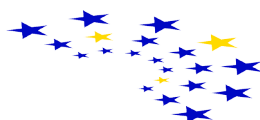


RESOLUTION BOOKLET

75TH INTERNATIONAL
SESSION OF THE
EUROPEAN YOUTH
PARLIAMENT

MARCH 15TH-22ND, 2014
RIGA, LATVIA



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN DES JEUNES

VOTING RESULTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Committee on Culture and Education II

(For: 90; Against: 116; Abstained: 0)

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I

(For: 114; Against: 59; Abstained: 3)

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs I

(For: 129; Against: 65; Abstained: 11)

Committee on Foreign Affairs

(For: 130; Against: 60; Abstained: 15)

Committee on International Trade

(For: 130; Against: 72; Abstained: 2)

Committee on Culture and Education I

(For: 131; Against: 74; Abstained: 0)

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs II

(For: 75; Against: 114; Abstained: 1)

Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

(For: 165; Against: 36; Abstained: 2)

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II

(For: 89; Against: 109; Abstained: 5)

Committee on Constitutional Affairs I

(For: 89; Against: 102; Abstained: 12)

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

(For: 150; Against: 49; Abstained: 2)

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs II

(For: 135; Against: 57; Abstained: 7)

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs I

(For: 110; Against: 90; Abstained: 1)

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs III

(For: 158; Against: 43; Abstained: 1)

Committee on Constitutional Affairs II

(For: 144; Against: 57; Abstained: 2)

PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENERAL RULES

The wish to speak is indicated by raising the committee placard.

The authority of the board is absolute.

PROCEDURE AND TIME SETTINGS

Presenting of the motion for the resolution (operative clauses, friendly amendments)

3 minutes to defend the motion for the resolution

3 minutes to attack the motion for the resolution

Points of information

Open debate

3 minutes to sum-up the debate

Voting procedure

Announcing the votes

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT

Last minute modifications of a resolution in order to improve it. Amendments are to be handed in on a specific form (distributed to the chairs) two resolutions before the resolution in question.

POINT OF INFORMATION

Request for a brief explanation of the meaning of specific words and abbreviations.

Note that translations are not points of information.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Request for a delegate to repeat a point that was inaudible.

POINT OF ORDER

A delegate feels that the board has not properly followed parliamentary procedure. The placard is used by chairpersons after a request from a delegate.

DIRECT RESPONSE

Once per debate, each committee may use the Direct Response sign. Should a committee member raise the Committee Placard and the "Direct Response" sign, the board recognises them immediately. The direct response sign is used to contribute to the point made directly beforehand.

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

WITH THE PISA REPORT 2012 REVEALING A WORRYING DISPARITY BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE ACROSS EUROPE: HOW CAN THE EU SUPPORT ITS MEMBER STATES IN PROVIDING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION?

Submitted by: Horia Benga (RO), Maria Clara Correia (PT), Aagie Daemen (BE), Ali Utku Dagtekin (TR), Valeryia Dele (BY), Tatuli Dolbaia (GE), Samuel Hönle (AT), Katrin Kaurov (EE), Ričards Krīžanovskis (LV), Maeve Lyons (IE), Matilde McCann (ES), Valentina Moles (IT), Maija Pajamo (FI), Maher Zguir (CH), Christian Macht (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Defining the purpose of school education as:

- i) Providing a combination of a diverse range of “21st century skills”, such as critical and divergent thinking, teamwork, self-direction, civic literacy and knowledge,
- ii) Encouraging personal growth and cultural awareness in order to promote active citizenship,
- iii) Ensuring integration in the global market,

B. Acknowledging that despite its shortcomings, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is still valuable, as it provides feedback for educators as well as a transparent overview of school systems in the European Union (EU),

C. Recognising that PISA is considered by the public to be an indicator for general education despite only testing literacy in Mathematics, Reading and Science,

D. Observing that PISA is not reliable because of translation issues, cultural differences and students being unfamiliar with multiple choice formats,

E. Further observing that national education systems are separate structures that lack supranational coordination,

F. Observing that despite efforts to consolidate, European school qualifications are not equally recognised by Member States,

G. Noting with regret that Member States’ standardised curricula do not take into account students’ individuality and do not leave space to develop their creative and critical thinking,

H. Noting with concern that those teachers who implement methods inappropriately or have insufficient knowledge are not able to adapt the teaching process in the most beneficial way for their students,

I. Realising that teachers are not valued enough by society, students and their employers, which leads to frustration and demotivation, preventing them from facilitating the highest possible standard of education,

J. Realising that, together with misaligned selection criteria for their employment, teachers do not receive valuable feedback, and continuous employment is not based on high standard performance in a number of Member States,

K. Deeply concerned by overcrowded classrooms of more than 25 pupils, where teachers have difficulties focusing on the individual needs of the students,

L. Aware of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) giving the EU only the competence to support, coordinate and supplement Member States in the field of education,

M. Recognising the importance of existing exchange and life-long learning programmes such as COMENIUS, ERASMUS+ and information platforms such as PLOTEUS;

1. Suggests that the European Commission recommend Member States to introduce a test, in tandem with PISA, to examine and thus highlight other aspects of education currently missing in PISA, such as creativity and the humanities;

2. Recommends the Council of the European Union to agree upon a common framework for educational systems, which can be implemented by each Member State in their own culturally unique way, with the aim to coordinate individual education systems and create a common European diploma recognised throughout the EU;

3. Welcomes proficiency-based curricula which call upon teachers to hold lessons that endorse creativity and the acquisition of “21st century skills” by students;

4. Encourages the separation of students from secondary school into specific knowledge levels rather than age, and to assess them periodically in order to reallocate them to the proper level to better develop their individual skills and motivation;

5. Further encourages the implementation of project- and inquiry-based learning, where students are empowered to take the lead in designing and completing complex tasks, in order to improve students’ motivation, attitude towards learning and develop the skills required in the labour market;

6. Urges Member States to ensure students’ participation in extracurricular school activities, such as volunteering and involvement in internships in their fields of interest to gain experience in the labour market;

7. Hopes for national education institutions to create the opportunity for students to have a direct influence in their schools’ ethos and implementation of national curricula;

8. Recommends the creation of a programme, which organises training events and seminars for teachers held by expert trainers both on a national and EU level;

9. Further recommends the establishment of a programme for an annual pan-European teacher assessment to:

- a) Evaluate the teaching skills and effectiveness of implemented methods,
- b) Analyse and monitor the current educational situation in Member States,
- c) Give individual feedback to the teachers;

10. Encourages the EU to increase funding opportunities for activities carried out by youth non-governmental organisations that offer stimulating educational events for students, such as the European Youth Parliament, through programmes such as ERASMUS+.

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

WITH CONTINUING TRAGEDIES AT LAMPEDUSA AND THE GROWING STRAIN OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: HOW CAN THE EU SUPPORT ITS MEMBER STATES IN MANAGING THE INCREASING FLOW OF ASYLUM SEEKERS THROUGH ITS MEDITERRANEAN BORDERS WHILST ENSURING THEIR HUMANE TREATMENT?

Submitted by: Aisling Doran (IE), Mate Dvalishvili (GE), Janis Fifka (DE), Sara Figueiredo (PT), Claire Finaut (BE), Maria Bianca Lojanica (NL), Laine Una Melkerte (LV), Naz Duru Mola (TR), Alexandru Pașata (RO), Sara Reinikainen (FI), Aaron Schilhan (AT), Claire Takami Siljedahl (SE), Silvia Tănav (EE), Segen Tezare (CH), Dmytro Zinchuk (UA), Beatrice Reichel (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware of the year-on-year increase of asylum applications within the EU-27 since 2006, reaching a total of 335,365 by 2012,
- B. Noting with concern that only ten Member States receive 90% of asylum applications made within the European Union (EU),
- C. Observing that immigration policies should be governed by the principle of solidarity as enshrined in Article 80 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
- D. Referring to Article 78(3) of the TFEU which allows for the adoption of measures to help Member States in the event of a sudden inflow of migrants from third countries,
- E. Takes note of the amended Dublin III Regulation entering into force on 19 July 2013, which provides for:
 - i) The prohibition of the transfer of asylum seekers to Member States where their fundamental rights are at risk of being violated,
 - ii) The extensive protection of unaccompanied minors, including the right to family reunification and a prohibition on all transfers whilst the asylum application is being considered,
 - iii) Guaranteeing that unaccompanied minors be reunited with second and third degree family members,
 - iv) The prohibiting of detention unless there is a serious risk of disappearance by the asylum seeker whilst limiting the detention period to three months,
 - v) Guaranteeing the right to appeal a decision on an asylum application whilst being allowed to stay in the country as the decision on the appeal is rendered,
 - vi) An early-warning mechanism which supervises the implementation of existing legislation in coordination with the European Asylum Support Office (EASO),
 - vii) The right to a personal interview to determine which Member State is responsible for processing an asylum application,
 - viii) The assurance of free legal counsel and access to information about the asylum process in a language the applicant can understand,
- F. Deeply disturbed by the Bossi-Fini Act which criminalises the aiding of irregular migrants in Italy,

