 2012,
L. Convinced that a foreign electoral observation mission will greatly increase the Egyptian people’s confidence in the democratic system and their awareness of the necessity for a higher voter turnout,
M. Taking into consideration the diversity of opinions and political views in Egyptian society,
N. Noting with regret that no general agreement exists in Egyptian society between various political sides due to profound ideological and religious differences,
O. Emphasising the need for a peaceful response to the recent events in Egypt,
P. Deeply concerned by the protracted economic crisis which has a direct impact on the well-being of the Egyptian people;

1. Urges the European Commission (EC) to create an EU Monitoring Mission under the EEAS that will, in collaboration with the EU Delegation in Egypt:
   a) help mediating the democratic process,
   b) oversee and monitor upcoming elections,
   c) watch over the future democratically elected government until stability is reached,
   d) publish trimestral reports on the political situation in order to increase the transparency of the Egyptian government,
   e) offer supervision and advice for the amendment of the Egyptian constitution through experts in public law,
   f) supervise the army’s actions,
   g) provide humanitarian aid in the form of emergency camps so as to support civilians who have been victims of acts of violence;

2. Requests the EC to call an international summit on the Egyptian state of affairs in December 2013 and with the attendance of representatives from Egypt, the EU and its Member States (MS) and global and regional key players;

3. Requests the EU and its MS to condemn the exceedingly brutal repression of parts of the population by the military, such as:
   a) dissolving of pro-Morsi camps in Cairo,
   b) persecuting members of the Muslim Brotherhood;23

23 The Muslim Brotherhood is Egypt’s oldest Islamist organisation. After being banned for decades, the Brotherhood came to the forefront of Egyptian politics when their presidential candidate, Mohammed Morsi, was elected president
4. Calls upon the High Representative Catherine Ashton to demand fair trials for the leadership of the Freedom and Justice Party;

5. Urges the EEAS to request the interim government to hold free, democratic elections with inclusion of all existing political parties;

6. Further requests the EC to propose granting Egypt greater access to European markets and to strengthen economic ties between Egypt and the EU on the condition that the country move towards a more democratic system in accordance with the ‘more for more’ principle.

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24 The Freedom and Justice Party was established in 2011 by the Muslim Brotherhood.
25 The ‘more for more’ approach is one of the pillars of the European Neighbourhood Policy and is based on positive conditionality; if partner countries introduce more reforms then they will receive more benefits in the form of more funds and more integration.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Two degrees and more: with the scientific community claiming that global warming cannot realistically be kept under the desired limits anymore, what measures should Europe take to prepare for extreme weather phenomena and their consequences for the environment, public health and food supplies?

Submitted by: Ana Andrade (PT), Inge Arkesteyn (BE), İşiuşu Ateş (TR), Joseph Caulfield (IE), Barbara Heinzl (AT), Veronika Jalas (FI), Nina Kankanyan (AM), David Lomidze (GE), Boris Post (NL), Charalambos Roussos (CY), Malin Rüegger (SE), Liza Skorobreshchuk (UA), Martin Stoček (CZ), Bendik Thun (NO), Edo Vlemmings (FR), Sophie Duffield (Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Bearing in mind that extreme weather phenomena include, but are not limited to, floods, drought, landslides, heatwaves, wind storms, heavy precipitation, forest fires and extreme cold,

B. Aware that the negative consequences of natural disasters are varied, with the financial losses estimated to be €100 billion a year by 2020 and include:
   i) the destruction of habitats and ecosystems,
   ii) the spread of disease and scarcity of medical resources,
   iii) the destruction of crops and breakdown in the distribution of food supplies,

C. Noting that a reactive and cooperative response to extreme weather phenomena is not yet well established across Europe,

D. Realising that extreme weather phenomena are becoming more frequent due to greenhouse gas emissions,

E. Keeping in mind the variation in extreme weather phenomena between countries and areas within Europe,

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27 Adaption policies are currently implemented in 15 European countries.
F. Welcoming the 2009 EU White Paper “Adaption to Climate Change: Towards a European Framework”\textsuperscript{28},

G. Recognising that the EU Strategy on Adaption to Climate Change\textsuperscript{29} has succeeded to incorporate climate change adaption (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in the Common Agricultural Policy,

H. Regretting that resilience to extreme weather phenomena, CCA and DRR have not yet been integrated into all relevant sectors, such as:
   i) infrastructure,
   ii) water management,
   iii) biodiversity,
   iv) public health,

I. Concerned about the lack of CCA and DRR policies in countries outside of Europe,

J. Alarmed by the need to improve knowledge and awareness amongst both governments and citizens regarding the consequences of extreme weather events\textsuperscript{30},

K. Aware of the lack of finance for research concerning climate models, CCA, DRR, resilient agricultural methods and the prediction of extreme weather phenomena,

L. Emphasising the insufficient implementation of technology and research relating to CCA and DRR;

1. Urges every Member State to create an adequate Response Plan to natural disasters that includes:
   a) resource management, including food supplies,
   b) evacuation plans,
   c) early warning systems,
   d) reconstruction,
   e) emergency teams;

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\textsuperscript{28} The 2009 EU White Paper sets out a framework to reduce the EU’s vulnerability to the impact of climate change. The framework includes an initial preparatory phase (2009-2012) followed by the implementation of a comprehensive EU adaption strategy (commencing 2013).

