

ISTANBUL '12

Bridging the Cultural Divides of Europe
69th International Session of the European Youth Parliament

Resolution Booklet

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Lifelong
Learning

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Cold winter after Arab Spring? More than 5000 civilian deaths and rising demand for military intervention: How should the EU work with the international community to prevent further escalation of violent oppression in Syria and pave the way for a peaceful transition to a more democratic system?

Submitted by: Andreas Bjørnbekk (NO), David Corish (IE), Dmytro Kharchenko (UA), Corina Nastase (RO), Stefan Kondic (RS), Lira Loloci (AL), Nino Melikidze (GE), Merilin Nurmsalu (EE), Nikolaos Pallas Misailidis (GR), João Pereira (PT), Saz Rashed (SE), Mattias Wiklund (FI), Valeriia Cherednichenko (Chairperson,UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising that the Syrian people's determination for freedom has resulted in widespread violence and human rights violations,
- B. Deeply regretting that the death toll has exceeded 9,800 according to United Nations (UN) figures,
- C. Taking note of the continuous armed resistance against the current regime's attempts to eliminate the opposition,
- D. Defining the three main opposition groups to be the Syrian National Council (SNC), the National Coordination Council (NCC) and the Free Syrian Army (FSA),
- E. Expressing its appreciation of the broad media coverage of the conflict by all means of media,
- F. Reaffirming the suspension of the 1977 Cooperation Agreement¹ between Syria and the EU,
- G. Noting the official EU embargo on arms trade with Syria,
- H. Bearing in mind the religious tensions in Syria, particularly between the Alawite Shias and Arab Sunnis,
- I. Noting with deep concern Syria's expulsion from the League of Arab States (LAS) due to its repressive actions against its population,
- J. Keeping in mind the Russian and Chinese veto of the UN Security Council Resolution on Syria,
- K. Emphasising the UN, LAS, EU and Friends of Syria group's² common goal in seeking a peaceful and legitimate transition of power within Syria;

¹ 1977 Cooperation Agreement is an agreement signed in 1977 governing the EU-Syria relations. It provided for the free access of Syria's industrial products to the Community market and tariffs concessions for some agricultural products.

² Friends of Syria group is a contact group of countries and bodies on Syria attempting to find a solution to the Syrian crisis, outside of the UN Security Council

1. Calls upon the EU to propose a humanitarian aid plan to President Bashar al-Assad's government that will allow NGOs such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Doctors Without Borders and others to operate in designated safe zones³ to deliver humanitarian aid peacefully;
2. Urges the EU to adopt specific steps towards a peaceful democratic transition in Syria by:
 - a) Supporting the current and the emerging democratic political parties by providing experts' guidance and advice on administrative affairs,
 - b) Offering an EU monitoring mission to overview future elections in Syria;
3. Encourages the unification and cooperation of the three recognised opposition groups;
4. Requests that the Syrian government ensure full protection of all journalists in Syria;
5. Confirms that upon Syria's compliance with the proposed reforms, the EU shall reinstate the 1977 Cooperation Agreement;
6. Endorses the EU-policy to continue refraining from interfering with the Syrian economic wellbeing until the political situation stabilises;
7. Expresses its hope that Syria's expulsion from the LAS will be reviewed once Syria complies with the reforms;
8. Supports the implementation of the 'six- point peace plan'⁴ on Syria as proposed by the Joint UN-LAS Special Envoy Kofi Annan;
9. Welcomes the acceptance of the 'six-point peace plan' by Russian and Chinese governments.

³ Safe zones are demilitarised zones approved by all sides involved, as designated for the distribution of humanitarian aid.

⁴ 'Six-point peace plan' was proposed by the Joint UN-LAS Special Envoy Kofi Annan and it calls for political dialogue, an end to armed violence, humanitarian assistance, daily two hour humanitarian pauses, release of political prisoners, freedom of movement for journalists, the right to freedom of association and the right to peaceful protest.

THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS II

Communicating Europe. In light of an increasingly negative public discourse: How can the European project win back the understanding of its citizens and be brought closer to its people?

Submitted by: Jeanina Axinte (RO), Roberta Brandter (SE), Timm Brünjes (DE), Tarik Çaşkurulu (TR), Zuzanna Gil (PL), Daniels Griņeviĉs (LV), Ciaran Hyland (IE), Ailsa Innes (UK), Erik Kaunismäki (FI), Valerie Kharlanova (UA), Vukan Markovic (RS), Leon Rinkel (NL), Tereza Turecká (CZ), Lysanne Vanpoucke (BE), Adriana Díaz Martín-Zamorano (Chairperson, ES), Ruben Wagenaar (President, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting that the European Parliament (EP) is the only body directly elected by the citizens in the EU and is not able to initiate legislations,
 - B. Having noted that parties running in EP elections often focus on European issues from a national perspective,
 - C. Recognising the low turnout in the EP elections is partially due to the fact that these elections are generally considered second order in comparison to national elections,
 - D. Realising that the insufficient number of candidates running in the EP elections makes some citizens feeling unrepresented,
 - E. Alarmed by the lack of a European public sphere⁵ in which citizens can interact with one another and with various political actors on the subject of public affairs,
 - F. Deeply regretting the relatively low interest in EU affairs in comparison to national affairs caused by little knowledge of the EU's effect on citizens' everyday lives,
 - G. Observing that EU related affairs are often given low priority in domestic media and are seen from a national perspective,
 - H. Noting with regret the ineffectiveness of pan-European media in creating a European public sphere,
 - I. Believing that mass media do not always accurately reflect the actual performance of the EU institutions but rather focus on its negative aspects in a non-pluralist way;
1. Urges the president of the European Commission to be elected according to the principle of first-past-the-post⁶;

⁵ A public sphere is most commonly referred to as a space or arena for deliberation, discussion and engagement in social issues, an arena which enables citizens to interact and talk about political issues. The public sphere concept was introduced by the German sociologist and philosopher in the tradition of critical theory and pragmatism Jürgen Habermas.

⁶ The voting system in which the candidate with the highest number of votes within a Member State gets the only vote from that country.

2. Approves the establishment of EU scale political parties that would only run in EP elections with each Member State sharing specific candidates of its own nationality;
3. Further requests that these international parties run EU wide campaigns which feature common European issues as well as matters regarding national interests within the EU;
4. Requests increased advertising of EP elections in order to improve turnout and incentivise the candidates to make themselves better known to citizens;
5. Approves the distribution of Member of the European Parliament (MEP) seats in the EP according to the principle of degressive proportionality⁷;
6. Supports communication between EU politicians and citizens by promoting and increasing awareness of platforms where citizens can actively participate in debates with European politicians;
7. Recommends a collaboration between the Information Offices of the EP and Commission in each Member State and national governments to 'go local'⁸ and participate in dialogue across the EU in order to further connect with citizens;
8. Expresses its hope that effective communication between EU politicians and the media can be improved by establishing paid internship programmes for journalists in EU institutions in order to provide knowledge of the respective institutions;
9. Calls for the creation of a committee of experts to draw valid conclusions about the possible further applications of EU-wide media thus contributing to the European public sphere by:
 - a) evaluating attempts at EU-wide media such as the channel Euronews,⁹
 - b) considering other forms of media, including social media;
10. Further resolves to initiate a pilot project, evaluated by the above mentioned committee of experts, in the form of an unbiased EU news broadcast to be sold to national television channels of Member States which would include:
 - a) an EU wide section providing information on EU affairs and Member States,
 - b) a national section providing EU information relevant to that country.

⁷ A principle based upon the size of the Member States population.

⁸ Communication activities which address demographic, national and local concerns, conveying information through the channels citizens prefer in the language they can understand.

⁹ Euronews is an international multilingual television channel which covers world news from what it claims to be a 'European perspective'. Because of the close relationship between Euronews and the European Commission, a major funder of the channel, it has been accused of creating propaganda for the EU and carrying almost no stories unfavourable to the EU.

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

In light of the deepening European debt crisis: How can the EU sustainably foster fiscal discipline whilst taking into account divergent public spending cultures amongst its Member States?

Submitted by: Konrad Ambrožej (PO), Mira Bergem (NO), Benoît Brousse (FR), Nino Danelia (GE), Alessandro Faraguna (IT), Andrew Forde (IR), Matěj Hošna (CZ) Layla Kasmé (CH), Gemma Muñoz Brugués (ES), Lena Strehmann (AU), Christiane Suchanek (DE), Konstantin Tarasov (RU), Kirstin Wilson (UK), Louis Wouters (BE), Émil Yliheljo (FI), Kerstin Mathias (Vice-President, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Having studied the different economic situations, development levels, divergent spending cultures as well as the impact and approach to the current crisis,
- B. Fully aware that Member States are cautious to transfer competences to the European level due to loss of fiscal flexibility and direct decision-making power,
- C. Noting with regret a lack of coordination between monetary and fiscal policy in the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU)¹⁰,
- D. Deeply disturbed by the failure of Member States to properly manage, plan and implement their economic and fiscal policies such as those regarding tax surveillance,
- E. Deeply concerned that the majority of Member States have failed to adhere to the commitments made in the Stability and Growth Pact¹¹, including keeping the budget deficit below 3% and the total public debt below 60% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)¹²,
- F. Emphasising that these breaches highlight the need for a reform of both the corrective and preventive measures laid down in current fiscal commitments,
- G. Alarmed by the lack of transparency and surveillance of the economic situation and budgetary policies in each Member State which can lead to misinforming the public,
- H. Having examined that the no-bailout clause¹³ in the Maastricht treaty¹⁴ has been breached leading to the creation of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM)¹⁵,

¹⁰ The EMU sums up the group of policies aimed at converging the economies of Member States in three stages so as to allow them to adopt the euro. As such, it is largely synonymous with the Eurozone.