G. Welcoming the proposed Regulation 2013/0106(CO) adopted by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs on 20 February 2014,

H. Having studied the European Ombudsman's Special Report to the European Parliament concerning Frontex's refusal to introduce an internal complaints mechanism,

I. Realising that the conclusion of certain Mobility Partnerships under the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) is incoherent with its overall aims to address the causes of migration at its source,

J. Recalling that Dublin III allows law enforcement agencies to use the Eurodac database to determine whether or not an individual's fingerprints have been entered there;

1. Encourages the European Parliament to vote in favour of the proposed Regulation 2013/0106(CO) thus ensuring:

- a) The provision of Frontex's own equipment and human resources in order to reduce its dependence on Member States,
- b) That rescuing people in distress along the Mediterranean borders is not considered a crime,
- c) That no pushbacks occur on the high seas but rather that vessels are warned and ordered not to enter the territorial waters of Member States,
- d) The full implementation of the non-refoulement principle,
- e) Procedures to ensure the identification of persons who are in need of international protection, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors or other vulnerable persons,
- f) The sharing of responsibilities through solidarity tools such as the provision of human, technical and financial resources to Member States;

2. Urges Frontex to adopt an internal reporting mechanism in accordance with the Special Report of the European Ombudsman;

3. Further requests Frontex and the Member States to refrain from enlisting the services of private sector agencies that develop border control technologies, manage detention centres or are responsible for border control;

4. Further requests that the European Commission (EC) improves their Mobility Partnerships with third countries under the GAMM through:

- a) The continuation of development aid in order to improve the standard of living in third countries,
- b) The improvement of training schemes of border personnel in third countries so that they include instruction on the humanitarian treatment of irregular migrants;

5. Further invites the EC to conclude Mobility Partnerships that promote safe and legal ways of applying for humanitarian visas and asylum in third countries serving as transits for entry into the EU;

6. Calls upon the EC to increase the frequency of security audits of Eurodac by the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) from once every four years to an annual audit;

7. Endorses the use of the Asylum and Migration Fund in accordance with Article 78(3) of the TFEU for the EU's Financial Multiannual Framework 2014-2020 so as to strengthen solidarity amongst Member States affected by increasing volumes of asylum applications.

FACT SHEET

Irregular migrants: defined by the International Organisation for Migration as persons “who, owing to unauthorised entry, breach of a condition of entry, or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country.”

The Dublin Regulation: determines which Member State is responsible for processing an asylum application. It states that an asylum application must be lodged in the Member State that the applicant first arrived in, unless a number of exceptional circumstances apply.

The European Asylum Support Office (EASO): a European body providing practical support to Member States for the implementation of asylum laws. It focuses on Member States that face particular strain due to increasing volumes of migrants.

The Bossi-Fini Act: an Italian law that was passed in 2002 and makes it illegal to help irregular migrants.

Eurodac: an EU Regulation establishing a system that collects the fingerprints of migrants when they first enter EU territories and store them in a database. This is to aid the implementation of the Dublin Regulation by checking whether a migrant has previously lodged an asylum application in another Member State.

Frontex: an agency that currently pools the resources of Member States to protect the external border of the EU. It has been known to enlist private sector organisations to complement its technological capacities.

Pushbacks: they occur when border control authorities coordinated by Frontex send irregular migrants back to their countries of origin.

The principle of non-refoulement: is a legal norm that states that an asylum seeker must not be moved to any territory where there is any risk of their fundamental human rights being violated.

Third country: refers to a state that is not a Member State of the EU.

The Asylum and Migration Fund: a new tool created for the financial support of Member States. Its implementation is currently being discussed by the European Parliament and European Council.

Regulation 2013/0106(CO): Is due to be voted on in a plenary session of the European Parliament in April 2014.

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

WITH THE EUROZONE OFFICIALLY OUT OF RECESSION AND IRELAND BEING THE FIRST COUNTRY TO END ITS BAILOUT: WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO SUSTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROCESS AND ACHIEVE UNFRAGMENTED GROWTH ACROSS THE EUROZONE, AND TO WHAT EXTENT COULD A SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY MODEL BE A MODERN SOLUTION?

Submitted by: Emma Bernolet (BE), Luís Freitas (PT), Olimpia Gascó (ES), Giorgi Gugenishvili (GE), Rafiga Hamzayeva (AZ), Andong Hu (CH), Seán Hurley (IE), Elina Mäkelä (FI), Oana Păcurar (RO), Florian Rogner (AT), Natallia Sheleg (BY) Barlas Türkyılmaz (TR), Rain Vagel (EE), Mareks Zēvalds (LV), Osman Arda Sezer (Chairperson, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Convinced that economically strong Member States should continue funding stimulus packages for Member States in need of financial assistance in order for both parties to achieve sustainable long-term growth,
- B. Noting with regret that the Euro Plus Pact is legally non-binding,
- C. Further observing the continual failure of Member States to comply with the guideline levels of debt and deficits suggested in the aforementioned pacts,
- D. Bearing in mind that varying corporate tax levels in the European Union (EU) hinder vital cross-border business activity,
- E. Noting with approval the aims of the seven flagship initiatives of Europe 2020,
- F. Observing past reporting transgressions of government deficits by some Member States,
- G. Realising that the success of the EFC requires accurate disclosure of the general budget deficit and debt-to-GDP ratio,
- H. Referring to the fact that crowdfunding is restricted in some Member States by national regulatory provisions,
- I. Noting with regret that the recent economic crisis has not prompted any questioning of the teaching of economics,
- J. Noting with deep concern that the potential for further trade between the EU and the United States (US) remains untapped,
- K. Concerned that bankruptcy procedures within some Member States discourage entrepreneurship,
- L. Alarmed by the lack of confidence among Member States regarding the future of the Eurozone caused by:
 - i) The inefficiency of austerity measures currently in place in countries who have received an EU bailout,
 - ii) Reservations expressed by creditor countries regarding the continued funding of bailouts;

1. Recommends that countries with annual budget deficit and/or public debt in breach of the EFC be exempt from punitive measures if the excess spending furthers the Europe 2020 goals;
2. Encourages Member States to collaborate with the United Nations Environment Programme in order to optimise research and development investments and thus foster environmentally sustainable growth;
3. Further invites the European Commission (EC) to finalise the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base in order to encourage companies to engage in further transnational business activities within the Eurozone;
4. Urges Member States to have an appropriate individual level of social spending that furthers a social market economy;
5. Expresses its hope that national regulatory restrictions on crowdfunding in the EU be removed;
6. Strongly recommends the establishment of educational programmes in economics and entrepreneurship for high school students with an emphasis on the social market economy model and the role of ethics in economics;
7. Calls upon Member States to facilitate the implementation of training schemes for small and medium sized enterprises and sole traders;
8. Urges the EC to accelerate the negotiations of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership;
9. Recommends that Member States reduce the severity of their bankruptcy procedures, by implementing a maximum discharge time of three years in the case of entrepreneurs with unlimited liability who have failed for the first time.

FACT SHEET

Europe 2020: The European Union's ten-year growth and jobs strategy that was launched in 2010. The objectives of the strategy are supported by seven 'flagship initiatives'. Those initiatives focus on the issues of financing of research and innovation, digital agenda, resource efficiency, industrial policy, modernised labour markets, social and territorial cohesion.

European Fiscal Compact: An intergovernmental treaty that sets a number of criteria for Member States to comply with. The treaty defines a balanced budget as a general budget deficit less than 3.0% of the gross domestic product (GDP), and a structural deficit of less than 1.0% of GDP if the debt-to-GDP ratio is significantly below 60%. In case of non-compliance, ratifying states can be fined up to 0.1% of their GDP by the European Court of Justice.

Euro Plus Pact: A plan to increase financial strength and competitiveness through political reforms. It was accepted by all the EU countries except for Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Crowdfunding: The practice of funding a project or venture by raising small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the Internet.

Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: A proposed free-trade agreement between the European Union and the United States.

Social Market Economy: An economic system based on a free market operated in conjunction with state provision for those unable to work, such as elderly or unemployed people.

The Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base: A proposal developed by the European Commission that requires a number of EU Member States to develop a set of common rules for determining the tax base of companies with operations in several EU Member States.

The United Nations Environment Programme: An agency of the United Nations that coordinates its environmental activities, assisting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC PROTESTS IN RESPONSE TO UKRAINE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM SIGNING AN ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WITH THE EU: HOW SHOULD THE EU APPROACH UKRAINE'S GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE IN DEVELOPING A FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS EASTERN NEIGHBOUR?

