

A large, dark silhouette of the Izmir coastline, featuring a long pier with many columns, palm trees, and a sailboat in the upper right corner. The silhouette is set against a white background.

İZMİR

2015

78th International
Session of the European Youth
Parliament

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

The General Assembly
24 - 25 April 2015

PROGRAMME OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Friday, April 24th

09:30 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony of the General Assembly	
10:00 – 10:50	Debate I - Committee on Foreign Affairs II	page 6
10:50 – 11:20	Coffee Break	
11:20 – 12:10	Debate II - Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs III	page 11
12:10 – 13:00	Debate III - Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II	page 14
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:50	Debate IV - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs I	page 18
14:50 – 15:40	Debate V - Committee on Industry, Research and Energy	page 23
15:40 – 16:10	Coffee Break	
16:10 – 17:00	Debate VI - Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I	page 29
17:00 – 17:50	Debate VII - Committee on International Trade	page 32
17:50 – 18:20	Coffee Break	
18:20 – 19:10	Debate VIII - Committee on Development	page 36

Saturday, April 25th⁴²

09:00 – 09:50	Debate IX - Committee on Constitutional Affairs II	page 41
09:50 – 10:40	Debate X - Committee on Climate Change	page 44
10:40 – 11:10	Coffee Break	
11:10 – 12:00	Debate XI - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs II	page 49
12:00 – 12:50	Debate XII - Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality	page 53
12:50 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:50	Debate XIII - Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development	page 57
14:50 – 15:40	Debate XIV - Committee on Constitutional Affairs I	page 60
15:40 – 16:10	Coffee Break	
16:10 – 17:00	Debate XV - Committee on Foreign Affairs I	page 62
17:00 – 18:30	Closing Ceremony	

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 a Resolution
Presenting of the Friendly Amendments
3 minutes to defend the Motion for a Resolution
4 minutes to attack the Motion for a Resolution
2 minutes to respond to the Attack Speeches
Points of Information
General 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 to the Board at least two debates before the resolution in question, or as soon as possible for the first resolutions of the General Assembly.

Point of Information

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

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.

VOTING RESULTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Committee on Foreign Affairs II

In favour: 91

Against: 119

Abstention: 0

Absent: 2

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs III

In favour: 124

Against: 84

Abstention: 2

Absent: 2

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II

In favour: 118

Against: 92

Abstention: 0

Absent: 2

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs I

In favour: 140

Against: 68

Abstention: 1

Absent: 3

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

In favour: 139

Against: 70

Abstention: 2

Absent: 2

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I

In favour: 101

Against: 109

Abstention: 0

Absent: 2

Committee on International Trade

In favour: 84

Against: 124

Abstention: 2

Absent: 2

Committee on Development

In favour: 138

Against: 70

Abstention: 2

Absent: 2

Committee on Constitutional Affairs II

In favour: 107

Against: 102

Abstention: 0

Absent: 3

Committee on Climate Change

In favour: 143

Against: 65

Abstention: 0

Absent: 4

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs II

In favour: 147

Against: 57

Abstention: 6

Absent: 2

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

In favour: 168

Against: 36

Abstention: 6

Absent: 2

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

In favour: 124

Against: 82

Abstention: 4

Absent: 2

Committee on Constitutional Affairs I

In favour: 61

Against: 139

Abstention: 10

Absent: 2

Committee on Foreign Affairs I

In favour: 50

Against: 151

Abstention: 9

Absent: 2

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II

With numerous Member States taking part in military actions against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the European Council calling for a comprehensive strategy to tackle this threat, what measures should the EU take to eradicate violence and bring back stability to the region?

Submitted by: Laura Sharon Ahlborn (DE), Nearchos Aniliades (CY), Maëlle Choine (FR), Gustav Dahlsjö (SE), Sergii Drobysh (UA), Marius Haraldstad (NO), Bilkan Ince (TR), Filip Kardelis (RS), Mia Lučić (IT), Rareș Man (RO), Beth McDade (UK), Tomasz Palmi (PL), Maria Poimenidou (GR), Krister Herman Sepp (EE), Sam Van Hoof (BE), Andrea Villalba (ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the rapid expansion of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL),
- B. Disconcerted by the multiple violations of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union currently taking place in Iraq and the Levant,
- C. Noting with regret the absence of an approach aiming at re-establishing peace in the conflict region as part of the long-term strategy of the Global Coalition Countering ISIL,
- D. Aware that Member States lack specific and comprehensive threat assessments about the structure and strategies of ISIL,
- E. Distressed by the incompetence of current Member States' intelligence agencies in controlling the flow of ISIL militants within the EU,
- F. Disturbed by the lack of a comprehensive EU wide strategy to address issues of irregular distribution of immigrants from Iraq and Syria seeking refuge within the EU,
- G. Noting with approval that the EU has pledged to provide an assistance package to aid Iraq and Syria within the next 2 years¹,
- H. Noting that social deprivation, discrimination and cultural alienation make European Muslims, especially second and third generation immigrants more vulnerable to extremists ideologies²,
- I. Aware of the failure to create stability, security and democracy in Iraq caused by:
 - i) the unique collaboration of radical jihadists and former Ba'atist government officials³ in the aftermath of the drawdown of US forces from Iraq,

¹ Council conclusions on the EU regional strategy for Syria and Iraq as well as the ISIL/Da'esh threat.

² According to the Congressional Research Service report 'Muslims in Europe'.

- ii) the lapse of EUJUST LEX⁴,
- J. Noting with deep concern that the sense of relative stability provided by ISIL creates a reluctance among civilians to act against ISIL,
- K. Dismayed by ISIL's exploitation of online media in projecting an image of invincibility that contributes to increased recruitment, retention rates, jihadi tourism⁵ and similarly violent acts,
- L. Taking into consideration the escalation of asymmetric warfare⁶ and practice of guerrilla tactics⁷ which affect the dynamics of the conflict and civilians within the area controlled by ISIL,
- M. Further noting that ISIL holds energy resources which increase its wealth and international leverage,
- N. Alarmed by ISIL gaining approximately two million US Dollars a day from oil sales, taxes extortion and smuggling⁸,
- O. Alarmed by the destruction of archaeological and cultural heritage in Iraq and the Levant;
- 1. Encourages the Global Coalition to form a working group to broaden their strategy from merely defeating ISIL to include rebuilding and stabilising the region;
- 2. Desires the strengthening of EU partnerships with the United Nations (UN), Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe⁹, the League of Arab States¹⁰ and the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation¹¹ in order to stimulate data exchange between western and Persian Gulf intelligence agencies to better gain further insight into ISIL strategies;
- 3. Calls for the development of a communication plan to counter the influence of ISIL in online media through:
 - a) the participation of Member States in the P2P Challenging Extremism programme,

³ The Ba'ath party was committed to pan-Arab, secular nationalism and was led by Saddam Hussein in Iraq and dismantled after US intervention in the region.

⁴ A civil crisis management operation implemented under the auspices of the European Security and Defense Policy which aimed to strengthen the Iraqi criminal justice system.

⁵ Jihadi tourism is a term used to describe travel to foreign destinations with the object of scouting for terrorist training.

⁶ Asymmetrical warfare consists of unconventional strategies and tactics adopted by a force when the military capabilities of belligerent powers are not just unequal but are also so significantly different that they cannot make the same sorts of attacks on each other.

⁷ Guerrilla warfare is a type of warfare fought by irregulars in fast-moving, small-scale actions against orthodox military and police forces and, on occasion, against rival insurgent forces, either independently or in conjunction with a larger political-military strategy.

⁸ The Economist: Where Islamic State gets its money.

⁹ The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) is the world's largest security-oriented intergovernmental organisation. It is concerned with early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation.

¹⁰ The Arab League is an organisation that consists of 22 independent Arab States on the territory of northern and north-eastern part of Africa and southwest Asia.

¹¹ The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the collective voice of the Muslim world and ensuring to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world.

- b) the establishment of a forum with key players in the social media space to discuss opportunities for closer cooperation in prohibiting and filtering information,
 - c) the development of an effective counter-narrative to exploit ISIL's political vulnerabilities by exposing atrocities and stories of defectors;
4. Calls for greater collaboration in suspect identification through further extension of the Passenger Names Record at the EU level in accordance with the changes proposed by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs in February 2015;
 5. Supports measures taken by Member States such as France, Germany and the United Kingdom in criminalising participation in ISIL military training abroad and subsequent return to Member States thereafter;
 6. Recommends the reconsideration of the Agreements on Readmission to facilitate the hosting of refugees fleeing from ISIL in reception centres as detailed in the ten point action plan on migration by the Joint Foreign and Home Affairs Council¹²;
 7. Urges the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to take a concrete stance on US air strikes in order to shift the focus of airstrikes from those causing indiscriminate loss of civilian lives to those that target resources like oil refineries;
 8. Emphasises compliance of Member States with the UN Security Council resolutions 2161 and 2199 to ensure that no financial assets are made available directly or indirectly for the benefit of ISIL;
 9. Encourages the use of the UNSCR 2199 to prevent the illegal trade of valuable artefacts in particular cataloguing those items at risk and to hence impede further flow of financial resources to ISIL by tracking the flow of capital.

¹² [European Commission – Press Release: Joint Foreign and Home Affairs Council: Ten point action plan on migration.](#)

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II

UN Security Council resolution 2161

While expressing concern over the increased use by terrorists of new information and communications technologies, in particular the internet, the text urged States to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of arms and related material to individuals, groups and entities associated with Al-Qaida.

UN Security Council resolution 2199

A resolution provides a range of tools, including sanctions and other binding measures, to degrade these terrorist organisations' ability to carry out brutal attacks. It focuses extensively on terrorist affiliated financial support networks, particularly tracing ISIL's methods of raising funds through oil smuggling, looting of antiquities, kidnapping for ransom and other illicit activities.

P2P Challenging Extremism

P2PCE is an initiative that provides an opportunity for university students from the US, Canada, the Middle East, North Africa, Europe, Australia and Asia to create an online community whose goal is to counter the extremist narrative by becoming educated influencers. With support from the US Department of State, the effort is being run by a private organisation called EdVenture Partners, which helps companies like Honda market to young people. After students conduct primary research, they competing to create the best products, tools or digital initiatives that will be developed in the language of their peers, the effectiveness of which will be measured.