¹¹ An agreement between members of the EU to maintain fiscal stability in the Eurozone.

¹² The total market value of all final goods and services produced in a country in a given year, equal to total consumer, investment and government spending, plus the value of exports, minus the value of imports.

¹³ The no-bailout clause bars countries that use the euro from taking on the debt liabilities of a fellow Eurozone country.

¹⁴ It was signed in 1992 and amended the provisions of the Treaty of Rome. While significantly advancing the agenda set out under the Single European Act (SEA) in 1986, for deepening European Political Union (EPU) it also created a new model for the Community based around three 'pillars' which, covered economic relations, foreign affairs and home affairs.

- I. Noting that the ESM plays an important role in providing confidence in and the stabilisation of the European market,
- J. Keeping in mind that while austerity measures may undermine economic growth on a short-term basis, they are essential for creating stability and confidence in the European market;
 1. Recognising the necessity for both corrective and preventive fiscal policy measures while prioritising the use of the latter;
 2. Endorses the creation of Eurosummits:
 - a) that bring together Head of States or governments to review the architecture of the Eurozone,
 - b) that introduce a more consistent fiscal policy amongst Member States,
 - c) and ensure further coordination;
 3. Urges Member States to take the necessary actions and measures in all domains of policy which are essential to the functioning of their economy in pursuit of fostering fiscal discipline, including but not limited to preventing tax evasion;
 4. Proclaims the necessity for the immediate automatic implementation of corrective measures, such as a fine of 0,1% of GDP, in the event of breaching current regulations;
 5. Encourages the signatories of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the European Economic and Monetary Union to clearly define a permanent catalogue of exceptional circumstances under which a country is allowed to breach the current fiscal regulations;
 6. Calls upon the European Commission to send observers to national statistical offices to verify the collection and authenticity of economic and social data to ensure that accurate information is available to both the public and the European Commission;
 7. Has resolved that access to the ESM requires the admittance of these observers to the national statistical offices;
 8. Designates that access to the ESM is conditional upon compliance with all corrective and preventive measures laid down in the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the European Economic and Monetary Union;
 9. Urges the European Commission to develop and implement its own rating system for the Member States' respective economic situations based on a set of economic, social and fiscal indicators;
 10. Calls upon the European Commission to publish quarterly reports providing easily accessible and understandable information about the Member States' fiscal situations;
 11. Reaffirms the independence of the European Central Bank¹⁶;
 12. Considers short-term austerity measures necessary in the creation of an environment to support the EU's objectives of long-term sustainable growth, employment and social cohesion;
 13. Reaffirms the importance of Member States putting forward their stability and convergence programmes¹⁷ for assessment by the European Commission and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council in order to ensure that Member States carry out fiscal policy with both medium and long-term objectives in mind.

¹⁵ The ESM is a permanent rescue funding programme or bailout mechanism.

¹⁶ The European Central Bank manages the EU's single currency and safeguards price stability in the EU. The ECB is also responsible for framing and implementing the EU's economic and monetary policy.

¹⁷ Member States report on their economies and public finances through Stability and Convergence Programmes, in line with the Stability and Growth Pact.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Short-term crisis-fighting measures versus environmental protection: What strategy should European governments adopt in order to move towards an environmentally sustainable and resource-efficient Europe?

Submitted by: Amal Abdelatif (SE), Jakob Ahlers (DE), Sophio Bukuchava (GE), Isabel Cantalapiedra (ES), Milen Christov (BG), Theodosios Dimitrasopoulos (GR), Marie-Theres Dittrich (EE), Rebecca Dykes (UK), Filipa Farias (PT), Per Forester (NO), Angela Grasso (IT), Alina Konoshevskaya (RU), Anaïs Mousset (FR), Valerie Nitsche (AT), Demetra Onoufriou (CY), Hanna Ollinen (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledges that economic growth is highly dependent on resource use and the decoupling of these is required,
- B. Noting that the manufacturing sector comprises 27 % of the employment in the non-fiscal business economy¹⁸ in the EU,
- C. Deeply concerned by market price volatility due to the dependence of the EU on other countries for resources,
- D. Alarmed by the inadequate representation of the environmental damage caused by heavy extraction and the scarcity of resources in the market price,
- E. Realising that a growing world population reaching 9 billion people by 2050 according to Europe 2020¹⁹ intensifies pressure on resources,
- F. Aware that being the leader in green technologies²⁰ is estimated to increase competitiveness, profitability, economic growth and to create up to 200 million new industrial jobs by 2020, according to the EU's 'Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe',²¹
- G. Emphasising with regret that manufacturers' lack of information concerning the advantage of resource-efficiency and eco-friendly technologies,

¹⁸ The non-financial business economy includes the sectors of industry, construction and distributive trades and services (NACE Section D).

¹⁹ Europe 2020 is the EU's growth strategy for the coming decade, including targets on employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy.

²⁰ Green technology is technology that is considered environmentally friendly based on its production process or supply chain.

²¹ 'A Resource-efficient Europe', the flagship initiative for a resource-efficient Europe under the Europe 2020 strategy, supports the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon economy to achieve sustainable growth. The 'Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe' builds upon and complements the other initiatives under the resource efficiency flagship, in particular the policy achievements towards a low carbon economy.

- H. Taking note of the manufacturers' and the EU's current lack of control over third country suppliers' resource-efficiency initiatives,
- I. Observing the long-term initiatives proposed in the Commission's 'Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe', though taking into consideration its lack of concrete measures;
1. Supports the measures suggested in the Commission's 'Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe';
 2. Requests the implementation of an EU wide tax on manufacturers efficiency taking into consideration levels of consumption, pollution, product volume and the incorporation of green technologies in production.;
 3. Further recommends the taxation level to be assessed individually for each company;
 4. Urges the reinvestment of the tax income into research and development of green technologies according to the 'Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe', with particular emphasis on small and medium sized enterprises;
 5. Calls for opportunities to be made available for manufacturers to be assessed and informed by European Commission experts on their resource efficiency;
 6. Calls for the establishment of an European Green Suppliers Network (EGSN) based on the existing framework in Japan, the United States and China²²;
 7. Invites international resource suppliers to join the EGSN provided that they meet the environmental criteria determined by the 'Resource-efficient Europe' initiative;
 8. Encourages more EU subsidies to be made available for manufacturers and Member States to invest in recycled materials in line with the Europe 2020 decrease of Environmentally Harmful Subsidies (EHS);
 9. Supports the European Commission's international initiatives on resource efficiency²³ to be presented at the Rio+20 Conference and set a basis for discussion on a global level.

²² The Green Purchasing Network in Japan and Green Suppliers Network in the United States. The networks works with large manufacturers to target and engage key suppliers in customized assessments of production processes to reduce energy consumption, minimize carbon footprint, increase productivity and drive innovation.

²³ The Commission has proposed actions, including new international initiatives on agriculture, land use, forests, chemicals and marine resources, helping mobilise private and public financing and investment, as well as help with progress towards a more effective global, multilateral governance system (COM (2011) 363).

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

Advertising by means of behavioural targeting in social media and concerns over consumer's data protection rights: What stance should European governments take?

Submitted by: Margaux Allain (FR), Manana Asatiani (GE), Pepe Bono (ES), Eirini Daliani (GR), Kinga-Klára Darida (RO), Federico Fabris (IT), Vasco Henriques (PT), Heli Hirsik (EE), Xhesi Hysi (AL), Dunja Ilic (RS), Joune Kawas (CY), Evelina Kuznetsova (RU), Love Lyssarides (SE), Nikita Saujani (NO), Hanna Vardamatskaya (BY), Bentley James Yaffe (Vice-President, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Welcoming the communication and innovation opportunities provided by social media²⁴ and recognising its increasing prominence in everyday life,
- B. Having considered that social media companies depend on advertising revenue to continue providing services free of charge,
- C. Concerned by the extent of user data²⁵ that can be collected and stored,
- D. Alarmed by the lack of awareness in the general public regarding the protection of digital rights and data storage processes,
- E. Bearing in mind that it has become easier and more widespread for young users²⁶ to access the Internet,
- F. Noting with regret that the privacy policies of social networking sites lack transparency, especially regarding the transmission of data to third parties,
- G. Further noting that the terms and conditions and privacy policies of Internet companies are written in a language not easily understood by the average user and are not widely translated,
- H. Noting with regret that Directive 2002/58/EC²⁷ and Directive 95/46/EC²⁸ remain outdated policies that have not developed at the same pace as social media applications and remain inconsistently applied by Member States,
- I. Deeply concerned by the lack of European cohesion on a national level in the areas of data protection policies and legislation,
- J. Aware of the fact that pursuing legal action against Internet companies and network providers regarding the deletion of user data is burdensome,

²⁴ 'Social Media' is defined as forms of electronic communication such as Web sites for social networking and microblogging, through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages and other content.

²⁵ Information about users that can provide identification as to their behaviour and preferences on the Internet.

²⁶ 'Young users' is defined as individuals under the age of 16.