Submitted by: Catriona Benn (UK), Anton Drăghici (RO), Ingrid Haugen-Flermoe (NO), Markus Kirchschrager (AT), Areg Kochinyan (AM), Anne Laine (FR) Federico Mazzoni (IT), Milica Nektarijevic (RS), Martin Neumann (DE), Alinda Aleksandra Ohotski (TR), Ilya Taktashov (RU), Kalliopi Terzidou (GR), Angelica Yngvesson (SE), Kieran McNulty (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by the lack of international cooperation in attempts to resolve the current Ukrainian crisis,
- B. Recalling the existing cooperation between the European Union (EU) and Ukraine within the frameworks of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the Eastern Partnership,
- C. Fully aware that the political part of the Association Agreement (AA) between the EU and Ukraine will be signed in the coming days,
- D. Having studied the different interests the EU, Russia and the United States (US) have in Ukraine,
- E. Deplores the tension spanning several decades in Ukraine that has resulted from its engagements with the EU and Russia,
- F. Bearing in mind the existing divisions in the Ukrainian society which have led to the Euromaidan protests and the current unrest in Eastern Ukraine,
- G. Deeply alarmed by the current instability and danger to public safety in Ukraine, in particular the human rights violations of the ban against torture, the protection of minorities and the freedom of the press,
- H. Aware that the Ukrainian interim government is not seen as legitimate by Russia,
- I. Fully believing in the right of all Ukrainian citizens to have a legitimate government,
- J. Recognising that the Ukrainian interim government will hold elections in May 2014,
- K. Welcoming the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) efforts to provide aid to Ukraine,
- L. Noting that the Ukrainian state is on the verge of bankruptcy,
- M. Further noting that the Ukrainian economy is in a state of deterioration;

1. Calls for the United Nations (UN) to urgently organise a high-level summit which would involve all parties who have an interest in the Ukrainian crisis;
2. Recommends that no further sanctions be imposed on the parties that agree to attend the UN summit;
3. Further recommends that current sanctions be revoked if the escalating military crisis is halted;
4. Emphasises the need for Russia and the US to remove their forces from the region in order to achieve the aforementioned de-escalation;
5. Further requests that all involved parties in the crisis abstain from taking actions to aggravate the situation;
6. Encourages more severe sanctions against Russia if any further inflammatory actions are taken;
7. Calls upon Member States to request the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to convene and deliver a ruling on the legitimacy of the recent referendum in Crimea over joining the Russian Federation;
8. Calls upon the UN to send a delegation to Ukraine that will investigate breaches of human rights and compile a report on the issue;
9. Requests that Interpol compile a list of Ukrainian human rights offenders and ensures that they are brought to justice;
10. Affirms the need for journalists to move freely throughout Ukraine;
11. Trusts that the Ukrainian government will support and protect international media within their borders;
12. Supports the interim government in their aim to hold legitimate and fair presidential elections in May 2014;
13. Further requests that the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) be permitted to send monitors for the forthcoming Ukrainian elections in May and any future elections in the region of Crimea;
14. Encourages all Member States and the international community to officially recognise the results of these elections if they are conducted fairly;
15. Supports multi-lateral talks between the EU, Ukraine and Russia held after these elections on the economic future of Ukraine;
16. Urges continued measures of support such as the €1 billion in loans given by the EU to aid Ukraine with its debts;
17. Further urges the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (ERBD) to provide favourable conditions for Ukrainian businesses, such as low interest rates;
18. Encourages European businesses to consider investing in Ukraine.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

THE FUTURE OF THE EU-AFRICA TRADE RELATIONSHIP: WITH CHINA'S GROWING INFLUENCE IN THE CONTINENT AND THE EU'S PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH AFRICAN STATES EXPIRING IN OCTOBER, HOW CAN THE EU POSITION ITSELF TO MAINTAIN SOLID TRADE LINKS WITH AFRICAN STATES?

Submitted by: Alice Castelnuevo (IT), Orestis Collins (CY), Knut Olav Kjustad Gjertsen (NO), Dmitrij Gladkyy (CZ), Yll Haziri (XK), Rasmus Kivinen (SE), Anna Mamyán (AM), Loui Marchant (UK), Alexandra Patilea (FR), David Plahl (DE), Philippa Rytkönen (FI), Despoina-Elisavet Stavridou (GR), Nina van Giesen (NL), Katarzyna Wawrzakowicz (PL), Oleg Shimanskyy (Vice-President, UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising that Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) are a sustainable long-term solution to maintain solid trade links between Africa and the European Union (EU) on equal footing,
- B. Emphasising the need to substantially develop the local African markets as a possibility to intensify the EU-African trade relationships,
- C. Realising that the low volume of exports from African states to the EU is to a large extent caused by the lack of production capacity in Africa,
- D. Noting with concern that only a small number of EPAs and interim EPAs, as envisaged by the Cotonou Agreement between African countries and the EU, have been concluded,
- E. Fully aware of the EU-imposed deadline of 1 October 2014 for the signature of the EPAs,
- F. Further noting that failure to sign the aforementioned agreements with the EU would result in African states falling back to a less advantageous trade regime:
 - i) Under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) of the World Trade Organisation for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs),
 - ii) Under bilateral and other agreements with individual EU Member States for those countries not qualifying as LDCs,
- G. Recognising that Chinese investments are highly attractive to the African states due to China's "non-interference" approach and its nearly exclusive focus on infrastructure,
- H. Noting with regret that China's intensive acquisition of African natural resources stalls long-term development of the region,
- I. Taking into account that Chinese companies in Africa opt for Chinese labour force and therefore do not contribute to a sustainable development of the local labour market,
- J. Deeply conscious that the EU needs to provide more appealing cooperation terms than China if it is to develop stronger trade links with Africa by empowering local African markets,
- K. Firmly convinced that the EU should not to pursue a "non-interference" policy similar to that of China, due to its historical ties with the continent and long-term commitment to promoting human rights,

L. Observing the insufficient number of educated professionals in some African states, which hinders the creation and development of successful local enterprises,

M. Emphasising the importance of a well-educated labour force and intensive research as the foundation of a competitive labour market,

N. Notices with profound concern the presence of dictatorships in multiple African states resulting in reduced trade and regional integration;

1. Calls for a more flexible approach and intensified negotiations with African states in order to conclude the EPAs by the assigned deadline;

2. Suggests the African, Caribbean and Pacific-EU (ACP-EU) Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) separates the Committee on Trade from the Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade in order to intensify the negotiating effort of the parties involved;

3. Encourages the EU to offer African governments more appealing agreement terms regarding the gradual introduction of non trade-related parts of the agreement;

4. Recommends European enterprises outsource their production to African countries to create a fair market and balance the influence of Chinese companies;

5. Urges the European Commission (EC) to create a Euro-African Investment Fund (EAIF) which will:

- a) Coordinate financial investment aid to African countries,
- b) Offer a micro loan scheme for African entrepreneurs and supervise its implementation through local banks,
- c) Promote investment into, and the creation of, enterprises in Africa;

6. Calls upon the European Investment Bank (EIB) to:

- a) Invest in primary and professional education programmes in Africa to empower the local labour force,
- b) Finance cooperation between European and African universities, including scholarships, and faculty exchanges in order to create a well-educated labour force,
- c) Fund infrastructure projects in Africa, set-up through the public private partnerships (PPPs) and implemented by European companies.

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

IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT OUTBREAKS OF RACIST AND HOMOPHOBIC BEHAVIOUR DURING INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS ACROSS EUROPE: HOW CAN THE EU AID THE GOVERNING BODIES OF DIFFERENT SPORTING ASSOCIATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION?