The changes proposed by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs in February 2015 to Passenger Names Record (PNR)

The proposed directive would require more systematic collection, use and retention of PNR data on passengers taking "international" flights (those entering the EU from, or leaving it for, a non Member State), and would therefore have an impact on the rights to privacy and data protection. According to the Council's general approach, it should also be possible to extend it to internal EU flights. Overall, MEPs want to ensure that the proposal complies with the proportionality principle, is limited in scope and includes strict data protection safeguards.

Readmission Agreement

To facilitate the re-admission of non-EU nationals to their country of origins, the Member States decided in 1994 to use a common specimen agreement as a basis for negotiation when a Member State wished to establish this type of relation with a third country. Guiding principles for implementing readmission agreements were adopted in 1995.

Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN)

The RAN was set up to help the first line of local practitioners and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices between them. The RAN includes eight working groups consisting of practitioners and researchers with concrete and practical involvement in preventing radicalisation issues. It helps practitioners in identifying good practices and promoting the exchange of experience in different fields, such as how to provide support to (often young) individuals who want to stay out or break with violent extremist groups. It provides an opportunity to share experiences between countries, and raise awareness and knowledge within new groups of practitioners. It provides feedback from practitioners to policy makers and contributes to policy processes at national and European level.

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

How should the EU support companies and citizens in safely gaining access to virtual currencies, given their recent weaknesses to cybercrime?

Submitted by: Francisco Cardoso (PT), Austris Cīrulnieks (LV), William Eddershaw (IE), Marek Gawlik (CZ), Yves Hayoz (CH), Iryna Ivanova (UA), Adrian Kołodziński (PO), Anastasiya Koval (BY), Malvina Lučić (NL), Beniamino Masi (IT), Miikka Raatikainen (FI), Aitor Rodriguez (ES), Tamta Tsveraidze (GE), Alexei Ieuan Killingley Williams (AT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that no EU legislation regarding the regulation of virtual currencies¹ exists,
- B. Recognising the different approaches throughout Member States regarding the regulation of virtual currencies,
- C. Emphasising the lack of an exact economic definition of virtual currencies,
- D. Keeping in mind that virtual currencies belong to an unpredictable and fast-evolving field, due to continuous technological advancement,
- E. Acknowledging that the use of virtual currencies is growing at an high rate, with the total number of transactions increasing by a factor of two from May 2014 to March 2015²,
- F. Deeply concerned that virtual currency users are susceptible to cybercrime such as fraud, malware injection, hacking, and scams,
- G. Alarmed by the fact that virtual currencies serve as a platform for illegal activities such as, but not limited to, money laundering, extortion as well as drug and weapon trade,
- H. Noting that the exchange rate between virtual currencies and fiat money³ can fluctuate greatly due to decentralisation and weakness of the security systems of exchange platforms⁴,
- I. Fully aware that the implementation of strict regulation on virtual currencies could result in the limitation of their social utility as well as the violation of their core principles,

¹ The European Central Bank defines virtual currencies as a type of unregulated digital money which is issued and usually controlled by its developers. Virtual currencies are used and accepted among the members of a specific virtual community.

² [Blockchain.info](https://blockchain.info) provides data on recent transactions in the bitcoin block chain.

³ Fiat money is a form of currency with its value stemming from government regulation or law, e.g. Euro, US Dollar.

⁴ [In June 2011 there was a security breach at the Mt. Gox Bitcoin exchange platform, which resulted in the hacking of an account with a high amount of Bitcoins. None of the Bitcoins, however, was backed by Mt. Gox. The attackers sold the Bitcoins, driving Mt. Gox Bitcoin prices down to cents. They then purchased the cheap Bitcoins with their own accounts and withdrew the fiat money.](#)

- J. Having examined the New York State Department of Financial Service's proposal⁵ which strictly controls virtual currencies, thus reducing the freedom of use;
1. Confirms the need for adequate regulation regarding virtual currencies as the sole way to ensure the safety and security of users;
 2. Considers virtual currencies an alternative method of payment which will co-exist with present day fiat currencies;
 3. Invites the European Banking Authority (EBA)⁶ to coordinate the monitoring of virtual currency transactions amongst Member States;
 4. Urges Member States to expand the area of expertise of financial institutions in charge of supervising transactions with conventional currencies, so as to include virtual currency transactions;
 5. Calls upon the European Commission (EC) to propose regulation concerning e-wallet⁷ providers, requiring them to:
 - a) ask for a valid identification of the user upon registration,
 - b) link the identification document to the user's public key⁸;
 6. Demands that only the e-wallet providers have access to the aforementioned registration data;
 7. Declares accordingly that Member States can gain access to registration data upon court approval in cases of suspicious transactions;
 8. Requests that the EC propose the introduction of licences to be given to e-wallet providers and exchange platforms;
 9. Further requests licences to be issued according to the following criteria:
 - a) possession of 10% of the assets in circulation in order to guarantee insurance for the user,
 - b) compliance with the previously proposed regulations regarding virtual currencies;
 10. Calls upon the EBA to offer a stamp of approval to virtual currencies which fulfil the subsequent requirements:
 - a) trading mediums are licenced exchange platforms,
 - b) proof of sustainability and stability in the current economic setting,
 - c) satisfactory security standards;

⁵ The proposal includes the implementation of a BitLicense, stating that bitcoin businesses that receive, transmit, store or convert virtual currency for customers; buy and sell virtual currency as a customer business; control, administer or issue a virtual currency; or perform conversions between bitcoin and fiat or any value exchange will need to be licensed to operate in New York.

⁶ The European Banking Authority (EBA) is an independent EU Authority which works to ensure effective and consistent prudential regulation and supervision across the European banking sector.

⁷ Personalised electronic accounts that can be used to store and transfer virtual currencies.

⁸ Part of the mechanism used to encrypt the virtual currencies while conducting transactions.

11. Calls for the European Cybercrime Centre⁹ to include crimes involving virtual currencies among its areas of responsibility;
12. Encourages Member States to:
 - a) avoid fees on virtual currency transactions, in order to keep them fast and cost-efficient,
 - b) legislate virtual currencies according to current fiscal regulation.

⁹ The European Cybercrime Centre is part of Europol, the EU's law enforcement agency, and is the focal point in the EU's fight against cybercrime, contributing to faster reactions in the event of online crimes.

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

Je suis Charlie? What measures should the EU take to guarantee the safety of its citizens and the protection of basic civil liberties such as the right to freedom of expression and speech, as well as of thought, conscience and religion?

Submitted by: Gamar Alizade (AZ), Chloé Deschamps (FR), Ina-Helene Idsal (NO), Lukas Jablonskas (LT), Nukri Jintcharadze (GE), Kyrlo Korol (UA), Asta Lappeteläinen (FI), Maria do Carmo Marrana (PT), Janka Möller (CH), Jakub Mrakava (CZ), Raitis Pekuss (LV), Miliasha Sabirova (RU), Constanza Schoute (NL), Christopher Stone (UK), Luca Vanhemmens (BE), Karl-Joosep Volmerson (EE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising intolerance¹ as a key threat against civil liberties such as freedom of expression and speech and freedom of thought, conscience and religion,
- B. Emphasising that civil liberties are not ranked in order of priority in any international legislation or convention, thus potentially conflicting with each other,
- C. Considering international and national legislation on Human Rights sufficient,
- D. Alarmed by the lack of civic involvement of, and its impact on, disadvantaged social groups such as immigrants and minorities,
- E. Noting with deep concern the failure to integrate minorities in Member States leads to:
 - i) misunderstanding between different societal groups,
 - ii) social exclusion of individuals and groups,
 - iii) extremist sentiments,
- F. Bearing in mind recent attacks on religious communities in Europe,
- G. Deeply disturbed by the rise in activities and increase in popularity of xenophobic movements such as Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamisation of the West (PEGIDA)² and far-right wing parties,
- H. Aware that courts in different Member States interpret international Human Rights conventions and legislation differently in their rulings,

¹ Intolerance is unwillingness to grant equal freedom of expression especially in religious matters.

² PEGIDA is a German anti-Islam political organisation founded in Dresden in October 2014. PEGIDA organised weekly demonstrations during autumn 2014 against the Islamisation of Europe and call for more restrictive immigration rules.

- I. Understanding the subjectivity of identifying the border between hate speech and criticism,
 - J. Viewing the ban of certain religious clothing in some Member States to be against individuals' right to freedom of religion,
 - K. Noting with regret that media outlets can fuel intolerance in society;
1. Notes that intolerance needs to be tackled on a civic level and not on a legislative one;
 2. Encourages further implementation of the 5-step programme developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in Member States;
 3. Recommends the Directorate General on Education and Culture of the European Commission (EC) to support national governments in creating and further developing educational programmes for youth on topics such as tolerance, Human Rights, civil liberties and religion;
 4. Congratulates the success of previous exchange programmes and cross community projects such as Education for Mutual Understanding³ in Northern Ireland in increasing tolerance and raising awareness on other cultures;
 5. Suggests that the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance work in closer cooperation with organisations that raise awareness of Human Rights' violations and incitement to hatred, such as Amnesty International⁴;
 6. Supports the work of and calls for the expansion of the efforts of the Fundamental Rights Agency;
 7. Requests that Member States establish an Ombudsman to review individual cases of violation of Human Rights;
 8. Urges that a communication of a summary of previous decisions by the European Court of Human Rights be sent to judiciary branches in Member States;
 9. Encourages the EC to create an online platform 'United in Acceptance' with a view to creating constructive discussion between religious communities in Europe through debates, videos and podcasts;
 10. Calls upon religious institutions to introduce a tolerance programme for religious leaders (priests, imams, rabbis etc.) in order to prevent radicalism and the spread of hate;
 11. Welcomes campaigns such as the 'No Hate Speech Movement' by the Council of Europe;
 12. Reminds media outlets in the EU to implement and follow a Code of Ethics.

³ Education for Mutual Understanding is a programme in Northern Ireland. It aims to heal historical and cultural divisions between Catholics and Protestants through a programme that showcases the two cultures and teaches tolerance and understanding. EMU is provided to schoolchildren at a young age.

⁴ Amnesty International is a non-governmental organisation focused on human rights with over 7 million members and supporters around the world. The stated objective of the organisation is "to conduct research and generate action to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights, and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated."

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS II

Freedom of expression

Freedom of expression is covered in article 19 in United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), article 11 in the Charter of fundamental rights of the European Union and article 10 in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). It includes the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the right to hold opinions, and receive information without interference and regardless of frontiers.