\textsuperscript{29} The EU Strategy on Adaption to Climate Change (April 2013) strives to promote action by Member States, initiate better informed decision making and promote adaption in key vulnerable sectors.

\textsuperscript{30} 32% of European citizens do not consider climate change to be a real threat. Special Eurobarometer 372: Climate change, April 2011.
2. Recommends the EU Civil Protection Mechanism\textsuperscript{31}, in particular the Monitoring and Information Centre\textsuperscript{32}, assist the development of national Response Plans that include international cooperation;

3. Requests that Member States prioritise the targets set out in the EU Climate and Energy Package\textsuperscript{33} and similar agreements to prevent an increase in frequency of extreme weather events;

4. Emphasises that it is necessary to take measures on both local and European levels;

5. Calls for further integration of CCA and DRR in all relevant policies, as set out in the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, including the:
   a) European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection\textsuperscript{34},
   b) EU Water Framework Directive\textsuperscript{35},
   c) EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2020\textsuperscript{36},
   d) EU Health Strategy\textsuperscript{37};

6. Urges Member States to enhance resilience to extreme weather events on a local level by:
   a) installing flood defences and implementing effective spatial planning,
   b) upgrading the capabilities and reliability of sewer systems,
   c) creating wildlife corridors\textsuperscript{38},
   d) increasing the capability and efficiency of hospitals;

7. Encourages the EU, through international organisations such as the UNFCCC\textsuperscript{39}, to exchange CCA and DRR resources and expertise with non-EU countries;

\textsuperscript{31} The EU Civil Protection Mechanism provides coordinated assistance to Member States when a disaster overwhelms a country’s own capabilities. Assistance includes deploying and training of intervention teams, establishing a communication and information system and facilitating the transport of resources and equipment in response to a natural disaster.

\textsuperscript{32} The Monitoring and Information Centre is part of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and is responsible for communication between Member States in response to natural disasters, whilst also providing information relating to such disasters.

\textsuperscript{33} The EU Climate and Energy Package, also known as the 20-20-20 targets, sets out three objectives to be completed by 2020: 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the 1990 levels, raising the proportion of renewable energy production to 20% and a 20% improvement in EU energy efficiency.

\textsuperscript{34} The European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection aims to improve the resilience of European infrastructure to threats such as terrorism, criminal activity and natural disasters.

\textsuperscript{35} The EU Water Framework Directive aims to manage and protect European water resources, including aquatic ecosystems. In addition, it promotes long term sustainable water strategies.

\textsuperscript{36} The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2020 (adopted April 2012).

\textsuperscript{37} The EU Health Strategy encourages smart investment in health, responds to challenges faced by Member States and strengthens cooperation across the EU.

\textsuperscript{38} A wildlife corridor is an area of habitat that is used to connect two separate populations of species that are separated by human activities or structures. Corridors facilitate the re-establishment of populations that have been reduced or eliminated.

\textsuperscript{39} The UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) supports all institutions involved in climate change negotiations and in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
8. Calls for Member States to revitalise awareness campaigns on the consequences of extreme weather through seminars, meetings and advertising campaigns;

9. Invites an increase in EU investment provided by the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014 – 2020\(^\text{40}\) for relevant research projects and institutions such as CLIMSAVE\(^\text{41}\);

10. Endorses the cooperation between research institutions and local governments through regular bilateral consultations.

\(^{40}\) The Multiannual Financial Framework outlines the EU budget, adopted 3rd September 2013. The budget dedicates 20% of EU funds to climate related spending.

\(^{41}\) CLIMSAVE is a European research project to assess the effects of climate change and adaptation strategies across six key sectors in Europe: agriculture, forestry, biodiversity, urban, water and coasts.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND
HOME AFFAIRS I

The case of government espionage: in light of growing concerns over government surveillance in Europe and overseas, how should the EU, in tandem with the Member States, ensure their citizens’ privacy while addressing their legitimate security concerns?

Submitted by: Pedro Costa (PT), Răzvan Certezeanu (RO), Ruben de Bruin (NL), Eleni Karampi (GR), Thea Caroline Ottersen (NO), Lilpar Ozcan (TR), Mari Liis Pedak (EE), François Poumeaud (FR), Viktor Magnus Salenius (FI), Jack Sargent (IE), Inna Shcherbyna (UA), Mari Sewell (BE), Guga Sukhiashvili (GE), Kristina Vertneg (AT), Hanna Ollinen (Vice President, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Informed by the right to protection of personal data under the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU,
B. Alarmed by Member State governments’ surveillance activities and collection of personal data,
C. Conscious of the negative impact the recent National Security Agency leak has had on EU–US relations,
D. Concerned by the inadequacy of the 1995 Data Protection Directive42,
E. Bearing in mind the out-dated definition of personal data due to technological developments,
F. Taking note of the advancement of the General Data Protection Directive (GDPR) that is scheduled to succeed the 1995 Data Protection Directive in 2016,
G. Alarmed by the Member States’ obtainment and storage of personal data of its citizens from data controllers43,
H. Recognising the controversy in government surveillance motivated by national security concerns,
I. Emphasising the need to protect data transferred outside the EU through the usage of foreign servers,