²⁷ The Directive on Privacy and Electronic Communication

²⁸ The Directive on the Protection of Individuals with Regard to the Processing of Personal Data and On the Free Movement of Such Data

- K. Reaffirming the importance of the seven principles governing the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development's recommendations for the protection of personal data²⁹, with the addition of the right to be forgotten³⁰,
- L. Encouraged by the 2020 Digital Agenda for Europe, specifically Action 12 that calls for the implementation of the January 25 2012 Regulation of the European Parliament and of The Council on the Protection of Individuals with Regards to the Processing of Personal Data and on the Free Movement of Such Data (General Data Protection Regulation)³¹,
- M. Noting with approval the work of institutions such as the National Data Protection Authorities and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) in monitoring the application of data protection rules and investigating complaints,
- N. Keeping in mind that data collection processes in social media can benefit users by:
- i) improving the online shopping experience by making the advertising process more efficient,
 - ii) improving the content and quality of social media services,
- O. Fully realising that increasing profits and business opportunities created by targeted advertising benefit the economy;
1. Endorses the January 25 2012 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Protection of Individuals with Regards to the Processing of Personal Data and on the Free Movement of Such Data (General Data Protection Regulation), specifically:
- a) the rights of the data subject, covering the areas of:
 - i. transparency and modalities³²,
 - ii. information and access to data³³,
 - iii. rectification and erasure³⁴,
 - iv. right to object and profiling³⁵,
 - v. restrictions³⁶;
 - b) the duties of the controller and processor, covering the areas of:
 - i. general obligations³⁷,
 - ii. data security³⁸,
 - iii. data protection impact assessment and prior authorisation³⁹,

²⁹ The rights to notice, purposes, consent, security, disclosure, access and accountability.

³⁰ 'The right to be forgotten' is defined as the right to choose to remove personally identifiable information from the Internet.

³¹ http://ec.europa.eu/justice/data-protection/document/review2012/com_2012_11_en.pdf

³² Chapter III Section 1, Articles 11 - 13

³³ Chapter III Section 2, Articles 14 - 15

³⁴ Chapter III Section 3, Articles 16 - 18

³⁵ Chapter III Section 4, Articles 19 - 20

³⁶ Chapter III Section 5, Article 21

³⁷ Chapter IV Section 1, Article 22 - 29

³⁸ Chapter IV Section 2, Article 30 - 32

- iv. data protection officer⁴⁰;
 - c) the situation of the transfer of personal data to third countries or international organisations⁴¹,
 - d) the establishment of independent Supervisory Authorities, covering the areas of:
 - i. independent status⁴²,
 - ii. duties and powers⁴³;
 - e) the areas of cooperation and consistency, covering:
 - i. cooperation⁴⁴,
 - ii. consistency⁴⁵,
 - iii. European Data Protection Board⁴⁶;
 - f) remedies, liability and sanctions⁴⁷,
 - g) provisions relating to specific data processing situations⁴⁸;
2. Recommends the following amendments to the General Data Protection Regulation:
- a) the requirement to add user-friendly explanations for privacy policies of social networking sites,
 - b) the creation of a consumer friendly rating system of websites based on the emphasis the websites place on user data protection, in order to:
 - i. clearly label the websites that are safe for users to provide their data to,
 - ii. create an incentive for companies to improve the level of security of personal data storage;
 - c) the guarantee of binding agreements between users and third parties in order to ensure a transparent use of user data;
3. Calls for the immediate application of the powers of representation and arbitration granted to the EDPS as specified in section 2, chapter 6 of the General Data Protection Regulation;
4. Encourages European governments outside of the EU to implement the General Data Protection Regulation as amended by clause 2 through parliamentary ratification;
5. Suggests that European governments wishing to implement the principles of the amended General Protection Regulation request assistance from the Council of Europe to facilitate cooperation and harmonisation in its implementation;
6. Recommends that European governments in cooperation with experts from both National Data Protection Authorities and the EDPS raise awareness about consumer rights, Internet safety and privacy policies by organising:
- a) classes in educational institutions for students starting from the age of ten,
 - b) voluntary educational seminars for adults.

³⁹ Chapter IV Section 3, Articles 33 - 34

⁴⁰ Chapter IV Section 4, Articles 35 - 37

⁴¹ Chapter V, Articles 38 – 45,

⁴² Chapter VI Section 1, Articles 46 - 50

⁴³ Chapter VI Section 2, Articles 51 - 54

⁴⁴ Chapter VII Section 1, Articles 55 - 56

⁴⁵ Chapter VII Section 2, Articles 57 - 63

⁴⁶ Chapter VII Section 3, Articles 64 – 72

⁴⁷ Chapter VIII, Articles 73 - 79

⁴⁸ Chapter VIII, Articles 80 – 85

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS I

Bridging the cultural divides of Europe. More than a decade since the Helsinki summit, both European and Turkish skepticism of Turkey's accession to the EU and its ability to fulfill the Copenhagen Criteria remain high, and the conflict with Cyprus unresolved. Moving beyond the current political deadlock, what priorities must be set in further negotiations?

Submitted by: Elisabeth Adamoudi (GR), Freek Depraetere (BE), Hugo Dürr (SE), Fahad Saher Fahad (NL), Tayfun Gudratli (AZ), Mairi Innes (UK), Patrick Lavelle (IR), Lara Lindlahr (DE), Ognjen Mirkovic (RS), Senni-Kaisa Nurmi (FI), Helena Pierides (CY), Can Ali Sehrioglu (TR), Jakub Skura (PL), Gabriele Stera (IT), Alice Woda (FR), Schima Labitsch (Chairperson, AT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking into consideration the important turning point of 2005, when accession negotiations were permitted to begin due to the fulfilment of the political Copenhagen Criteria⁴⁹ by Turkey,
- B. Emphasising that Turkey's 53-year long efforts to be fully involved in the European project is stagnating, despite its adoption of over 320 laws and 1300 items of secondary legislation for harmonisation with the *acquis communautaire*⁵⁰,
- C. Realising that the inherent problem of the negotiation deadlock is the diverse preferences of the Member States regarding Turkey's accession, thus resulting in ten blocked chapters by the aforementioned Member States,
- D. Recognising the commitment of the Turkish government in setting up the Ministry for EU Affairs in order to further implement the National Programme⁵¹,
- E. Noting that a 'privileged partnership'⁵², proposed as an alternative to full membership by Member States such as France and Germany, is considered as a contradiction to the legal commitment made at the Helsinki Summit⁵³ by Turkey and its supporters,
- F. Further realising that the deadlock will continue if the same political leaders remain in power,
- G. Keeping in mind that the 2004 enlargement wave and the current financial crisis have led to a growing trend of enlargement fatigue within the EU, which is not benefitting Turkey's accession bid,

⁴⁹ The criteria that define whether a country is eligible to join the EU or not.

⁵⁰ The *acquis communautaire* entails all the rights and obligations of EU Member States incarnated in treaties and laws. It will from now on be referred to as *acquis*.

⁵¹ A national programme set up by Turkey for the adoption of the *acquis communautaire* and the Copenhagen Criteria within the accession framework.

⁵² The privileged partnership consists of an alternative to full membership of Turkey to the EU referring to the integration at the level of regional alliances and in supranational structures; while not presupposing full membership. It implies strong, stable relations that are prioritized over those with other countries.

⁵³ The Helsinki Summit held in 1999 gave Turkey full candidate status and opened the floor for the creation of a concrete accession framework.

- H. Observing that until the Additional Protocol⁵⁴ is adhered to, eight chapters of the *acquis* will remain blocked and no other chapters can be opened,
- I. Realising that as the Turkish population loses interest in the accession process due to EU ambivalence, the focus of its foreign policy is shifting from the EU towards the Middle East,
- J. Noting with deep concern that scepticism in the EU towards Turkey's membership status is influenced by:
- i) a distorted public discourse resulting in Islamophobia,
 - ii) fear of a massive influx of immigrants,
 - iii) growing support for right-wing parties,
- K. Deeply concerned by Turkey's failure to recognise the Republic of Cyprus and its continued provocative behaviour towards Cyprus despite its wish to join the EU of which Cyprus is a member,
- L. Deeply conscious of the lack of further reforms necessary in the field of human rights particularly with regards to:
- i) ethnic minorities, especially the treatment of the Kurdish population,
 - ii) women, given the near absence of protection against domestic abuse,
 - iii) journalists, demonstrated by the alleged lack of freedom of speech and of the press,
- M. Aware of the significant role the European Commission takes in monitoring the progress of Turkey's accession negotiations and reforms,
- N. Emphasising that the European Council administers the opening and closing of individual chapters of the accession framework⁵⁵ and is responsible for the eventual decision on accession,
- O. Aware of a lack of knowledge of and about the EU in Turkey and a general scepticism towards the accession process,
- P. Aware of the fact that because a significant part of Turkey is geographically not situated in Europe its eligibility for EU membership is subject to debate;
1. Calls upon the European Council to clarify current and future intentions concerning Turkey's accession;
 2. Further requests that the European Commission proposes to revoke Member State's ability to block the opening of chapters, so as to solely enable the blockage of closure;
 3. Urges the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament to accept the aforementioned proposal to the opening of chapters;
 4. Urges all political parties in the Member States to make their stance on Turkey's accession known to the electorate in order to increase public awareness of the issue;
 5. Demands that Turkey recognises the Republic of Cyprus;

⁵⁴ The Additional Protocol is an extension of the Custom Union between Turkey and the EU to the new Member States of 2004 including the Republic of Cyprus.

⁵⁵ The accession framework set up by the European Council after Turkey was granted candidate status implies aligning Turkish laws with the *acquis* in the form of 35 chapters as well as the compliance with the Copenhagen criteria.

6. Designates the European Commission suspend certain trade benefits Turkey has under the Customs Union until its obligations regarding the Additional Protocol are fulfilled with regards to Cyprus;
7. Condemns any human rights abuses in Turkey;
8. Urges Turkey to accelerate the pace of its human rights reforms;
9. Condemns any aggressive behaviour from Turkey towards Cyprus simultaneously warning of negative effects regarding its accession if this behaviour continues;
10. Encourages the introduction of information campaigns and the inclusion of other religions in the school curriculum of each Member State in order to specifically tackle the growing problem of Islamophobia in Europe;
11. Further invites Turkey to develop public awareness on the EU by:
 - a) incorporating an education programme about the EU in its national curriculum,
 - b) creating an information campaign.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Harvesting a better Europe. In light of Commission proposals for a renewed Common Agricultural Policy for the period 2014-2020: How can the EU ensure its policy objectives of revitalising rural areas and increasing the agricultural sector's competitiveness and sustainability are best achieved in a volatile global market?