Submitted by: Olga Budynska (UA), Fien De Doncker (BE), Ieva Ērgle (LV), Zurab Giorgobiani (GE), İrem Gökdoğan (TR), Natallia Khenkina (BY), Verna Lukka (FI), Sofie Lundgren (SE), Antonio Morilla (ES), Triin Naudi (EE), Lorenzo Niemitz (IE), Andrei Victor Popoviciu (RO), Isabelle Stebler (CH), Laura Stern (AT), João Teles (PT), Vivek Gathani (Vice-President, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Affirming the importance of Article 21(1) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union which states that “any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited”,

B. Emphasising Article 11(1) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union which states that “everyone has the right of freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions”,

C. Realising the need to subcategorise different, yet equally serious, types of discrimination which occur at sporting events as follows:

- i) “Internal discrimination”, as any form of discrimination from players, referees and coaches,
- ii) “External discrimination”, as any form of discrimination from fans and spectators,
- iii) “Institutional discrimination”, as any form of discrimination within governing bodies of sporting associations,
- iv) “Positive discrimination”, as discrimination that strives to treat minority groups differently,

D. Aware of the fact that the origins of prejudice and discrimination can be rooted in diverse cultural, educational, religious and social backgrounds,

E. Observing the inconsistency between educational programmes across schools in Member States when highlighting the presence and effects of discrimination in sport,

F. Recognising the lack of media attention given to social groups which are vulnerable to discrimination in sport,

G. Deeply conscious that discrimination in football receives the majority of media attention despite discrimination being present in all sports,

H. Taking into account that discrimination is also prevalent at regional and amateur levels, as well as in professional sports,

I. Pointing out the fact that regulating and monitoring sports across Member States is a supporting competence of the EU, as highlighted in Article 6(e) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

J. Viewing with appreciation the existence and work of various initiatives and organisations which fight against discrimination in sport, such as Media Against the Racism in Sports (MARS), Principle 6, Progetto Ultra, the English Federation of Disability Sports (EFDS), the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), the European Partial Agreement on Sports

(EPAS) and the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism (CEOOR),

K. Noting with regret the lack of specific legislation and umbrella associations to coordinate and monitor the work of sporting organisations operating within the European Union (EU),

L. Concerned by the lack of consistency in both administrative and judicial punishments and policing of discriminatory behaviour at sporting events across Member States,

M. Alarmed by the key role of sponsors, private businesses and stakeholders in the running of sports clubs and their lack of social responsibility,

N. Deeply disturbed by the recent outbreaks of discriminatory behaviour at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games, as well as sporting events taking place in Member States;

1. Calls for the creation of a Coalition of Anti-Discrimination Organisations (CADO) as an EU-wide umbrella body whose aim is to promote cooperation between the plethora of aforementioned organisations in order to:

- a) Monitor and record discriminatory behaviour,
- b) Share accumulated resources between existing organisations,
- c) Jointly run initiatives across the EU,
- d) Run an annual conference in order to share ideas and set goals,
- e) Provide a targeted and united fight against discrimination on an EU level;

2. Invites CADO to foster cooperation between the governing bodies of sporting institutions, amateur and professional sports clubs, fan clubs, existing organisations and schools across the EU through a combined educational programme based on fighting discrimination in sport, which will include:

- a) Discussions in schools led by sports players and coaches,
- b) Discussions in schools based around highlighting the importance of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
- c) Resources offered to governments of Member States to use in schools in order to harmonise the awareness of discrimination in sport across the EU,
- d) Discussions between fan groups and governing bodies to help raise awareness amongst fans and parents;

3. Further invites CADO to work with all governing bodies operating in Member States to adopt a “uniform zero tolerance” policy on all forms of discrimination in order to ensure consistent administrative and judicial punishments for similar crimes against human rights;

4. Urges CADO to promote and expand the work done by MARS in raising awareness of all forms of discrimination in a variety of sports in order to ensure proportional representation in the media;

5. Encourages famous sportsmen and sportswomen to participate in future CADO media campaigns as positive role models in the united fight against discrimination;

6. Further encourages a media campaign highlighting the importance of having active role models from all minority groups in an array of different sports;

7. Demands an official opinion of the European Commission (EC) with regard to the National Olympic Committee’s failure to condemn the Russian government’s decision to not recognise Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) groups during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games;

8. Expresses its deep appreciation towards sponsors who distance themselves from sports clubs that they feel have not adequately dealt with discriminatory behaviour;

9. Supports the respect for an individual’s freedom of expression at sporting events unless this results in any form of discrimination as outlined in Article 21(1) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;

10. Calls upon the EU to direct funding and educational resources to amateur sports clubs in all Member States in order to help fight discrimination at grassroot level.

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

THE AGE OF AGEING: AS EUROPE FACES THE CHALLENGE OF AN AGEING LABOUR FORCE, HOW CAN THE EU ACT NOW IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN COMPETITIVENESS AND SUSTAIN ROBUST ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE FUTURE?

Submitted by: Nour Abdel-Fattah (UK), Elisabeth Alexander (DE), Katerina Athienitis (CY), Yonah Berger Barnett (NL), Jules Coville (FR), Catalin Cristea (RO), Erato Fesatidou (GR), Lana Kugli (RS), Dominik Loibner (AT), Klaudia Łożuk (PL), Eleonora Rossi (IT), Mina Tangen (NO), Jesper Thunström (SE), Veronika Wilhelmová (CZ), Marie Dromey (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully alarmed that by 2050 nearly one in three European citizens will be 65 or older due to increasing life expectancy and decreasing birth rates,
- B. Aware of the fact that an ageing population will result in an insufficient labour force in Europe,
- C. Deeply concerned by Europe's inability to sustain its ageing population, with age-related expenditure predicted to increase to 25.8% in 2034,
- D. Noting with regret the variation between retirement age across Member States, as well as the discrepancies between male and female retirement age,
- E. Reaffirming that social, health, and technological developments allow workers to remain physically and mentally capable to continue working beyond current retirement age,
- F. Noting with satisfaction the work of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme,
- G. Bearing in mind the various factors that contribute to earlier retirement, such as:
 - i) Ageism in the workplace,
 - ii) A lack of financial incentives to work beyond retirement age,
 - iii) Health and safety issues caused by inflexible workplace conditions as the employee gets older, such as failure to adapt to the worker's changing physical capability,
- H. Realising that females, low-skilled, young, and older workers have significantly lower participation in the labour force,
- I. Welcoming the Europe 2020 goals to increase employment rates to 75% for men and women aged 20 to 64, and 55% for workers aged 55 to 64, which target the aforementioned groups,
- J. Noting with deep concern the failure to meet the Lisbon 2009 employment goals and the predicted failures of the Europe 2020 employment goals,
- K. Believing that the continuing failure to meet employment goals is partially due to:
 - i) The slow and uneven pace of implementing reforms between Member States,
 - ii) Poor labour mobility,
- L. Recognising that while the statutory social security entitlements are guaranteed for migrant workers, they may lose a significant portion of their earned pension entitlements when moving between Member States;

1. Recommends Member States to implement earning-based pension schemes, while guaranteeing a flat-rate pension based on the minimum living costs of the Member State;
2. Calls upon the European Commission to examine the feasibility of amending Directive 98/49/EC on safeguarding the supplementary pension rights of employed and self-employed persons moving within the Community;
3. Encourages the stakeholders of strategies such as the Europe 2020 goals, the Sustainable Development Strategy, and the Social Agenda to coordinate their goals, combine resources and knowledge;
4. Urges Member States to increase retirement age, while raising awareness of the benefits of remaining in the labour force;
5. Further encourages the expansion of European donor initiatives which support entrepreneurship via the European Social Fund;
6. Supports the promotion of active ageing through initiatives such as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012;
7. Calls for Member States to raise employment levels through:
 - a) Flexicurity,
 - b) Equal retirement age for men and women,
 - c) Equal access to paternity and maternity leave,
 - d) Increased availability of affordable childcare facilities;
8. Urges employers to facilitate lifelong learning and skill development in workers;
9. Emphasises the need for flexibility and tailored assistance for each Member State in approaching and achieving Europe 2020 goals;
10. Welcomes the integration of migrant workers from outside of the EU, as well as between Member States.

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

WITH AROUND 6 MILLION TONNES OF E-WASTE GENERATED IN EUROPE ANNUALLY, AND CONTINUED DUMPING OF THIS WASTE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: HOW CAN MEMBER STATES ACT TO ENSURE RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF E-WASTE?

Submitted by: Ruslan Aliyev (AZ), Alexandra Blankenstein (ES), Gioia Bomatter (CH), Zamzam Elmi (FI), Rihards Goldmanis (LV), Ksenia Kartamysheva (BY), Kostyantyn Lyabuk (UA), Nina Osepashvili (GE), Francisca Patrício (PT), Sophie Perry (IE), Pille-Riin Eiskop (EE), Anne Marit Selbekk (NO), Lobke Vangansbeke (BE), Mădălina Vlasie (RO), Zehra Yağmur (TR), Giada Benfatto (Chairperson, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

A. Alarmed that according to the United Nations University e-waste is unavoidably predicted to rise by 2.5% to 2.7% per year, increasing to 12.3 million tons per year by 2020,

B. Recognising that the export of e-waste from the European Union (EU) to countries that are not part of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is a breach of the Basel Convention, the EU regulation on waste shipments and the OECD agreement,

C. Noting with regret that the EU Directives on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment have been inefficient,

D. Bearing in mind that exporting e-waste to developing countries costs one tenth of the recycling cost, which leads to large amounts of e-waste being illegally shipped to developing countries,

E. Regretting that only 15% of Used Electrical and Electronic Equipment (UEEE) are fully functioning upon arrival in developing countries, and a large number consist of near end-of-life equipment that will shortly turn into e-waste,

F. Realising that modern Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE):

- i) Is not entirely recyclable,
- ii) Is built and designed by companies to increase the number of complete replacements as opposed to repairs,
- iii) Becomes obsolete at an increasingly higher rate,

