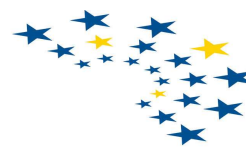




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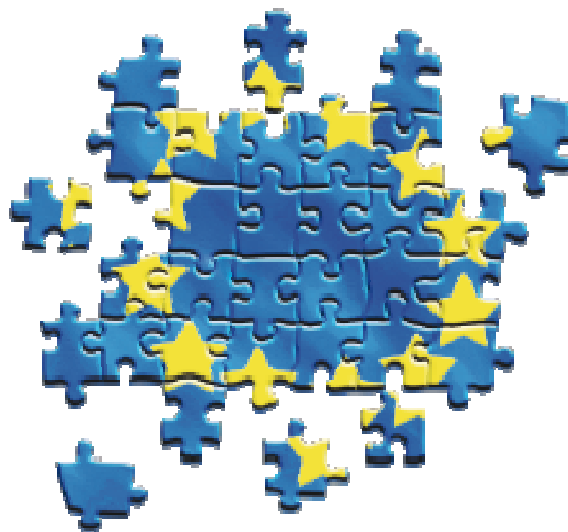
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Resolution Booklet

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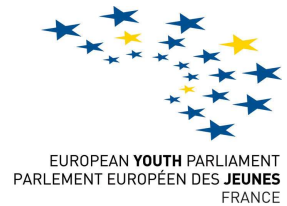


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ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Friday 22nd July 2011

1. Committee on Industry, Research and Energy I
2. Committee on Constitutional Affairs
3. Committee on Culture and Education I
4. Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I
5. Committee on Regional Development
6. Committee on Employment and Social Affairs I
7. Committee on Industry, Research and Energy II
8. Committee on Foreign Affairs II

Saturday 23rd July 2011

9. Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II
10. Committee on Transport and Tourism
11. Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
12. Committee on Culture and Education II
13. Committee on Development
14. Committee on Employment and Social Affairs II
15. Committee on Foreign Affairs I



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MOTIONS FOR A RESOLUTION **PASSED** BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE 67TH INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT:

- Committee on Culture and Education I
- Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I
- Committee on Regional Development
- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy II
- Committee on Foreign Affairs II
- Committee on Transport and Tourism
- Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
- Committee on Culture and Education II
- Committee on Development
- Committee on Employment and Social Affairs II
- Committee on Foreign Affairs I

MOTIONS FOR A RESOLUTION **REJECTED** BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE 67TH INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT:

- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy I
- Committee on Constitutional Affairs
- Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II
- Committee on Employment and Social Affairs I



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY I

The Post Fukushima World. What should constitute an integrated European energy policy in order to ensure safety of the continent's supply and infrastructure?

Submitted by: Ida Anderzon (SE), Joanna Banys (PL), Lucas Göttemann (DE), Yves Sebastian Haverkamp (NL), Christopher Howarth (UK), Filips Kapustins (LV), Darya Kholodova (RU), Tayanç Tunca Molla (TR), Ainolaura Oksman (FI), Laura Perez-Galdos (ES), Olga Popovych (UA), Nicolas Prieur-Blanc (FR), George Schinas (GR), Sofia Sciancalepore (IT), Zosia Wasik (Chairperson, PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by the lack of public and governmental trust in nuclear energy, particularly after the Fukushima nuclear disaster,
- B. Bearing in mind that oil reserves are predicted to run out by 2054¹ if current trends continue;
- C. Determining with regret that the European Union (EU) is not yet on track to achieve the aims set by the 20/20/20 Energy Policy Challenges²,
- D. Observing that there is no consistent pan-European energy safety policy,
- E. Recognising the significantly improved safety and efficiency of 3rd, 3rd-plus and 4th generation nuclear reactors in contrast to 1st and 2nd generation models³,
- F. Deeply concerned that stress-tests⁴ do not cover the entire process of production, transportation and storage of nuclear energy,
- G. Fully aware of the need for high security at Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) for protection from terrorist attacks,
- H. Recognising the dangers posed by the location and transportation of nuclear waste, and the threat posed by gas leaks at reactors,
- I. Aware that although still in the research stage of done, there are many advantages of nuclear fusion over fission⁵,

¹ According to US Energy Agency.

² The '20/20/20' targets aim for a 20% reduction on greenhouse gas emissions, a 20% greater energy efficiency and a 20% increase in the usage of renewable energies by 2020 from the data gathered in 1990.

³ '1st and 2nd generation' refers to reactors built during the 1950s-90. '3rd generation' refers to reactors built in the late 1990s to 2010. '3rd plus generation' refers to reactors built after 2010. "4th generation" are a set of theoretical nuclear reactor designs currently being researched. Most of these designs are generally not expected to be available for commercial construction before 2030. Both 3rd and 3rd plus generation models have improved fuel technology, superior thermal efficiency, passive safety systems and standardized design for reduced maintenance and capital costs. The '4th generation reactors' also offer significant advances in sustainability, safety and reliability, economics, proliferation resistance and physical protection.

⁴ Stress-tests place the reactor of an NPP under heavy load in order to test its response in difficult circumstances.



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- J. Taking into account that combustion of fossil fuels poses a greater threat to the environment than NPPs, whilst acknowledging that it would be unrealistic to stop using them completely,
 - K. Deeply regretting that existing forms of green energy are significantly less efficient than NPPs,
 - L. Realising that the EU must maintain all existing gas pipeline projects, as these projects ensure continuity of supply and price competition,
 - M. Desiring to decrease dependence on foreign countries for energy through:
 - i) strengthening the internal energy market,
 - ii) diversifying energy sources,
 - N. Keeping in mind that the costs of increased safety could affect Europe's international competitiveness in the energy market,
 - O. Determining with regret the lack of public confidence in renewable energy sources and fear of nuclear energy;
-
- 1. Calls for a steady reduction in the use of fossil fuels for energy generation and a steady increase in the use of green energy sources while maintaining the current level of reliance on NPPs;
 - 2. Approves the updating of the unified Energy Policy for Europe⁶ to include safety, supply and infrastructure requirements;
 - 3. Urges Member States to upgrade all 1st and 2nd generation NPPs to safer and more efficient 3rd, 3rd plus and 4th generation technology, reusing all salvageable parts to ensure cost-effectiveness;
 - 4. Supports the creation of a series of regular stress tests, standard for all European countries and regulated by IAEA⁷ and ENSREG⁸, across the whole nuclear process⁹ and the results made known in a transparent manner;
 - 5. Commends existing research into nuclear fusion and cheaper and more efficient forms of renewable energy sources;
 - 6. Endorses research into nuclear waste reprocessing and storage and guarantees the implementation of such technologies if significant progress is made;
 - 7. Invites NPPs to embrace on-site nuclear waste storage and reprocessing;
 - 8. Approves increasing the monetary penalties for those dumping pollutant waste¹⁰;
 - 9. Further resolves to outlaw the storage of nuclear waste in seas, rivers and lakes and encourages immediate the decommissioning of existing underwater waste repositories;

⁵ Nuclear fusion generates heat energy by the fusing together of two or more atomic nuclei to form a heavier element, while nuclear fission which breaks apart an atomic nucleus into two or more smaller elements. Fusion generates significantly more energy than fission and its waste, though toxic, is not radioactive and therefore easier to store. However, it has not yet been achieved on earth under standard conditions.

⁶ The Energy Policy of Europe was introduced in 2007 by the European Commission.

⁷ The International Atomic Energy Agency is the world's centre of cooperation in the nuclear field within the United Nations.

⁸ European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group works to improve the cooperation between Member States on nuclear safety and radioactive waste issues as well as the overall transparency on nuclear safety.

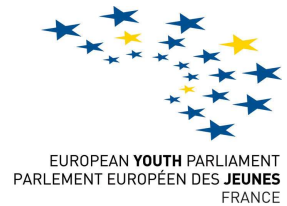
⁹ Including enrichment, reaction, generation, cooling and disposal.

¹⁰ An estimated 2.6 billion tonnes of waste is generated in the EU each year – about 90 million tonnes of this is classified as hazardous. The European Commission is currently working on setting up a dedicated body to oversee the implementation and enforcement of EU waste law. <http://www.europeanlawmonitor.org/latest-eu-news/dedicated-eu-body-needed-to-ensure-enforcement-of-european-waste-law-says-commission-study.html>



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10. Recommends the reduction of taxes on nuclear and green energy within Europe in order to safeguard the EU's competitiveness abroad;
11. Calls upon energy companies in providing further current educational goals by experts to give seminars in 2nd and 3rd Level institutions, regarding the safety of the new 4th generation reactors;
12. Calls for the creation of an agency tasked with raising public awareness of energy use, by promoting:
 - a) reduced energy consumption,
 - b) the use of energy-efficient devices,
 - c) energy-efficient technology in the motor industry and green energy,
 - d) the use of smart grids¹¹;
13. Expresses its hope that foreign countries will pursue a similar course of action through sharing technology and information;
14. Urges constant monitoring of gas pipelines by Computational Pipeline Monitoring Systems (CPM)¹².

¹¹ 'Smart grids' are devices which allocate energy to users according to consumption, thereby improving efficiency and reducing energy wastage

¹² Computational Pipeline Monitoring System uses an algorithmic approach to detect hydraulic anomalies in pipeline operating parameters. The primary purpose of these systems is to provide tools that assist pipeline controllers in detecting commodity releases that are within the sensitivity of the algorithm.
http://www.techstreet.com/standards/api/1130?product_id=1040521



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

**Not deep enough? In light of the increasing competencies of the EU, should
Citizens now accept that there can no longer be representation without
taxation? How should Member States assess the scope of the EU's Traditional
Own Resources?**

Submitted by: Paul Berkhout (NL), Anna Borrell (ES), Benjamin Eisert (DE), Irmak Ergin (TR), William Goyet (FR), Cristian Marius Moise (RO), Rónán O'connor (IE), Sophiko Otiashvili (GE), Ieva Pastare (LV), Achilleas Platanitis (GR), Elena Tripaldi (IT), Kerstin Mathias (Vice-President, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Expressing its concern about the growing Euroscepticism¹³ in the wake of the economic crisis,
- B. Observing the long term European Union (EU) effort towards progressive integration, as referenced in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
- C. Bearing in mind that EU direct taxation would consequently increase the influence and liberty of the EU executive powers,
- D. Taking into account Member States' concerns about the harmonisation of fiscal policy and its effect on Member States' sovereignty,
- E. Aware of the EU's failure to achieve its intention to finance the budget wholly from its own resources as stated in Art. 269 of the Treaty Establishing the European Community (TEC)¹⁴,
- F. Alarmed by the impact of political pressure that can unfairly affect the way that the EU budget revenue is allocated;
- G. Realising the potential of direct taxation in achieving EU policy objectives independently,
- H. Noting with concern the *ad-hoc* nature of the EU revenue collection due to its reliance on intergovernmental transfers,
- I. Recognising the lack of responsive EU governance towards European citizens due to the disconnection caused by national financing of the EU budget as opposed to direct taxation,
- J. Deeply disturbed by the lack of public knowledge regarding funding and expenditure of the EU's budget,
- K. Taking note of the fact that public perception can impede the implementation of EU policy through resistance from national governments,

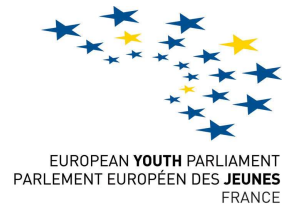
¹³ "Euroscepticism expresses the idea of contingent or qualified opposition, as well as incorporating outright and unqualified opposition to the process of European integration.", as defined in Taggart, Paul (1998): A touchstone of dissent: Euroscepticism in contemporary Western European party systems. In: European Journal of Political Research, p.366.