Submitted by: Diana Balasa (RO), Isidora Ćirić (RS), Nermin Elagouz (SE), Alexandr Huzenko (UA), Arthur Lindstedt (FI), Dmitry Markin (RU), Loes Reynaert (BE), Evelien Scheffers (NL), Furkan Sener (TR), Wojciech Sierocki (PO), Megan Smith (IE), Zane Štrobindere (LV), Kathrin Stürmer (DE), Chris Hall (Vice-President, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Confirming that the main aim of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)⁵⁶ is to protect the European agricultural sector from external competition,
- B. Recognising the importance of new Member States adhering to the CAP to continue its effective Europe-wide approach,
- C. Expecting the CAP to be a financially responsible policy considering its expense during economically troubled times,
- D. Deeply regretting that the CAP has previously favoured larger farms financially,
- E. Regretting the complexity of the CAP subsidy applications, whilst recognising the need for their extensive detail,
- F. Alarmed that there are inequalities in the strictness of implementation of CAP policies required to receive subsidy payment between Member States,
- G. Disturbed that the CAP has previously benefited certain Member States more than others in terms of financial aid,
- H. Concerned about the decrease in the number of farmers across the EU,
- I. Further concerned about the vast decrease in young farmers⁵⁷, especially in Southern Europe,
- J. Disappointed that agriculture is no longer an attractive livelihood for young people,
- K. Realising the importance of ecological farming as part of the European agricultural sector;

⁵⁶ CAP – The Common Agricultural Policy governs the financial support network and basic structure of farming for all Member States.

⁵⁷ Young Farmers – Farmers under the age of 40.

1. Calls for a gradual decrease of the common EU export subsidies that account for the difference between the EU price and global price of food and commodities;
2. Encourages the preservation of high import taxes for those commodities most efficiently produced in the EU;
3. Emphasises the need to lower import taxes for those commodities not efficiently produced in the EU;
4. Supports the Commission's reform proposal eliminating CAP quotas restricting the production of milk and sugar, by 2015;
5. Agrees with the Commission's reform proposal regarding CAP payments being paid on area of land rather than amount of production, to aid developing EU agricultural economies that are unable to produce as much from the same area of land as major EU agricultural economies;
6. Endorses the Commission's CAP reform proposals regarding subsidised membership of Young Farmers⁵⁸;
7. Endorses advertising campaigns for agricultural non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Young Farmers;
8. Approves the Commission's CAP reform proposal adding 25% extra basic payment to young farmers for the first 5 years of their career;
9. Setting the level of future extra basic payment to young farmers based on the number of new applicants for CAP funding every 5 years;
10. Confirms its support for the Small Farmer's Scheme⁵⁹:
 - a) fewer greening and cross compliance⁶⁰ responsibilities,
 - b) simpler application and fund-receiving process;
11. Suggests an amendment to the Small Farmer's Scheme increasing the band of direct payments from 500-1,000 Euros per annum to 1,000-2,000 Euros per annum;
12. Calls for the improvement of transport links between rural and urban areas to establish adequate access to education and medical centres;
13. Demands the universal implementation of the Commission's proposed CAP reform on Greening⁶¹;
14. Affirms the Commission's CAP reform proposal on increasing the budget for research on ecological and innovative farming from 4 billion Euros to 8 billion Euros per annum;
15. Recommends that the CAP be further reformed to increase subsidies for ecologically responsible farmers⁶² and decrease for those who are ecologically irresponsible;
16. Reaffirms the Green label scheme⁶³;

⁵⁸ International Union of Young Farmers – A European organisation that seeks to support young farmers through education, social connections and low-key financial support

⁵⁹ Small Farmers Scheme – A scheme within the Commission's new CAP reform proposals that aims to aid the development of small farmers through increased financial aid and decreased compliance regulations.

⁶⁰ Cross Compliance – Complying with the many health, safety and environmental protection laws in place through the CAP.

⁶¹ Greening – The term for policies within the CAP that are a move towards a more ecological and environmentally responsible agricultural sector. The most major of these greening proposals are: maintaining 7% of a farm's land for revitalisation, maintaining yearly pasture grounds for cattle, and the implementation of crop diversity where farms must produce at least three crops, of which none can exceed 70% of total production nor less than 5%..

⁶² Ecologically responsible farming – Farming in a way that is respectful towards the environment, natural resources and the life of your cattle.

17. Encourages the use of locally produced products in school meals;
18. Urges the use of stricter controls and check-ups for the implementation of CAP proposals and subsidy receivers;
19. Urges Member States to guarantee a platform for dialogue between their government and the National agricultural community;
20. Encourages the celebration of World Farmer Day on May 14;
21. Urges an increase in agricultural internships by making CAP funds available to cover the costs of taking on these interns;
22. Promotes public seminars on the topic agricultural awareness lead by NGOs such as Young Farmers.

⁶³ Green Label Scheme – Goods that were produced through ecologically responsible measures are clearly labelled so consumers are aware of their production.

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

A lost generation? Facing the challenge of dramatically high youth unemployment rates: What short-term actions and structural labour market reforms are necessary to ensure that the current generation of European youth does not become irreversibly excluded from the labour market?

Submitted by: Pavel Bareš (CZ), Filipa Barroso (PT), Felix Brandt (DE), Veriko Devidze (GE), Johanna Egger (AT), Amandine Garcia (CH), Alexandra Gjurova (BE), Coline Guillou (FR), Anton Linder (FI), Anastasia Minakova (RU), Maia Perraudou (UK), Janire Sanz (ES), Anne Straume (NO), Eleni Tsaprazi (GR), Jia Yi Teresa Ye (IT), Valentina Mina (Chairperson, CY)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed that whilst overall unemployment in EU Member States is at 9.8%, youth unemployment⁶⁴ rates are significantly higher at 22.4%,
- B. Recognising that the financial crisis is the main cause of the rising youth unemployment rates,
- C. Taking note of the high costs of youth unemployment to European society in the form of excess social transfers and foregone earnings which amount to an annual total of approximately 100 billion Euros⁶⁵,
- D. Fully aware of the strong correlation between education levels and prospects on the labour market,
- E. Deeply concerned by the proportion of early-school leavers⁶⁶, 14% in the euro area equivalent to one-in-six young people, and high drop-out⁶⁷ rate from basic education which result in under-qualification of prospective employees,
- F. Bearing in mind that insufficient training opportunities in formal or informal education hinders young people's employment prospects,
- G. Deeply regretting the marginalisation of youth on the labour market due to the high work experience that employers demand, thus inhibiting young people from acquiring such experience,
- H. Observing the success of dual education programmes in European countries such as Germany which provide young people with work experience parallel to their studies,
- I. Alarmed by the fact that educational degrees acquired by young graduates do not always match the demands of the labour market,

⁶⁴ Youth unemployment includes all young people aged 15-24 who are unemployed and are actively seeking employment.

⁶⁵ According to research conducted in 21 Member States by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions in 2008.

⁶⁶ Young people who leave education and training with only lower secondary education or less.

⁶⁷ Refers to young students who leave secondary education before obtaining a qualification.

- J. Recognising the difficulties that young people face in finding information about job placements, in their own country and across Europe, due to the lack of a centralised and comprehensive database,
 - K. Aware that a significant number of highly educated and skilled young people are leaving Europe to fulfil their working potential elsewhere, which compromises Europe's ability to develop and experience smart growth⁶⁸,
 - L. Regretting the non-existence of a Europe-wide system to recognise informal qualifications so that they may be better valued by the labour market, such as the central system of validation in Hungary and Oscar⁶⁹ in Belgium,
 - M. Further noting the lack of public transport in rural areas along with difficulties in finding affordable housing that may act as a barrier to youth mobility when searching for employment in areas away from home,
 - N. Viewing with appreciation the Europe 2020 aim to lower barriers to the free movement of labour across the EU,
 - O. Further regretting that despite the commitment of the European Commission to make childcare more easily available, insufficient access to affordable day care is creating difficulties for young mothers trying to reconcile working and family life,
 - P. Expressing its concern about the serious effects that long term unemployment presents, irreversibly damaging future career prospects and leading to social exclusion, low levels of political and social participation, depression and poorer health;
-
- 1. Calls for the creation of a Europe-wide educational framework, based on the EU Youth Strategy proposed by the European Commission, which promotes:
 - a) equal education opportunities,
 - b) the recognition of informal qualifications,
 - c) the prevention of early school leaving,
 - d) investment in vocational schools to improve their quality, recognition and image;
 - 2. Recommends the introduction of dual education programmes in all European countries in order to provide the young people with the work experience required to enter the labour market;
 - 3. Supports the Europe 2020 Strategy on "Smart Growth" and encourages national governments to further invest in research grants;
 - 4. Encourages the creation of a Europe-wide database containing information on employment vacancies which employers can voluntarily contribute to;
 - 5. Emphasises the need for research to better understand the demands of the labour market, with the information collected from these studies being effectively passed onto governments and educational institutions, in an effort to bridge the mismatch between demand and supply;
 - 6. Further recommends strengthening the link between tertiary educational institutions and the labour market through better communication and cooperation between companies and universities;

⁶⁸ Smart growth, as defined by the Europe 2020 Strategy, means improving the EU's performance in education, research/innovation and digital society.

⁶⁹ The portfolio instrument 'Oscar' is an easily accessible tool for the validation of lifelong learning for personal development and social participation.