42 The 1995 Data Protection Directive protects individuals with regards to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.
43 A data controller is someone (usually a business) who controls the use of personal data.
J. Concerned that data stored outside the EU is obtained without consent of non-Member States for surveillance purposes,

K. Alarmed by the citizens’ lack of awareness of their data protection rights and misuse of their personal data by their respective governments and other data controllers,

L. Realising that commonly used terms of use are too complex and difficult to comprehend for the general public,

M. Recognising that the full implementation of the right to be forgotten requires strict control over data and can in some cases violate freedom of speech;

1. Condemns the unlawful collection and storage of citizens’ personal and sensitive data by Member State governments;

2. Reaffirms the European Commission (EC)’s 2006 Data Retention Directive;

3. Urges national governments and their respective intelligence agencies to treat personal data meticulously ensuring no fundamental rights are violated;

4. Welcomes the GDPR with amendments to Article 7\(^{44}\) and Article 17\(^{45}\) to include a mandatory contract between second and third parties which states:
   a) data cannot be shared or stored by a third party without the data subject’s explicit consent,
   b) the data subject has the right to have the data deleted from the third party servers;

5. Further proclaims the Member States to use the definition of personal data as described in the GDPR;

6. Encourages the European Data Protection Board to re-evaluate the aforementioned definition every five years;

7. Further recommends the EC and national education boards to raise awareness concerning data security rights through educational campaigns;

8. Fully supports the provisions of the transfer of personal data to third countries or international organisations laid out in the GDPR;

9. Emphasises to not in any way implement the so called third level\(^{46}\) of the right to be forgotten;

10. Proclaiming every company to create a simplified version of the terms of use in addition to the original, to the guidelines of the Data Protection Authorities;

11. Encourages stricter measures in the Safe-Harbour\(^{47}\) negotiations with the United States.

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\(^{44}\) Article 7 clarifies the conditions for consent to be valid as a legal ground for lawful processing.

\(^{45}\) Article 17 clarifies the right to be forgotten and to erasure.

\(^{46}\) Third level right to be forgotten allows a person to control and delete all personal data from every data controller, this also when referring to a person in original works.

\(^{47}\) Safe-Harbour has allowed companies to transfer personal data from the EU to the United States without violating EU data protection laws.
FACT SHEET
THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS I

Data Retention Directive

Issued in 2006 by the European Union and relates to Telecommunications data retention. According to the directive, member states will have to store citizens' telecommunications data for six to 24 months stipulating a maximum time period. Permission to access the information will be granted only by a court.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The proposed new EU data protection regime extends the scope of the EU data protection law to all foreign companies processing data of EU residents. It provides for a harmonisation of the data protection regulations throughout the EU, thereby making it easier for non-European companies to comply with these regulations; however, this comes at the cost of a strict data protection compliance regime with severe penalties of up to 2% of worldwide turnover.

Personal Data

Any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

Data processor

Individuals who Process personal data for the data controller (not an employee of the data controller).

Data controller

Someone (usually a business) who controls the use of personal data.

Right to be forgotten

Personal data has to be deleted when the individual withdraws consent or the data is no longer necessary and there is no legitimate reason for an organisation to keep it.

European Data Protection Board (EDPB)

Consists of the heads of the supervisory authority of each Member State and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.
Data Protection Authorities (DPA)

Must be set up by each Member State. It is an independent body that will monitor the data protection level in that member state, give advice to the government about administrative measures and regulations, and start legal proceedings when data protection regulation has been violated.

Safe Harbour

Allows companies to transfer personal data from the EU to the United States without violating EU data protection laws. EU data protection laws permit transfers of personal data to countries deemed to lack adequate protections for personal data only when those transfers are governed by certain legal mechanisms. One of those mechanisms is Safe Harbour, which was negotiated, with stakeholder input, between EU and U.S. officials who recognised the need for cross-border data transfers despite the EU’s position that the United States does not provide adequate protection for the personal data of EU data subjects.
**Motion for a Resolution by**

**The Committee on International Trade**

Reaching across the Atlantic: with negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership set to start, how should the EU position itself to reach maximum gains amid unanswered political and economic questions?