¹⁴ Art. 269 states that "the budget shall be financed wholly from own resources".



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- L. Noting with regret that direct taxation would raise fundamental legitimacy issues due to the insufficient legislative power in the European Parliament (EP);
1. Proclaims that the current EU crisis has highlighted the need for more European integration, direct taxation being a vital tool in achieving this goal;
 2. Solemnly confirms that EU direct taxes are a vital progression towards EU integration and the validity of the EU as a governing body;
 3. Urges the EU decision-making bodies to utilise direct taxation in the financial framework 2014-2020 as a substantial funding resource;
 4. Reaffirms the necessity for the EU's financial independence from Member States' contributions in the long term;
 5. Expresses its hope for direct taxes to be used as means to pursue EU policy objectives while avoiding the abuse of this system for national interests;
 6. Calls upon the EU to make use of direct taxation in order to sustainably finance the EU budget and implement its policies;
 7. Considers communication between the public and the EU governing structures on the issues of direct taxation and the budgetary structure of utmost importance;
 8. Endorses the introduction of an EU wide financial sector taxation, such as Financial Transaction Tax (FFT)¹⁵;
 9. Further resolves to implement direct taxes in line with EU environmental policy, such aviation tax¹⁶;
 10. Calls for the establishment of an EU budgetary committee jointly formed by the EP and the European commission in order to draft the financial framework and the budget;
 11. Trusts direct taxation on the European level to be limited to those sectors in which EU influence provides benefits for its citizens.

¹⁵ A financial transaction tax is a [tax](#) placed on a specific type (or types) of [financial transaction](#) for a specific purpose (or purposes). A financial transaction is an event or condition under the contract between a [buyer](#) and a [seller](#) to exchange an [asset](#) for [payment](#). This term has been most commonly associated with the [financial sector](#), as opposed to [consumption taxes](#) paid by [consumers](#).

¹⁶ As a transaction tax, the aviation tax is levied on legal transactions, and in this case the commercial carriage of passengers by aviation enterprises.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION I

Guggenheim Goodness: With an ever increasing awareness of the dual economic and cultural benefits of the arts sector, how should EU Member States work with cultural institutions for the benefit of Europe's countries and citizens?

Submitted by: Daniela Afloarei (RO), Giulia Bandera (IT), David Briscoe (IE), David Criado (NL), Thomas Goujat-Gouttequillet (FR), Martina Greenwood (CH), Elena King (ES), Julian Posch (AT), Zita Praskova (CZ), Johanna Rehn (FI), Sam Skalla (UK), Tatyana Sokolova (RU), Mathilda Stenmark (SE), Ulrich Johannes Völker (DE), Justyna Wizniewska (PL), Leonie Goetsch (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Affirming the European Commission's definition of the cultural sector¹⁷,
- B. Acknowledging the socio-economic, financial, unifying and human benefits that result from further development of the arts sector,
- C. Concerned with the recent increased budget cuts in the arts sector throughout the European Union (EU) as a result of the current economic climate,
- D. Noting that because 'cultural objectives rank below economic policy rationales'¹⁸ the arts sector suffers relatively more from budget cuts than other sectors,
- E. Further noting the disproportionate impact of centrally implemented budget cuts on culture at a regional level,
- F. Recognising the varying increases in value-added tax (VAT) within Member States and their negative impact on the arts sector,
- G. Noting with approval both Europe's contribution to world culture and prominent position in the global cultural market,
- H. Drawing attention to Article 167 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹⁹ (TFEU)

¹⁷ This definition of 'Culture' characterises "the activities undertaken by a group of people, and the product of these activities, drawing upon enlightenment and education of the mind". Here culture is employed as an adjective ("cultural sector", "cultural industries", "cultural products"). Three characteristics can be attached to these "cultural" activities": they involve some form of creativity in their production; they are concerned with the generation and communication of symbolic means; their output potentially embodies at least some form of intellectual property.

¹⁸ European Competitiveness Report 2010 by the European Commission on Enterprise and Industry (p. 6).

¹⁹ Article 167 (ex Article 151 TEC):

- 1. The Union shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore.
- 2. Action by the Union shall be aimed at encouraging cooperation between Member States and, if necessary, supporting and supplementing their action in the following areas:



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which emphasises the commitment of the EU to promote a common culture, whilst preserving regional diversity,

- I. Acknowledging the existence and importance of already existing EU cultural initiatives, such as:
 - i) the EU Culture Programme 2007 – 2013²⁰,
 - ii) the Innovation Union²¹,
 - iii) Europeana²²,
 - iv) the European Agenda for Culture²³,
 - J. Recognising the disparity between the levels of interaction between Member States' governments with major and minor cultural institutions,
 - K. Applauding the good work of many non-governmental organisations (NGOs) who actively contribute to the development of the arts sector across Europe,
 - L. Recognising the importance of cultural education for young people,
 - M. Regretting the disproportionately high costs of some specialist schools in the arts sector,
 - N. Noting with concern the social, economic and geographical inaccessibility of some art forms,
 - O. Recognising the benefits of community involvement in local art projects,
 - P. Noting the recent evolution of the cultural sector and the further potential for development, especially considering the use of new media;
-
1. Draws attention to the benefits of the 'Guggenheim Effect'²⁴, to governments and investors, as a stimulus for further cultural and economic development at a regional level;

-
- improvement of the knowledge and dissemination of the culture and history of the European peoples,
 - conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of European significance,
 - non-commercial cultural exchanges,
 - artistic and literary creation, including in the audiovisual sector.
 3. The Union and the Member States shall foster cooperation with third countries and the competent international organisations in the sphere of culture, in particular the Council of Europe.
 4. The Union shall take cultural aspects into account in its action under other provisions of the Treaties, in particular in order to respect and to promote the diversity of its cultures.
 5. In order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives referred to in this Article:
 - the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and after consulting the Committee of the Regions, shall adopt incentive measures, excluding any harmonisation of the laws and regulations of the Member States,
 - the Council, on a proposal from the Commission, shall adopt recommendations.

²⁰ The EU Culture Programme 2007 – 2013 is a cultural programme which provides funding to a wide range of cultural projects across Europe, with the aim of promoting a common European identity.

²¹ The Innovation Union is an initiative of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive economy; the aim is to make Europe into a world-class science performer, remove obstacles to innovation and revolutionise the way public and private sectors work together.

²² Europeana is a digital archive enabling free worldwide access to images, texts, audio and video.

²³ In May 2007, the Commission proposed an Agenda for Culture founded on three common sets of objectives: cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue; culture as a catalyst for creativity and culture as a key component in international relations.

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2. Demands EU governments to acknowledge the interdependence of the core arts, the creative industry and the cultural industry when deciding cultural policy;
3. Urges Member States to apply reduced VAT rates on cultural goods and services as provided by the Council Directive 2006/112/EC²⁵ in order to stimulate cultural input, which is necessary for further economic development of the arts sector;
4. Encourages Member States when considering budget cuts to recognise the fundamental link between the arts sector and economic objectives as well as its ability to stimulate social and economic spheres when considering budget cuts;
5. Asks EU governments to cooperate with cultural institutions in promoting further interaction between educational institutions and cultural enterprises;
6. Urges Member States to generate more interest among cultural enterprises for European students seeking bursaries to specialist art schools;
7. Strongly suggests EU governments, cultural institutions and NGOs to support disadvantaged individuals across Europe who are trying to enter specialist education in the arts sector;
8. Recommends governments strive to support cultural projects and institutions on a regional level;
9. Calls for the European Commission for Culture to further work with cultural institutions to facilitate the broadcasting and sharing of performing and visual arts via new media;
10. Urges EU governments:
 - a) to continue to invest in the European arts sector;
 - b) to promote Europe's cultural identity.

²⁴ The process whereby a region is revitalised by the opening of a world-class cultural institution.

²⁵ Council directive 2006/112/EC of 28 November 2006 provides a legal framework for the application of VAT rates on goods and services in Member States. It obliges them to apply a standard VAT rate of at least 15% and allows one or two reduced rates of not less than 5% on goods and services enumerated in a restricted list, including the arts sector.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS I

Should 'deprivation of freedom' mean 'deprivation of rights'? How should constituents of the Council of Europe assess their detention conditions so as to ensure that basic rights of prisoners are legally guaranteed and practically respected ?

Submitted by: Thomas Avender (AT), Oana Cotoara (RO), Lorenzo D'Eri (IT), Gundega Elerte (LV), Trisha Fitzpatrick (IE), Tamta Gelashvili (BG), Adina Harlacher (SE), Madli Kullaste (EE), Korina Kvadranti (HR), Philipp Magin (DE), Mersina Mellidou (GR), Juliette Preston (UK), Anne-Sophie Rialland (FR), Nastassia Salash (BY), Anni Savolainen (FI), Zeynep Yavuz (Chairperson, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with concern that the legal interpretation and practical application of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECoHR) and European Prison Rules (EPR) are inconsistent throughout constituents of the Council of Europe (CoE), thereby violating the Articles 1²⁶ and 18²⁷ of the ECoHR,
- B. Deeply conscious that the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) is not effective because:
 - i) complaints of violation of human rights are not able to reach the ECHR as the process is delayed due to inefficient national court systems,
 - ii) the number of complaints exceeds the processing capabilities of the ECHR,
 - iii) prisoners are not always informed of their rights and the procedure to appeal to the ECHR,
 - iv) prisoners are not always able to gain representation from legal council thereby violating Article 6²⁸ of the ECoHR,
- C. Recognising that the Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment²⁹ is inefficient in protecting the basic rights of prisoners and detainees,
- D. Regretting that the monetary resources directed to the prison system:

²⁶ Article 1 states that the High Contracting Parties shall secure to everyone within their jurisdiction the rights and freedoms defined in the ECoHR.

²⁷ Article 18 states that the restrictions permitted under the ECoHR to the said rights and freedoms shall not be applied for any purpose other than those for which they have been prescribed.

²⁸ Article 6 states that everyone charged with a criminal offence has the right to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or given it free if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance.

²⁹ CPT is a non-judicial preventive body whose remit is to protect persons deprived of their liberty through unannounced visits to police stations, prisons, immigration detention centres, psychiatric hospitals and other places where persons are deprived of their liberty and the issuance of a report containing recommendations aimed at improving the situation in the country visited.



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- i) are insufficient to guarantee basic human rights mentioned in the ECoHR,
 - ii) vary from country to country,
- E. Further noting that the discrepancies in providing prisoners with the right to vote throughout the Member States of the CoE cause the violation of Articles 10³⁰ and 14³¹ of the ECoHR and Article 3³² of the Protocol to the Convention,
- F. Bearing in mind that according to Article 6³³ of the ECoHR detainees have the right to vote and to stand for election as they are to be considered innocent until proven otherwise,
- G. Taking into account that there is insufficient provision of information and media sources within prisons for prisoners' use,
- H. Emphasising that according to Article 6³⁴ of the ECoHR a fair trial must be translated in to a language understood by the accused,
- I. Concerned that the right to respect for private and family life of prisoners is not always respected due to:
 - i) restrictions on communication and visits,
 - ii) the monitoring of communications,
- J. Noting with deep concern that detainees:
 - i) are held as detainees for an excessive length of time,
 - ii) do not receive compensation in the case of the length of their detainment exceeding the length of their sentence thereby violating Article 7³⁵ of the ECoHR,
- K. Noting with regret that the issue of the transfer of prisoners between member states of the CoE is not fully addressed in the ECoHR,
- L. Deeply regretting that inadequate reintegration of prisoners is caused by the absence of:
 - i) recognised education of prisoners in violation of Article 2³⁶ of the Protocol to the Convention,
 - ii) an effective structured reintegration plan,
- M. Fully believing that there should be fairly paid employment opportunities for prisoners while incarcerated in all member states of the CoE,
- N. Realising the negative public attitude towards prisoners due to:
 - i) prejudice,
 - ii) a misunderstanding of the purpose of imprisonment,
 - iii) a lack of awareness of conditions in detention and penitentiary facilities,
- O. Observing that politicians prioritise issues according to public opinion,
- P. Deeply disturbed by the negative social atmosphere inside prisons caused by:

³⁰ Article 10 states that everyone has the right to freedom of expression.