7. Calls upon national governments to consider the introduction and development of employment orientation agencies to:
 - a) promote and support young entrepreneurs in running their own businesses,
 - b) direct students to jobs that are shown to be in greater demand through the use of grants and provision of information on the current labour market situation,
 - c) provide job-search assistance and offer guidance concerning CVs, job applications and interviews,
 - d) introduce a continuous system whereby those providing mentorship are replaced by those receiving it;
8. Proposes a system of traineeship in which an employee approaching retirement undertakes the training of a young prospective employee who will fill the vacancy;
9. Congratulates the Greek initiative “One start – one opportunity” introduced in 2008 which:
 - a) provides opportunities to gain work experience in the public or private sector through short-term contracts,
 - b) offers 100-hour training programmes, such as language classes;
10. Further invites other European governments to introduce similar initiatives;
11. Reaffirms the need for improved youth mobility through:
 - a) greater availability and flexibility of transport, especially in rural areas and at night, based on the Belgian Belbus⁷⁰,
 - b) supports a European wide implementation of shared housing schemes to make easy and cheap housing available for young people;
12. Trusts that the strengthening of the EU Youth Strategy’s commitment to improve childcare will help the reconciliation between the professional and private lives of young adults;
13. Further requests the introduction of subsidies and tax reductions granted by national governments to companies that employ young people;
14. Urges the European Social Fund to subsidise the cost of intern salaries, hence providing incentives for companies to increase their number of internships;
15. Approves of the EU Youth Strategy’s recognition of junior enterprises and invites further development of start-up funds for young entrepreneurs in cooperation with the above-mentioned employment orientation agencies.

⁷⁰ The Belbus is a bus that drives per reservation and serves people in sparsely populated areas.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Building inclusive societies and addressing discrimination: How should European countries tackle growing discrepancies in attitudes and policies towards same-sex marriage and adoption, in an increasingly diversifying Europe?

Submitted by: Yiğit Akdemir (TR), Mohamed Atiek (CH), Sophia Chahine (FR), Emily Don (UK), María Gil Juliá (ES), Aaron Graham (PL), Ariane Keck (DE), Hana Láníková (CZ), Lucie Mérelle (FI), Andrada Oprea (RO), Andrii Pyvovarov (UA), Ance Rudzīte (LV), Hannah Steiner (AT), Mattijs Vanmarcke (BE), Koen Verdenius (NL), Andrea Stagni (Chairperson, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Sharing the vision of achieving total equality between heterosexual and homosexual couples in regards to:
 - i) legal recognition of affective union,
 - ii) adoption,
 - iii) social acceptance,
 - iv) equal opportunities,
- B. Concerned by the fact that Article 12⁷¹ of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)⁷² does not reference the possibility of marriage for same-sex couples,
- C. Observing that the EU institutions are currently unable to set a common policy in regards to same-sex unions,
- D. Concerned that European countries lack common policy regarding legal recognition of same sex-couples,
- E. Further concerned that this lack of a common policy inhibits the freedom of movement through Europe for same-sex couples in regards to the status of their registered union as well as for their adoptive rights,
- F. Aware that 26 out of 47 members of the Council of Europe and 9 out of 27 Member States of the EU do not have legislation permitting same-sex couples' relationships to be legally recognised,
- G. Aware of the connotation that the term marriage carries for the majority of the European population in that it is linked to a religious background and is historically conceived as a union between men and women,
- H. Further aware that certain constitutions such as the Polish, the Hungarian and the Italian Constitutions define marriage only as a right between a man and a woman,

⁷¹ "Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right".

⁷² The ECHR is an international treaty to protect human rights and fundamental freedom in Europe. It was drafted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and entered into force on September 3 1953.

- I. Fully alarmed that, in case of emergency, same-sex partners may be prevented from accessing confidential medical data of one another and are therefore prevented from making crucial medical decisions,
 - J. Believing that legally recognised same-sex couples should have the same rights as legally recognised heterosexual couples, in regards to healthcare, familial status, economic benefits, inheritance procedures,
 - K. Alarmed that there is no European-wide legal recognition of same-sex partner's stepchild adoption,
 - L. Aware that 11 European countries already permit stepchild adoption to same-sex couples, in the event of the incapacitation or death of the other biological parent,
 - M. Aware of the fact that 8 European countries already allow same-sex couples to adopt,
 - N. Understanding that the issue of same-sex adoption is still highly controversial throughout Europe, owing to the fact that it involves a third party (the child),
 - O. Concerned that children who are raised in orphanages may suffer from:
 - i) a lack of fulfilment of their basic needs as stated in Maslow's pyramid⁷³,
 - ii) the absence of parental role models,
 - P. Taking into consideration that the above-mentioned needs can instead be adequately fulfilled by a same-sex couple,
 - Q. Observing that:
 - i) there is an insufficient amount of evidentiary support regarding effects of same-sex adoption on the psychological development of children,⁷⁴
 - ii) existing research failed to produce unanimously accepted results,
 - iii) the general trend found by the scientific community shows no significant difference between children raised by same-sex couples and heterosexual couples,
 - R. Keeping in mind people's prejudices based on stereotypes regarding the sexual orientation of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community,
 - S. Deeply concerned by the fact that 54% of homosexuals in the EU believe that their sexual orientation puts them at a disadvantage in their everyday life⁷⁵;
 - T. Concerned by the possibility of discrimination against children adopted by same-sex couples because of their parents' sexual orientation,
-
1. Invites the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to amend Article 12 of the ECHR by substituting the expression "Men and women" with "Two persons";⁷⁶

⁷³ Maslow's pyramid is a theory based on a hierarchy of human motivation whose principle is fulfilling one of the levels before moving on to another. These levels are: physiological, safety, love and belonging, esteem and self-actualisation; the first one being the most basic need.

⁷⁴ Research on social groups are commonly addressed to more than 10,000 people, whereas available studies have analysed groups composed of less than 2,200 people.

⁷⁵ Poll available at: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_263_sum_en.pdf.

⁷⁶ So that it reads as follows: "Two persons of marriageable age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right".

2. Calls upon European countries to introduce a legal agreement (legal union) granting same-sex couples the same rights as couples in civil marriages;
3. Calls for the following rights and obligations regarding health care to be granted to same-sex legal unions:
 - a) to make decisions on behalf of the partner when he or she is incapable of deciding for him or herself,
 - b) to access the partner's current patient information in case of a medical emergency,
 - c) to provide assistance for the partner in times of incapacitation,
 - d) to share relevant information regarding their state of health prior to the union;
4. Calls for the following rights and obligations regarding familial status to be granted to same-sex legal unions:
 - a) to be entitled to take the surname of the partner,
 - b) to automatically be entitled to legally represent one another,
 - c) to adopt any titles, immunities and other entitlements that accompany the partner's legal status,
 - d) to be recognised as a citizen of the partner's country,
 - e) to be granted visitation rights in the event of their partners' detention⁷⁷ wherever visitors are restricted to immediate family;
5. Calls for the following rights and obligations regarding inheritance to be granted to same-sex legal unions:
 - a) to automatically become the legal beneficiary, unless otherwise stated in the will of the deceased,
 - b) to have lower inheritance taxes for the widowed party, insofar as the taxes equal those of the widowed party within a legally recognised heterosexual union;
6. Calls for the following rights and obligations regarding finances to be granted to same-sex legal unions:
 - a) to be subjected to the same fiscal disciplines on income taxes already in existence within legally recognised heterosexual unions,
 - b) to be granted the same benefits regarding bureaucratic procedures when opening common bank accounts already in existence within legally recognised heterosexual unions,
 - c) to have the same procedure for separation already in existence within legally recognised heterosexual union, including alimony and division of property;
7. Asks all European countries to immediately recognise stepchild adoption stipulated by a same-sex couple in a different country;
8. Invites all European countries to implement a policy regarding stepchild adoption in the event of the incapacitation or death of the other biological parent, as soon as same-sex unions are permitted;
9. Further calls for adoption by same-sex couples to be permitted, following the acceptance of same-sex legal unions and stepchild adoption;
10. Endorses the continuing work of civil rights organisations such as Gay Straight Alliance in providing a safe environment for LGBT youth;
11. Urges European countries to implement educational programmes focusing on LGBT rights in education institutions;

⁷⁷ In both criminal and medical detention centres such as psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities.

12. Calls for the development of international media campaigns promoting equality between different sexual orientation;
13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the governments of the members of the Council of Europe.

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

Compromising viability for economic stability? In search of measures to discourage excessive risk-taking in the financial sector: Is the proposed Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) part of the solution?

Submitted by: Felicia Aminoff (FI), Miguel Antunes (PT), Victoire Barbin (FR), Tuna Dökmeçi (TR), Katarzyna Kessler (PL), Willem Koelewijn (NL), Kirsty Macintosh (UK), Ani Meskhidze (GE), Peter Pölzleithner (AT), Clemens Rawert (DE), Casian Stan (RO), Brent Van Beethoven (BE), Nora Wilhelm (CH), Mārtiņš Žilinskis (LV), Georgiy Zoloev (RU), James Bengé (Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the contribution of excessive risk-taking and speculation⁷⁸ to the financial crisis,
- B. Realising that deregulation of the banking sector has led to its rapid expansion, contributing to the financial crisis,
- C. Noting that the perceived role of bankers in the financial crisis has led to a negative public image of the financial sector, resulting in a lack of trust in the industry amongst the general public,
- D. Deeply disturbed that the current system of bonuses encourages excessive risk-taking,
- E. Noting with regret that the inappropriately high level of trading on products such as bonds,⁷⁹ shares and derivatives⁸⁰ has made the financial markets too volatile,
- F. Further recalling that some European countries, in particular the United Kingdom (UK),⁸¹ are heavily reliant on the financial sector,
- G. Having considered that the FTT could raise up to 57 billion Euros per annum, 70% of which would come from the UK,
- H. Considering that many European countries have declared that they are in favour of an FTT whereas other G20 members such as the UK and USA have made clear their opposition,
- I. Deeply concerned by the possible negative impact that an FTT implementation solely in those European states who have declared themselves in favour of the tax could have on the competitiveness of the European banking sector,
- J. Observing that in the current system retail banking would be affected by a crisis on the financial markets,
- K. Viewing with concern the impact that incoherent securitisation⁸² regulation had in causing the financial crisis,

⁷⁸ Investment in stocks and other financial products with the aim of making profit whilst facing the possibility of loss.