Submitted by: Mara Bălașa (RO), Arif Buda (CY), Ignasi Cortés (ES), Linda Le Hoang (SK), Zufar Gatiyatov (RU), Bils Gütricis (LV), Bartosz Kubiak (PL), Lorenzo Leuenberger (CH), Luca Scheid (DE), Jacob Söderstjerna (SE), Vasyl Tsyktor (UA), Andrija Vasiljevic (RS), Oscar Stenbom (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Noting with satisfaction the on-going negotiation of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)\(^{48}\) and the willingness of both sides to come to an agreement,

B. Aware of the fact that the benefits of the TTIP will be unequally distributed between the European Union (EU) and the United States (US), and among EU Member States\(^{49}\),

C. Reaffirming that the potential growth offered by the TTIP outweighs its inequalities,

D. Keeping in mind that in a more comprehensive trade agreement benefits would be more equally distributed between the EU and US,

E. Taking note of a loss of public trust concerning negotiations of the TTIP,

F. Further noting a lack of engagement from the public and businesses in creation of the terms of negotiation,

G. Recognising that people with access to confidential TTIP documents are prepared to leak them,

H. Taking into account that the removal of tariff\(^{50}\) and non-tariff barriers\(^{51}\), due to the TTIP, will lead to more competition therefore increasing the efficiency and innovation of industries within the EU,

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\(^{48}\) A proposed free trade agreement between the United States and the European Union. Formal negotiations of this far reaching partnership began in July 2013 and are expected to be concluded in late 2014.

\(^{49}\) Eastern European countries are expected not to experience the same gains as some Western European countries due to their economic dependence on partners outside the TTIP.

\(^{50}\) Taxes on the import of a certain product or service. Most transatlantic tariffs are already relatively low with the main exception of clothing and financial services.

\(^{51}\) An non-tariff barrier is a trade barrier that restricts imports, not in the form of a tariff. Instead, different regulations and practices greatly increase the cost of doing business in different legislative environments.
I. Fully alarmed by the negative impact on developing countries not included in the TTIP,

J. Noting with concern the high youth unemployment rates within the EU,

K. Trusts that competition in the labour market introduced through TTIP will help battle unemployment,

L. Realising the existence of different professional qualification standards between the US and EU,

M. Bearing in mind that different technical standards in the EU and the US lead to companies having to comply with two different sets of standards,

N. Recalling that technical standards in the US are decentralised and co-ordinated by industry groups whilst EU standards are highly centralised,

O. Observing the very few situations whereby the co-existence of trademarks and Geographical Indicators (GIs)\textsuperscript{52}, such as dual registration, is possible,

P. Noting with regret the lack of scientific proof regarding the effects of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)\textsuperscript{53}, and that this causes a variety of approaches towards the use of GMOs,

Q. Deeply concerned by the US’ cultural influence in the EU, resulting in a potential loss of national heritage,

R. Noting with regret that cultural exceptions in the TTIP are infeasible due to:
   i) previous outcomes of FTAs,
   ii) diversity of national identity amongst Member States,
   iii) difficulties in defining and allocating cultural exceptions,

S. Alarmed by the negative impact on negotiations caused by the PRISM disclosure and the weakness of the Safe-Harbour agreement;

1. Urges the European Commission (EC) to maximise gains in TTIP negotiations by prioritising an all-encompassing and more comprehensive Free-Trade Agreement (FTA) and encouraging attitude of compromise;

2. Emphasises that the EU should aim for a more comprehensive FTA as it is unable to control:
   a) the impact of the TTIP on a country-by-country basis,
   b) the disparity in gains between the EU and US;

3. Desiring the EC to enable that official documents be easily accessible by EU citizens and a simplified version to be published alongside the original;

4. Seeks the creation of additional ways of communication between business associations and the European Commission and polls for EU citizens;

\textsuperscript{52} Protected names given to special products that closely associated with a particular place or tradition of production such as ‘Parma ham’ or ‘Scotch whisky’.

\textsuperscript{53} An organism whose genetic characteristics have been altered using the techniques of genetic engineering.
5. Affirms that Member States should subsidise domestically important sectors for an established period of time, in order to maintain competition;

6. Recommends the EU and Member States to avoid the implementation of NTBs;

7. Call upon the EC to use the TTIP as a bench mark for future FTAs with developing countries;

8. Encourages the EU to propose the creation of common qualification standards, excluding legal occupations, between the EU and the US;

9. Requests the EC to propose the alignment and centralisation of technical standards;

10. Further recommends that the EC retain the existing Geographical Indicators (GIs) system;

11. Endorses the EC’s communication on the precautionary principle54, whilst welcoming future alternatives of production of agricultural goods;

12. Expresses its hope that the EC will disregard Member States’ requests for cultural exceptions;

13. Further requests that the EC propose reforming the Safe-Harbour Agreement by making it compulsory for all enterprises operating across the Atlantic and eliminating self-assessment.

54 The principle that the introduction of a new product or process whose intimate effects are disputed or unknown should be resisted.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II

Two steps forward, one step back: how should the EU contribute to the development of rule of law and good governance in the Western Balkans on the countries’ path toward EU membership?