³¹ Article 14 states that the enjoyment of rights and freedoms set forth in ECoHR shall be secured without discrimination on any ground.

³² Article 3 of the Protocol to the Convention states that the High Contracting Parties undertake to hold free elections, under conditions which will ensure the right to freedom of expression.

³³ Article 6 states that anyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.

³⁴ Article 6 states that everyone charged with a criminal offence has the right to have the free assistance of an interpreter if he/she cannot understand or speak the language used in court.

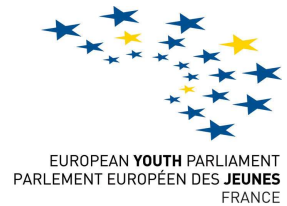
³⁵ Article 7 states that no one shall be imposed a heavier penalty than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed.

³⁶ Article 2 of the Protocol to the Convention states that no person shall be denied the right to education.



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- i) prison gangs³⁷,
 - ii) the abuse of prisoners by prison guards and prisoners violating Article 3³⁸ and 5³⁹ the ECoHR;
-
1. Strongly urges the constituents of the Council of Europe to formulate a Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms including Articles 1,2,3 and 4 from the basic principles⁴⁰ of the European Prison Rules as a bare minimum;
 2. Encourages the constituents of the CoE to implement all the articles of the European Prison Rules⁴¹;
 3. Proposes an annual discussion forum for representatives of constituents of the CoE and judges of the ECHR to discuss and develop a common understanding of the interpretation of the ECoHR and to release a report which summarises the meeting;
 4. Recommends to increase the ECHR's effectiveness by :
 - a) increasing the number of assistants in the ECHR,
 - b) encouraging national governments to review the procedures of their national courts,
 - c) including a Human Rights course explaining the functions of the ECHR and the ECoHR in the education process of the prisoners;
 5. Urges the Committee for the Prevention of Torture to perform annual inspections in every constituent of the CoE, with consideration to the EPR alongside the ECoHR;
 6. Calls for the establishment of anonymous surveys to be completed by convicted criminals and detainees to collect information regarding the conditions and facilities of imprisonment by the CPT;
 7. Requests when member states of the CoE do not act on a negative reports from the CPT within six months that the report be published and sent to the ECHR for use as evidence in future trials;
 8. Further requests the CoE to :
 - a) implement sanctions if no action is taken by the reported governments within two years,
 - b) remove the reported constituent from the Council following ten years of inaction;
 9. Recommends that the consultative Council of European Prosecutors⁴² further develops the training of enforcement agents to include applicable skills such as conflict training and an understanding of the implementation of Human Rights;

³⁷ Prison Gang is a term to describe different types of gang activity inside prisons or correctional facilities that consist of a group of inmates violating other inmates' Human Rights, often in a way similar to the cause of their arrest.

³⁸ Article 3 states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

³⁹ Article 5 states that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. Only the right to liberty can be taken away with a procedure prescribed by law.

⁴⁰ 1. All persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with respect for their human rights. 2. Persons deprived of their liberty retain all rights that are not lawfully taken away by the decision sentencing them or remanding them in custody. 3 Restrictions placed on persons deprived of their liberty shall be the minimum necessary and proportionate to the legitimate objective for which they are imposed 4. Prison conditions that infringe prisoners' human rights are not justified by lack of resources.

⁴¹ European Prison Rules are a set of recommendations issued by the Committee of Ministers to national governments. They establish the minimum standards regarding prison staff, prisoners and pre-trial detainees.

⁴² The Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) works to improve prosecutorial practices.



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10. Endorses the addition of a protocol to the ECoHR which enforces the right to vote for all convicted criminals unless in specific cases a national court has ruled to remove this right in a fair trial;
11. Requests that in accordance with the ECoHR all constituents of the CoE enable detainees to vote and stand for election;
12. Urges that the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters⁴³ provide a translator for all legal meetings for detainees and prisoners who do not speak the national language of the country in which the trial is taking place;
13. Demands that constituents of the CoE provide compensation for :
 - a) detainees that are subsequently proven innocent in a court of law,
 - b) convicted criminals whose sentence is shorter than the period of time they were detained for;
14. Calls for the constituents of the CoE to provide the option for the criminal to serve their sentence in a country of which they are a citizen following a trial in the country in which the crime was committed;
15. Strongly requests that:
 - a) all constituents of the CoE to provide access to acknowledged education including, but not limited to high school qualifications and university degrees,
 - b) all constituents of the Council of Europe to immediately enforce Articles 103.3 and 103.4⁴⁴ of the European Prison Rules;
16. Suggests the member states of the CoE to implement awareness campaigns that aim to provide information on the purpose of imprisonment and the conditions inside detention and penitentiary facilities such as:
 - a) documentaries,
 - b) public campaigns utilising media units such as television and radio,
 - c) visits to high schools from reformed convicts,
 - d) the establishment of a user-friendly website with the intention of providing general information about prisons and intended improvements;
17. Recommends the provision of extensive group and leisure activities for prisoners and detainees in order to reduce the negative and aggressive social atmosphere.

⁴³ Participating states of the Council of Europe agree to afford each other the widest possible assistance in gathering evidence and hearing witnesses, experts and defendants. The convention sets out the rules for this mutual support.

⁴⁴ 103.3 Sentenced prisoners shall be encouraged to participate in drawing up their individual sentence plans, 103.4 Such plans shall as far as is practicable include: a. work; b. education; c. other activities; and d. preparation for release.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Whether it is cross-border, transnational or interregional, the European Territorial Cooperation concretely contributes to building the EU. Within the frame of the discussions on the 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy, what role and which means should the European Territorial Cooperation have within the future EU Regional Policy ?

Submitted by: Raphael Bek (AT), Noura Berrouba (SE), Arnie Birss (UK), Lyubov Dvoretzskaya (UA), Christine-Bianca Hanganu (RO), Panagiotis P. Kalaïthopoulos (GR), Nives Kaprocki (RS), Yuliya Miadzvetskaya (BY), Balázs Nemes (HU), Mia Wessels (NL), Katie Teahan (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Guided by the fact that European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) is one of the three objectives of cohesion policy which aims to minimise the effects of physical borders in the European Union (EU)⁴⁵ comprising three strands: transnational⁴⁶, interregional⁴⁷ and cross-border⁴⁸,
- B. Noting with regret that the purpose of the ETC is not clearly defined by the EU,
- C. Alarmed by the significant underrepresentation of the private sector, especially Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) in ETC coordinated projects,
- D. Noting with regret the lack available information about ETC activity accessible to both private and public stakeholders,
- E. Recognising regional authorities' lack of awareness about ETC activity,
- F. Affirming that the ETC facilitates the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives⁴⁹,
- G. Concerned that the results of ETC coordinated projects are measured solely financially,
- H. Noting that currently, funding provided to projects is given to regional authorities instead of the projects themselves,
- I. Acknowledges the successful performance of the EGTC⁵⁰ and ESPON⁵¹;

⁴⁵ ETC comprises 2.5% of the Cohesion Policy Budget alongside Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives.

⁴⁶ Transnational; aimed at multilateral cooperation of regions from three or more countries.

⁴⁷ Interregional: aimed at cooperation between the regions of all 27 Member States.

⁴⁸ Cross-border: aimed at projects between internal and external borders.

⁴⁹ Europe 2020 Strategy was developed under the Lisbon Treaty and targets the following areas: Employment, Research and Development/Innovation, Climate Change/Energy, Education, Poverty/Social exclusion.

⁵⁰ European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation is the legal entity designed to facilitate and promote work of the ETC under its defined strands.

⁵¹ European Spatial Planning Observatory Network is a programme tasked with studying dynamics within the European Territory, focussing on territorial structures, trends and policy impacts within the EU. (European Policy Centre, Policy Brief, March 2007)



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1. Declares that the role of the ETC is to aid regional cooperation and tackle shared issues;
2. Encourages the participation of SMEs given their particular pertinence to cohesion policy;
3. Calls for participating authorities, in accordance with the ETC objective, to inform relevant SMEs of opportunities within ongoing projects;
4. Recommends the creation of a permanent ETC internet database to store JTS⁵² findings which will:
 - a) be available to all relevant stakeholders,
 - b) help improve the relationship between regional, national and supranational entities;
5. Confirms the necessity of the ETC in compliance with the Europe 2020 Strategy;
6. Urges the JTS to continue comprehensive monitoring after the completion of ETC coordinated projects in order to assess the wider impact of these projects;
7. Further recommends that funding be distributed directly to the projects themselves and not to participating authorities;
8. Calls for the adoption of ETC qualification criteria to assess suitability and devise strategic targets for project coordination;
9. Further calls for such criteria to be comprised of:
 - a) the willingness of all stakeholders to participate fully in the project,
 - b) the likelihood of long-term and diverse benefits,
 - c) the priorities outlined by wider EU strategy;
10. Considers that aforementioned criteria will aid and streamline the working of ESPON;
11. Endorses the ETC to provide assistance to national projects whose interests align to ETC objectives;
12. Further suggests that the ETC remain flexible regarding both diversity and depth of projects.

⁵² Joint Technical Secretariat comprised for each ETC project and responsible for gathering information and evaluating the implementation of such projects.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS I

“Indignados”⁵³, the young Europeans? Despite greater opportunities for study and mobility, the current European youth’s unrest is deep. Which measures should be implemented by EU institutions and the relevant national stakeholders to help young people⁵⁴ find their place in society?

Submitted by: Luis Algeciras Jimenez (ES), Emmanuelle Clement (FR), Rosaura Conti (IT), Carlo Eckert (DE), Giorgia Giani (GR), Ana Isabel Gonçalves (PT), Andreas Hadjimitsis (CY), Triin Heinla (EE), Hanna Karlsson (SE), Sandra Moldane (LV), Aimilia Mylona (GR), Gábor Soma Plecsko (HU), Reinder Vos de Wael (NL), Ruben Wagenaar (Vice-President, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with deep concern the influence the economic recession has had on employment in Europe, and its particularly detrimental impact on employment opportunities and wage levels for young people,
- B. Bearing in mind that long term youth unemployment may have a harmful influence on both the individual and society, due to a reduced outlook on employment prospects for young people and the possibility of becoming socially excluded,
- C. Noting with concern that the number of early school drop-outs⁵⁵ in the EU amounted to 14.3%⁵⁶ in 2010, thereby limiting their career prospects and increasing their exposure to the risk of becoming socially excluded,
- D. Welcoming the launch of the Youth on the Move⁵⁷ programme by the European Commission in 2010,
- E. Supporting the introduction of measures such as the European Progress Microfinance Facility and Youth at Work⁵⁸,
- F. Viewing with appreciation the Europe 2020 targets aimed at reducing the number of early school drop-outs to below 10% in 2020,
- G. Realising that the influence of the high number of graduates leaving education and seeking employment during the financial crisis has resulted in reduced numbers of vacancies and an over-saturated labour market,

⁵³ A spontaneously formed mass of young people in Spain, calling themselves ‘Los Indignados’ (the Outraged), responsible for mass protests demanding jobs, better living standards, fairer political standards and changes to their government’s austerity program.