G. Regretting the lack of awareness on e-waste and the methods of disposing of it,

H. Alarmed by the fact that e-waste recycling is harmful to human health and the environment if it is not performed under appropriate conditions,

I. Aware of the dependency in developing countries on the income generated from the informal sector that has formed around the recycling of e-waste,

J. Concerned by the lack of awareness in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) about informally recycling e-waste,

K. Noting with satisfaction the large number of existing initiatives and organisations dealing with the problem of e-waste such as Swico Recycling, Solving the E-Waste Problem (SteP) and the WEEE Forum;

1. Affirms the need to eliminate e-waste in developing countries and prevent future dumping;
2. Urges the European Commission (EC) to impose stricter sanctions for breaches of the WEEE directive to encourage more responsible recycling and disposal of EEE;
3. Calls on the EU Network for Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) to provide training for workers in European ports to improve the control of cargo that may contain e-waste;
4. Supports financial investment into research aimed at improving e-waste recycling technologies;
5. Recommends the introduction of EU-wide financial incentives for companies that demonstrate good practice in recycling e-waste;
6. Encourages Member States which do not have the economic capacity to build new recycling facilities to cooperate with other Member States on the disposal of e-waste;
7. Invites companies to consider the safe disposal of their products in their initial designs by establishing a label certifying that sustainable materials have been used;
8. Applauds initiatives that dedicate themselves to sustainable design and materials of EEE such as Phonebloks;
9. Calls upon the EC to initiate a regulation on the process of EEE disposal and recycling affecting producers and consumers;
10. Further invites companies to expand their repair and recycling services and provide monetary incentives for the consumers to use them;
11. Further urges the EC to make a recommendation encouraging Member States to establish municipal e-waste collection points to make recycling more viable for citizens;
12. Strongly suggests the EC amend the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) to allocate funds for projects by non-governmental organisations which rehabilitate polluted environments and provide education on the dangers of e-waste in LEDCs;
13. Further recommends these aforementioned funds also cover EU companies interested in opening new recycling facilities in LEDCs, provided that they train and employ the local population;
14. Further encourages the European Environmental Agency (EEA) to establish and assign a certificate of quality to new and established e-waste recycling companies.

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

WITH CONTINUING TENSIONS BETWEEN THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND THE REGION OF CATALONIA, AS WELL AS THE UPCOMING REFERENDUM ON SCOTLAND'S FUTURE: HOW SHOULD THE EU REACT TO REGIONS SEEKING INDEPENDENCE WITHIN ITS TERRITORY?

Submitted by: Christina Abdulahad (SE), Patrick Deutschmann (AT), Elina Liimatainen (FI),
Ştefana Luca (RO), Iryna Lukianenko (UA), Tiago Maia (PT), Nestan Mamukashvili (GE),
Cloé Oksenhendler (FR), Cara Pacitti (UK), Kättriin Pruul (EE), Teresa Ramos (ES),
Malte Stuhlmacher (NL), Emre Tamerler (TR), Elise Van Crombruggen (BE),
Anna Elina Vītola (LV), Laura Hibberd (Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that Member States of the European Union (EU) must uphold their legal obligations as set out in Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU),
- B. Deeply alarmed by the absence of an accession procedure within the Treaties of the EU that would resolve the issue of internal enlargement,
- C. Fully aware that the EU has not taken an official position regarding the potential membership of a region which becomes independent by exercising its right to self-determination,
- D. Recognising that the case of a region becoming independent and retaining EU membership on the same conditions as its “mother state” is unprecedented,
- E. Aware that the EU does not have the competencies to intervene in the internal policy of Member States in response to regional calls for independence,
- F. Expressing its concern that the current accession procedure in Article 49 of the TEU requires unanimity in the European Council and ratification by all EU Member States,
- G. Noting with regret that, during the lengthy and complex accession procedure, any newly independent region and its citizens would lose their benefits of EU membership despite already meeting many or all of the Copenhagen Criteria,
- H. Believing it would be beneficial for any breakaway region to remain a member of the EU,
- I. Realising that allowing a region to secede may set a precedent for other regions proclaiming their independence,
- J. Stressing that Member States have taken different approaches towards calls for regional independence within their territory, as reflected by the measures taken by the governments of Spain and the United Kingdom,
- K. Taking into account the potential economic impact of a region gaining independence on the EU, the “mother state” and the region itself,
- L. Conscious of the fact that the current tensions within Member States caused by regions seeking independence have the potential to compromise stability and security in the EU,
- M. Pointing out the lack of information available to the affected population regarding the consequences of a region's independence in relation to its EU membership;

1. Urges the European Commission (EC) or the European Parliament (EP) to propose an amendment to Article 49 of the TEU through the ordinary revision procedure as stated in Article 48 of the TEU;
2. Requests that the aforementioned amendment creates a simplified accession procedure for cases of internal enlargement, requiring:
 - a) For at least 80% of Member States of those who vote to support the ratification of the EU membership of a newly independent state, once the conditions of eligibility have been agreed upon as per the current process,
 - b) A transition period following independence, during which the breakaway state retains its currency, membership of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Schengen area, and its citizens retain their rights under Article 20(2)(a) and (c) Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);
3. Suggests that during the transition period, the newly independent state negotiates the terms of its membership with the European Council to include the possibility of retaining its previous opt-outs on an individual basis;
4. Expresses its belief that a newly independent state should remain in the Schengen area and EEA even if EU membership is denied or not sought, provided that the “mother state” was already a member of the Schengen area and/or the EEA;
5. Draws attention to the fact that any later re-application for EU membership should be in accordance with the standard application procedure outlined in Article 49 of the TEU;
6. Strongly encourages Member States to respect their regions’ calls for referenda on independence;
7. Calls for the EC to amend the 2014 - 2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) in order to re-allocate and reserve funds to be used to support a Member State should a region secede from it;
8. Suggests the level of funding be revised annually as the “mother” Member State continues its economic recovery;
9. Strongly advises Member States to enforce results of a referendum on independence held in the relevant region provided that the following criteria are met:
 - a) Voter turnout is over 60%,
 - b) The population is given balanced information about the impact of a referendum on their rights as EU citizens,
 - c) Negotiations between the Member State and the region seeking independence have taken place and were overseen by an impartial mediator appointed by the parties involved.

FACT SHEET

Article 2 of the TEU: The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail.

Article 48 of the TEU – Procedure to amend the Treaties:

1. The Treaties may be amended in accordance with an ordinary revision procedure...

Ordinary revision procedure

2. The Government of any Member State, the European Parliament or the Commission may submit to the Council proposals for the amendment of the Treaties. [...] These proposals shall be submitted to the European Council by the Council and the national Parliaments shall be notified.

3. If the European Council, after consulting the European Parliament and the Commission, adopts by a simple majority a decision in favour of examining the proposed amendments, the President of the European Council shall convene a Convention composed of representatives of the national Parliaments, of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, of the European Parliament and of the Commission. [...] The Convention shall examine the proposals for amendments and shall adopt by consensus a recommendation to a conference of representatives of the governments of the Member States as provided for in paragraph 4.

[...] The amendments shall enter into force after being ratified by all the Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.

Article 49 of the TEU – The current accession procedure:

Any European State which respects the values referred to in Article 2 and is committed to promoting them may apply to become a member of the Union. The European Parliament and national Parliaments shall be notified of this application. The applicant State shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously after consulting the Commission and after receiving the assent of the European Parliament, which shall act by an absolute majority of its component members. The conditions of admission and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the Union is founded, which such admission entails, shall be the subject of an agreement between the Member States and the applicant State. This agreement shall be submitted for ratification by all the contracting States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements. The conditions of eligibility agreed upon by the European Council shall be taken into account.

Article 20 of the TFEU – Citizenship: Citizens of the Union shall enjoy the rights and be subject to the duties provided for in the Treaties. They shall have, inter alia:

(a) the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States;

[...] (c) the right to enjoy, in the territory of a third country in which the Member State of which they are nationals is not represented, the protection of the diplomatic and consular authorities of any Member State on the same conditions as the nationals of that State.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS I

SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE OF THE UNION: TO WHAT EXTENT IS A MULTI-TIERED OR MULTI-SPEED APPROACH INSTRUMENTAL IN ENSURING GREATER STABILITY OF THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION?