Submitted by: Lena Althen (DE), Christine Josephine Andreassen (NO), Ignacio Argüelles (ES), Sergiu Bulzan (RO), Nina Huovinen (FI), Lolita Irbe (LV), Stefanos Mantzarlis-Arzimanoglou (GR), Mighel Molenkamp (NL), Irene Patanè (IT), Liisa Rajamets (EE), Rainhard Schanner (AT), Monika Tobjasz (PL), Teresa Stadler (Chairperson, AT)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Bearing in mind the issue of enlargement fatigue amongst EU Member States,
B. Noting with regret the lack of regional cooperation and harmonisation of accession strategies between Western Balkan Countries’ (WBC) governments,
C. Noting with deep concern the ongoing territorial disputes in the Kosovo conflict\(^{55}\) and the desire of both Bosnian Serbs and nationalist Serbs to establish a Greater Serbia\(^{56}\),
D. Alarmed by the current inefficiency of the WBC’s government institutions in implementing reform programmes,
E. Observing insufficient transparency in the WBC’s government institutions resulting in:
   i) a lack of trust in the government,
   ii) low political participation of the civil society,
F. Fully aware of the unequal distribution of wealth and political power causing a high level of corruption in both the public and private sector,
G. Emphasising the lack of foreign investments in the WBCs due to a hostile business environment,
H. Noting the high unemployment rate and low living standards, especially among the youth,

\(^{55}\) Kosovo is the disputed borderland between Serbia and Albania. After the armed conflicts over the autonomy of the region in 1998/99, Kosovo declared unilateral independence in 2008 and has since been recognized as an independent state by 23 of 28 EU Member States. Due to the historical significance of the territory, Serbia is unwilling to recognize Kosovo’s independence.

\(^{56}\) The term Greater Serbia describes an ideology directed towards the creation of a Serbian land which would incorporate all regions of traditional significance to the Serbian nation as well as all regions outside of Serbia that are mostly populated by Serbs (including the Republika Srpska, which is part of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and parts of Croatia).
I. Recognising that the fight against organised crime still presents a major challenge to most WBCs,

J. Fully alarmed by the absence of basic human rights such as freedom of religion and freedom of the media leading to a lack of civil participation and monitoring of the government,

K. Emphasising the underrepresentation of minorities in national and regional governments;

1. Urges the European Commission (EC) to closely adhere to accession time frames;

2. Places the rule of law at the centre of the enlargement strategy with special focus on the judiciary system;

3. Calls upon the WBCs to involve the EC as a mediator in territorial disputes;

4. Urges WBCs to work with the EIDHR to:
   a) draft democratic structures that comply with the principles of good governance,
   b) foster greater sustainability of these structures,
   c) gain ownership of national development strategies;

5. Encourages national governments to participate in joint ventures with other WBCs as well as EU Member States;

6. Requests that transparency of political structures is ensured by:
   a) clarification of electoral processes,
   b) regular issuing of government reports,
   c) easy access to government documents and treaties;

7. Encourages the WBCs’ governments to offer tax benefits to stakeholders investing in local businesses;

8. Calls for the implementation of the EU anti-corruption policy in the WBCs;

57 The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights aims at providing support for the promotion of democracy and human rights in non-EU countries by strengthening international and regional frameworks concerned with these subjects.

58 Good governance is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law. It assures that corruption is minimised, the views of minorities are taken into account and the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.

59 A joint venture is a business agreement in which the parties develop, for a finite time, a new entity. Together they exercise control over the enterprise and consequently share revenues, expenses and assets.

60 Within the anti-corruption policy, support to anticorruption interventions may be given through (i) financial assistance, such as the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI); (ii) technical assistance, such as capacity building and institutional development programmes; (iii) positive conditionality, rewarding committed partner countries with additional funding; (iv) civil society strengthening; (v) political dialogues; (vi) regional cooperation.

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9. Recommends greater cooperation between the WBCs security forces by expanding Europol’s competences in the region;

10. Further recommends an increase of EC monitoring aiming at the prevention of organised crime and corruption;

11. Encourages strengthening national human rights institutions and law enforcing bodies in order to protect vulnerable groups and ensure their political involvement by:
   a) directing loans from the Western Balkan Investment Framework (WBIF) to such institutions,
   b) offering technical assistance;

12. Calls for further inter-state dialogue by strengthening the role of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) by:
   a) recognising it as a representative body for the WBCs,
   b) providing it with further funds to organise meetings more frequently;

13. Recommends the promotion of employment exchange programmes and entrepreneurial training schemes such as Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

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61 Europol is the EU’s law enforcement agency whose main goal is to help achieve a safer Europe for the benefit of all EU citizens. This is done by offering assistance in the fight against serious international crime and terrorism.

62 The Western Balkan Investment Framework (WBIF) provides a joint grant facility and a joint lending facility for priority investments in the region. The objective is to simplify access to credit by pooling and coordinating different sources of finance and technical assistance.

63 The RCC provides the WBCs government’s with a platform for exchanging values and strategies on their common path towards EU accession. It is independent from the EU.
**Motion for a Resolution by**
**The Committee on Constitutional Affairs II**

Leadership for the EU’s external relations: in light of the EU’s continuing inability to have credible foreign policy, how should the EU restructure the leadership of its external relations?