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion is covered in article 18 of the UDHR, article 10 in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and article 9 of the ECHR. Everyone is entitled to change their religion or belief, as well as to practise their religion in public or private.

UNESCO 5-Step Programme

UNESCO is a specialised agency of the United Nations (UN). Its purpose is to contribute to peace and security by promoting international collaboration through education, science, and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, the rule of law, and human rights along with fundamental freedom proclaimed in the United Nations Charter. The 5 steps include improvements to the judicial systems of Member States, education to counter intolerance in individual attitudes, information to limit the influence of hatemongers and individual awareness to fight bigotry, stereotyping, stigmatising, etc.

Code of Ethics

Journalism ethics and standards comprise principles of ethics and of good practice as applicable to the specific challenges faced by journalists. Historically and currently, this subset of media ethics is widely known to journalists as their professional "code of ethics". The basic codes and canons commonly appear in statements drafted by both professional journalism associations and individual print, broadcast, and online news organisations. Some journalistic codes of ethics, notably the European ones, also include a concern with discriminatory references in news based on race, religion, sexual orientation, and physical or mental disabilities.

Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)

FRA is one of the EU's decentralised agencies providing expert advice to the institutions of the EU and the Member States. FRA helps to ensure that the fundamental rights of people living in the EU are protected.

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

ECRI is a body of the Council of Europe and is composed of independent experts. It monitors problems of racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination. The ECRI prepares reports and issues recommendations to Member States.

No Hate Speech Movement

No Hate Speech Movement is a project by the Council of Europe for human rights online and against the expression of hate speech in all forms. It is based on human rights education, youth participation and media literacy and aims at reducing hate speech and combating discrimination and racism online and offline.

Ombudsman

An ombudsman or public advocate is an entity appointed by the government or the parliament, but with a significant degree of independence, who is charged with representing the interests of the public by investigating and addressing complaints of maladministration or a violation of rights. The typical duties of an ombudsman are to investigate complaints and attempt to resolve them, usually through recommendations (binding or not) or mediation. Ombudsmen also aim to identify systematic issues leading breaches of people's rights. In many countries where the ombudsman's responsibility includes protecting human rights, the ombudsman is recognised as the national human rights institution.

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

Evasion versus avoidance? How should Member States address tax avoidance, while respecting their citizens' right to privacy and Third-Party States' sovereignty?

Submitted by: Johanna Backman (SE), Amil Karaev (GE), Matteo Morviducci (IT), Nicolas Poylo (FR), Inês Ramalho (PT), Veronika Reisinger (AT), Aurélie Struye de Swielande (BE), Maria Teja (RO), Noor ten Harmsen van der Beek (NL), Vasiliki Theodosiou (GR), Oscar Thorstensen (NO), Jonas Trautner (DE), Caterina Valenzuela (ES), Ruslan Yandiev (CZ)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed that the ability of Member States to meet their economic and social responsibilities is jeopardised by:
 - i) the estimated €1 trillion¹ annual tax revenue loss through tax non-compliance,
 - ii) the size of the shadow economy²,
- B. Emphasising the difference between the illegal practice of tax evasion and the legal exploitation of differing tax systems,
- C. Aware that Member States' right to fiscal sovereignty hinders the centralisation of tax governance on the European level,
- D. Recognising a tax haven as a jurisdiction which:
 - i) offer low or zero tax rates,
 - ii) have no requirement for substantial activities for holding companies,
 - iii) enjoy political and economic stability,
 - iv) share little information with tax authorities abroad,
- E. Noting with regret that over two thirds of global offshore wealth can be found in EU tax havens³,
- F. Regretting that the minimum standards of good governance in tax matters are not fully applied in Third-Party States,
- G. Noting with deep concern the lack of transparency regarding information exchange between the EU and Third-Party States,

¹ ["The fight against tax fraud and tax evasion", European Commission Taxation and Customs Union.](#)

² ["ETUC resolution on tackling tax evasion, avoidance and tax havens", European Trade Union Confederation.](#)

³ ["Tax on the 'private billions' now stashed away in havens enough to end extreme world poverty twice over", Oxfam International.](#)

- H. Deeply conscious of the conflict between the transparency required in information exchange and the depositors' right to financial privacy,
 - I. Deeply disturbed by the lack of cooperation and trust between tax administrations and taxpayers,
 - J. Realising that multinational enterprises legally avoid paying taxes through aggressive tax planning, transfer pricing, thin capitalisation and tax sheltering,
 - K. Fully alarmed that the globalised economy and different national tax systems simplify the transfer of assets between countries and allows individuals and enterprises to legally avoid taxes,
 - L. Acknowledging that countries facilitate legal tax avoidance by attempting to attract multinational enterprises through favourable tax regulations,
 - M. Observing that tax avoidance causes inequality in the tax burden between corporations and individuals,
 - N. Noting that a third of all Member States struggle to implement EU recommendations due to inefficient tax systems caused by:
 - i) high administrative cost relative to the tax revenue,
 - ii) failure to use third-party information to pre-fill tax returns,
 - iii) limited use of e-filing,
 - iv) the high administrative burden of tax systems for medium sized enterprises⁴,
 - O. Viewing with appreciation the efforts of international actors, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in addressing tax avoidance and evasion practices;
-
1. Emphasises the role of the EU as a driver for action in the international arena to:
 - a) promote the principle of good governance in tax matters,
 - b) make the automatic exchange of information a global standard,
 - c) endorse fair tax competition principles;
 2. Calls on the European Council to mandate the European Commission to negotiate with tax havens in third-party states with a view to creating a more comprehensive anti-fraud cooperation framework;
 3. Requests the development of the EU's information technology exchange systems ensuring interconnectivity between both Member States and third-party states facilitating the automatic exchange of information;
 4. Recommends the expansion of the Administrative Cooperation Directive to provide the automatic exchange of information on dividends, capital gains and all other relevant types of income;

⁴ ["Combating tax fraud and evasion, Commission contribution to the European Council of 22 May 2013", European Commission.](#)

5. Calls for a unified blacklist of jurisdictions classified as tax havens in cooperation with OECD, G7 and G20;
6. Encourages the creation of a European Taxpayer's Code in order to improve relations between taxpayers and tax administration and make tax rules more transparent;
7. Urges the European Commission to further develop the Common Consolidated Tax Base (CCCTB), a single tax system for calculating the tax base of enterprises operating in the EU, to allow for its eventual adaption by the European Parliament and the Council;
8. Requires the use of Tax Identification Numbers (TINs) for taxpayers across the EU, which facilitates efficient administration to combat tax avoidance and evasion practices;
9. Emphasises the need for Member States' implementation of the General Anti-Abuse Rule (GAAR) in their national legislation along with the broadening of the judicial definition of abusive tax arrangements;
10. Stresses the need for the strengthening of Controlled Foreign Corporation (CFC) rules which limit base erosion through interest deductions and further financial payments;
11. Expresses its appreciation for the Fiscalis 2020 programme that allows for the exchange of expertise among Member States;
12. Endorses the OECD's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan that compliments EU measures to tackle aggressive tax planning and addresses issues that can only be effectively dealt with at an international level.

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS I

Aggressive tax planning

Aggressive tax planning takes advantage of the technicalities of a tax system or exploiting mismatches between tax systems to reduce tax liability. Individuals, and more importantly companies, usually use Double Tax Conventions (DTCs) between different countries to achieve double non- taxation. Examples include:

- **Tax sheltering:** subsidiary companies selling goods to each other at prices that benefit the entire business.
- **Transfer pricing:** the selling of goods, services or intellectual property from a company to its subsidiary company in a country with lower tax rates. Companies can misprice these transfers in order to minimise tax liability.
- **Immaterial rights:** a form of transfer pricing whereby a company charges its subsidiary companies for the use of trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property.
- **Thin capitalisation:** a means of tax avoidance involving the transfer of profits from a subsidiary in an environment of high taxation to that of a lower one.

Controlled Foreign Corporation (CFC)

CFC is any company owned or controlled primarily by taxpayers of another jurisdiction. **CFC rules** are a set of exceptions that set out the circumstances in which a portion of a foreign company's profits may be exempt from tax in the country of registration of the parent company.

European taxpayer's code

The European taxpayer's code is a compilation of good administrative practices in Member States. It enhances cooperation, trust and confidence between tax administrations and taxpayers. It ensures greater transparency on the rights and obligations of taxpayers and encourages a service-oriented approach.

General Anti-Abuse (or Anti-Avoidance) Rule (GAAR)

A GAAR bans tax practices which, though technically otherwise legal, aim to gain a tax advantage by either abusing loopholes or otherwise avoiding taxes. On 9 December 2014, the EU Council introduced a GAAR in the EU Parent-Subsidiary Directive which Member States must implement by the end of 2015.

Minimum standards of good governance in taxation: A third-party state only complies with minimum standards of good governance in tax matters where:

- it has adopted legal, regulatory and administrative measures intended to comply with the standards of transparency and exchange of information and effectively applies those measures,
- it does not operate harmful tax measures in business taxation.

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

The OECD was formed to assist the economies of its member nations and to promote world trade. Its members include the industrialised countries of Western Europe together with Australia, Japan, New Zealand and the United States of America.

Shadow economy

The shadow economy is the illegitimate economic activity which exists alongside a country's official economy, e.g. black market transactions and undeclared work. In the EU, the shadow economy is estimated to be 18-19% of the EU's GDP.

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

Improving the hardware and the software towards a single European energy market? What further steps should the EU take to ensure all Member States have access to energy that is affordable, competitively priced, secure and environmentally sustainable?

Submitted by: Dzhakhar Akperov (AZ), Panagiotis Argyrakis (GR), Nia Chigogidze (GE), Romans Galaiko (LV), Efthimios-Enias Gojka (AL), Ekaterina Gurevich (CH), Gabriela Knezevic (SE), Victoria Lehnart (DE), Jasmin Mylläri (FI), Oisín O'Sullivan (IE), Sergiy Shkurynskyy (UA), Sebastiaan Spanjer (NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Having examined the European Commission's (EC) Framework Strategy for a Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-Looking Climate Change Policy¹ (Energy Union),
- B. Fully aware of the hardship of balancing the three main pillars of the EU energy policy², namely security, sustainability and competitiveness,
- C. Taking into account that the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies set the objectives of:
 - i) increasing the share of renewable energy to at least 27% of the EU's energy consumption by 2030,
 - ii) reducing EU domestic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030,
- D. Recognising that the Member States have varying levels of development in energy related infrastructure as well as outdated infrastructure in many cases,
- E. Noting that the EU imports 53% of the energy it consumes making it the largest energy importer in the world, and thus putting it in a strong negotiating position,
- F. Deeply concerned that one third of the EU's energy imports are dominated by a single provider, Russia,
- G. Alarmed by the fact that the energy supply is linked with external relations and that potential supply shortages could jeopardise energy security for all Member States,
- H. Recognising that the conflict of interests among the Member States caused by differences in the availability of natural resources, economic development and foreign policy contributes to difficulties in formulating a common energy policy,

¹ The Energy Union is an energy strategy proposal by the European Commission, composed of five main interlocking elements: security, completion of the internal market, climate, RES and Research and Innovation.