⁷⁹ A certificate issued by the government or public company in promise to repay the borrowed money at a fixed rate of interest in a specified time period.

⁸⁰ A contract between two parties that specifies conditions for future payment.

⁸¹ 9% of UK Gross Domestic Product comes from their financial sector.

- L. Alarmed by the fact that ratings agencies⁸³ failed to exercise sufficient influence over the financial sector due to them being directly funded by the banks they are rating,
- M. Fully aware of the lack of consistency and integrity in the punishment of bankers who took decisions that proved to be irresponsible,
- N. Acknowledging that bail-outs to failed banks have created a 'safety net' mentality which might result in excessive risk-taking in the future;

1. Calls upon all Member States to strictly introduce the capital requirements laid out in Basel III;⁸⁴
2. Further recommends the thorough implementation of the European Commission's Capital Requirements Directive III⁸⁵ in Member States with the period during which assets are deferred being increased to five years;
3. Urges banks to implement a 'bonus-malus' system⁸⁶ in determining the calculation of bonus payments;
4. Supports the implementation of an FTT in all G20 states;
5. Emphasises that if the USA and the UK decide not to implement the FTT:
 - a) Member States should also not implement the tax,
 - b) Member States should instead introduce stamp duty⁸⁷ on share transactions based on the British model;
6. Encourages the implementation of the proposed Financial Crisis Responsibility Fee⁸⁸ in Member States;
7. Further requests the separation of retail and investment banking as laid out in the Independent Commission on Banking Report;⁸⁹
8. Demands greater disclosure and clarity regarding the inherent risks of securities traded on financial markets;
9. Recommends that if the transparency of the products is not provided then their trade should be prevented on European stock markets;
10. Approves the creation of an intermediate body funded by the financial sector that will finance ratings agencies;

⁸² A financial practice of pooling various types of debt, to be sold to investors. Such debts can include mortgage repayments, credit card bills and personal loans. These debts are grouped together and sold en masse, with each debt containing a risk meaning that the risk of the pooled debts can be incalculable.

⁸³ Bodies that assess the financial strength of companies and government entities and their ability to repay debt.

⁸⁴ Global regulatory standard on bank capital adequacy, stress testing and market liquidity risk agreed upon by the members of the Basel committee on banking supervision in 2010-11.

⁸⁵ Guidelines on remuneration and transparency in the financial sector, for instance stating that 40% of all bonus payments shall be made in the form of assets deferred for at least three years.

⁸⁶ A system of bonus calculation in which the bonus is proportional to the difference of income and loss generated by a banker in a longer period of time, for instance three years.

⁸⁷ A tax levied on share transactions and securities in the UK set at 0.5% of the transaction price and raising £4 billion per annum.

⁸⁸ A tax proposed by Barack Obama in January 2010 which would be imposed on financial institutions which received public money during the economic crisis.

⁸⁹ A report published on December 12 2011 set up by the British government and chaired by Sir John Vickers.

11. Reaffirms that unless the law is broken it is solely the employer's right to determine the sanctions imposed on their employees in cases of personal failure that cause market instability;
12. Urges national governments to declare that they will not bail out banks that fail.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL MARKET AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

From outright bans to completely liberal markets. In light of growing disparities in attitudes and practices, and increased calls for a unified European approach: What stance should the EU take on the supposed need for a common legal framework on online gambling? How best can a balance be achieved between consumers' protection and free movement of services in this area?

Submitted by: Myrto Apostolidou (GR), Martim Bastos (PO), Sergio Blas (ES), Emilia Hadjiconstantinou (CY), Andres Lestal (EE) Alison Lim (UK), David McElligott (IE), Vasil Nikolov (BG), Hoang Anh Pham (RU), Zurabi Pirtskhalaishvili (GE), Leo Podov (SE), Julie Reinemo (NO), Marco Stroligo (IT), Kensa Traoré (FR), Jorg Körner (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Observing that laws regulating the rapidly growing and ever changing online gambling industry vary greatly between EU Member States,
- B. Noting with regret that insufficient regulation in some Member States leads to legislative loopholes that are abused for criminal activities such as money laundering, fraud, corruption and identity theft,
- C. Recognising the difficulties arising from the current fragmented legal framework for legitimate operators of online gambling services,
- D. Aware of the fact some countries have banned online gambling from independent providers in order to preserve a state or private monopoly,
- E. Acknowledging that due to the lack of common comprehensive legislation the European Court of Justice has to make its decisions regarding online gambling by interpreting laws on a case-by-case basis,
- F. Noting with deep concern that 85% of operators of online gambling services were operating without any form of license in 2008,
- G. Reaffirming that online gambling can have a number of social and economic advantages such as tax revenue, employment, both personal and corporate income, as well as personal pleasure,
- H. Having considered the difficulties of applying EU laws to online gambling operators from outside the EU providing services in the EU,
- I. Approving the initiative taken by the European Commission in launching the "Green Paper on online gambling in the Internal Market"⁹⁰ in March 2011,
- J. Concerned by the insufficient implementation of the Data Protection Directive⁹¹, especially in relation to protecting the sensitive data of consumers of online gambling services,

⁹⁰ The Green Paper consultation on online gambling invites all stakeholders to contribute their views on the issue of online gambling in the EU in order to explore the possibilities for a harmonisation of national legislations.

- K. Emphasising the important role of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), monetary transaction system providers and internet security systems in ensuring a safe online gambling environment,
 - L. Fully aware that some groups such as minors and problem gamblers are more vulnerable than the general public and in need of special protection,
 - M. Taking into account the fact that online gambling can be addictive and contribute to social and financial problems for consumers,
 - N. Realising that due to the nature of cross-border online gambling profits might materialize in a country that is not the country the service is consumed in and thus the country having to deal with the potential negative social effects,
 - O. Deeply concerned that advertising for online gambling is biased and does not inform about the dangers of online gambling,
 - P. Taking into consideration the different views on the morality of gambling in different Member States,
 - Q. Believing that free movement of online gambling services does not necessarily infringe upon the state's ability to protect its citizens;
-
- 1. Calls for the establishment of a central EU Online Gambling Control Board (EUOGCB) to supervise the implementation of the policies and standards outlined in this document;
 - 2. Asks the EUOGCB to gather the existing information on online gambling and to initiate further studies to obtain information still missing in order to form a comprehensive picture;
 - 3. Supports the creation of a unified EU online gambling certificate for operators of sites having paid a one-time fee adhering to a set of minimum standards including:
 - a) implementation of strict age and identity verification mechanisms respecting the legal requirements of the country they are operating in,
 - b) an "one person – one account – one bank account" rule,
 - c) keeping detailed records on all financial transactions,
 - d) licensing for key personnel,
 - e) examination of the software used for fairness;
 - 4. Requests regular checks of the compliance of operators with said rules to be performed by the EUOGCB;
 - 5. Recommends that the EUOGCB set up a European database with information on players and gambling service providers with a record of misconduct, referred to as a blacklist, and a list of certified providers;
 - 6. Strongly urges the EU to create a common framework for national online gambling legislation including:
 - a) equal access to markets for both domestic and foreign service providers,
 - b) penalties against providers operating illegally,
 - c) an obligation for ISPs to block blacklisted providers,

⁹¹The Data Protection Directive outlines the EU legislation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

- d) a requirement for banks to freeze transactions to and from the accounts of operators of blacklisted sites;
7. Affirms the right of Member States to implement additional regulations going beyond the minimum standards set by the common EU framework with the exception of requesting additional licensing fees;
8. Further confirms the right of Member States to impose taxes on both gambling transactions and winnings from gambling activities, if the consumer of the service is located in the state;
9. Designates non-EU companies to be required to have physical representation and assets in the EU and be subject to EU legislation in order to be allowed to operate in the European online gambling market;
10. Encourages Member States to quickly and thoroughly implement the measures outlined in the Data Protection Directive;
11. Recommends Member States to restrict advertising of online gambling to times after the watershed⁹²;
12. Further recommends Member States require the inclusion of sufficient warning information about the potential dangerous effects of gambling in advertisement;
13. Encourages the EU to initiate a public awareness campaign on the potentially harmful effects of online gambling.

⁹²Watershed designates a specified time after which it is assumed that minors are asleep and thus not able to see advertising campaigns by the gambling industry.

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

Danish re-imposition of border controls, Dutch surveillance cameras and French-Italian calls for Schengen reform: An attack on freedom of movement or a necessary response to illegal immigration? In light of growing anti-Schengen sentiment, what is the best balance between a sustainable migration strategy and freedom of movement in Europe?

Submitted by: Joana Andrade (PT), Frida Bowe (NO), Phelan Chatterjee (SE), Zafeiro Chiliada (GR), Katerina Efstathiou (CY), Adi Grishaj (AL), Lucien Juton (FR), Natalija Kostic, (RS), Alexandra Lazar (RO), Giacomo Magnoni (IT), Yana Makarskaya (BY), Olha Shvets (UA), Alexander Šulík (SK), Ia Tserodze (GE), Alexandre Narayanin (Chairperson, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Believing that the freedom of movement⁹³ is a fundamental right within the EU,
- B. Fully aware that the political and economic instability outside Schengen area⁹⁴ countries is due to:
 - i) wars,
 - ii) persecutions,
 - iii) unemployment,
- C. Guided by the moral obligation of the EU to respect and protect the lives of immigrants as stated in Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights⁹⁵,
- D. Recognising the necessity of social and economic integration of immigrants to their country of residence,
- E. Emphasising that the escalation of xenophobia in many Member States is spreading a strong anti-immigrant sentiment in the Schengen area,
- F. Noting with regret the increased usage of anti-immigrant rhetoric by far-right wing parties,
- G. Realising that the employment at low wages of mostly unskilled immigrants is a problem in numerous fields of work in the Schengen area,
- H. Expecting a dramatic decrease in the labour force because of demographic changes resulting in an increase of financial support for social welfare,

⁹³ The right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the EU and EEA Member States.