Submitted by: Liesbeth Claes (BE), Thanos Doukakis (GR), Kıvanç Komesli (TR), Dion Koreman (NL), Liva Orléâne (LV), Louis Poumeaud (FR), Bill Sydney Sandstrom (NO), Natalia Sniegur (UA), Silja Tuovinen (FI), Thomas Wolfsgruber (AT), Rufat Mangushev (AZ), Irakh Chikava (GE), Rufat Mangushev (AZ), Öğulcan Torun (Vice President, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Alarmed by the EU’s inability to create and maintain credible foreign policy under the framework of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)\(^\text{64}\),

B. Fully aware of the EU’s operative inefficiency and excessive bureaucracy which obstruct the policy-making process,

C. Aware of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP)\(^\text{65}\)’s report on the management challenges pertaining to the European External Action Service (EEAS)\(^\text{66}\) and its organisational and functional matters,

D. Taking into consideration that Europe will experience a drastic demographic decline and an increase in median age by 2050, resulting in a weakened workforce, hindered economy and diminishing political influence\(^\text{67}\),

\(^{64}\) Organised foreign policy of the EU that deals with international issues of diplomatic or political nature. Based on diplomacy and backed where necessary by trade, aid and security and defence, the CFSP aims to preserve peace and strengthen international security, promote international cooperation and develop and consolidate democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

\(^{65}\) A position created under the Lisbon Treaty, the HR/VP combines the previously existing roles of the High Representative for CFSP, the Commissioner for External Relations, and the Foreign Minister of the rotating presidency country. The HR/VP is charged with representing and coordinating the CFSP, ensuring coherence and consistency in EU foreign policy.

\(^{66}\) A service specifically designed to support the HR/VP as well as other top ranking EU officials in fulfilling their external relations related roles and functions in the EU system. The service works in cooperation with the diplomatic services of the Member States, ensures the coordination of the Union’s external action, and prepares policy proposals and implements them after their approval by the Council of the EU.

\(^{67}\) “The five structural problems of EU foreign policy: Europe’s demographic decline” by Jan Techau.
E. Aware of the fact that the HR/VP is provided with limited room for political action and manoeuvre despite her high status within the institutional framework,

F. Realising that the main institutions of the EU do not prioritise foreign affairs due to their wide range of responsibilities and focus on domestic and European matters,

G. Taking note of the frequently arising conflicts of interest between different Member States in external relation matters due to membership and participation in different international organisations and representation of diverse political stances,

H. Deeply conscious of complications deriving from the competence overlap between the HR/VP and the President of the European Council,

I. Believing that the auxiliary responsibilities of the HR/VP negatively affect his/her primary duties;

1. Calls for the elimination of the bureaucratic inefficiencies and simplification of the foreign policy-making procedures within the EU by:
   a) reducing the number of supervisors and high ranking officials that do not actively take part in overseeing the policy-making process,
   b) producing a report outlining and clarifying the competences of similar and corresponding bodies within the EU framework,
   c) merging subordinate departments and offices in agencies such as the EEAS;

2. Requests the imposition of tighter and stricter time limits and penalties on bodies and agencies tasked with responding to external action matters and carrying out EU foreign policy;

3. Endorses the identification and analysis of the issues included in the HR/VP’s report, “EEAS Review”;

4. Supports the organisation and funding of research projects and initiatives concerning the future of the EU’s role on the global stage;

5. Encourages strengthening the HR/VP’s role in decision-making processes by:
   a) allowing HR/VP to actively participate in the meetings of the European Council in the capacity of a permanent member,
   b) warranting the HR/VP to lead and shape foreign policy-making in consultation with the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) and the European Commission,
   c) enabling the HR/VP to set meetings with members of the FAC and Commissioners for Trade, Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy, and Development;

6. Calls for the establishment of two Deputy positions to aid the HR/VP in foreign affairs and security policy matters by chairing FAC meetings and managing the EEAS respectively;

7. Recommends greater capacity building for the EEAS in priority areas such as environment, trade, energy and justice with a view to strengthen EU foreign policy;
8. Encourages Member States that are members of other international organisations to prioritise EU interests in cases of clashes between different organisations;

9. Further recommends the development of CFSP to ensure its use as a comprehensive foreign and security policy tool for all Member States and a basic reference in case of differing individual state interests;

10. Designates the HR/VP as the leading figure and the Head Diplomat of the EU in the global political arena.
**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY**

**THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

The startup economy: with high youth unemployment and stagnant economies, how should European governments promote entrepreneurship in order to create a generation of young entrepreneurs?

Submitted by:  
Denys Andrushchenko (UA), Myrto Colocassides (CY), Kees Foekema (NL), Sarah Gouveia (PT), Caoimhe Healy (IE), Kristi Kadzadej (AL), Alina Kastsiukevich (Belarus), Katarina Knuutila (FI), Nicolas Korger (DE), Anna Krebs (AT), Avnik Melikian (AM), Leman Hilal Öztürk (TR), Jana Slesarenko (CZ), Malou Vandevorst (BE), Charif van Zetten (Chairperson, NL)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Deeply conscious of the lack of assistance to young entrepreneurs on a European level regarding matters that require specific skills and qualifications such as accounting, marketing, technology and secretarial skills,

B. Fully aware of the fact that legislation procedures concerning personal income tax law and startup registration are overly complicated for non-specialists and too diverse across the EU,

C. Realising that the financing process for startups of young entrepreneurs can be inefficient and ineffective,

D. Having considered that financial support largely depends on the economic environment in a Member State resulting in unequal opportunities for young entrepreneurs across the EU,