² As defined in the 2006 Green Paper 'A European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy'.

- I. Further noting that the EU is committed to using all its foreign policy instruments to establish strategic energy partnerships with producing and transit countries and regions such as Algeria, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Africa and further developing the relationships with Norway, Russia, Canada, the United States,
- J. Taking note of the variety in retail electricity prices among the Member States,
- K. Noting that the proper functioning of the European energy market is hampered by insufficient harmonisation of energy taxation and insufficient distribution of cost schemes,
- L. Noting with regret that some forms of state intervention, including state regulation of energy prices, have had a dramatic impact on the effective functioning of the Member States' internal energy markets,
- M. Concerned that the vast majority of Europeans are still passive consumers due to low transparency of energy prices, taxes, subsidies, lack of awareness and insufficient incentives or tools³,
- N. Emphasising that the integration of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) into the energy mix is currently dependent on subsidies with the subsidy cost being passed on to the consumers causing market imbalances,
- O. Bearing in mind that maintaining a shared competency over energy policy⁴ weakens the EU's influence over the integration of RES and hinders the creation of a single European energy market,
- P. Taking into consideration the volatility of RES as well as the challenges associated with efficient storage and transmission,
- Q. Noting that investing in clean technologies and moving towards a low-carbon society could result in an annual saving of €81 billion in healthcare and air pollution control equipment and up to €320 billion in fuel costs over the next four decades⁵,
- R. Aware that the EU has identified a list of infrastructure projects as Projects of Common Interest (PCI) under its TEN-E strategy, which is updated every two years, based on priority corridors,
- S. Aware of the amount of investment Europe's energy system would require by 2020, including the development of energy infrastructure, estimated by the EC to be €1 trillion⁶;

³ In an Energy Union, consumers in one Member State should be able to make informed choices and buy their energy freely and simply from a company in another Member State. This requires the further adaptation of the current national regulatory frameworks since the vast majority of European households remain passive consumers. In some Member States consumers have a limited choice of suppliers and switching between suppliers is relatively cumbersome.

⁴ Each Member State determines its own energy mix.

⁵ [Roadmap for moving to a low-carbon economy in 2050, European Commission.](#)

⁶ [Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative – Investment Needs, European Commission.](#)

1. Calls upon the European Commission to further implement the Energy Union strategy holistically, allowing flexibility for each Member State to determine priorities between competitiveness, sustainability and security;
2. Draws attention to the reforms in all three major energy sectors (electricity, heating⁷ and transport) needed to achieve the 2030 targets while prioritising urban transport systems, energy efficient housing guidelines and outdated public infrastructure;
3. Invites the European Commission to review the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies by:
 - a) specifying national frameworks for reaching the 2030 targets,
 - b) setting up further check points between 2030 and 2050 for reviewing the progress toward the Roadmap for moving to a low-carbon economy in 2050⁸;
4. Proposes the institution of a collective bargaining mechanism to negotiate gas prices, which the Member States could join on a voluntary basis;
5. Urges the Member States to diversify their energy supplies by:
 - a) intensifying the Southern Gas Corridor⁹ in order to enable Central Asian countries to export their gas to Europe,
 - b) exploring the full potential of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG),
 - c) developing new relationships with possible Northern African and Middle Eastern suppliers;
6. Emphasises the importance of increasing gas storage capacity in all Member States;
7. Asks the Member States to establish and further develop capacity markets¹⁰;
8. Requests greater transparency of energy costs, subsidies and prices through fully implementing and enforcing existing European legislation toward a rapidly integrating EU energy market, both regionally and locally;
9. Encourages the Smart Grids Task Force (SGTF) of the EC to submit a roadmap toward the Europe-wide implementation of smart grids, adopting a regional, small-scale and domestic approach on RES with a special focus on energy storage technologies, e.g. pumped-storage hydroelectricity¹¹;
10. Requests that Member States plan accordingly to gradually phase out RES subsidies in the long term, in order to achieve wide integration of smart grids into the existing grid;
11. Awaits the implementation of a comprehensive forward-looking energy and climate-related Research and Innovation (R&I) strategy as well as programs such as Investment Plan for Europe and Connecting Europe Facility which aim to unlock greater financial

⁷ With 90% of the European Union's housing stock being energy inefficient, space heating is the largest single source of energy demand in Europe and the majority of Europe's gas imports goes to heating of buildings.

⁸ A European Commission energy strategy that implements cost efficient ways to make the European economy more climate-friendly and less energy consuming. By 2050, the European Union could cut most of its greenhouse gas emissions.

⁹ The Southern Gas Corridor (SGC) is a term used to describe planned infrastructure projects aimed at improving the security and diversity of the EU's energy supply by bringing natural gas from the Caspian region to Europe.

¹⁰ A scheme to reward power generators for their potential to produce (installed capacity) electricity, in addition to the electricity they actually produce and sell.

¹¹ A technique of storing energy that involves pumping water uphill and storing it there in the form of potential energy.

freedom for the energy sector, in order to maintain the European technological leadership in the energy field;

12. Endorses the revision of the regulatory framework concerning the functioning of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators¹² (ACER) and the European Networks for Transmission System Operators ENTSO-E and ENTSO-G with a view to achieving a single European energy market.

¹² Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulations; a new element of lower-level governance clearly proposed by the European Commission. ACER carries out regulatory functions at the European level in order to enable it to effectively oversee the development of the internal energy market with all cross-border issues necessary to create a seamless internal market.

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

Energy mix

The term energy mix refers to how final energy consumption in a given geographical region breaks down by primary energy source. It includes fossil fuels (oil, natural gas and coal), nuclear energy, waste and the many types of renewable energy (biomass, wind, geothermal, water and solar). These primary energy sources are used to generate electricity, provide fuel for transportation, and heat and cool residential and industrial buildings.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Around 10% of the GHG emitted worldwide in 2012 came from the EU. With measures taken at European level and by Member States at national level, the EU is well on track towards meeting its targets for cutting GHG emissions both under its own internal target in the Europe 2020 Strategy and under the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period (2013-2020).

European energy system in figures

Latest data shows that the EU imported 53% of its energy (crude oil (almost 90%), natural gas (66%), solid fuels (42%) nuclear fuel (40%) at a cost of around €400 billion, which makes it the largest energy importer in the world. Six Member States depend on a single external supplier for their entire gas imports and therefore remain too vulnerable to supply shocks. It has also been estimated that every additional 1% increase in energy savings cuts gas imports by 2.6%. 75% of our housing stock is energy inefficient. 94% of transport relies on oil products, of which 90% is imported. Collectively, the EU spent over €120 billion per year – directly or indirectly – on energy subsidies, often not justified. Over €1 trillion need to be invested into the energy sector in EU by 2020 alone. Wholesale electricity prices for European countries are at low levels, though still 30% higher than in the US. At the same time, post-tax electricity prices for households increased on average by 4.4% from 2012 to 2013. Wholesale gas prices are still more than twice as high as in the US. The price difference with other economies has an impact on the competitiveness of our industry, in particular our energy-intensive industries. European renewable energy businesses have a combined annual turnover of €129 billion and employ over a million people. EU companies have a share of 40% of all patents for renewable technologies. The challenge is to retain Europe's leading role in global investment in renewable energy.

Smart Grids

Smart grids are energy networks that can automatically monitor energy flows and adjust to changes in energy supply and demand accordingly. When coupled with smart metering systems, smart grids reach consumers and suppliers by providing information on real-time consumption. With smart meters, consumers can adapt in time and volume - their energy usage to different energy prices throughout the day, saving money on their energy bills by consuming more energy in lower price periods.

European networks for transmission system operations ENTSO's

ENTSO's need to lead the planning of Europe's increasingly complex meshed energy grids and carry out top-down management of energy flows.

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

Pandering to domestic party politics or a genuine concern of European citizens? How should the EU respond to Member States wishing to curtail the right to free movement?

Submitted by: Amber Davy (IE), Iuliia Iakovleva (RU), Lauris Lauža (LV), Rufat Mir Feyzullazada (AZ), Olena Popova (UA), Milja Radosavljevic (RS), Anna Roinishvili (GE), Aneta Šeráková (CZ), Gabriela Silva (PT), Saga Smith (FI), Linda Vaher (EE), Tessa Verheijden (NL), Maria-Alexandra Visan (RO), Kira Wetzel (CH)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully aware that articles 21¹ and 45² of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) emphasise the maintenance of free movement for citizens and workers,
- B. Noting with appreciation that 56% of European citizens consider freedom of movement as the greatest accomplishment of the EU³,
- C. Noting with regret the misapplication of European programmes by local administrations, leading to reduced information about and access to citizens' right to free movement,
- D. Fully convinced that migrants working in jobs for which they are over-qualified stunts economic growth by reducing competition in the labour market,
- E. Bearing in mind that large, unexpected, internal migration fluxes result in pressure on the local and national authorities ability to fund and plan the development of infrastructure, housing and education,
- F. Recognising that the disparity in wages between immigrant workers and local workers in the EU contributes to:
 - i) lower national average wage levels,
 - ii) a lack of acceptance of European immigrants,
- G. Alarmed by the common misconception that European migrants cause a strain on national public budgets,

¹ Article 21 TFEU, paragraph 1: Every citizen of the Union shall have the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, subject to the limitations and conditions laid down in the Treaties and by the measures adopted to give them effect.

² Article 45 TFEU, paragraph 1: Freedom of movement for workers shall be secured within the Union.

Paragraph 2: Such freedom of movement shall entail the abolition of any discrimination based on nationality between workers of the Member States as regards employment, remuneration and other conditions of work and employment.

³ Standard Eurobarometer 81, Spring 2014; page 30.