⁹⁴ The Schengen Area comprises the territories of twenty-six European countries that have implemented the Schengen Agreement.

⁹⁵ The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is an international treaty to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in Europe.

- I. Noting with approval the benefits of immigrants filling up the increasing gaps in the European labour markets,
 - J. Further noting with deep concern the violation of human rights through abuse and exploitation of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers in their countries of residence,
 - K. Fully alarmed by the lack of cooperation between the Schengen countries and the immigrants' countries of origin in terms of migration,
 - L. Alarmed by the uneven requirements to enter the Schengen zone caused by the different implementations of the EU migration policy⁹⁶ in different Member States,
 - M. Deeply disturbed by the lack of recognition for the common responsibility for the Schengen external border among the Member States, in terms of financial involvement and moral support,
 - N. Deeply concerned by the increase of cross-border crime due to the lack of internal border control, for instance:
 - i) Human trafficking,
 - ii) Smuggling,
 - iii) Terrorism,
 - O. Recognising the unbalanced distribution of immigrants in the Schengen area compared to each Member State's resources,
 - P. Viewing with appreciation the Blue Card Directive⁹⁷ while regretting:
 - i) Its inconsistent implementation across the EU in terms of application criteria from the Member States,
 - ii) The limited scope of workers it concerns;
-
1. Has resolved to spread the cost of border control proportionally among Member States, believing that a common border implies a common responsibility;
 2. Urges the implementation of a multicultural dimension into the educational curricula;
 3. Calls upon European governments to further provide accessible language courses for immigrants to foster integration;
 4. Requests the establishment of vocational and academic programmes through the involvement of educational institutions such as universities and high schools;
 5. Encourages the spreading of official information about immigrants through the media to decrease the anti-immigrant sentiment;
 6. Endorses the implementation of a new regulation⁹⁸ ensuring Member States' recognition of the Blue Card directive as a mandatory procedure;

⁹⁶ The policy aims to establish a framework for legal migration, taking fully into account the importance of integration into host societies.

⁹⁷ Blue card directive: a special residence and work permit entitling high skilled workers to a series of socio-economic rights and favourable conditions for family reunification. After two years of legal residence in a Member State Blue Card holders can move to another State on the basis of compliance with a certain number of criteria such as educational requirements, income information and continuous residence.

7. Urges Member States to draft a directive on how to integrate less qualified immigrants into the labour market;
8. Supports further development of the Schengen Information System II⁹⁹;
9. Emphasises the importance of further cooperation between crime prevention authorities (such as Europol and Interpol) within Schengen states through national police forces;
10. Further reminds the importance of cooperation between crime prevention authorities with non-Schengen states;
11. Calls for collective negotiations of Schengen member states with non-Schengen states regarding illegal immigration;
12. Authorises Schengen members to initiate a system in which each country accepts a number of immigrants based on its financial resources and employment needs;
13. Urges Member States to set wages ensuring fair admission to work for immigrants and Schengen citizens according to each Member State's financial situation;
14. Further requests that Member States provide illegal immigrants with basic health care without them being reported by medical staff;
15. Draws attention to the responsibility of safeguarding the human rights of immigrants and encourages the EU to implement stricter financial penalties for violations;
16. Approves further development of FRONTEX¹⁰⁰ in terms of training and supervision, for a consistent implementation across the Member States;
17. Condemns the re-imposition of internal borders in the Schengen area.

⁹⁸ An EU regulation has to be strictly adhered to in all Member States and leave no room for adjustments during the implementation process.

⁹⁹ The second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) will be a large-scale information system containing alerts on persons and objects. It will be used by border guards, customs officers, visa and law-enforcement authorities throughout the Schengen area, with a view to ensuring a high level of security. This new system is currently undergoing extensive testing in close cooperation with Member States and will replace the current system, providing enhanced functionalities.

¹⁰⁰ FRONTEX: European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the EU.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

North Korea's permanent state of food crisis. More than a decade and a half of humanitarian relief initiatives and over €124 million spent: How should the EU evaluate its relationship with North Korea in light of widespread violation of human rights? Is there a role for European humanitarian assistance for North Korea?

Submitted by: Iulia Barutia (RO), Niklavs Matusevics (LV), Nils Coolsaet (BE), David Pfund (CH), Amy Dudley (IE), Katarzyna Faszczewska (PL), Iryna Garbuz (UA), Misha Goudsmit (NL), David Kukacka (CZ), Sarp Kurum (TR), Katharina Radler (AT), Lukas Rosenkranz (DE), Sophie Schauman (FI), Emma Thorley (UK), Queralt Vilalta (ES), Marius Aure (Chairperson, NO)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Defining fundamental human rights as all rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁰¹,
- B. Deeply concerned by the ongoing human rights violations taking place in North Korea,
- C. Aware of the plea for humanitarian assistance from the North Korean government,
- D. Bearing in mind the substantial contribution of humanitarian aid from the EU to North Korea,
- E. Taking into consideration that the ascension of Kim Jong-Un as the new premier of North Korea is an opportunity for improved relations with North Korea,
- F. Taking into account the recent talks between the United States of America and North Korea that lead to a nuclear moratorium in exchange for food assistance suggesting the potential for similar talks between the EU and North Korea in the future,
- G. Aware that China has asserted a great influence over North Korea by:
 - i) being one of the largest providers of humanitarian aid,
 - ii) preventing illegal migration across a common border,
 - iii) being a rising superpower in the region,
- H. Expressing its appreciation towards the Third Priority Area of Nutrition in the Strategic Framework¹⁰² of the UN and the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)¹⁰³ of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)¹⁰⁴,

¹⁰¹ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a declaration adopted by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 1948.

¹⁰² The Strategic Framework is a planning framework for the programmes and operational activities of the United Nations system in North Korea for the period 2011-2015 with the Third Priority Area of Nutrition aiming to improve the nutritional status and enhance the resiliency of communities through food security.

¹⁰³ The Technical Cooperation Programmes of the FAO aim to provide technical expertise in the field of agriculture in Member countries through targeted, short-term, catalytic projects.

¹⁰⁴ Food and Agriculture Organisation is an intergovernmental organisation with a mandate to among other things raise levels of nutrition and improve agricultural productivity.

- I. Viewing with appreciation the relative success of the aforementioned short-term aid programmes,
 - J. Approving the significant funding of humanitarian aid through the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection¹⁰⁵,
 - K. Realising the limitations of the current short-term programmes in North Korea, specifically the lack of a long-term structural approach to enhance the agricultural sector,
 - L. Noting with satisfaction that the World Food Programme (WFP¹⁰⁶) distributes as well as supervises the distribution of humanitarian aid from the EU,
 - M. Noting with regret the lack of public awareness of the true origin of humanitarian aid amongst the North Korean people due to the strict state-controlled media,
 - N. Alarmed by the recurring food shortages in North Korea due in part to:
 - i) post-harvest loss of stored food,
 - ii) animal diseases such as the H5N1¹⁰⁷,
 - iii) natural disasters such as flooding,
 - iv) general lack of agricultural technologies and know-how,
 - O. Conscious of the detrimental effect that the mismanagement of the North Korean economy and its policy of self-imposed isolation has had on the living standards of the population,
 - P. Recalling the request from North Korea for foreign direct investment in designated free market zones;
1. Reaffirms the active role of European humanitarian assistance in North Korea;
 2. Calls for establishing a new platform for talks on the subject of food crisis management and humanitarian assistance between the EU and North Korea concerning long-term solutions as a condition for short-term aid;
 3. Recommends inviting the members of the six-party talks to the new platform, Russia, China, Japan, the United States of America, South Korea;
 4. Encourages the EU to be represented in the talks by the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection and invites the WFP, FAO and other relevant organisations to participate;
 5. Strongly believes that the new platform for talks will lead to a more predictable, stable and positive relationship, thus establishing a basis for discussions aiming to reduce human rights violations in North Korea;
 6. Encourages the extension of the current UN Strategic framework regarding the Priority Area of Nutrition and the Technical Cooperation Programme through the negotiations;
 7. Calls upon increased EU funding of UN and FAO programmes in order to follow up on the recommendations stated by FAO, such as promoting household gardens and drying of grain;
 8. Further endorses the existing task of the WFP in monitoring and assuring fair and equal distribution of humanitarian aid to its designated recipients;

¹⁰⁵ The Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection is a department under the responsibility of the European Commission.

¹⁰⁶ The World Food Programme is a humanitarian agency of the UN system fighting hunger worldwide with a focus on short-term emergency aid.

¹⁰⁷ H5N1 also known as the Avian Influenza or “bird flu” is a subtype of the influenza A virus which can cause illness in humans in addition to many animal species.

9. Expresses its hope to raise awareness among the North Korean public about the true origin of humanitarian aid as opposed to it being distorted by the state-controlled media to enhance the current regime's standing in the population;
10. Recommends the re-evaluation of the possibility of foreign direct investment in North Korea in order to establish a self-sufficient economy devoid of the need of humanitarian assistance.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Who feeds the artist? At a time when cultural spending is hit hard by the financial crisis and legal enforcement of copyrights is becoming increasingly difficult, what measures should the EU take to develop a fair and stimulating system of recognition and reward that puts the artist at its heart?