Submitted by: Milena Arsić (RS), Magnus Bjørnbekk (NO), Jean-Baptiste Clochet (FR), Christos Demian (CY), Vaia-Eleni Drampa (GR), Raffi Elliott (AM), Mariia Kniazeva (RU), Nicklas Kövamees (SE), Zuzana Kůstková (CZ), Annie MacConnachie (UK), Matteo Timpano (IT), Adriaan van Streun (NL), Oscar Stenbom (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Guided by the fact that a unitary integration scenario would imply the complete disposal of the *acquis communautaire*,
- B. Noting that differentiated integration forms the basis of past integration and is the most realistic and feasible form of future integration,
- C. Further noting that the nature of differentiated integration means successful integration is not evenly distributed amongst Member States and that discrepancies in levels of integration may increase,
- D. Fully aware that the reliance on differentiated integration results in an absence of a unifying goal of European integration,
- E. Bearing in mind that differentiated integration has been necessary for the enlargement and progress of the European project,
- F. Recognising the difficulty of setting pre-conditions for the widening of the European Union (EU) through the addition of new policy areas in treaties,
- G. Viewing with appreciation the establishment of enhanced cooperation by the Treaty of Lisbon,
- H. Welcoming the harmonisation of fiscal policy in the Eurozone through the European Fiscal Compact (EFC),
- I. Believing that differentiated integration allows the necessary flexibility for furthering the project of economic integration,
- J. Concerned that Member States have conflicting macroeconomic objectives that may not be addressable through common economic policy and that the effect of such policies may be disparate,
- K. Affirming that a great degree of unitary integration is nonetheless required in a currency union and that the benefits of economic integration lie in its uniform application;

1. Declares that unitary integration of the EU in its entirety is neither feasible nor desirable;
2. Further declares that unitary integration is highly beneficial to economic and monetary policy;
3. Supports the enlargement of both the EU and the Eurozone by means of differentiated integration;
4. Calls upon the European Council to initiate a treaty change to:
 - a) Change the minimum number of Member States required to begin enhanced cooperation to one third of all Member States,
 - b) Adjust the required European Council majority approval of enhanced cooperation to three fifths,
 - c) Allow preconditions for later joining of enhanced cooperation projects;
5. Encourages the use of formal opt-outs instead of de facto opt-outs;
6. Calls upon the European Council to ensure mechanisms for opt-ins are inserted into future formal opt-outs;
7. Recommends that Member States engage in a more unitary economic policy within the Economic and Monetary Union by expanding the EFC to non-signatory Member States and ensuring its rigid enforcement.

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

WITH THE SOUTH STREAM BILATERAL AGREEMENTS DECLARED "IN BREACH OF EU LAW" BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION: HOW CAN THE EU WORK TOWARDS ACHIEVING ENERGY SECURITY WHILST UNDERLINING THE NEED FOR ADHERENCE TO ITS ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION?

Submitted by: Fania Christodoulides (CY), Diana Fazlitudinova (RU), Timothée Guichoux (FR), Oskar Haller (DE), Sara Kalkku (FI), Ingmar Kviele (SE), Isidoor Maljers (NL), Daniel Míka (CZ), Davide Monticelli (IT), Laurynas Keturakis (LT), Katy Munro (UK), Antoni Olendzki (PL), Andreas Selvig Ødegård (NO), Zoi Tsangalidou (GR), Alexander Proctor (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by South Stream parties consciously breaching European Union (EU) competition law and the Third Energy Package (TEP),
- B. Declaring current EU energy policies to be insufficient in guaranteeing energy security for all members of the European Energy Community,
- C. Aware that some Member States have failed to comply with existing EU environmental legislation,
- D. Realising that the deficiency of the European internal energy market leads to over-dependence, restricts competition of energy sources and lacks the force to stabilise energy flow in Europe,
- E. Alarmed by the fact that 34% of the EU's imports of natural gas come from Russia,
- F. Concerned that seven Member States import 100% of their gas from Russia with others being heavily reliant on Russian imports,
- G. Recognising Russia's use of its energy sources as "soft power" to interfere in EU politics,
- H. Deeply conscious of Russia's prioritisation of international trade law over EU law,
- I. Realising Russia's hesitation to comply with EU legislation,
- J. Alarmed by insufficient common frameworks between the EU and Russia regarding energy policies,
- K. Taking note that 51% of Gazprom is owned by the Russian government,
- L. Fully aware of the importance of economic relations between the EU and Russia,
- M. Bearing in mind the existence of initiatives for other pipeline projects such as the Nabucco Pipeline, the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) and the Interconnector Turkey-Greece-Italy (ITGI),
- N. Further noting the possibilities of renewable energy sources such as wind power, solar power, hydropower, biomass, biofuel and geothermal energy,
- O. Welcoming the fact that the production of renewable energy is increasing while its cost is decreasing,
- P. Convinced that the 2020 targets will be achieved on an EU-level due to their legally binding nature,
- Q. Approving the continuum of the aforementioned 2020 targets by the setting of 2030 targets,
- R. Noting with regret that investment in hydraulic fracturing has come to a standstill in Eastern Europe, in part due to political issues,
- S. Emphasising the need for a European energy grid, such as smart and super grids;

1. Strongly condemns the breach of EU competition, energy and environmental law, especially by those countries partaking in the South Stream project;
2. Calls upon the European Commission (EC) to commence negotiations with Russia to:
 - a) Reach a common regulatory framework for EU-Russia energy relations,
 - b) Establish an independent regulatory body represented evenly by both the EU and the Russian Federation;
3. Endorses the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) to be given the authority to approve all agreements between Member States and foreign energy partners before ratification;
4. Requests the EC to diversify the European gas supply through:
 - a) The introduction of a political framework between potential and existing energy suppliers,
 - b) Political and financial engagements by EU institutions in the process of supporting political transition in North African countries following the Arab Spring in order to ensure their future reliability as suppliers;
5. Further calls upon the EC to invite current and new energy partners of the EU, such as Norway and Azerbaijan, to join negotiation regarding their incorporation into the European Energy Community;
6. Strongly suggests the EU acts as a facilitator between European energy investors and alternative gas producing countries, like Qatar, Algeria and Azerbaijan, to diversify the current pipeline network by supporting projects like Nabucco, TAP and ITGI;
7. Calls for the development of a pan-European energy network connecting Member States through two-way pipelines and smart grids with the aim of:
 - a) Facilitating the transfer of energy between Member States,
 - b) Regulating a proportional distribution of available supplies in case of severe interruptions in energy provision;
8. Further requests the reinforcement of the Directive 2009/119/EC which requires that all Member States have minimum stocks of fossil fuels proportionate to their populations so that the consequences of supply interruptions are mitigated and Member States react uniformly during emergencies;
9. Appeals to the EC to collaborate with the European Renewable Energy Fund and the European Efficiency Fund to further support projects concerning the research and development of new energy harvesting technologies in order to lessen the dependence on fossil fuels;
10. Expresses its hope that the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union will transfer funds from the EU budget allocated to the energy sector to support projects in the most gas dependent Member States in order to encourage renovations in grid infrastructures and the construction of smart grids;
11. Invites the ACER to assist investors in setting up energy projects that promote technologies such as hydraulic fracturing, wind and solar power plants in Europe by:
 - a) Providing them with the necessary information through their international databases,
 - b) Acting as a facilitator during and after the negotiations,
 - c) Eliminating cumbersome bureaucracy;
12. Urges the EC to initiate legislation to make the 2030 targets legally binding for renewable energy sources and energy efficiency;
13. Recommends that Member States follow the “feed-in tariff” system, which increases subsidies on renewable energy while decreasing subsidies on fossil fuels, concurrent with each Member State’s individual energy market.

FACT SHEET

South Stream Bilateral Agreements: Seven separate agreements signed between Russia and Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Greece, Slovenia, Croatia and Austria. Except for Russia, all the states involved are members of the European Energy Community. The agreements are in breach of EU competition law and the Third Energy Package as Gazprom, as Russia cannot simultaneously be the energy producer and control the transmission system.

Smart Grid: Is built to fully exploit the potential for renewable energy and energy efficiency. It uses communication and information technology to collect information about the behaviour of customers. It automatically adjusts energy usage to be more efficient and reallocates surplus energy to where it is needed.

Third Energy Package (TEP): EU legislation concerning common rules for the internal gas and electricity markets. It contains conditions for access to energy networks for cross-border exchanges in gas and electricity. It establishes the Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators. The goal is to open up the EU's internal energy market to competition.

Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER): An EU-appointed independent organisation, which coordinates the National Regulator Authorities (NRA). It encourages energy market integration and aims to increase cross-border cooperation. It assists the NRAs in performing their duties at an EU level and monitors gas and electricity markets.

National Regulator Authorities (NRA): Each Member State has its own NRA. They supervise energy network operation, set tariffs for network access and ensure market rules are complied with for the benefit of consumers.

2020 Targets: Establishes targets to be achieved by 2020. Includes three targets on energy: firstly, to increase the share of renewable energies by 20%, secondly, to decrease carbon dioxide emissions by 20%, and thirdly, to increase energy efficiency by 20% compared to 1990 levels.

2030 Targets: Greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by 40% compared to 1990 levels. It recommends the increase in renewable energy to 27% of the market and also recommends continued improvements in energy efficiency.

European Efficiency Fund: Offers EU funding for renewable energy and small-scale efficiency projects.

European Renewable Energy Fund: Focuses on the development of renewable energy generation capacity across Europe.