⁵⁴ Age 15-24.

⁵⁵ Young students leaving secondary education before having obtained a qualification.

⁵⁶ Promoting young people’s full participation in education, employment and society (2010).

⁵⁷ The Youth on the Move programme is aimed at modernising education and training and supporting learning and job mobility.

⁵⁸ These programmes are aimed at providing financial aid and support for young entrepreneurs to start up their own businesses.



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- H. Alarmed by the fact that a mismatch exists between European education systems and the labour market, resulting in the unsuccessful integration of new graduates into the labour market,
 - I. Reaffirming the importance of young people acquiring work experience during secondary and tertiary education⁵⁹ to ensure a smooth transition into the labour market,
 - J. Aware that many young people being attracted to similar fields of education has resulted in an abundance of qualified workers and a lack of career opportunities in some fields, and shortages in others,
 - K. Observing that the possession of soft skills⁶⁰ is highly valued by employers, yet in many European countries these skills do not receive sufficient recognition and attention in their respective education systems,
 - L. Alarmed by the lack of recognition and awareness from employers regarding the importance of non-formal education,
 - M. Noting with deep concern that even though social protection and unemployment benefits aim to aid those in need, some of its beneficiaries cease to be active by growing accustomed to receiving such aid,
 - N. Bearing in mind that in times of economic recession, minimum wages can lead to higher levels of unemployment among youth, due to the fact that employers often fire younger, less-experienced workers first, in order to save money and compensations,
 - O. Taking into account that strong Employment Protection Laws can have an adverse effect on employment of young people, due to the higher costs of firing older employees;
-
- 1. Recommends European governments introduce financial support systems based on the study performance for students from lower socio-economic backgrounds as an incentive to achieve higher grades and obtain a suitable qualification;
 - 2. Urges European governments to require all citizens to successfully complete their secondary education, or as a minimum, set the mandatory age for leaving school at eighteen;
 - 3. Encourages European governments to improve access to second-chance education programmes for early school-leavers, which will be characterized by small and age-appropriate learning groups, involving both theoretical courses and the accumulation of practical experience;
 - 4. Expresses its hope for European governments to ensure that greater emphasis is placed on the development of soft skills in higher education and ensuring that these skills are better recognized in job selection processes;
 - 5. Calls for European governments to ensure that career guidance is made available at all levels of secondary and tertiary education, taking the form of seminars, courses and counselling, aimed at:
 - a) providing information about career opportunities and labour market demands,
 - b) Increasing young people's awareness of employee rights,
 - c) ensuring a match between different education paths and individual skills and talents;

⁵⁹ Third-level education.

⁶⁰ For example presentation skills, teamwork, confidence, etc.



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6. Requests European governments to ensure that all upper-secondary students in the final three years of their education take part in apprenticeships lasting for a minimum of one week per academic year;
7. Calls upon European governments to ensure that internships that last for a minimum of one semester are an obligatory element of the curriculum of all university degrees, where the designated universities should play an active role in the process of finding suitable positions;
8. Urges European governments to introduce a two-year reduction of social security taxes for companies, as an incentive to promote the permanent hiring of qualified temporary employees and interns;
9. Calls upon all European governments to provide unemployment benefits for young people who have been officially registered as unemployed for at least six months, conditional upon their:
 - a) active participation in compulsory training,
 - b) proof of active search for employment;
10. Further suggests that the amount of the financial support of the aforementioned unemployment benefits are calculated as a percentage of young persons' last earned wage or minimum wage and the level of overall household income, and is provided for a maximum of six months;
11. Endorses the introduction of a sub-minimum wage in all European countries for 15-22 year olds, calculated as a percentage of the minimum wage, to increase as a function of the age, thereby making the hiring of young people more attractive to employers;
12. Calls upon European governments to introduce a Young Person's Guarantee, aimed at providing a job position or further training and education opportunities for all youths who have been unemployed for a period longer than one year;
13. Emphasises the need for making initiatives aimed at financing, guiding and supporting young people in starting up a new business more visible and accessible.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY II

‘At the heart of EU policy’ (Lange Report, February 2011): Finding the balance between competitiveness, growth and jobs creation. What should be the focus of EU industrial policy in the next 10 years?

Submitted by: Neus Calbet Ilopart (ES), Catalina Ana Maria Croitoru (RO), Tsoukala Evdokia (GR), Svetlana Galkovskaya (RU), Marija Gavrilov (CS), Aida Grishaj (AL), Liene Krastina (LV), Aleksandra Mnich (PL), Lee Moran (IE), Stefan Nippes (DE), Mattias Olsson (SE), Volodymyr Soldatenko (UA), Léa Trinel (FR), Julie Van Der Post (NL), Kateryna Opanasiuk (Chairperson, UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully aware that one of the consequences of the economic crisis is a weakened European Union capacity to meet the future challenges of international competitiveness and sustainable growth,
- B. Deeply convinced that the EU industrial policy for the next 10 years should be focused on Research and Development (R&D) in order for the EU to remain a leading competitor in the global market,
- C. Realising the potential further integration of the Single Market,
- D. Bearing in mind the growing industrial competitiveness of BRIC¹ countries,
- E. Recognising that due to common industrial aims but different socio-economic models, Member States need a country specific approach,
- F. Emphasising the need for a transition towards:
 - i) a low-carbon, resource-and-energy-efficient economy,
 - ii) clean, sustainable forms of production, distribution and consumption,
- G. Deeply concerned by the lack of joint public and private investment (PPI) schemes in R&D which hinders competitiveness, technological advances and job creation,
- H. Taking into account that the competitiveness of European industry crucially depends on the quality and sufficiency of energy, transport, communication services and infrastructure,
- I. Bearing in mind that up to 45%² of the cost of the product unit is made up of the cost of materials whilst intelligent use of raw materials and efficient use of energy are crucially important for EU industry,
- J. Acknowledging constant accretion of dependence on raw materials and resources resulting in a possible shortage in supply of the aforementioned materials,
- K. Concerned that excessive bureaucratic barriers hinder the emergence of new SMEs³,

¹ Countries of Brazil, Russia, India and China, which are all deemed to be at a similar stage of newly advanced economic development.

² From Lange Report on an Industrial Policy for the Globalised Era, 2 February 2011.



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- L. Deeply concerned about the damaging impact of infringement of intellectual property rights by emerging economies upon EU industry,
 - M. Recognising that the higher level of education is at the core of knowledge based economy;
-
- 1. Notes that the significant increase in R&D investment, both private and public, is essential for the EU to remain a leader in technology and retain global competitiveness, which will be useful means of revenue collect;
 - 2. Calls for Member States to remove the remaining obstacles and barriers in the internal market, such as divergent national rules, duplication of procedures and difficulties with accessing some markets;
 - 3. Calls upon the Member States for further improvement of cooperation through:
 - a) the harmonisation of existing legislation in order to reduce the costs of doing business,
 - b) strengthening the EU's role in the coordination of market surveillance,
 - c) more effective assignment, management and use of intellectual property rights;
 - 4. Recommends the creation of internationally competitive '*European Champions*', for example through the merging of SMEs, capable to penetrate into international market;
 - 5. Calls upon the European Commission to foster growth and increase productivity by:
 - a) country specific assessment and monitoring of industrial progress,
 - b) country specific recommendations,
 - c) 'Fitness-checks'⁴ of existing and future legislation;
 - 6. Calls for enterprises to engage with eco-innovation and demonstrate new business opportunities with the aim to create a resource-efficient economy and the boost employment potential;
 - 7. Takes the view that an industrial policy needs to pursue an active energy savings protocol alongside sustainable, non-polluting and safe energy consumption;
 - 8. Supports technological advancement and job creation through:
 - a) encouraging the national, regional and EU cluster⁵ policies to overcome market failures, funding gaps, especially to provide a bridge between companies and research institutions,
 - b) incentivising PPIs to invest in joint ventures in R&D to maximise the development of innovative products, create jobs and generate profit,
 - c) the reallocation of labour, within the framework of a 'flexicurity'⁶ system;
 - 9. Urges Member States to further explore appropriate digital infrastructures and innovative technologies in order to build a new communication infrastructure with a high transmission capacity in areas with lack of services;

³ Small (headcount < 50, turnover ≤ € 10 million) and Medium-Sized (headcount < 250, turnover ≤ € 50 million) Enterprises.

⁴ Actions taken by the Commission to complement evaluation of individual pieces of legislation. 'Fitness checks' are aimed to assess whether the regulatory framework for a policy area is fit for purpose and, if not, what should be improved.

⁵ Concentration of interconnected businesses, suppliers, and associated institutions in a particular field.

⁶ Fusion of social security and labour market flexibility.



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10. Expresses its appreciation of the Raw Materials Strategy, which was brought by the European Commission in June 2011 and which stresses the importance of the availability of the raw materials for the EU industry;
11. Further encourages the development and creation of an EU patent and unified patent litigation system⁷ to protect the EU's intellectual property rights;
12. Endorses the provision of a public policy to support the cooperation between industries and universities to fulfil the demand for qualified workers in the industry⁸.

⁷ In May 2011, the Commission published draft containing the provisions necessary to implement unitary patent protection in the 25 EU Member States.

⁸ In Germany High Education (HE) institutions integrating academic studies and work experience using the participation of training companies. Cost of HE is shared between the employer and the state.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II

More than fifteen years after the Dayton Agreements, 'Bosnia-Herzegovina faces its worst crisis since the war'. What should be the EU's role in ensuring the stabilisation of a country recognised to have a 'European future'?

Submitted by: Meadhbh Costello (IE), Nemanja Drljaca (CS), Jonathan Engel (DE) Rosanna Irvine (UK), Tomislav Karacic (HR), Mattia Mariotti (IT), Cecilia Mihaljek (CH), Andreia Moraru (RO), Umit Suleyman Onan (CY), Pauline Schmitlin (FR), Fabian Sommer (AT), Jana Trifunovic (NL), Wendy Verswijvel (BE), Dmitry Vyskrebentsev (RU), Anna O'Leary (Vice-President, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the original necessity of the Dayton Agreement as an immediate solution to ending the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH),
- B. Deeply conscious of the flaws of the rapidly written Dayton Agreement as a long term framework, in particular:
 - i) the domination of external states and significant underrepresentation of Bosniaks, Bosnian Serbs, and Croats during negotiation,
 - ii) the writing of a constitution which does not determine who and under what circumstances state office can be held⁶¹,
 - iii) the failed assumption that the three Bosnian ethnicities would fully cooperate after the war,
 - iv) the lack of provision for sustainable infrastructure and economy⁶²,
- C. Alarmed by the polarisation of political parties and the lack of political interest in BiH,
- D. Noting with deep concern the inability of BiH to access EU funds due to the lack of a central government of BiH,
- E. Encouraged that 70% of the population of BiH supports accession to the EU⁶³,
- F. Reaffirming the potential candidacy of BiH for accession to the EU as agreed in the Thessaloniki Summit in 2003,⁶⁴
- G. Recognising the Brcko District as an example of a well functioning multi-ethnic area,
- H. Keeping in mind the importance of the US and NATO⁶⁵ in the region with regards to their historical involvement and provision of stability,
- I. Aware of the Croat community's desire for their own equal entity within BiH,

⁶¹ BiH Roundtable, Dayton Peace Agreement : Four years of Experience- Position of the Democratic Alternative (Sarajevo : Helsinki Citizen's Assembly, 2000) , 8

⁶² Neue Burcher Beitung, Thursday 4th November 2010, Nr. 257

⁶³ Freedom House : Nations in transit 2008 : Democratisation from Central Europe to Eurasia