Submitted by: Yasmine Briki (CH), Tomáš Hustoles (CZ), Otilia Marinescu (RO), Aleksander Musiał (PL), Anna Nichols (IE), Ian Perring (FI), Alina Poliakova (UA), Katharine Russell (UK), Berke Sahbazoglu (TR), Cavid Samadzada (AZ), Reinis Tutāns (LV), Matteo van Dijl (BE), Alexander Wagner (DE), Nastassia Winge (NL), Manar Youssef (SE), Maite Karssenbergh (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that the cultural sector accounts for 3.3% of the EU Gross Domestic Product and 8.5 million EU jobs,
- B. Fully aware that the current European policy regarding copyright is outdated as it was not designed to correspond with the current digital era,
- C. Deeply concerned that artists are being restricted and demotivated by a complex, expensive and lengthy copyright system which could lead to the stagnation of European cultural development,
- D. Alarmed that piracy accounts for 24% of worldwide internet bandwidth consumption and is becoming increasingly prevalent due to the lack of legally accessible cultural content and because it is difficult to close down illegal channels,
- E. Noting with regret that piracy has become widely tolerated and socially acceptable across Europe and that young people in particular are unaware of its consequences,
- F. Deeply concerned that piracy accounted for the loss of 10 billion Euros and 185,000 jobs in the culture sector of the EU in 2008, thereby denying artists the rewards that they would otherwise receive through copyright royalties,
- G. Believing that the lack of legal unity of European countries' copyright laws is an obstacle to the sharing of cultural ideas and in turn encourages piracy,
- H. Convinced that higher EU Value Added Tax (VAT) rates on digital items than on physical items cause piracy,
- I. Aware that the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) is not seen as a comprehensive solution to the problem of piracy, since:
 - i) it does not address copyright directly,
 - ii) EU citizens view it as an infringement on the right of freedom of expression,
 - iii) it violates the privacy of internet users,

- J. Recognising that the creative sector is dominated by large organisations, which makes it difficult for independent artists to be recognised and rewarded,
 - K. Fully alarmed by the financial crisis that led to widespread budget cuts on the creative sector by Member States;
 - L. Deeply regretting that investments in the arts are largely ineffective because they focus on cultural institutions such as museums and libraries rather than artists;
-
- 1. Supports the proposal of the European Commission for a new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Strategy¹⁰⁸ especially in the fields of:
 - a) the establishment of digital libraries such as Europeana¹⁰⁹ that urge Member States to meet the proposed targets for cultural contributions by 2015,
 - b) the promotion of multi-territorial copyright licensing in order to advance the sharing of cultural content throughout Europe by increasing legal unity;
 - 2. Emphasises the use of Creative Commons¹¹⁰ as a more flexible, accessible and straightforward means of sharing and publishing artistic work than the traditional copyright system;
 - 3. Considers the implementation of a system run by the European Observatory on Counterfeiting and Piracy¹¹¹ to include fines preceded by random checks and warnings for those involved in illegal uploading or downloading of cultural content;
 - 4. Recommends the provision of obligatory seminars about piracy and its consequences to young people in schools by artists and other representatives from the creative sector;
 - 5. Endorses the launch of a mass multimedia campaign including but not limited to advertisements and festivals that stresses the effects of piracy on the artist;
 - 6. Calls upon the expansion of cloud computing services and similar means of accessing and purchasing artistic content as a convenient way of supporting cultural exchange;
 - 7. Expresses its hope that the EU will not ratify ACTA especially when it comes to its proposals for IPR enforcement in the digital environment;
 - 8. Calls for the establishment of a pan-European collective management organisation¹¹² to:
 - i) facilitate better communication and cooperation between its national counterparts,
 - ii) assist these national organisations in overseeing the welfare of their artists;

¹⁰⁸ A proposal for a wide-ranging strategy to modernise Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) set out by the European Commissioner for Internal Market and Services, aiming for (amongst other things) a more up-to-date, widely accessible and streamlined copyright framework in the EU digital Single Market and an increased European effort to fight piracy.

¹⁰⁹ An internet portal that acts as an interface to millions of books, paintings, films, museum objects and archival records that are being digitised throughout Europe.

¹¹⁰ An initiative that provides both individual artists and bigger companies and institutions with simple, standardised copyright licenses that offer a “some rights reserved” copyright license instead of the traditional “all rights reserved”. The work of the artist is allowed to be copied, distributed and edited, but will still be protected in case of commercial use.

¹¹¹ A platform set up by the European Commission in 2009 in order to bring consumers, public administrators and industry together to cooperate more closely and find creative and effective methods of enforcing copyright.

¹¹² Collective management organisations manage all use of copyrights for artists such as authors, composers, publishers, writers, photographers, musicians and performers, help them negotiate their legal position and collect copyright royalties for them. They usually act on a national basis.

9. Urges the amendment of the EU VAT Directive so that VAT rates of digital and physical goods can be equal;
10. Accepts the EU's proposal to increase arts spending through the Creative Europe programme in the new EU budget;
11. Encourages Member States to offer tax benefits to investors in the creative sector;
12. Further recommends Member States reserve a set proportion of their art funding for starting artists and independent cultural companies rather than large institutions.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

In light of increasing concern over Iran's nuclear programme and renewed talks on expanding EU sanctions. What role should the EU adopt to promote a peaceful outcome to the issue of Iran's nuclear programme and thereby ensure stability and security in the region?

Submitted by: Charlotte Amundsen (NO), Francesco Belletti (IT), Felicia Fahlin (SE), Irakli Grdzlishvili (GE), Ilir Kola (AL), Violetta Kolisnichenko (UA), Simonida Milutinović (RS), Mihai Pasnicu (RO), João Quartilho (PT), Nicholas Theodoulou (CY), Aliaksei Varavin (BY), Viktória Vitekova (SK), Zabeth Wagemann (FR), Stella Tsantekidou (GR), Veronica Gleizer (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply alarmed by the fact that even though Iran has signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)¹¹³ they repeatedly fail to adhere to its obligations by not allowing complete inspection of their nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA),¹¹⁴
- B. Deeply convinced that the EU's foremost aim in the matter is to guarantee security and economic stability for both involved parties,
- C. Deeply concerned by the consequences the imposed sanctions¹¹⁵ have on the Iranian people as they hurt Iran's already weakened economy and hence force the Iranian government to cut down on welfare spending,
- D. Drawing attention to the double standards influencing the approach regarding nuclear weapons taken towards Iran in comparison to other nuclear-capable states, such as Israel, Pakistan and India,
- E. Condemning the use of illegal methods to overthrow Iran's nuclear programme such as the sudden deaths of Iranian scientists, the Stuxnet¹¹⁶ virus and the speculated involvement of the American and Israeli governments,
- F. Noting with concern that the current information on the Iranian nuclear programme is largely derived from subjective sources such as the United States of America (USA) and Israel and thus are not fully reliable,
- G. Fully aware of the totalitarian regime of Iran and that its lack of respect for democratic values causes difficulties in negotiating efficiently,

¹¹³ The treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is an agreement between 188 states which obliges the signatory states that have nuclear weapons not to increase their stock of them and those who do not, to not obtain them.

¹¹⁴ The International Atomic Energy Agency is the UN monitoring agency who conducts inspections on nuclear programmes worldwide.

¹¹⁵ Both the UN and the EU imposed sanctions on Iran in 2011, foremost regarding their lucrative oil industry and financial services as well as other restrictive measures.

¹¹⁶ Stuxnet is a computer worm discovered in June 2010 spread through Microsoft Windows which targeted Siemens industrial software and equipment in Iran in particular.

- H. Seeking an atmosphere of mutual respect and intercultural understanding between the EU and the Iranian state in order to improve negotiations,
 - I. Keeping in mind that the religious and cultural differences between the involved parties partially causes Islamophobia and misunderstanding of Islam, and therefore Iran, within Western countries,
 - J. Deeply convinced that military actions should be avoided at all costs,
 - K. Recognises that there are other major conflicts not related to the Iran nuclear programme in the Middle East,
 - L. Acknowledging with regard to the aforementioned that a solution on Iran's nuclear issue cannot solely achieve stability and security in the region;
-
- 1. Calls upon the IAEA and other stakeholders to offer assistance to Iran's nuclear energy programme and its peaceful intentions by offering them:
 - a) the necessary equipment for obtaining nuclear energy,
 - b) technical and scientific assistance,
 - c) a neutral third party to take care of nuclear waste;
 - 2. Declares accordingly that Iran will have to agree on frequent inspections and further monitoring of the nuclear programme in order to obtain the aforementioned benefits;
 - 3. Further proclaims that such a programme should include representatives from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) as well as independent parties from the EU, USA, Israel and Iran in the inspection team to procure a neutral objective and outcome;
 - 4. Urges Israel as well as India and Pakistan to sign the NPT, thereby eliminating the double standards towards Iran;
 - 5. Designates the EU to provide its Member States with cultural and educational experience about the Iranian people in order to bridge cultural divides and increase the understanding between European countries and Iran;
 - 6. Has resolved to improve the diplomatic relationships between the EU and Iran by:
 - a) reducing or removing sanctions on oil exports and financial institutions if Iran agrees on clauses 1, 2 and 3,
 - b) inviting Iranian delegations to international and diplomatic events and conferences;
 - 7. Notes that the EU will continue with its sanctions on nuclear weapon-related technology until Iran's peaceful intentions are fully recognised in accordance with the current sanctions;
 - 8. Endorses Europol¹¹⁷ to offer assistance and intelligence in the investigations concerning the sudden deaths of Iranian scientists and prosecuting the responsible for the Stuxnet virus;
 - 9. Encourages the Middle Eastern countries to further collaborate through the implementation of a platform for common policy and political dialogue with its own jurisdiction.

¹¹⁷ Europol is the EU's criminal intelligence agency which acts as a support service for law enforcement in EU member states.

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