- H. Realising that the lack of information available to citizens on intra EU migration:
- i) fosters anti-migration political propaganda,
 - ii) leads to misconceptions of migrants' social situations in host countries,
- I. Emphasising that EU migrants contribute more to the economy of host countries than they take from the average Gross Domestic Product or cost to total health expenditure⁴,
- J. Deeply regretting the abuses of national welfare systems by European immigrant workers, including all cases of deliberate deception such as double welfare⁵,
- K. Noting with deep concern that nationality based discrimination occurs both in the private and the public sectors;
1. Urges local authorities to facilitate the application of citizens' right to free movement by further implementing programmes fostering working mobility, such as SOLVIT⁶ and EURES⁷;
 2. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion to create an optional exam for workers in the European labour market aiming to provide a standardised assessment of their professional and educational capabilities;
 3. Recommends Member States further use financial aid from the European Social Fund⁸ and the European Regional Development Fund⁹ to relieve the burden of large migration fluxes on national welfare systems;
 4. Trusts Member States to effectively follow the Country-specific recommendations¹⁰ from the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion in their labour markets;
 5. Invites Member States to reduce misconceptions about migration by including a separate chapter in their annual economic reports on the contribution of EU migrant workers to domestic welfare systems;

⁴ According to the Directorate-General on Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, EU migrants only take a 0.01% of average Member States' GDP and suppose a 0.2% of total health spending.

⁵ Double welfare is a type of abuse whereby migrants access two different national welfare systems at the same time.

⁶ SOLVIT is a mainly on-line service provided by the national administration in each Member State as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, aimed at responding to those citizens who believe their EU rights have been violated by public authorities in another EU country.

⁷ European Employment Services (EURES) is a cooperative network designed to facilitate the free movement of workers within the European Economic Area and Switzerland. Partners in the network include public employment services, trade unions and employers' organisations. The network is coordinated by the European Commission.

⁸ The European Social Fund is Europe's main instrument for supporting jobs, helping people get better jobs and ensuring fairer job opportunities for all EU citizens. It works by investing in Europe's human capital – its workers, its young people and all those seeking a job.

⁹ European Regional Development Fund it aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions.

¹⁰ Country-specific recommendations are issued by the Commission, based on assessment of the National Reform Programmes, which were previously submitted by national governments and analysed by the Commission for compliance with Europe 2020.

6. Further recommends those research groups providing official data to the European Commission (EC) ensure the information provided on European immigrants' impact on welfare systems is both clear to and comprehensible by citizens¹¹;
7. Encourages Member States to prevent abuses of national welfare systems through the exchange of already existing information about European citizens' residencies in collective electronic databases;
8. Calls upon Member States and the EC to include welfare abuse as a criterion for determining re-entry bans;
9. Calls upon local governing bodies to actively engage in conferences for the purpose of exchanging information to address the social exclusion of EU migrants¹².

¹¹ EU institutions count on several research groups and consultative bodies that produce useful studies and data for the debate on curtailing freedom of movement. For instance, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Free movement of workers and Social security coordination (FreSsco) and the Eurofound are important data generators when it comes to EU policy creation.

¹² In February 2014 mayors from different cities all over Europe gathered in Brussels for a conference on the implementation of EU internal mobility in a local level.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

A threat for the *acquis communautaire* or a quantum leap for economic growth? How should the EU position itself in the next round of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations?

Submitted by: Robin Bucher (FI), Suzanne Caris (NL), Constance de Walque (BE), Stanisław Gackowski (CZ), Christos Graikos (GR), Till Haechler (CH), Şule Kahraman (TR), Lucas Mateu (ES), Peter McCartney (UK), Aristides Mettas (CY), Ruslan Mursagulov (AZ), Tetiana Stadnyk (UA), Evgeny Sukhov (PT), Aleksandre Zibzibadze (GE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Viewing with appreciation the potential increase in efficiency and global competitiveness of the EU's and the US' economies through the TTIP,
- B. Deeply concerned by the lack of competitiveness and economic growth in many Member States after the economic crisis¹, and the persistently low trade growth between the EU and the US,
- C. Convinced that the TTIP will be deeply beneficial for both the EU and the US by:
 - i) stimulating long-term annual economic growth²,
 - ii) increasing competition, thus driving innovation, leading to higher quality of consumed goods and services supplied to the market,
- D. Fully believing that the EU and the US should act as role models for peaceful cooperation in today's world,
- E. Noting with approval the anticipated shift of global trade routes after the implementation of the TTIP from the Pacific to the Transatlantic area,
- F. Believing that the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) should be used as a tool to arbitrate economic disputes between foreign investors and Member States,
- G. Noting with deep concern the lack of transparency in the functioning of the ISDS,
- H. Noting with satisfaction that the already low tariff barriers between the EU and the US would be supplemented by the lowering of the Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) through the TTIP,
- I. Recognising the regulatory differences concerning consumer protection³ within the European and American markets,

¹ What started as a financial crisis in 2008, mainly due to subprime mortgages, led to a debt crisis.

² [The TTIP could boost EU's economic growth by €120 billion \(0.5% of GDP\) annually.](#)

³ The consumer protection (article 12 TFEU, charter of fundamental) guarantees that products need to meet acceptable standards. Consumer protection is ensured by food and product safety and data protection.

- J. Keeping in mind the US only ratified 14 out of 189 conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO),
 - K. Aware of the differences in the environmental standards between the EU and the US such as the non-ratification of the Kyoto protocol⁴ by the US,
 - L. Contemplating the different regulations of the financial markets of the EU and the US such as the Dodd Frank Act⁵ implemented by the US,
 - M. Expecting growth in the automotive industry, due to the projected increase of trade after the TTIP comes into effect,
 - N. Noting with satisfaction that the TTIP will help the EU meet its goals of energy efficiency and independency,
 - O. Taking into account public concerns related to:
 - i) segments of the public sector being privatised as a consequence of the TTIP,
 - ii) European enterprises, especially small and medium-sized enterprises⁶ (SMEs), suffering from the more developed American competition,
 - P. Desiring that the TTIP negotiations be completed within the initially agreed framework⁷;
-
1. Supports the predicted economic outcomes of the TTIP agreement, such as increased Foreign Direct Investment, lower prices of consumed goods and services and elimination of custom tariffs and NTBs;
 2. Recommends the consideration of the implementation of the TTIP as an open agreement for partner states with the EU, like Turkey, Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova, Iceland, Switzerland and Norway;
 3. Trusts the ISDS is only to be used when:
 - a) the rule of law is not respected,
 - b) a country unlawfully discriminates against companies on the basis of their origin;
 4. Requests the ISDS proceedings and cases:
 - a) are fully transparent and publicly accessible,
 - b) to include more independent arbitrators in settlements;
 5. Calls for the mutual recognition by the US and the EU of both standards for the technical, legal and shipping requirements of goods and services;
 6. Further recommends harmonisation of the EU's and US' standards without compromising the EU's in the fields of food, product and health safety and social protection;

⁴ The [Kyoto Protocol](#) is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which commits its parties to binding emission reduction targets.

⁵ The US Dodd Frank Act was signed in 2010 as a response to the devastating causes of the financial crisis of 2008. It has greatly enhanced regulatory oversight of the previously laissez-faire US financial sector. The US argues that [Dodd Frank](#) is moving at a faster pace than its EU equivalent, the [EC Capital Requirements Directive IV](#).

⁶ An SMEs are defined by the European Commission recommendation 2003/361 as small and medium enterprises with a lesser number of 250 employees and an annual turnover below €50 million.

⁷ The US and the EU agreed to conclude the negotiations by the end of 2015.

7. Declares accordingly that the EU data standards should be kept as they are or data regulation should be excluded from the TTIP entirely;
8. Designates labelling Genetically Modified Organism products according to the EU standards;
9. Urges the US to ratify the 8 fundamental ILO conventions;
10. Further requests that the US ratifies the upcoming environmental protocol to be agreed upon in Paris 2015;
11. Endorses the implementation of a similar model to the Dodd Frank Act in the EU;
12. Reaffirms its belief that there should be limits to the private sector's involvement in vital areas such as education and health care;
13. Calls upon Member States to minimise the risks for SMEs as a result of the TTIP by:
 - a) introducing special tax regimes, such as tax holidays, during the transition period of the TTIP,
 - b) supporting SME cooperatives⁸;
14. Encourages the negotiation partners to work on finishing the agreement within the current US' administration term.

⁸ A financial institution that is owned and operated by its members. The goal of a financial cooperative is to act on behalf of a unified group as a traditional banking service. These institutions attempt to differentiate themselves by offering above-average service along with competitive rates in the areas of insurance, lending and investment dealings.

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)

The Investor-State Dispute Settlement, is an instrument of public international law, granting an investor the right to use dispute settlement proceedings against a foreign government for violating the rights previously accorded. This procedure happens before an arbitral tribunal, with one arbitrator representing each side, and another neutral arbitrator.

Non-Tariff barriers (NTBs)

Non-Tariff barriers are trade barriers that restrict import but are not in the form of a tariff (tariff fees that are applied when importing goods). Examples include quality standards, shipping and label requirements, and technical or legal requirements for imported products.

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is the tripartite UN agency that brings together governments, employers and workers of its 183 member states in common action to promote decent work throughout the world. Out of the 189 conventions, there are 8 fundamental ones, of which the US have only ratified 2.

The fundamental conventions are: Forced Labour, Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, Equal Remuneration, Abolition of Forced Labour, Discrimination (Employment and Occupation), Minimum Age and Worst Forms of Child Labour.

Foreign Direct Investments

An investment made by one country or company into another country or company based in a different country. Entities making these direct investments to the external company typically have a great control and influence over the company / country as they are the major shareholder. The accepted threshold for a foreign direct investment relationship, as defined by the OECD, is 10%. That is, the foreign investor must own at least 10% or more of the voting stock or ordinary shares of the investee company.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

Donor or investor in the fight against poverty? With the European Commission declaring 2015 as the European Year for Development, what role should the EU play in supporting sustainable growth in developing countries?