⁶⁴ European Commission Summit, Thessaloniki 21 June 2003, 10229/03 (Press 163)

⁶⁵ NATO : North Atlantic Treaty Organisation



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- J. Believing that further decentralisation would be destructive with regard to the future stability of BiH,
 - K. Welcoming that 72.6%⁶⁶ of the citizens of BiH support changes to the constitution in light of the infringement of human rights identified by the European Court of Human Rights,
 - L. Fully aware of the importance of both an amended constitution and stability in BiH,
 - M. Taking into account the temporary nature of the Office of the High Representative as facilitator of the transition to democracy,
 - N. Deeply concerned by corruption⁶⁷ and disproportionate representation of Bosnian-Serbs within the judiciary of BiH,
 - O. Alarmed by the high level of unemployment and poverty in BiH⁶⁸;
-
- 1. Encourages a reform of the electoral system in BiH whereby parliament is elected through a Proportional Representation (PR) system using the D'Hondt method⁶⁹;
 - 2. Has resolved to operate nonpartisan awareness campaigns on the new PR voting system in the hope to develop an understanding and interest of politics amongst the population of BiH;
 - 3. Requests gradual constitutional changes alongside development in infrastructure to ensure that the constitution meets the minimum requirements of the ECHR;
 - 4. Designates the Central Electoral Commission as the official monitor of elections in BiH and to report its findings to the Organisation for Security, Cooperation in Europe;
 - 5. Calls for cooperation between Interpol, the ministry of justice and local police forces in order to fight organised crime and corruption within BiH;
 - 6. Recommends the creation of an ethnic quota system to ensure equal representation within local police forces and the judiciary, such as that created in post-conflict Northern Ireland,⁷⁰
 - 7. Supports existing ombudsman organisations in both Republika Srpska and the federations including the provision of EU training and resources to these entities;
 - 8. Resolves to increase the efficiency of NGOs which monitor reconciliation, and work at flashpoints in BiH, through:
 - a) increasing EU funding,
 - b) using a rewards system for the allocation of funds based on the fulfilment of agreed upon preconditions,
 - c) introducing a less bureaucratic application process for EU funds for NGOs;
 - 9. Strongly suggests the introduction of universal religious education in schools in order to promote understanding and tolerance, such as practiced in many EU Member States;
 - 10. Authorises an official EU study on the state of reconciliation in BiH in connection with that being conducted by Freedom House⁷¹;

⁶⁶ Prism Research, Sarajevo, Public Opinion Poll, September 2003

⁶⁷ European Commission Report IP/08/288 26th February 2008

⁶⁸ European Council Report, Brussels March 2011

⁶⁹ Method of voting which is a highest averages method for allocating seats in party list representation which slightly favours large parties and coalitions over scattered small parties.

⁷⁰ Good Friday Agreement

⁷¹ Freedom House : Nations in transit 2008 : Democratisation from Central Europe to Eurasia



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11. Endorses the further provision of financial aid by the EU aimed at the development of basic infrastructure and secondary sector to encourage stability;
 12. Affirms the need for increased cooperation between EU economic advisors and those of BiH, to support the implementation of necessary economic reforms.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS II

Taking into consideration the tightened refugee and migration situation due to political situations in Libya, Egypt and Tunisia, as well as internal EU differences regarding the management of migration, how should the EU consider its migration policy in order to adequately face contemporary challenges of both legal and illegal immigration into Member States?

Submitted by: Agnieszka Matyja (PL), Alessandro Delle Cese (IT), Andrew Bathe (IE), Anna Englund (FI), Anna Trine Raudsepp (EE), Anna Tankel (GB), Beatrice Reichel (SE), Carmen Guzman Garcia (ES), Danai Tselou (GR), Felix Adrian Niemeier (DE), Julia Fischmann (AT), Rifat Koseoglu (CY), Krzysztof Ignaciuk (PL), Martina Visnjic (HR), Rodrigo Reis (Chairperson, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising that the European Union (EU) must be prepared an mass influx of migrants in reaction to political, economic and humanitarian times of crisis as illustrated by the Arab Spring,
- B. Aware of the importance of forming multilateral ties with non Member States within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)⁷² as well as Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean⁷³ in order to promote international development and third party involvement in migration agreements,
- C. Noting with deep concern the recent requests to revise the Schengen Agreement and the hazards that poses for European integration⁷⁴,
- D. Recognising the importance of FRONTEX⁷⁵ in maintaining the external borders while particularly commending the success of Operation Hermes 2011⁷⁶,

⁷² Policy which aims to make EU's neighbouring countries more stable and prosperous by offering aid, market access and cooperation concerning various matters while asking the partner countries to implement reforms.

⁷³ The strategy spells out what Europe can do to support the momentous changes in Southern Neighbourhood and should be built on three key pillars: i) targeted support for democratic transformation and institution-building, with a particular focus on human rights, constitutional and judicial reforms and the fight against corruption; ii) a close partnership with the people, with a specific emphasis on support to civil society and more opportunities for people-to-people contacts, especially for the young, iii) a boost for economic growth, development and job creation, notably through support to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.

⁷⁴ I.e. Sarkozy threatening to suspend internal open borders in reaction to Italy issuing temporary visa to Tunisian nationals fleeing from political unrest in May 2011.

⁷⁵ European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union - European agency responsible for the management of external borders in ensuring the security of the EU's borders with non-member states, crucial for preventing illegal immigration to the EU's southern shore.

⁷⁶ Operation carried out by FRONTEX in the Mediterranean, particularly on Lampedusa and Malta in order to deal with the increased migrant influx due to the recent events in Northern Africa.



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- E. Reaffirming that FRONTEX needs adequate and continued funding in order to fulfil its mandate,
 - F. Keeping in mind the social implications of migration and the importance of embracing social diversity,
 - G. Acknowledging the humanitarian obligation to ensure that migrants rights are respected:
 - i) upon arrival into EU territory,
 - ii) during a potential stays in detention camps on EU territory,
 - iii) during the time in which potential asylum applications are processed,
 - H. Alarmed by the widespread abuses of asylum policy in the EU including but not limited to the practices of:
 - i) asylum shopping⁷⁷,
 - ii) fraudulent acquisition of asylum status,
 - I. Deeply concerned by the lack of harmonisation between migration policies in Member States,
 - J. Reaffirming that each Member State can cope with a different number of migrants and has the right to decide how many migrants to admit as stated by Article 79 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)⁷⁸,
 - K. Recognising that:
 - i) Dublin II is an essential measure to prevent asylum shopping,
 - ii) there is a necessity to commend and advise further improvement of EURODAC⁷⁹,
 - iii) the benefits of Dublin II cannot be felt without further harmonization of national migration policies,
 - iv) number of Member States are intensely dissatisfied with the Dublin II regulation and believe it results in uneven burden sharing of the migrants within the EU,
 - L. Realising that the 2004, 2007, and possible future enlargements of EU territory present new challenges in terms of:
 - i) external border security,
 - ii) information sharing systems;
-
- 1. Reaffirms that no revisions of the Schengen Agreement⁸⁰ are necessary bearing in mind that it has safety clauses built into it allowing national governments to reassume control of internal borders in case of emergency;
 - 2. Urges the fully implementation and constant improvement of the Common European Asylum System⁸¹ whereby:

⁷⁷ The practise of lodging applications in several European countries at once in hope of being accepted somewhere.

⁷⁸ 'The Union shall develop a common immigration policy aimed at ensuring, at all stages, the efficient management of migration flows, fair treatment of third-country nationals residing legally in Member States, and the prevention of, and enhanced measures to combat, illegal immigration and trafficking in human beings'.

⁷⁹ EURODAC is a European Union automated fingerprint identification system for recording and comparing the fingerprints of asylum seekers and illegal immigrants.

⁸⁰ Treaty signed in 1985 which created Europe's borderless schengen area that is operating as a single state in matters of international travel having only border control at the external borders without internal control.



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- a) Asylum applications will no longer be made to the Member States in which the applicant arrives as established by Dublin II, but to the EU regardless of where the applicant arrives,
 - b) The EU will invite Member States to accept a certain number of applicants,
 - c) The decisions made by the EU with regards to the asylum seekers will stand in all EU Member States,
 - d) Member States will continue to have the sovereign right to accept or reject asylum applications;
3. Calls for FRONTEX to have an incremental allocation of funding in order to:
 - a) Meet the increased demand of its services in securing external borders,
 - b) Work to get humanitarian aid and medical assistance to migrants when necessary during its operations;
 4. Urges Member States to increase the transparency of their detention facilities thereby granting access to relevant NGOs and media in order to report on compliance with international Human Right Law in accordance with the Geneva Convention⁸² and the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees⁸³;
 5. Approves the effort to implement SIS II⁸⁴ by 2013 as it is an essential prerequisite to more efficient control at the EU's external borders as well as to lifting controls at internal borders.

⁸¹ A series of directive provisions attempt to harmonise the national asylum systems due to replace the Dublin Convention where Member States have committed to establishing it by 2012.

⁸² The Geneva Conventions comprise four treaties, and three additional protocols, that establish the standards of international law for the humanitarian treatment of the victims of war and refugees.

⁸³ International convention that defines who is a refugee, and sets out the rights of individuals who are granted asylum and the responsibilities of nations that grant asylum.

⁸⁴ Governmental database currently used by 18 European countries to maintain and distribute information on individuals and objects of interest. It is used for national security, border control and law enforcement purposes.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

Not far enough nor fast enough ? The publication of the EC White Paper on Transport in March 2011 provoked a wide range of concerns both among the actors of the transports sector and environment activists. Whilst Transport is responsible for more than a quarter of its CO2 emissions, how should a comprehensive and coherent transport policy of the EU look in reaction to fears regarding both short and long-term impacts of Carbon?

Submitted by: Philip Aiolfi (CH), Craig Allen (IE), Bogdan Andrisca (RO), Georgina Ansaldo (ES), Irmak Anteplioglu (TR), Myrsini Aretaki (GR), Manfredi Danielis (IT), Vanessa Janas (DE), Mateo Klanisek (AT), Jovan Mitrovic (RS), Samuel Muhsin (CZ), Pauliina Paloviita (FI), Kata Szilvia Papp (HU), Paul Rognon (FR), Johan Wallin (SE), Masoumeh Moridian (Chairperson, AT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Convinced that the prosperity of the European Union (EU) depends on an efficient and sustainable transport system,
- B. Declaring that the EU requires all means of transport to facilitate its free trade market,
- C. Aware of the current efforts being made to create a Single European Transport Area⁸⁵,
- D. Approving the following goals of the European Commission (EC) White Paper 2011:
 - i) the elimination of conventionally-fuelled cars in cities,
 - ii) a 40% use of sustainable low carbon fuels in aviation,
 - iii) a minimum 40% cut in shipping emissions,
 - iv) a 50% shift of medium distance intercity passenger and freight journeys from road to rail and waterborne transport,
 - v) a 60% cut in transport emissions by the middle of the century,
- E. Deeply concerned by the delay of most EC measures until after 2030,
- F. Noting with regret that EU transport depends on oil and oil products for 96% of its energy needs⁸⁶,
- G. Taking into account that:
 - i) the use of fossil fuels causes pollution,
 - ii) transport equates to 30% of the EU's carbon emissions,

⁸⁵ According to the EC White Paper 2011 (p. 11) the objective for the next decade is to create a genuine Single European Transport Area by eliminating all residual barriers between modes and national systems, easing the process of integration and facilitating the emergence of multinational and multimodal operators.