E. Recognising the fact that young entrepreneurs refrain from starting their new business due to high taxes, high risk of bankruptcy and insufficient protection from bankruptcy consequences,

F. Deeply concerned by prospective young entrepreneurs being discouraged from starting a new business due to a lack of trust by investors,

G. Recognising the vast differences among Member States regarding the theoretical and practical approach in educational systems,

H. Alarmed by the fact that existing approaches to entrepreneurial education do not currently motivate young entrepreneurs to start a business in the EU,

I. Realising there is a lack of knowledge among young entrepreneurs regarding the legal framework of starting up a business,

J. Noting with regret the insufficient number of programmes and seminars in place designed at guiding young entrepreneurs through the process of entrepreneurship,
K. Approving the measures and strategies already established to support young entrepreneurs such as the Small Business Act\(^{68}\) (SBA) and the Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan\(^{69}\),

L. Notes with regret the absence of sufficient and effective marketing of aforementioned measures and strategies in place;

1. Recommends the European Commission to improve the measures in place in the SBA by extending it to include a new branch providing:
   a) accounting, marketing, technological and secretarial assistance,
   b) an online platform available throughout the EU offering the necessary help and assistance in an easily accessible manner;

2. Urges the European Commission to simplify and facilitate the time-consuming and complicated process of startup registration by drafting a common policy for startups implementing:
   a) free legal assistance provided for by national governments funded by the European Social Fund\(^{70}\) (ESF),
   b) a common startup registration procedure in every Member State in addition to the existing one-stop-shop\(^{71}\) solution;

3. Requests the European Commission to allocate more funds in the ESF to investments\(^{72}\) in youth entrepreneurship to magnify and further develop the existing financial support for social entrepreneurs and young business starters;

4. Invites Member States to provide incentives to companies that invest in and provide internships and scholarships for young entrepreneurs;

5. Calls for the European Commission to further develop and promote a common funding system including:
   a) the creation of an EU wide platform listing all the available types of funds and enabling investors and young entrepreneurs to cooperate,
   b) common guidelines for investors for distributing their funds among young entrepreneurs;

6. Considers that the European Commission should enforce investors to provide financial aid to young startups on the verge of bankruptcy in exchange for a set percentage of ownership in the distressed startup;

\(^{68}\) An general strategy concerning all small to medium enterprises in the EU to stimulate entrepreneurship through a wide range of initiatives making entrepreneurship more accessible.

\(^{69}\) A major set of measures consisting of three pillars: 1. Entrepreneurial education and training, 2. Creation of a stimulating environment for growth and 3. Tapping into unused entrepreneurial potential.

\(^{70}\) EU structural fund that allocates Member States’ money to projects in European regions.

\(^{71}\) A single point of contact with the local government from which all administrative and regulatory duties can be taken care of.

\(^{72}\) Currently a €3 million package.
7. Recommends national governments to reduce initial income tax rates for young entrepreneurs and introduce a time-progressive tax system;

8. Urges the Ministries of Education to promote youth entrepreneurship across the EU through:
   a) encouraging successful young entrepreneurs to engage in seminars and give speeches at schools through programs such as Young Entrepreneur Programme in Ireland and the Young Guru Academy in Turkey,
   b) recommending schools to introduce free courses, workshops and events funded by the ESF allowing prospective young entrepreneurs to gain basic entrepreneurial skills,
   c) creating awareness of the existing strategies to support youth entrepreneurship through educational institutions,
   d) encouraging cooperation among business schools across Europe in order to allow experience sharing through online joint business projects and entrepreneurial competitions;

9. Suggests the European Commission to propose a directive in the form of a common European standard on entrepreneurial education that must be met by each Member State;

10. Calls for the European Commission to equalise the emphasis on both practical and theoretical approaches to entrepreneurial education by further investment in and development of existing programmes, competitions and award schemes for students;

11. Further requests a change of the mindset of European youth achieved through:
   a) implementing entrepreneurial training at the secondary school level,
   b) creating an organisation where young Europeans have the opportunity to acquire entrepreneurial skills through entrepreneurship competitions and business cases;

12. Urges the European Commission to modify the first pillar of the Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan with bigger focus on up-skilling the knowledge of the legal framework regarding the startup procedures;

13. Calls for the European Commission to provide more resources to and promotion of student exchange programs such as the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

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73 Exchange programme that allows young entrepreneurs to work in cooperation with other entrepreneurs across the EU and which is funded by the European Commission.
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I

The hottest region in the world: with the melting of Arctic ice exposing unprecedented economic opportunities, how should the EU position itself in the global race to control the Arctic region?