Submitted by: Kaja Silva Aulik (EE), Gustav Axelsson (SE), Maria-Alexandra Cezar (RO), Clara Colboc (BE), Giulio Fedeli (IT), Miguel Fuentes Montiu (ES), Pauline Grenier (FR), Julia Kristine Gundersen (NO), Liana Karakosta (GR), Fabian Krutzler (AT), Basileus Linde (DE), Ivana Madejová (CZ), Hakan Madenci (TR), Anica Raznatovic (RS)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with regret that only four of the eight Millennium Development Goals have been achieved so far,
- B. Further noting the ambitious agenda of 10 Sustainable Development Goals, to be determined in September 2015,
- C. Taking into consideration that lack of investment in education in developing countries is causing illiteracy and an unsustainably uneducated workforce,
- D. Realising the difficulties developing countries face in competing on an international market due to:
 - i) well-subsidised and therefore low-priced EU produce,
 - ii) the ability of international companies to produce on a larger scale,
 - iii) ineffective bilateral policy agreements and legislation regarding trade,
- E. Recognising that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules¹ provide for sustainable growth in a fair environment,
- F. Regretting that the overuse of tied aid has led developing countries to depend on external sources,
- G. Deeply regretting the inefficiency of cooperation between NGOs who work on separate campaigns while having similar aims,
- H. Noting that the unawareness of the European Development Fund leads to a lack of applications, and thus an annual surplus,
- I. Noting with regret that the EU cannot ensure the fulfilment of objectives beyond their borders,

¹ [Through increased numbers of incentives including an open market which enables developing companies to compete and grow.](#)

- J. Alarmed that Member States do not fulfil the United Nations (UN) commitment to devote 0.7% of their gross net income (GNI) to development aid by 2015,
 - K. Deeply conscious that corruption in several developing countries diverts funds from achieving their intended purpose;
-
1. Draws attention to the necessity of using both investment and donation in the fight against poverty;
 2. Draws attention to the Country Strategy Paper as the fundamental means for deciding whether donation or investment will be more beneficial for each specific country²;
 3. Expresses its hope for the EU to focus on Goals 1³, 2⁴, 3⁵ and 4⁶ when choosing the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 by prioritising EU development funding in these areas;
 4. Designates the portion of the European Development Fund (EDF) allocated for education be specifically allocated to primary and secondary school development;
 5. Encourages investors and companies in developing countries to recruit local workforces to develop knowledge and expertise;
 6. Urges the National Authorising Officer (NAO) to monitor environmentally unfriendly behaviour of foreign investors by:
 - a) establishing new incentives for those who are environmentally friendly,
 - b) sanctioning through reduction of the existing incentives;
 7. Requests Member States fulfil the UN commitment of 0.7% donation of their GNI to developing countries;
 8. Encourages the EU to continue with the 'Joint Programming'⁷ initiative;
 9. Supports the use of the EU Monitoring Survey to ensure that all funds are used fully;
 10. Calls for the allocation of the EDF to be distributed more favourably through applications for members of CONCORD Europe;
 11. Invites the WTO to gradually open the EU market to developing countries through the paced removal of tariffs, quotas and other formal barriers⁸;
 12. Urges the Development Cooperation Directorate to allocate funds through the Development Assistance Committee for companies combatting Article 2⁹, 5¹⁰ and 23¹¹ of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR)¹²;

² The Country Strategy Paper outlines aims and objectives of country re development - learn and base decision on that. (Wholesome approach).

³ [Sustainable Development Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.](#)

⁴ [Sustainable Development 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.](#)

⁵ [Sustainable Development 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.](#)

⁶ [Sustainable Development 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.](#)

⁷ [An initiative aimed at ensuring better coordination between the EU institutions' and the member states' development aid, thus reducing duplication and fragmentation of aid and increasing its effectiveness.](#)

⁸ This will open free market and thus avoid preferential trading schemes

13. Endorses the implementation of UNDHR into national law as a requirement to enter post 2020¹³ agreements and obtain EU funding;
14. Encourages the EU to continue reducing the aid to developing countries where corruption is still evident following the Cotonou Agreement;
15. Further urges the EU to continue to reduce aid in a similar manner after 2020, as enforced by the European Anti-Fraud Office;
16. Supports the EU's current policy of respecting a country's sovereignty in setting priorities for their own development as confirmed in the Country Strategy Paper;
17. Reaffirms the gradual reduction in donation upon the country's increasing stability as is the current practice¹⁴.

⁹ [Article 2: Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.](#)

¹⁰ [Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.](#)

¹¹ [Article 23:](#) (1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

(2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

(3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

¹² as reinforced by the General Scheme of Preference.

¹³ 2020 is the year the Cotonou Framework ends and new framework will be assigned between the Northern and Southern Hemisphere regarding trade, investor and donor relations.

¹⁴ The EU currently places urgency on Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

Country Strategy Paper

The Country Strategy Paper and National Indicative Programme provide the framework for EC development assistance. The main intervention areas identified in the indicative programme are sustainable rural development, health, institutional capacity building, and non-focal sectors (i.e. support to civil society and Technical Cooperation Facility).

Millennium Development Goals

These are eight development goals, which were outlined and agreed to by the United Nations (UN) in September 2000, the goals should have been achieved by 2015. We are now in a review process of the achievements made towards them.

European Development Fund

The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main instrument for providing community aid for development cooperation in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT).

National Aid Organisation

The organisation responsible for the allocation of funding on a national level, ensuring the monitoring of progress and goal completion stemming from such funding.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

These goals are a development from the Millennium Development Goals. At present there are 17 priorities outlined which will be refined to 10 key areas of focus for the upcoming 20 years. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, the SDGs will focus on global development and not just the developing world.

World Trade Organisation

The WTO is a global organisation for trade opening. It is a forum for governments to negotiate trade agreements, and to settle trade disputes, as well as operating a system of trade rules. Essentially, the WTO is a place where member governments try to solve the trade problems they face with each other.

Joint Programming

Joint programming is an ambitious programming modality of the EU's collective development aid. It is aimed at ensuring better coordination between the EU institutions' and the Member States' development aid, thus reducing duplication and fragmentation of aid and increasing its effectiveness.

Cotonou Agreement

The Cotonou Agreement offers a framework for the EU's cooperation relations for the economic, social and cultural development of the ACP. The Cotonou Agreement places a strong emphasis on the political dimension, development strategies and poverty reduction, economic development, most vulnerable states, economic and trade cooperation, regional cooperation and integration. The Cotonou Framework was agreed to for a period of 20 years in 2.000 and is reviewed every five years, we are now therefore moving into the final five-year period of the framework.

European Anti Fraud Office

European Anti Fraud Office investigates fraud against the EU budget, corruption and serious misconduct within the European institutions, and develops anti-fraud policy for the European Commission.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS II

How should the EU react to the ever-declining voter turnout in European elections, the low levels of trust in EU institutions and the rise of Eurosceptic parties?

Submitted by: Matteo Busetti (IT), Tislime Diallo (FR), Kerem Ersöz (DE), Emil Juslin (SE), Jannis Kuhlencord (DE), Peter McManus (UK), Petros Moisidis (GR), Andree Olumets (EE), Iason Pafitis (CY), Lazar Petrovic (RS), Bianca Popa (RO), Ingrid Nikoline Sand (NO), Nora Schmiedbauer (AT), Alicja Turakiewicz (PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Observing that the goal of integration in the EU is an “ever closer union”¹,
- B. Realising that the goal of an ever closer union is inherently vague, giving rise to confusion and mistrust,
- C. Concerned that Member States’ use of the EU as a scapegoat for the economic crisis reinforces Eurosceptic arguments,
- D. Recognising the efficiency of action conducted by the European Council in demanding situations whilst regretting that this damages the legitimacy of the Ordinary Legislative Procedure (OLP)²,
- E. Fully aware that the prominence of the European Council worsens the lack of a European polity³,
- F. Noting with deep concern that the current leadership imbalance between the European Council and other institutions further obstructs the formation of a common direction for the Union,
- G. Having considered that Member States might consider the EU a threat to their national identity due to the dilution of cultural differences,
- H. Alarmed by the lack of a common European spirit, identity and polity,
- I. Aware that Article 17.7 of the Treaty of Lisbon compels the European Council to take into account the elections to the European Parliament (EP) when proposing a candidate for President of the European Commission (EC),
- J. Noting with regret that the EP cannot scrutinise the appointment of single commissioners whilst aware that opening up the process could lengthen and politicise it,

¹ Part of the preamble of the Treaty of Rome in 1957 and kept in every treaty since, the goal of an ever closer union implies continued integration.

² The standard legislative procedure whereby the European Commission proposes legislation to the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament upon which they decide in co-decision.

³ Political discourse and engagement that frames issues in terms of their European-wide consequences rather than by national concerns.

- K. Having examined Article 17.5 of the Treaty on the EU on the strictly equal rotation of Members of the EC between Member States,
 - L. Deeply disturbed by the opaque working procedure of the Council of the EU whilst acknowledging the benefits of its depoliticised nature, exemplified by COREPER⁴,
 - M. Aware of the cost of the bureaucracy that the seats of the EP in Strasbourg and the historical archives in Luxembourg entail,
 - N. Having considered that the complexity of EU institutions engenders mistrust among citizens,
 - O. Noting with regret the lack of awareness and education among citizens across the EU on:
 - a) the institutional structure and competences of the EU,
 - b) the importance of European decision-making on their daily lives,
 - P. Deeply concerned by the lack of interest citizens have on EU issues,
 - Q. Fully alarmed by inadequate media coverage of European issues in Member States, mainly due to:
 - a) the focus on national interests,
 - b) the lack of information on EU decision-making,
 - R. Deeply disturbed by the use of populist measures and focus on domestic issues by Eurosceptic parties to increase their political power;
-
1. Affirming that the goal of an ever closer union implies unitary integration⁵ preceded by multi-speed integration⁶;
 2. Draws attention to the fact that integration is differentiated by variable geometry⁷ and therefore not multi-speed;
 3. Reaffirms the ultimate legal mandate of the European Council;
 4. Endorses the broad aim of common and continued cooperation whilst admitting that the European project must be continually updated and revised;
 5. Welcomes the nomination of President of the EC from the largest political group in the EP;
 6. Calls upon the President of the EC to notify Member States of their intended portfolio allocation before the nomination of Commissioners;
 7. Further requests dividing Commissioner portfolios into 9 categories and limiting the number of portfolio categories a Member State's Commissioner can be allocated to one every three terms;

⁴ The Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) sets the agenda for the Council of the EU. The close collaboration of its members is known for fostering compromise.

⁵ All Member States collaborate or devolve power in exactly the same policy areas at the same time.

⁶ Member States agree to not integrate in the same areas, although the aim remains for them to eventually do so.

⁷ The right to never integrate in a certain policy area is allowed through formal and de facto opt outs, thus admitting that there will be permanent differences in the level of integration.