⁸⁶ EC White Paper 2011, Brussels, 28.03.2011, p. 4



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- iii) congestion costs 1% of the EU's GDP⁸⁷,
 - H. Bearing in mind that demographics affect transport,
 - I. Recognising that many cities do not operate an effective mass transit system,
 - J. Acknowledging that eco-friendly transport is often more expensive, less convenient and less attractive than 'conventionally-fuelled'⁸⁸ transport,
 - K. Emphasising that research is the key to further advancement in developing sustainable energy sources,
 - L. Keeping in mind the necessity to operate an efficient and high-speed rail system to compete with aviation,
 - M. Taking note of the required infrastructural improvements in new Member States⁸⁹;
-
- 1. Calls for the replacement of fossil fuelled vehicles with eco-friendly alternatives such as:
 - a) air-powered engine cars⁹⁰,
 - b) bio-fuels that do not harm the agricultural sector,
 - c) electric cars;
 - 2. Encourages further research on new forms of energy such as:
 - a) hydrogen energy,
 - b) fuel produced from algae;
 - 3. Emphasises the use of inter-modal⁹¹ freight transport to increase efficiency;
 - 4. Urges the introduction and expansion of a road pricing system in congested city areas;
 - 5. Further requests the introduction and expansion of intra-city public transport;
 - 6. Endorses the use of bicycles in congested city areas by increasing the amount of cycle lanes;
 - 7. Confirms the modernisation and electrification of railways in order to increase efficiency;
 - 8. Supports the increase of:
 - a) high speed rail,
 - b) water freight transport,
 - c) vehicle carrying trains;
 - 9. Affirms the construction of a high speed mass transit rail system connecting every major⁹² EU city;
 - 10. Approves the expansion of rail networks in order to connect regional areas with major European cities;
 - 11. Further invites the introduction of means to make trains more appealing such as:
 - a) Wi-Fi,
 - b) child entertainment facilities;

⁸⁷ TREMOVE and PRIMES-TREMOVE transport models (Appendix 5 of the Impact Assessment accompanying the White Paper, SEC(2011) 358).

⁸⁸ The term 'conventionally-fuelled' refers to vehicles using non-hybrid, internal combustion engines (ICE).

⁸⁹ Member States that have joined the EU since 2004

⁹⁰ An engine that uses a car battery as an ignition and air as the combustion

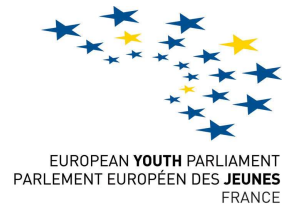
⁹¹ Inter-modal transport means shifting freight from road to sea shipping, rail, inland waterways or a combination of modes of transport.

⁹² Every Member State has the ability to define what constitutes a major city.



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12. Authorises the abolishment of the current road tax⁹³ in favour of a comprehensive fossil fuel tax⁹⁴;
 13. Recommends the further introduction of a car sharing system⁹⁵;
 14. Further recommends car pooling initiatives by opening bus lanes for vehicles carrying three or more passengers;
 15. Calls upon the implementation of carbon dioxide labels for travel tickets⁹⁶.

⁹³ Road tax is a tax, which has to be paid on a motor vehicle before using it on a public road.

⁹⁴ The fuel tax introduces the “pay-as-you-drive” scheme by which greater consumption equals greater tax.

⁹⁵ Car rental on an hourly basis with minimum bureaucracy

⁹⁶ Based on the system introduced in France which states the amount of CO2 emitted during the journey



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

With a view to the Basel III framework and Solvency II regulations – How should Europe improve the stability of its banking and financial sectors whilst seeking to find the appropriate balance between societal demands and global competitiveness?

Submitted by: Kristian Betten Ørjasæter (NO), Andreas Damtsas (CY), Tomasz Fosiewicz (PL), Simon Häußler (DE), Bernat Just (ES), Anastasia Lvova (EE), Izaura Mantsai (AL), Paulo Moreira (PT), Darragh Nolan (IE), Alexander Petrov (RU), Tobias Satlow (AT), Therese Sivertsson (SE), Romée Swaab (NL), Philip Danielsson (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Defining 'societal demands' in the context of this resolution as the demands for a safe and stable financial sector in order to prevent taxpayers' money from being spent to save failing banks and financial institutions,
- B. Taking into consideration that European banks and financial institutions need to maximise profits in order to remain globally competitive, which could possibly endanger a safe and stable financial sector,
- C. Bearing in mind that previous regulations, including Basel II⁹⁷ and Solvency I⁹⁸ have proven to be ineffective,
- D. Noting with concern that banks and financial institutions have become too interdependent upon one another, causing a "domino effect" if one fails,
- E. Bearing in mind that banks and financial institutions finance their long term lending with short term borrowing, possibly rendering them unable to re-finance their daily business in periods of financial difficulty,
- F. Alarmed by the fact that European banks and financial institutions held inadequate capital buffers at the time of the financial crisis, therefore risking insolvency and bank failure,
- G. Confident that appropriate standards of supervision could have helped to foresee the current problems within the financial sector,
- H. Emphasising the lack of transparency shown by some banks and financial institutions towards national supervising authorities and investors,
- I. Noting with deep concern the problems arising from policies of corporate governance within financial institutions, giving incentives to employees to take unnecessarily high risks, which could subsequently lead to damaging consequences,
- J. Alarmed that banks and financial institutions are not sufficiently assessing their risk-taking, caused by but not limited to:

⁹⁷ The predecessor of the Basel III framework. Please see footnote 101.

⁹⁸ The predecessor of the Solvency 2 Directive. Please see footnote 102.



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- i) a lack of transparency and information about possibly insecure investments,
 - ii) an over-reliance upon poor risk assessment provided by credit rating agencies⁹⁹;
-
1. Supports the increased capital requirements¹⁰⁰ on banks and financial institutions as set out in the Basel III framework and the Solvency II regulations;
 2. Endorses the standards regarding increased supervision of the financial sector as put forth within the Basel III framework¹⁰¹ and the Solvency II¹⁰² regulations whilst urging supervisors to publicly disclose quarterly reports in order to increase trust towards the financial sector;
 3. Calls upon European governments to reform the bonus systems and to disincentivise high risk-taking within the financial sector, including proposals such as:
 - a) a defined limit on cash bonuses,
 - b) a partial deferral of bonuses,
 - c) a cap on bonuses relative to fixed salaries,
 - d) imposing additional taxes on bonuses,
 - e) introducing regulations limiting bonuses based on risk assessment;
 4. Urges the creation of a common EU credit rating agency, funded by subscription fees to ensure objectivity while being able to compete with the major private credit rating agencies;
 5. Approves of the compulsory stress tests¹⁰³ set forth in the Basel III framework;
 6. Further designates additional, confidential stress tests, including parameters of a defaulting state, which would promote the disclosure of accurate data and protect the goodwill of a bank or financial institution.

⁹⁹ A credit rating agency is a company (e.g. Standard and Poor's) that assigns credit ratings for issuers of certain types of financial instruments such as debt obligations. In some cases, the servicers of the underlying debt are also given ratings.

¹⁰⁰ A capital requirement is a bank regulation which sets a framework on how banks and financial institutions must handle their capital.

¹⁰¹ The Basel III framework is an international global regulatory standard that aims to improve the banking sector's ability to absorb shocks arising from financial and economic stress. The framework was proposed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision consisting of economic experts and raises the standards on quantity and quality of capital that a bank needs to store. Basel III also introduces stronger supervision, risk management and disclosure standards. The rules are to be gradually phased in from 2013 and take full effect in early 2019. The EU is adopting the Basel III rules by amending the Capital Requirements Directive (CRD IV).

¹⁰² The Solvency II directive calls for similar regulations as the Basel III framework but is targeting insurance companies. It was adopted in 2009 and is to be implemented within the Member States until 2012. The directive is based on three pillars. The first pillar contains quantitative requirements on capital insurance companies need to hold, the second calls for increased standards on the quality of risk management procedures within insurance companies and the third pillar cover supervisory reporting and disclosure.

¹⁰³ A stress test is an analysis conducted under unfavourable economic scenarios which are designed to determine whether a bank has enough capital to withstand the impact of adverse developments. Stress tests can either be carried out internally by banks as part of their own risk management, or by supervisory authorities as part of their regulatory oversight of the banking sector. These tests are meant to detect weak spots in the banking system at an early stage, so that preventive action can be taken by the banks and regulators. Stress tests focus on a few key risks – such as credit risk, market risk, and liquidity risk – to banks' financial health in crisis situations.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION II

Sexual Education, whilst recognised to be a vital part of well being, remains diversely implemented in Europe. What principles and what method(s) should form the basis of a framework for consistent and effective sexual education for all young Europeans?

Submitted by: Niks Berzins (LV), Jakub Brzosko (PL), Philip Dyson (CH), Zeynep Ekinci (TR), Johanna Fürst (AT), Pauline Gueguen (FR), Valeryia Hlukhava (BY), Anthi Karakosta (GR), Laurant Kilmartin (IE), Laura Niemi (FI), Vojtech Opocensky (CZ), Anton Rumyantsev (RU), Dunja Tanovic (UK), Myrna Van Dijk (NL), Bentley Yaffe (Chairperson, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Defining 'well being' as psychological, emotional and physical health,
- B. Alarmed by government bodies' inability to provide comprehensive and balanced sexual education due to missing content in their national curricula in areas such as:
 - i) LGBTQ¹⁰⁴ related information,
 - ii) sexual violence,
 - iii) emotional implications of sexuality,
 - iv) respect and sexual ethics,
 - v) Sexual Transmitted Infections (STIs),
 - vi) contraceptive methods,
- C. Noting with regret the lack of adequate education and guidance for sexual education teachers, often leading to didactic¹⁰⁵ and non-standardised teaching methods,
- D. Deeply concerned by the increase in teenage pregnancies and abortion rates due to its detrimental effects on the 'well being' of both prospective teenage parents and their children,
- E. Further noting with regret the increase of STI transmission, due to the lack of concern stemming from the lack of knowledge of these issues,
- F. Noting with approval the efforts of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)¹⁰⁶ to tackle problems relating to the increase in teenage pregnancies and abortions, but drawing

¹⁰⁴ LGBTQ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer.

¹⁰⁵ Didactic methods are defined as biased in relation to teaching.

¹⁰⁶ IPPF is the strongest global voice safeguarding sexual and reproductive health and rights for people everywhere. The IPPF European network is one of IPPF's six regions. IPPF European Network increases support for and access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights in 41 member associations throughout Europe and Central Asia.



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- attention to the fact that the IPPF is lacking gravitas in Europe¹⁰⁷,
- G. Acknowledging the immense differences in legislation, culture and religions across Europe, and the subsequent varying levels of sexual education,
 - H. Observing with regret that dogmatic ideologies¹⁰⁸ throughout all generations put an intense amount of societal pressure upon the sexual life of young Europeans,
 - I. Determining a lack of cooperation between state institutions and other concerned bodies such as religious institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), with only a few successful exceptions, such the '*Lang leve de liefde*' program¹⁰⁹,
 - J. Convinced that many parents face difficulties handling sexuality related topics with their children,
 - K. Taking into account that while internet filtering options are available to parents and schools, these technologies are both insufficient and not as widely used as they could be,
 - L. Recognising that widespread exposure to erotic material through everyday media¹¹⁰ is negatively affecting the sexual education and sexual expectations of young people,
 - M. Noting with deep concern the conflicting sexuality related material in the media which is creating further confusion regarding sexual matters,
 - N. Convinced that readily available and premature access to pornographic material hinders a realistic understanding of sexual matters;
- 1. Urges European national governments, religious institutions, NGOs, youth representatives and special interest groups to form a European Sexual Education Assembly (ESEA) with facilitation by the Council of Europe to create content for the sexual education curriculum that will take into account the interests of all parties involved;
 - 2. Declares accordingly that certain topics¹¹¹ should be comprehensively included in said curriculum, with other additional topics to be decided upon by the ESEA;
 - 3. Recommends that the sexual education programme be introduced between the ages of 10 to 12 years and that it be linked to the age of consent of the participating European countries;
 - 4. Recommends that the European Commission create a qualification for sexual education teachers which will strongly encourage participation from non Member States which will aim to create a non-didactic teaching method for sexual education;

¹⁰⁷ Europe is defined as the area wherein states could legitimately take upon membership of the Council of Europe.