European Energy Community: A community established between the EU and a number of third party countries to extend the EU's external energy market to the Southeast of Europe and beyond. All members are subject to EU energy legislation.

Feed-in tariff (FIT): A policy mechanism designed to accelerate investment in renewable energy technologies. It offers long-term purchase contracts at a fixed price to renewable energy producers.

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

WITH THE EU MOVING TOWARDS A PAN-EUROPEAN BANKING UNION: HOW CAN EUROPE SUCCESSFULLY BALANCE BETWEEN EU LEVEL AND STATE-LEVEL REGULATION?

Submitted by: Teresa Artjoki (FI), Solomiia Barida (UA), Niall Buckley (IE), Zoë Cassady (BE),
Anastasia Korsunsky (AT), Dominik Loibner (AT), Luka Modebadze (GE),
Barbara Nimo Garcia (CH), Gerda Raag (EE), Diego Rodrigues (ES), Vladislavs Saiko (LV),
Gonçalo Sampaio (PT), Arti Shahini (AL), Badriyya Soltanli (AZ), Aysu Tanoğlu (TR),
Tomina Voдрărici (RO), Marko Fischer (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that the European banking union both increases the efficiency of the European financial system and restricts national sovereignty by transferring national banking regulation competencies to the Eurozone level,
- B. Realising that swift progress towards a banking union, which entails a common mechanism for the supervision and resolution of financial institutions, is indispensable to ensure financial stability and growth in the Eurozone,
- C. Fully aware that profits and economic growth in the European Union (EU) depend on financial stability, which requires a unified European prudential regulatory system due to the interdependency of Eurozone economies,
- D. Realising that excessive standardisation of national financial sectors through the banking union's stress test may not take into account the specific asset and capital structures of different financial institutions,
- E. Emphasising that financial distress in a Member State not participating in the banking union could potentially affect banking union members and disrupt their financial stability,
- F. Recalling that financial crime, such as interest rate manipulation and the misuse of public funds, is concealed by a lack of transparency which undermines the macroeconomic stability of the Eurozone,
- G. Alarmed by the multiple bureaucratic steps that a bank resolution decision under the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) is required to pass, impairing the banking union's ability to effectively respond to major bankruptcy scenarios,
- H. Realising that the exemption of medium-sized banks from contributions to the SRM's crisis fund undermines its capacity in the case of insolvency or a broader banking crisis,
- I. Believing that the Deposit Guarantee Scheme (DGS) in its current form can ultimately cause a sovereign default due to a Member State's responsibility to guarantee a large amount of the liabilities of defaulting banks, creating a "feedback loop",
- J. Viewing with concern the constraining effect of the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) and the Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) on a bank's ability to operate profitably whilst remaining unable to guarantee appropriate stability,
- K. Deeply disturbed that the misallocation of credit harms the investment environment and does not provide a balance between financial stability and economic growth;

1. Recommends the European Central Bank (ECB) develop a more specific balance sheet analysis of national financial institutions, thus substantially reducing the possibility of omitting threats to financial stability;
2. Requests the European Commission (EC) to empower the ECB to issue contingency certificates for banks contributing to the crisis fund to increase confidence in the resilience of the banking union's financial system;
3. Urges the EC to direct the ECB to publish the results of the stress test to:
 - a) Establish a rating system of the respective bank's soundness based on further continuous evaluations by the Single Supervision Mechanism (SSM),
 - b) Improve clients' and investors' access to relevant information,
 - c) Enhance competition amongst banks;
4. Calls upon the EC, in co-operation with the European Banking Authority (EBA), to initiate legislation to propose the gradual integration of all Member States into the banking union, fully respecting their specific economic needs;
5. Calls for the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) to be given executive power to regularly examine banks for financial crime and to be authorised to impose sanctions regardless of national regulatory influences;
6. Urges the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to amend the current banking union proposal by proclaiming the SSM as the only institution required to approve SRM decisions in the case of a Significant Financial Institution's (SIFI) bankruptcy to ensure a swift reaction;
7. Calls for a system of shared responsibility for the DGS amongst banking union members which would establish a common fund alongside diminished national funds;
8. Emphasises the necessity of reduced reliance on leverage due to the risks involved;
9. Requests the EC initiate the creation of a mandatory banking union fund combining banks' individually gathered assets under the NSFR and LCR, monitored by the ECB, in order to temporarily replace inter-bank lending in case of financial distress;
10. Supports the enactment of a regulation on strict bank assessment of loans in the banking union with regards to their impact on economic growth;
11. Encourages all banking union members to reduce corporate tax on returns for banks on specific investments in real economic growth.

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

INTERNSHIPS: OPPORTUNITY OR EXPLOITATION? HOW CAN THE EU EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT ITS YOUTH IN MAKING A SMOOTH TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT?

Submitted by: Vanja Bankovic (SE), Ragnhild Rabo Carlsen (NO), Iona Dean (UK),
Nehir Hatipoğlu (TR), Karolina Kraft (SE), Zuzanna Laudańska (PL), Rokas Morkūnas (LT),
Anastasia Mouskou (CY), Michaela Novotná (CZ), Elissavet Sandaltzopoulou (GE),
Anna Stibbe (NL), Alessandra Vaghini (IT), Isidore Valette (FR), Kati Pärn (Chairperson, EE)
The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that there is insufficient EU-level regulation, in order to prevent the exploitation of interns,
- B. Noting with regret that 5.5 million young Europeans are currently unemployed,
- C. Observing that Member States are not implementing European Union (EU) initiatives which minimise youth unemployment, such as Youth Guarantee and Quality Framework for Traineeship,
- D. Fully alarmed that unpaid internships are unaffordable for the less wealthy,
- E. Realising that employers avoid hiring interns, claiming that it is time-consuming and resource-demanding,
- F. Fully aware that the majority of internships are unpaid because:
 - i) Member States do not comply with their employment law,
 - ii) Some companies believe their reputation in the labour market is sufficient compensation for the work of their trainee,
- G. Deeply concerned by the frequent lack of any signed contract between employers and interns,
- H. Noting with deep concern that a high number of interns are subject to an unhealthy workload,
- I. Further noting the low quality and lack of guidance during internships, leading to a poor accumulation of skills and work experience,
- J. Deeply disturbed by the lack of cooperation and communication between educational systems and internship providers,
- K. Alarmed by the lack of information on internships such as:
 - i) The legal rights of interns and obligations of the employers,
 - ii) The availability of internships and their benefits,
 - iii) Internship mobility,
- L. Noting with regret that there are financial obstacles to the taking up of transnational internships;

1. Calls for the European Commission (EC) to establish a common EU policy tackling the issue of equal working conditions for interns;
2. Endorses Member States to implement the Youth Guarantee and continue the development of the Quality Framework for Traineeships;
3. Urges Member States to specify minimum quality guidelines for internships by further developing the Quality Label of Traineeships;
4. Encourages further funding to Member States by the European Social Fund (ESF) in order to subsidise the costs of internships for companies;
5. Emphasises the need for a written contract between the employer and intern according to the common EU policy regulation on internships to define:
 - a) Working hours and tasks,
 - b) Equal rights and payment,
 - c) Medical care and social security;
6. Recommends the implementation of an official evaluation form for internships and apprenticeships issued by the company;
7. Calls upon companies to implement a mentoring system in the aforementioned contract, aiming to sharing workload for higher efficiency;
8. Calls for the cooperation of educational facilities, youth organisations such as AIESEC, and businesses by promoting internships;
9. Further recommends the improvement of the already existing online platform, The European Job Mobility Portal (EURES), by:
 - a) Providing information on ways of reporting exploitation,
 - b) Offering young people the opportunity to share impressions on their experience as a trainee,
 - c) Combining already existing search engines in different Member States;
10. Fully supports the Europass and its usage in order to reduce the administrative obstacles concerning labour mobility;
11. Further invites the EC to support ERASMUS+ and ESF in further funding for students willing to take up transnational internships.

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

PROTECTING OUR PERSONAL DATA ONLINE: WITH THE LIMITED EFFECT OF THE DATA PROTECTION DIRECTIVE IN PRACTICE, WHAT STEPS SHOULD THE EU TAKE IN IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION IN ORDER TO ENSURE AN EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF ITS CITIZENS ONLINE?