8. Supports the right of the EP to dismiss the Commission as a whole, but not to dismiss or reject individual Commissioners;
9. Calls upon the Council of the European Union to organise open round-table discussions with interest groups that solely have a European focus;
10. Requests the EU's headquarters be located solely in Brussels;
11. Emphasises that the power of the EP should not be extended until a European polity is established;
12. Recommends that Member States ensure the promotion of formal and non-formal European educational programmes in school curricula and organisations;
13. Encourages the promotion of the European Citizens Initiative⁸ as a means of widespread participation in European matters;
14. Urges that European elections be scheduled on the same day for all Member States;
15. Proclaims the creation of a Common European Media Outlet (CEMO) in order to:
 - a) raise awareness among EU citizens in matter of politics, issues and decision-making,
 - b) increase funding towards current European campaigns such as "Working for you"⁹,
 - c) expand the use of the EU TV¹⁰ and its presence in social media,
 - d) improve the design of EU's official websites to make them more user-friendly,
 - e) create debating platforms for European discussions;
16. Encourages national political parties to further emphasise the distinction between their national and European aims in their campaigns.

⁸ The European Citizens Initiative allows one million citizens from at least seven different countries to call upon the Commission to propose legislation on matters in which the EU has competence to legislate.

⁹ A campaign launched by the EC on the 1st of December 2014 in Poland, Germany, Portugal, Finland and Spain aiming to promote concrete evidence of the benefits of EU membership.

¹⁰ EuroparlTV is the EP's web TV channel that aims to inform EU citizens about the Parliament's activities and influence.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The upcoming 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris could mark a decisive stage in the negotiations of a post-2020 international agreement on climate change. What role should the EU play in the negotiations of a binding and universal climate agreement?

Submitted by: Daniel Binder (AT), Dafni Maria Chorattidou (CY), Maxime Doucet (BE), Etxahun Gonzalez Sarria (ES), Anna Kremláčková (CZ), Eivind Kristiansen (NO), Kira Lange (DE), Gautier Maintigneux (FR), Orhun Koray Ozbek (TR), Gabriel Octavian Popa (RO), Madeleine Roth (SE), Emily Taylor (UK), Jarne van der Poel (NL), Dragana Zorić (RS)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledging that the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) has predicted that the temperature rise between 2.5 and 10 degrees Fahrenheit in the next century will lead to:
 - i) sea level rise threatening coastal regions,
 - ii) the spread of disease,
 - iii) extreme weather conditions including flooding and drought,
 - iv) a threat to ecosystems and biodiversity¹,
- B. Noting that the Kyoto Protocol experienced limited success with 37 ratifications due to:
 - i) China and the USA's refusal to endorse the agreement,
 - ii) the use of historical emissions as a factor in determining countries contributions to Kyoto,
- C. Aware that developing countries may not prioritise or have the capacity to address climate change because of their current economic, social or political circumstances and limited infrastructure,
- D. Observing that the top five emitters of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) are China (29%), the United States of America (16%), the EU (11%), India (6%) and the Russian Federation (5%)²,
- E. Recognises that the emission of GHGs in BRICS countries continues to increase with specific reference to Brazil and India with a 6.2% and 4.4% increase in 2014 respectively³,
- F. Welcoming the proposed Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) from Lima Conference of Parties that allows countries which makes an international climate

¹ [PCC report on Climate Change.](#)

² [International Center for Climate Governance, 'The State of Compliance in the Kyoto Protocol', 2012.](#)

³ [Europa, 'Global CO2 Emissions increase.'](#)

agreement more acceptable and flexible by allowing countries to determine their own climate agendas,

- G. Noting with concern that only 36 of 186 signatories of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have thus far submitted their INDCs⁴,
 - H. Concerned that the Multilateral Assessment (MA) review only assesses developed countries' contributions while the Green Climate Fund (GCF) supports both developed and developing countries,
 - I. Deeply disturbed that non-EU signatories have pledged smaller amounts to the GCF than Member States who have pledged 50% of the total sum⁵,
 - J. Noting with satisfaction that the EU's 18.9% reduction in GHGs compared to 1990 levels sets a global example in addressing climate change⁶,
 - K. Alarmed by the disparity among the EU-28 in achieving 2020 targets as 13 Member States will need additional efforts to meet domestic goals for non-ETS sectors⁷,
 - L. Realising that the 2030 targets could be increased if all EU Member States were to individually achieve the existing 2020 goals alongside those already surpassing targets⁸,
 - M. Appreciating the work of European initiatives in research into climate change such as Horizon 2020⁹;
1. Supports the creation of NAPs and INDCs produced by the Lima Conference of Parties (COP 20);
 2. Urges the UNFCCC parties to submit their INDCs before the Bonn conference¹⁰ in June 2015 so as to allow sufficient time for review;
 3. Calls for the INDCs submitted to the UNFCCC platform to become legally binding for all parties once reviewed and accepted;
 4. Firmly believes that the consideration of historical emissions should not be included in the creation of a new international climate agreement;
 5. Encourages the USA to set specific targets regarding a shift to renewable energy alongside the GHG reduction targets in their existing INDC;
 6. Calls for BRICS countries to include in their INDCs;
 - a) emission peak targets following the example of China,
 - b) the integration of renewable energies in the development process;
 7. Invites a reform of the MA process to review developing countries in addition to developed countries;

⁴ [The UNFCCC INDC submission Portal, 2015.](#)

⁵ [Europa Press Release Lima, 2014.](#)

⁶ [European Commission, 'EU Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Targets', 2013.](#)

⁷ [European Commission Progress Report, 2014.](#)

⁸ [For example, Spain's energy use is composed of 36.4% renewables. Commission Progress Report, 2014.](#)

⁹ [European Commission, What is Horizon 2020?](#)

¹⁰ [The Bonn Conference is the Forty-second session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCCC which are used to review progress in between COPS.](#)

8. Suggests that a minimum contribution be pledged to the GCF by developed countries relative to their capacities;
9. Expresses its hope that the ambitious 2050 targets set by the EU serve as an example for other countries in achieving an 80 to 95% GHG reductions compared to 1990;
10. Calls upon the European Commission to review and increase the EU 2030 targets for the energy efficiency and renewable energy pillars where the 2020 targets are already being achieved;
11. Requests that the European Environment Agency implement a review and support programme for Member States failing to achieve their 2020 targets.

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Lima 2014

Lima 2014 was the 20th Conference of Parties where the signatories of the UNFCCC met to further discuss the international agenda for climate change. The conference established a new direction in which countries could determine their own agendas in the hope that a new post-2020 binding agreement could be reached.

Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)

INDCs are those actions publicly outlined by countries regarding what they individually intend to do to address climate change. INDCs shall make it possible to track progress and achieve a collective ambition level sufficient to limit global warming to below 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels.

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process was established under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF). It enables parties to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs for their countries and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those national needs.

The Multilateral Assessment (MA)

The MA process is part of the newly established international assessment and review (IAR) process for developed country parties. The IAR process is conducted under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and aims to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed country parties with regard to their quantified economy-wide emission limitation and reduction targets.

Green Climate Fund

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a fund under the UNFCCC to help developing countries counter climate change. It is an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention under Article 11. The GCF will support projects, programs, policies and other activities in developing country Parties.

BRICS

BRICS is an acronym for the five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa.

Main objectives 2020:

- 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels
- Raising the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%
- A 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency

Main objectives 2030:

- Reducing EU domestic greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030
- Increasing the share of renewable energy to at least 27% of the EU's energy consumption
- Increasing energy efficiency by at least 27%
- Reform of the EU emissions trading system

Main objectives 2050:

EU leaders have endorsed the objective of reducing Europe's greenhouse gas emissions by 80-95% compared to 1990 levels as part of efforts by developed countries as a group to reduce their emissions by a similar degree.

The Roadmap sets out a cost-efficient pathway to reach the target of reducing domestic emissions by 80% by 2050. To get there, Europe's emissions should be 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 60% below by 2040. All sectors will have to contribute.

Kyoto Protocol

The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which commits its parties by setting internationally binding emission reduction targets.

Recognising that developed countries are principally responsible for the current high levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere after more than 150 years of industrial activity, the Kyoto Protocol places a heavier burden on developed nations under the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities."

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

**With funding for European Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
coming primarily from banks and European Commission President
Jean-Claude Juncker calling for a better access for SMEs to capital
markets: what should the EU do to diversify the sources of funding and
cut the costs of raising capital for SMEs?**

Submitted by: Alona Dakhnenko (UA), Eileen De Sousa (IE), Cătălina Drăgoi (RO),
Marcus Engvall (SE), Bernadette Gruber (DE), Irakli Kikoria (GE), Mariya
Lepiashynskaya (BY), Matthias Masini (CH), Olivia Melaranta (FI), Willem
Momma (NL), William Røise (NO), Marta Rosique i Saltor (ES), Nicolas
Rubin (FR), Martin Šimáček (CZ), Giannis Vafeiadis (GR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind that 99% of European firms are micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which provide two thirds of jobs in the private sector and 58% of the value added in the EU¹,
- B. Taking into account that 15% of European SMEs declare that acquisition of capital is their greatest concern²,
- C. Observing that 62% of European SMEs prefer bank funding to alternative sources of funding³,
- D. Expressing its appreciation for existing EU measures enforced by the European Investment Fund (EIF) and the Executive Agency for SMEs (EASME), such as COSME and Horizon 2020, which provide SMEs with opportunities to access new kinds of funding,
- E. Alarmed by the vulnerability of European SMEs due to their heavy reliance on credit
- F. Concerned that private investment has been decreasing since 2007, despite the fact that the value of capital markets has increased from €1.3 trillion to €8.4 trillion between 1992-2013⁴,
- G. Recognising that the proper, responsible and accountable securitisation of debt provides liquidity to banks, which stimulates lending,
- H. Concerned by the growth of potentially unreliable and volatile non-bank financial sectors such as shadow banking,

¹ [European Commission \(2013\), Infographics: European SMEs.](#)

² Same as above.