¹⁰⁸ Dogmatic ideologies are defined as any ideological system that presents their principles as incontrovertially true.

¹⁰⁹ *Lang leve de liefde* (long, live, love) is a package subsidised by the Dutch government, developed in the late 1980s, created in consultation with churches, health officials and family plan organisations which forced teachers to become more explicit and to discuss norms and values using a participatory approach.

¹¹⁰ Everyday media is specifically defined as both traditional broadcast and print media such as television and newspapers, and advertisements that are featured in the media and in public spaces.

¹¹¹ The mandatory content will include: sexual anatomy, sexual reproduction, reproductive health, puberty, reproductive rights & responsibilities, if available talks from parents who have had children as teenagers; detailed information on contraception methods including abstinence; detailed information about STIs and prevention methods; objective information about abortion; awareness of sexual violence & victim support; underlining the unrealistic aspects of pornographic material and its demeaning view of women; emotional and psychological aspects of relationships and sexual activity; comprehensive LGBTQ information; promotion of the website to be established in clause 9.



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5. Recommends the promotion of clearer information on condom packets through increased cooperation between the World Health Organisation (WHO) and companies that manufacture condoms;
6. Encourages government bodies to instruct local and regional government institutions to provide an environment in which elderly and young people can exchange views and opinions on sexual issues;
7. Calls upon schools to provide appropriate sexual education teaching materials to parents during parent-teacher meetings and hospitals to provide parental packs¹¹² for new parents;
8. Encourages further publicity of the IPPF's activities within Europe;
9. Calls for the creation of a comprehensive and reliable website regulated by the WHO, ESEA and other relevant bodies in order to provide easily accessible information regarding sexual education which will be:
 - a) available in all recognised European languages,
 - b) approved by the WHO,
 - c) based on the curriculum that is devised and updated by the ESEA,
 - d) containing chat forums, video lectures, information on telephone helplines for people with questions about teenage pregnancy, abortion or sexual violence;
10. Supports the provision of free website filters provided primarily on the aforementioned website in order to make it harder for minors to gain access to pornographic material;
11. Encourages each European country's media watchdogs to produce stricter guidelines with regard to programs and advertisements by imposing age and time restrictions and clearer warning classifications;
12. Draws attention to the work and research of the Population Council¹¹³ and requests their presence and activity within Europe.

¹¹² Parental packs will be packs containing information and guidance to assist parents in discussing sexual matters (for example: STIs, contraceptive usage and implications of pornography) with their children in order to dispel ignorance and taboo caused by misinformation.

¹¹³ The Population Council is an international non-profit NGO that was established in 1952 and is currently active in 49 countries. The Population Council conducts research in the three main areas of HIV/AIDS, poverty, gender & youth, and reproductive health.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

In the aftermath of the 2011 Presidential Election in Côte d'Ivoire. What should be the priorities of the EU 'Recovery Package' so as to ensure both a swift political transition and a sustainable economic recovery?

Submitted by: Saga Eriksson (FI), Vasile Bogdan Gologan (RO), Leonhard Kaindl (DE), Tim Keegstra (NL), Nikos Koukovinos (GR), Fiachra Maguire (IE), Hanna Melhus (NO), Claire Moreau (FR), Elsa Nilsson (SE), Osman Arda Sezer (TR), Bram Van Meldert (BE), Abigail Wood (UK), Lily Zechner (AT), Schima Labitsch (Chairperson, AT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind the current goals of consolidating peace and good governance, social cohesion and the restoration of social and economic infrastructure through:
 - i) the European Union (EU) 'recovery package'¹¹⁴ valued at €180 million, launched on April 12, 2011,
 - ii) the pre-existing European Development Fund (EDF)¹¹⁵ of € 256 million active from 2008 to 2013,
- B. Noting with regret the North-South divide¹¹⁶ in Côte d'Ivoire, reflected in the main political parties Rassemblement des Républicains (RDR)¹¹⁷, Front Populaire Ivoirien (FPI)¹¹⁸ and Rassemblement Démocratique Africain (RDA) alongside ethnic and religious borders,
- C. Emphasising that during the 2010 post-electoral civil war both Alassane Ouattara and Laurent Gbagbo supporters and their respective armed forces allegedly committed human rights violations, including mass atrocities, resulting in over one million citizens fleeing Côte d'Ivoire and leaving the country destabilised,
- D. Observing that the 2000 Constitution of Côte d'Ivoire provides the legal basis for national institutions, but the implementation in practice of rule of law is impeded by:
 - i) the non-execution of its content,
 - ii) the current lack of separation of powers into legislative, executive and judiciary branches, exemplified by the dissolution of the Assemblée Nationale by President Ouattara in 2011,
- E. Recalling that in addition to domestic partners within Côte d'Ivoire, the EU participates in multilateral action alongside the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS)¹¹⁹, the African Union (AU)¹²⁰ and United Nations (UN),

¹¹⁴ EU 'recovery package': a loan given by the EU to help cope with current economic crises.

¹¹⁵ European Development Fund (EDF): founded under the Treaty of Rome 1957, main instrument for providing Community aid for development cooperation in the African, Caribbean and Pacific states.

¹¹⁶ The North being populated by the Muslim majority, whereas the South by the Christian majority of the country.

¹¹⁷ Political party of Alassane Ouattara, President of Côte d'Ivoire since May 2011.

¹¹⁸ Political party of Laurent Gbagbo, President of Côte d'Ivoire from 2000 to 2010.



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- F. Keeping in mind the desire of the Ivorian people for:
 - i) reliable civic security provided by the state,
 - ii) official documentation confirming citizenship and citizens' ownership of land,
 - iii) opportunity to participate in a functioning representative system of government,
 - G. Recognising that there is a fixed exchange rate between the CFA Franc and the Euro¹²¹,
 - H. Convinced that a dysfunctional judiciary system, such as found in Côte d'Ivoire, which cannot uphold property rights, is a discouragement to investment and thus a limiting factor for economic growth,
 - I. Taking into consideration that internationally mediated agreements such as the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement of 2003 did not result in crucial improvements, whilst the Ouagadougou Agreement¹²², initiated by domestic partners reached sustainable progress in the central Citizenship issue since 2007,
 - J. Reaffirming that the longterm accumulation of capital goods and human capital leads to economic growth,
 - K. Emphasising that unfair and inconsistent land tenure policies have been the cause of much of the civil strife and economic insecurities in Côte d'Ivoire,
 - L. Considering the fact that President Ouattara is willing to fully cooperate with the EU in order to ensure the lifting of EU imposed economic sanctions,
 - M. Bearing in mind that the legitimacy of the Ouattara presidency has been weakened in the eyes of the Ivorian people because of:
 - i) The military element that led to his installation as President,
 - ii) The assistance provided by France and the international community in establishing his power base,
 - N. Guided by the questionable desirability of international interference and the open question of political conditionality¹²³,
 - O. Observing that the mutual dependencies and intertwined interests of Cote d'Ivoire and Europe renders the EU a legitimate and powerful international factor in the conflict;
-
- 1. Calls for Côte d'Ivoire in conjunction with the EU to set criteria on how the € 180 million 'recovery package' will be spent;
 - 2. Reminds international and Ivorian partners of the crucial importance of both, solving the landownership issue and introducing Security Sector Reforms (SSR);¹²⁴
 - 3. Encourages the EU to consider the above mentioned issues as major priorities within negotiations over the EU 'recovery package';

¹¹⁹ Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS): founded 1975 to promote economic integration across the region comprised of fifteen West-African States.

¹²⁰ African Union (AU): founded to promote democratic institutions, peace and security and to handle issues of African interests by way of promoting political and socio-economic integration.

¹²¹ To date, 655,957 CFA Franc = 1 Euro.

¹²² Ouagadougou Agreement: established 2007, a peace agreement, containing an amnesty between rebels and Gbagbo's power.

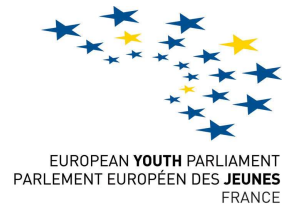
¹²³ 'Political conditionality': withholding humanitarian aid until certain foreign policy objectives are met.

¹²⁴ Security Sector Reform (SSR): a concept, which emerged in the 1990s, to reform or rebuild a state's security.



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4. Urges the EU to allocate a proportion of the 'recovery package' to the increase in human capital of Côte d'Ivoire through:
 - a) the education of government officials,
 - b) encouraging the return of refugees from neighbouring countries,
5. Recommends that Côte d'Ivoire holds a referendum on amending the constitution to initiate a shift from a presidential model towards a parliamentary model;
6. Calls for parliamentary elections to be held securely in order to restore the state-society contract between the government and the citizens of Côte d'Ivoire;
7. Expresses its support for the Ivorian government to continue efforts to register all eligible Ivorians¹²⁵ as citizens;
8. Requests a common multilateral investigation by the EU and Côte d'Ivoire into the consequences of the CFA Franc's fixed exchange rate with the Euro and the role of France and if consequently needed an approval towards the idea of a common currency within the ECOWAS by 2015;
9. Further recommends that the International Monetary Fund (IMF)¹²⁶ and the World Bank¹²⁷ consider in the short term relaxing the restrictions upon the National Budget deficit limits to allow Côte d'Ivoire to recover economically;
10. Calls for objective investigation by the International Court of Justice (ICJ)¹²⁸ of the alleged crimes committed by both Ouattara and Gbagbo so as to lay the basis of a renewing sense of justice, trust and security within the Ivorian society and within the political body;
11. Fully believes in knowledge-sharing on the part of the European agricultural experts in order to enable sustainable longterm agricultural production and an increase in domestic processing;
12. Advises the establishment of a gun amnesty policy¹²⁹ in order to decrease the concentration of firearms and thus decrease the potential for civil unrest;
13. Encourages the establishment of an educational programme in Côte d'Ivoire to spread new political awareness and knowledge, aiming at educating future civil servants;
14. Recommends a progressive withdrawal of French national forces present within Côte d'Ivoire;
15. Encourages the retention of an UN peacekeeping force within Côte d'Ivoire.

¹²⁵ Definition of Ivorité as stated in the Ivorian Constitution, Article 6.7: an Ivorian citizen is a person born to at least one Ivorian parent or someone born within the borders of Côte d'Ivoire to unknown parents.

¹²⁶ International Monetary Fund (IMF): founded in 1945, an international economic organisation, overseeing the global financial system.

¹²⁷ World Bank: founded in 1944, an international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries for capital programmes.

¹²⁸ International Court of Justice (ICJ): the primary judicial organ of the UN base in The Hague designed to settle legal disputes submitted to it by Member States.

¹²⁹ Gun amnesty policy: people can hand in guns they should not have without being prosecuted for possessing them.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS II

Whilst it will still need to reply to the numerous challenges of its population ageing, Europe's capacity to innovate may be limited by the reduction in the number of working and young people in the coming years. Which common priorities should the European institutions and the main political, economic and social stakeholders agree upon so as to take up the challenges of ageing, in particular through innovative solutions that would benefit to all the generations?