Submitted by: Upasana Chatterjee (SE), Ekin Dolgun (TR), Uchenna Emelonye (FI),
Naomi Foale (UK), Vlad Goga (RO), Jakob Gutschlhofer (AT), François Hutin (FR),
Burak Konya (NL), Mats Emil Kvamme (NO), Diāna Lāce (LV), Laure Lemeire (BE),
Mari-Ann Lepp (EE), Avtandil Pataridze (GE), Felicitas Strauch (DE),
Monica Boța Moisin (Vice-President, RO)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with deep concern that the existing European Union (EU) legislation on personal data protection, namely the Directive 95/46/EC on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data, does not provide adequate citizen protection online,
- B. Noting with approval the growing importance of data protection online, as highlighted by the information leaked by the former United States' National Security Agency (NSA) employee Edward Snowden,
- C. Aware of the concerns arising from the “safe-harbour” being a trust-based scheme between the United States (US) and the EU offering an opt-in/opt-out choice for the adhering companies,
- D. Welcoming the strong support of the European Parliament (EP) for the EU Data Protection Compact (DPC) by passing the General Data Protection Regulation proposal (GDPR) with 621 votes in favour, 10 against, and 22 abstentions, and the new Data Protection Directive proposal (DPD) with 371 votes in favour, 276 against and 30 abstentions on 12 March 2014,
- E. Supporting the adoption of the EU DPC consisting of the GDPR proposal and the new DPD proposal as a joint mechanism incorporating citizen protection online and the processing of personal data in the area of criminal justice,
- F. Noting with regret the lack of a provision in the new DPD proposal that clearly defines the limits of retaining information of the data subject by the Supervisory Authorities,
- G. Viewing with appreciation the introduction of the “right to be forgotten” and the framework for exercising this right within the respective contexts of both the GDPR and the DPD,
- H. Referring to the exercise of the “right to be forgotten” when the data concerns multiple parties as “shared data”;

1. Congratulates the provisions of the GDPR for enforcing uniform data protection rules;
2. Urges companies, regardless of their establishment, to respect the GDPR, which imposes sanctions for infringement of data protection rights amounting to 5% of the company's annual turnover;
3. Supports the mandatory employment of a minimum of one data protection officer for data processors and controllers with over 250 employees, as stated in the GDPR;
4. Requests that, for data processors and controllers with fewer than 250 employees, the Supervisory Authority of each Member State offers assistance and information to enable them to comply with the provisions of the GDPR;
5. Defines a "data collecting company" as a company which provides services that involve individuals' personal data being stored and/or shared;
6. Urges the Supervisory Authority, when the data subject wants to exercise their right to be forgotten, to store the personal data in question for one year, unless the data is used in a judicial matter where the storage time is indefinite;
7. Invites data collecting companies to respond to a shared data deletion request within 30 days from the submission of such request;
8. Calls upon data collecting companies to establish investigatory departments with at least one employee responsible for every 2,000 shared data deletion requests per month;
9. Recommends that in cases of allegations that shared data is violating human rights involving conflicting opinions, the collecting company is obliged to send the data to the Supervisory Authority for evaluation and a decision regarding the data deletion by the collecting company;
10. Suggests that the individual has the right to appeal to the Supervisory Authority against the decision made by the data collecting company;
11. Calls upon the European Commission (EC) to impose that collecting companies create a simplified version of their "terms and conditions for use", by displaying symbols representing the important information regarding data protection and processing, according to the GDPR;
12. Further calls for the EC to define the aforementioned important information and the respective symbols;
13. Requests the EC to further define the "necessary and proportionate" criteria presented in Article 11.4 of the DPD, in reference to government entities withholding information from data subjects;
14. Calls upon the EC to review, and if necessary update, the DPC every 5 years.

FACT SHEET

Data Processor: A natural or legal person, public authority, agency or any other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller.

Supervisory Authority: A public authority which is established by a Member State, which is responsible for monitoring the application of the regulation and contributing to its consistent application throughout the EU.

Safe Harbour: A scheme which sets out a framework of data protection standards which allow the free flow of personal data from the European Economic Area (EEA) data controllers to organisations in the US which have joined the scheme.

The right to be forgotten: The data subject has the right to obtain from the controller the erasure of personal data relating to them, when this data is no longer necessary and there is no legal reason for the controller to keep it.

Regulation: A legal act of the EU with general application. It shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Directive: A directive is a legal act of the EU which shall be binding, as to the result to be achieved, upon each Member State, but shall leave to the national authorities the choice of form and methods for achieving the imposed result.

Data subject: An identified natural person or a natural person who can be identified, directly or indirectly, by means reasonably likely to be used by the controller or by any other natural or legal person, in particular by reference to an identification number, location data, online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, psychological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural, social identity of that person.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): A proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union on the protection of the individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

New Data Protection Directive (DPD): A proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by competent authorities for the purposes of prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties, and the free movement of such data.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS II

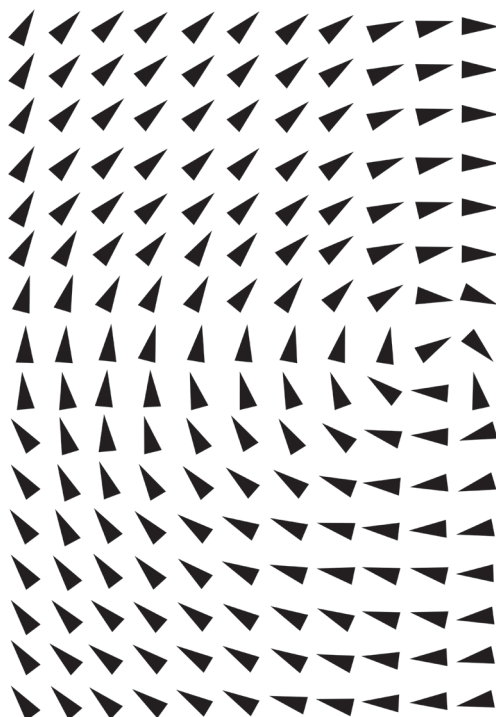
EP ELECTIONS 2014: HOW CAN THE EU SUCCESSFULLY COOPERATE WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF ITS MEMBER STATES IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A HIGH RATE OF VOTER TURNOUT WHILST ENSURING THAT THE ELECTORATE IS WELL-INFORMED?

Submitted by: Corinna Alberti (IT), Cecilia Axelsson (SE), Ivana Biga (RS), Imogen Findlay (UK), Miltiadis Grigoriadis (GR), Bart Hartog (NL), Petr Klement (CZ), Zoé Lehuger (FR), Margrethe Soot (NO), Kyprianos Spyrou (CY), Atjon Zhiti (AL), Arnolds Eizenšmits (Chairperson, LV)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Observing that the voter turnout in European Parliament (EP) elections has decreased steadily to reach an all-time low of 43% in 2009, thus undermining the legitimacy of the EP,
- B. Further observing that Article 223 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) allows for different electoral procedures in each Member State,
- C. Having examined the EP's Report on improving the practical arrangements for the holding of the European elections in 2014 (2013/2102(INI)),
- D. Expressing its appreciation that the TFEU has strengthened the role of the EP and thus increased the democratic legitimacy of the European Union (EU),
- E. Fully aware of the democratic deficit across the EU due to the lack of transparency in decision-making and the distance between the citizens and the EU,
- F. Recognising that citizens perceive the EP as not having enough influence and therefore are less inclined to vote,
- G. Deeply regretting that national parties campaign mainly on domestic issues and regard EP elections as being second-order elections,
- H. Believing that the voting procedure for citizens residing abroad is too complex,
- I. Disappointed by the lack of political education in schools which has negative long-term effects on interest in the EU and an understanding of its functioning,
- J. Concerned by the insufficient awareness amongst the electorate regarding the institutions and functions of the EU, particularly the EP elections,
- K. Regretting insufficient media coverage for the EP and its elections,
- L. Noting with regret the lack of European identity amongst EU citizens,
- M. Alarmed by the rise of Euroscepticism and populist movements, particularly following the economic crisis,
- N. Bearing in mind that mainstream political parties are not able to successfully respond to radical and populist movements;

1. Calls upon the Member States to harmonise voting systems for EP elections by measures such as:
 - a) Holding EP elections on the same date in all the Member States,
 - b) Using a common voting system,
 - c) Allowing all EU citizens that reside abroad to vote for candidates from their country of citizenship,
 - d) Establishing a common minimum voting age of 18 years;
2. Calls for the establishment of a pan-European organisation which will investigate the effects of potential implementation of online as well as compulsory voting;
3. Affirms that national political parties should promote their candidates for the presidency of the European Commission (EC) to the electorate and make clear their affiliation to European political groups;
4. Emphasises that political campaigns for EP elections should be primarily focused on European affairs;
5. Recommends that the EC financially supports the provision of educational materials of gradually increasing complexity about the EU in Member States' schools;
6. Affirms that the EC should continue to provide free educational materials on the EU for all its citizens, both online and via traditional media platforms;
7. Encourages Member States to jointly establish a similar website to the successful "myvote2014.eu" about their candidates in upcoming EP elections;
8. Approves of incentives to raise awareness on EP elections in the media, such as the "Act. React. Impact." video and coverage of debates between candidates;
9. Further recommends the EP strengthens its presence in social media;
10. Urges the EC to promote the specific benefits of EU membership for every Member State through the use of mass media.



RIGA '14

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75TH INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT



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