Submitted by: Taline Akkaya (DE), Ani Bukia (GE), Carolina Coutinho (PT), Haykuhi Ghazaryan (AM), Katie Kilcoyne (IE), Patrik Kumpulainen (FI), Lyubou Lappo (BY), Sēbastien Lefèvre (BE), Ezinne Molenkamp (NL), Foivos Oikonomidis (GR), Anette Piirsalu (EE), Felix Schneider (AT), Edward Strömstedt (SE), Margarita Taliadorou (CY), Angelina Tarashevskaya (UA), Dunja Tanović (Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Noting with regret that the EU has no influence over the Arctic region,
B. Fully alarmed that the EU has twice been denied a permanent observer status in the Arctic Council,
C. Noting with satisfaction the Space and Arctic workshop set up by the European Commission (EC) and the European Space Agency,
D. Aware of the fact that environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are opposed to the exploitation of the Arctic’s natural resources resulting in conflicts such as that between Greenpeace and Russia,
E. Fully alarmed by the consequences of the Arctic sea not belonging to any State,
F. Recognising that the few already existing international legislations have not been accepted by all States,
G. Noting with concern the inadequate implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) regarding the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and continental shelves,

74 The Space and Arctic workshop demonstrated how space infrastructures can facilitate environmental monitoring, early warning and navigation in the Arctic region.
75 An ongoing conflict that has seen Russia imprison several Greenpeace protestors.
76 UNCLOS, for example, has not been signed by the United States.
77 The EEZ extends the territorial right of a country’s waters by 230 miles beyond her own territorial waters. Within this zone countries have the exclusive rights to the sea bottom and resources below the bottom.
78 Once a country ratifies UNCLOS is has ten years to prolong the continental shelf, which extends the country’s waters. However it does not extend a country’s EEZ.
H. Taking into account several countries attempts to monopolise the Arctic and increase their military presence in the region,
I. Notes that the resources under the Arctic region are highly sought after,
J. Realising the collaboration between countries and energy companies causes international tension while intensifying the race for the Arctic’s natural resources,
K. Deeply concerned that energy companies are not prepared or experienced enough to drill in tough conditions such as those present in the Arctic,
L. Alarmed by the variety of negative impacts that will affect the Arctic through the excavation of natural resources and the pollution of ships travelling through;

1. Calls upon the EC to adjust the policies regarding seal trade in order to secure permanent observer status in the Arctic Council;
2. Further requests the EC to propse closer cooperation between the EU and the Arctic Council countries, who would benefit from the usage of EU research projects concerning the region such as the aforementioned workshop and the Seventh Framework Progarm (FP7)\textsuperscript{79};
3. Recommends the EC to establish a conference where up to two representatives from each Arctic Council country as well as members of various enviromental NGOs are given the opportunity to debate points of conflict bi-annually before the meeting of the Arctic Council;
4. Expresses its hope that the EC will propose cooperation between the EU and UN so that a treaty similar to the Antartic Treaty\textsuperscript{80} be drawn up in order to provide long-term protection of the Arctic region that does not fall into the EEZ and continental shelf of surrounding countries;
5. Further invites the EC to involve the Arctic countries to cooperate with the EU in order to decide which measures can be taken to ensure legislations, such as UNCLOS, are not broken;
6. Urges the EC to demand clearer clarification in Part VI. Article 83\textsuperscript{81} of the UNCLOS so as to prevent disputes such as that between Russia and Norway\textsuperscript{82};
7. Further recommends that the EC propose an international treaty to the UN which would prohibit military presence from the neutral Arctic region;
8. Emphasises the need for the EC to propose the establishment of an executive body that:
   a) will create and monitor an application system for countries wishing to receive an extraction permit,
   b) promote transparency between countries and their respective partners in the energy industry with other States,

\textsuperscript{79} FP7 contributed around 200 million euros of EU funds to international research activities.
\textsuperscript{80} The Antartic Treaty was signed in 1959. It protects the Antarctic by not allowing any country ownership of it, exploitation of its resources or a country to expand her territories there.
\textsuperscript{81} The delimitation of the continental shelf between States with adjacent or opposite coasts shall come to an agreement on the basis of international law in order to achieve and equitable solution.
\textsuperscript{82} A dispute over areas of the Barents Sea that lasted forty years.
c) implementing penalties for unauthorised extraction of the Arctic’s natural resources.

9. Has resolved to urge the EC to propose an insurance programme in case of catastrophes that may occur from resource extraction or pollution in the region;

10. Proclaims the need for both energy companies working in the Arctic and the Administration of the Northern Sea Route\(^\text{83}\) give a percentage of profit to the abovementioned executive in order to carry out research in the region and preserve the environment and its inhabitants.

\(^{83}\) Set up in Moscow in March 2013, it is used to develop infrastructure, increase traffic, and give out permits to ships wishing to travel through the Northern Sea Route.
FACT SHEET

THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I


United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea defines the responsibilities and rights of nations in the use of oceans, while founding guidelines for the environment, business and the management of maritime resources. Once a country ratifies the UNCLOS, it has ten years to prolong its continental shelf. If validated, this gives the country an exclusive right to the resources on/below the seabed of the extended shelf and is recognised as its territory.

The Arctic Council

Established as a medium for endorsing co-ordination, interaction and cooperation among the Arctic States, the Council is made up of eight countries including Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the U.S.A. It also includes twelve permanent observer Stats and permanent representatives of the Arctic indigenous communities. The Council itself has very limited power, issuing non-binding protocol on Member States.
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