Submitted by: Irina Adamovic (HR), Carlota Alonso Pardal (ES), Delia Berner (CH), Oleksandra Gipsh (UA), Maria-Anna Grasl (AT), Julius Itkonen (FI), Jan Kotek (CZ), Sofia Leal Santos (PT), Morgan McDonagh (IE), Tomas Mjartan (SK), Florentine Oberman (NL), Corina Ricman (RO), Oliver Slattery (FR), Erke Can Tellal (TR), Linda Zeilina (Chairperson, LV)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with deep concern the lack of awareness concerning the magnitude of population ageing and its socio-economic consequences,
- B. Alarmed by the fact that no European Union (EU) Member State meets the 2.1 replacement rate needed in order to maintain a sustainable population size,
- C. Deeply concerned by the low fertility rates, partially caused by the difficulty for women to balance a successful career and family life,
- D. Expresses its appreciation for the European Council's decision in November 2010 to lengthen the period of paid maternity and paternity leave,
- E. Affirming that active participation in voluntary activities benefits people of all generations,
- F. Realising with concern, European governments' failure to successfully promote intergenerational solidarity, potentially causing future challenges for all generations to agree on common priorities for society,
- G. Noting with regret that age-based discrimination still exists in terms of access to the labour market,
- H. Taking into account the necessity to adapt existing infrastructure to meet the needs of the ageing populations,
- I. Confident that the ageing population is beneficial for certain sectors of the economy,
- J. Taking into consideration new investment patterns because of the different market needs arising from an increasing elderly population,
- K. Keeping in mind a reduction in public expenditure due to austerity measures imposed as a result of the economic recession,
- L. Regretting that governments are reducing healthcare budgets while the need for employees and resources in the healthcare sector will increase due to the demographic shift,



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- M. Declaring that replacement migration does not present a viable long-term solution to the decrease of the potential support ratio¹³⁰, also resulting in economic, social and political issues,
 - N. Deeply disturbed by the limited size of the budget for life-long learning and the unsustainability of public funding,
 - O. Noting with concern the increasingly high dependency of the retirees on the “pay as you go”¹³¹ system which has become too costly and unsustainable;
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1. Expresses its appreciation for the designation of the year 2012 as the year of Active Ageing;
 2. Further requests the increased accessibility of public daycare by private actors and local authorities and the right to flexible work schedules to ease the burden of parenthood;
 3. Expresses its hope for European institutions and social stakeholders to prioritise their investments according to the societal demands caused by demographic shifts;
 4. Urges local authorities to encourage greater awareness among all Europeans about voluntary associations promoting inter-generational solidarity;
 5. Encourages governments to implement volunteering programmes aimed at fostering inter-generational solidarity into high school curriculums, following existing programmes such as the International Baccalaureate;
 6. Supports the further promotion of communal housing for better inter-generational solidarity by the relevant European institutions and social stakeholders;
 7. Has resolved to raise public awareness through campaigns organized by the media, government and private companies of the importance of financial education (e.g. various pension or saving schemes) and assuming personal responsibility for one's own financial future;
 8. Urges the expansion and improved promotion of the Leonardo da Vinci programme¹³² in order to provide life-long learning opportunities, with a focus on vocational training;
 9. Recommends that European governments and the private sector work together to create guidelines for:
 - a) the improvement of accessibility of public facilities and transport for the elderly,
 - b) the construction and renovation of houses suitable for self-support and care;
 10. Draws attention to the positive qualities of elderly employees, such as accumulated experience and knowledge, in order to reduce age prejudices;
 11. Calls for further development of long-term care mechanisms, including:
 - a) geriatric and palliative care in hospitals, clinics and hospices,
 - b) optional in-home care allowing people to age with dignity in their own home while providing assistance to families by healthcare professionals and volunteers,

¹³⁰ The potential support ratio (PSR) is the number of people age 15-64 per one older person aged 65 or older. This ratio describes the burden placed on the [working population](#) by the non-working [elderly population](#).

¹³¹ Pension arrangements provided by the state in most countries, with benefits paid directly from current workers' contributions and taxes.

¹³² The Leonardo da Vinci Programme funds practical projects in the field of vocational education and training. Initiatives range from those giving individuals work-related training abroad to large-scale co-operation efforts.



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12. Emphasises the need of improved implementation of Action Plans¹³³ undertaken by the European Commission regarding healthy living, so as to increase the amount of healthy life¹³⁴ years and enable people to work productively for longer;
13. Further recommends countries with particularly high rates of ageing to prioritise the health sector by increasing the number of training places and university courses in that field;
14. Calls upon the European governments to raise their minimum retirement ages in accordance with each country's specific life expectancy in order to address the economic challenges of demographic change;
15. Considers the need for the flexibility of pension systems in order to adapt to the increasing number of elderly in the coming decades;
16. Further requests European states to review the benefits of a three pillared pension system inspired by the Swedish model and consisting of:
 - a) a national retirement pension : includes income pension (coming from the "pay as you go" system), premium pension (defined contribution from the employer) and guarantee pension (from the national budget, for those with lower income or none at all),
 - b) an occupational pension (defined benefit set by the employer),
 - c) voluntary pension (private pension savings);
17. Calls on national central banks to set strong regulations concerning the management of pension funds in order to achieve a higher level of transparency;
18. Demands the abolition of compulsory retirement to facilitate those who wish to stay in employment until declared unfit by the relevant medical professions;
19. Affirms the need for European institutions to review access to early retirement schemes in all European countries.

¹³³ Action Plans are launched as part of the EU's "[Europe 2020](#)" strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, incorporating an important role for eHealth: (the Digital Agenda for Europe includes a number of targeted eHealth actions and goals as part of a wider strategy towards sustainable healthcare and support for dignified and independent living). The Innovation Union strategy, introduces the concept of a pilot European Innovation Partnership on active and healthy ageing, launched in 2011.

¹³⁴ The Healthy Life Years indicator measures the number of remaining years that a person of a certain age is still supposed to live without disability.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I

“Little more than a re-branding of existing policies” : In reaction to accusations of a too cautious approach to the ‘Arab Spring’, how should the EU consider its policies in the Southern Mediterranean in order to fully and durably support the “new beginning” ?

Submitted by: Hugh Barlow (IE), Camille Cholat (FR), Taryn Cornell (UK), Arnolds Eizensmits (LV), Marko Fischer (DE), Julia Hartmann (CH), Maria Herczeg (SK), Elena Katsigianni (GR), Elisa Martinelli (IT), Oliver McManus (NL), Jiří Pour (CZ), Soran Rabin Bozorg (SE), Cem Unat (AT), Hessam Mobasser (Chairperson, BE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deploing the way that certain fundamental rights, as outlined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, have not been respected in countries such as Libya, Syria and Egypt,
- B. Realising that countries outside the region, particularly former colonial powers and the USA, hold significant influence in the Arab World,
- C. Concerned that pursuing a democratic system of government before a suitable framework is in place may impact upon the stability of the country involved,
- D. Realises that local support is necessary in the case of intervention from external states,
- E. Acknowledging the contribution of religious, ethnic and tribal tensions to the rise of civil unrest and exacerbation of social problems,
- F. Further affirming the need for consideration of strong inter-Arab relationships when determining the manner of political involvement in conflicts,
- G. Noting with regret that the EU's approach to urgent issues in the Arab Spring has often been perceived to be inadequate and delayed,
- H. Realising that insufficient information regarding opposition groups can contribute to disunity in the EU's Foreign Policy,
- I. Aware of the limitations within the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹³⁵ (TFEU) regarding the current Common Foreign Security Policy¹³⁶ (CFSP) of the EU,
- J. Deeply concerned by the lack of transparency of NATO's and the EU's motives considering their recent actions, or lack thereof, in the Arab World,
- K. Convinced of Turkey's potential to play a constructive role in the region;

¹³⁵ Commonly referred to as 'The Lisbon Treaty'.

¹³⁶ EU Member states have committed themselves to a Common Foreign Security Policy for the European Union. The European Security and Defence Policy aims to strengthen the EU's external ability to act through the development of civilian and military capabilities in Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management.



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1. Calls for an immediate cease to violations of Human Rights by governments in the Arab World in an attempt to maintain power, such as the killing of protesters and members of opposition groups;
2. Encourages the EU to take more definitive measures against offending parties when the Human Rights of protesters are being violated, such as:
 - a) suspension of diplomatic relations,
 - b) smart economic sanctions¹³⁷,
 - c) the consideration of more severe actions where previous methods have proved ineffective, e.g. trade embargoes;
3. Calls for the EU to prioritise programmes offering assistance in the establishment of a democratic framework in the region in order to avoid political instability;
4. Further calls for the EU to negotiate a conditional European Free Trade agreement with the democratically elected governments in order to express the EU's desire to facilitate the new democracies integration into the international community;
5. Strongly suggests military intervention be considered only if all of the following conditions are fulfilled:
 - a) the intervention would receive a significant level of local popular support,
 - b) human rights violations have been committed in the country,
 - c) geostrategic relations allow for an intervention without causing a deterioration of the situation,
 - d) all other approaches have been attempted and failed;
6. Calls for the realisation of the important roles that tribal and ethnic leaders may play when negotiating the framework for democratic reforms with political groups by:
 - a) offering aid to create a federal democratic structure in countries severely divided by tribal differences,
 - b) offering the implementation of a power-sharing system¹³⁸ in countries with ethnic and religious minorities, thus providing them with political representation;
7. Recommends case by case decisions for each country based on factors such as international relations and the local situation, as opposed to an inflexible policy for the whole region;
8. Encourages the EU to use existing mechanisms more effectively in order to find efficient solutions such as directing more joint actions through the European Neighbourhood Policy¹³⁹ (ENP) as opposed to non-binding common positions;
9. Calls for transparency among parties supported by the EU regarding their methods and motives;
10. Advises the EU to reserve the right to verify information supplied by aforementioned parties using various sources, including, but not limited to media, NGOs, experts and diplomatic channels;

¹³⁷ Financial sanctions (freezing of funds and other financial assets, ban on transactions, investment restrictions), Trade restrictions on particular goods (e.g. arms, diamonds, oil, lumber) or services, Travel restrictions, Diplomatic constraints, Cultural and sports restrictions, Air traffic restrictions.

¹³⁸ The power-sharing system (existing, for example, in Northern Ireland) creates a format for integration, inclusion and representation of ethnic and religious groups in the political system.

¹³⁹ With its European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the EU is seeking to reinforce relations with neighbouring countries to the east and south in order to promote prosperity, stability and security at its borders. At present, 16 partners are addressed by the ENP: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the Republic of Moldova, Morocco, the occupied Palestinian territory, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine.



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11. Suggests the establishment of a United European Foreign Policy in order to improve the CFSP by:
 - a) making all decisions binding for all Member States, while still considering individual opt-out options,
 - b) giving emergency powers to the High Representative¹⁴⁰, whose decisions have to be confirmed by the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament within one week,
 - c) widening the EU's ability to act independently concerning the Defence and Security Policy, without the permission of, but following consultation with NATO,
 - d) increasing the EU's economic, diplomatic and political influence in the area, using trade agreements, development aid and political cooperation;
12. Urges NATO and the EU to officially explain and justify recent and future actions and inactions in the region in order to increase public support and understanding;
13. Encourages closer ties with Turkey in support of its role as a mediator in the region;
14. Further recommends Turkey to share its democratic experience with the Arab countries.

¹⁴⁰ The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy chairs the Foreign Affairs Council and conducts the Common Foreign and Security Policy. She also ensures the consistency and coordination of the European Union's external action. The High Representative is assisted by the European External Action Service (EEAS).



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