³ [European Commission \(2014\), Memo: SMEs access to finance survey.](#)

⁴ [European Commission \(2015\), Initial reflections on the obstacles to the development of deep and integrated EU capital markets: Accompanying the document Green Paper Building a Capital Markets Union.](#)

- I. Acknowledging that the European Central Bank's (ECB) long-term refinancing operation has not benefited SMEs as much as hoped⁵,
 - J. Deeply concerned by the disparities in the development of capital markets structures between Member States,
 - K. Deeply concerned by the bureaucracy, legal barriers and costs SMEs face in terms of funding, especially in the process of accessing capital markets throughout their development stages,
 - L. Noting with regret the lack of access to funding caused by information barriers between SMEs and investors,
 - M. Welcoming the latest measures taken by the European Commission to establish a Capital Markets Union (CMU), despite the relative absence of micro and small enterprises in the 2015 Green Paper on "Building a Capital Markets Union"⁶,
 - N. Aware of the recent development of crowdfunding and its potential;
-
1. Calls for the establishment of a European Agency for Business Lending (EABL) to securitise small business loans, thereby increasing the bank liquidity;
 2. Encourages Member States to introduce tax incentives to co-lending business angels and venture capitalists;
 3. Suggests the establishment of a Regional Finance Monitoring Group (RFMG) which will:
 - a) foster the regional finance system of retail and saving banks,
 - b) inform SMEs about the latest EU programmes to access funding more easily,
 - c) support banks in their assessment of the creditworthiness of SMEs;
 4. Suggests that Member States oversee volatile and unreliable non-bank financial institutions by using existing financial inspection agencies;
 5. Requests that the ECB reform its longer-term refinancing operation to better help SMEs;
 6. Endorses the EC's effort to harmonise the development of national capital markets and capital market laws through the CMU;
 7. Suggests that the European Strategic Investments Fund put further emphasis on seed capital whilst offering credit protection to venture capital firms;
 8. Recommends that Member States initiate the creation of a secondary market focusing on SMEs that reach the stage of making an initial public offering (IPO);
 9. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA) to create a database containing basic information about SMEs seeking finance to facilitate their access to private investors;
 10. Calls for better inclusion of micro and small enterprises in the CMU;
 11. Calls upon the European Crowdfunding Network (ECN) to set up a crowdfunding portal giving centralised access to crowdfunding opportunities across the EU.

⁵ [Deutsche Bank Research \(2014\), SME financing in the euro area: New solutions to an old problem.](#)

⁶ [House of Lords \(2015\), Capital Markets Union: A welcome start.](#)

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS II

Micro, small and medium enterprises

SMEs are enterprises with fewer than 250 employees, and an annual turnover under €50 million or a balance sheet under €43 million. Micro enterprises employ fewer than 10 people, small enterprises between 10 and 50 and medium enterprises between 50 and 250. An SME's development can be divided into 4 stages: seed, start-up, early growth and sustainable growth.

Financial vocabulary

A debt security is money borrowed by a government or a corporation at a fixed amount and a maturity date, at a specific interest rate.

Secondary markets are markets where investors purchase securities or assets from other investors, rather than from issuing companies themselves. The national exchanges - such as the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ are secondary markets.

Retail and savings banks are locally-based banks and SMEs' privileged partners. They usually offer low-volume loans and perform low-risk operations.

Non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) are financial institutions that provide banking services, but do not hold a banking license.

The European Central Bank's **long-term refinancing operation** (LTRO) is a process by which the ECB provides financing to Eurozone banks. The stated aim of the LTRO is to maintain a cushion of liquidity for banks holding illiquid assets, and thus prevent interbank lending and other loan origination from seizing up as they did in the credit squeeze of 2008.

Quantitative easing is an unconventional monetary policy in which a central bank purchases government securities or other securities from the market in order to lower interest rates and increase the money supply.

Balance sheet constraints on a business mean that there is more money flowing out than in over a year.

Personal liability means that an entrepreneur is personally financially responsible if their company goes bankrupt.

Alternative sources of funding

Capital markets are financial markets for buying and selling long-term assets such as equity and debt securities. Capital markets make capital suppliers (investors) meet capital users (businesses, governments or individuals).

Venture capitalists are corporate investors providing funds for small businesses and start-ups that are expected to experience large growth on the long term.

Business angels are private individuals who invest their personal assets in new businesses, often offering more favourable conditions than venture capitalists.

Crowdfunding is a way of fundraising small amounts of money from a large number of individuals without intermediaries, often using social networks, with the goal to draw investors' attention.

EU Measures

The **Capital Markets Union** (CMU) has been identified as a flagship project for the new Juncker Commission. The idea is to remove barriers between national capital markets in the EU. The CMU should make it easier for investors to go international and access data, less costly for firms to seek funds on capital markets, and offer more choice and opportunities for all stakeholders.

The **European Investment Fund** (EIF) is part of the European Investment Bank Group. The EIF is a specialist provider of risk finance to benefit small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) across Europe. By developing and offering targeted financial products to our intermediaries, such as banks, guarantee and leasing companies, micro-credit providers and private equity funds, the EIF enhances SMEs' access to finance.

COSME is the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs. The COSME pillar for better access to finance for SMEs establishes an Equity Facility for Growth (EFG) supporting venture capital and mezzanine finance solutions for SMEs.

Horizon 2020 is the 8th EU framework programme for research and innovation, running from 2014 to 2020. It offers an instrument for access to risk finance for highly innovative firms that supports equity finance in the early stages of an SME's life.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY

The role of services and the support of partners and communities in family planning: what measures should be taken to ensure European women have better control over their sexual and reproductive lives and provide consistent access to basic support and services pertaining to reproductive health?

Submitted by: Aleksandre Beraia (GE), Anna Beatrise Brīvlauka (LV), Johanna Furrer (CH), Sabuhi Goyushov (AZ), Charlotte Remarque (NL), Amélie Rolin (BE), Gráinne Sexton (IE), Ana Beatriz Silva Amorim (PT), Enrique Tasa Sanchis (ES), Aileen Toner (UK), Fasih Ahmad Yar (CZ), Alaz Ada Yener (TR), Marin Zaimi (AL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by the flaws in the current sexual education provided in Member States and Eastern European and Central Asian (EECA) countries, in particular curricula that:
 - i) are not mandatory,
 - ii) are biased,
 - iii) lack a unified approach,
 - iv) lack trained teachers,
 - v) are neither comprehensive nor age appropriate,
- B. Further concerned by the lack of use of contraceptives among European countries due to:
 - i) inconsistencies in availability and quality,
 - ii) stigma around their use,
 - iii) the information deficit about use and availability,
- C. Further noting that the aforementioned lack of access to appropriate protection methods and education contributes to the high incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), particularly in Eastern Europe,
- D. Concerned that STI treatment is neither free nor confidential in certain Member States,
- E. Further noting the social stigma that surrounds STIs and their subsequent treatment in many countries,
- F. Deeply disturbed that although HPV is known to be a leading cause of cervical cancer in women, the corresponding vaccine is not readily available in all European countries,

- G. Aware that parental consent is not always given for children to receive the HPV vaccine due to misinformation and untrue claims about possible side effects,
 - H. Alarmed that the HPV vaccine is often provide too late, at an age when young people may already have become sexually active,
 - I. Noting with regret the difficulties faced by women seeking abortions due to the restrictions in certain countries, also leading to medical tourism and unsafe illegal abortions,
 - J. Further aware that the stigma surrounding abortion leads to emotional distress and harassment of women who consider ending unwanted pregnancies,
 - K. Alarmed by a lack of pre- and post-abortion psychological care,
 - L. Noting that the systems in place insufficiently inform minorities of their rights in the cases of:
 - i) uninformed consent,
 - ii) forced sterilisation,
 - iii) possible discrimination,
 - M. Noting with regret that those who deny minorities their rights are not properly prosecuted,
 - N. Noting with deep concern the high rate of sexual violence against women within European countries including:
 - i) female genital cutting,
 - ii) forced marriages,
 - iii) honour killings,
 - iv) rape, including corrective and marital rape,
 - O. Noting with concern that a lack of data providing statistical information on sexual and reproduction health rights (SRHRs) in European countries hampers policymaking,
 - P. Fully alarmed by the high rates of maternal and infant mortality caused in part by the unavailability of medical care during pregnancy and childbirth including lack of access to Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) centres;
-
- 1. Supports the addition of sexual education to existing and future educational frameworks such as ET 2020¹;
 - 2. Has resolved to establish a pan-European forum in which European social and political leaders are able to meet with parents, teachers and youngsters to share their opinions on sexual education and the development of new sexual education curricula;

¹ "Education and Training 2020" (ET 2020) is a new strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training that builds on its predecessor, the "Education and Training 2010" (ET 2010) work programme. It provides common strategic objectives for Member States, including a set of principles for achieving these objectives, as well as common working methods with priority areas for each periodic work cycle.

3. Calls upon the European Commission (EC) Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement to adjust the EU accession criteria to include a minimum basic level of sexual education²;
4. Suggests that Member States subsidise contraception and supply free contraceptives to minors and citizens with financial difficulties;
5. Supports the activities of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) regarding contraception in EECA countries;
6. Calls for the support of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing sexual health services by:
 - a) enabling educational organisations to tour European countries providing information and making contraceptives more accessible,
 - b) assisting those who offer free and confidential treatment including services such as screening and post diagnosis counselling,
 - c) facilitating mobile sexual health clinics intended to reach remote and underprivileged communities;
7. Further aims to highlight to companies the economic benefits of providing sexual health services, including free, voluntary and confidential STI testing to their employees;
8. Encourages the establishment of a EC-funded social media campaign aimed at young people, parents and prospective parents to raise awareness about and reduce stigma around the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), HPV and other STIs;
9. Encourages the establishment of an age-appropriate, subsidised, schools-based HPV vaccination program in Member States, whilst strongly advising non EU countries to implement a similar vaccination program;
10. Promotes the creation and distribution of an information booklet with the support of the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) to inform parents about the HPV vaccine;
11. Encourages the decriminalisation of unregulated abortion in all Member States;
12. Supports NGOs such as the Marie Stopes Clinic³ in Northern Ireland in the provision of pre- and post-abortion psychological care, including advice on abortion services and related information such as travelling and financing;
13. Recommends that existing abortion clinics include or improve their pre- and post-abortion support by implementing a training programme for health professionals under the guidance of the World Health Organisation (WHO);
14. Invites relevant NGOs⁴ to provide legal advice to women from minority groups which are at risk of forced sterilisation and other forms of medical abuse related to their sexual and reproductive health;

² A basic level of sexual education should include contraceptive methods, biological understanding, consent issues and other foundational aspects of sexuality and reproductive rights.

³ A free sexual health clinic in Northern Ireland offering free and confidential access to contraception as well as information and advice on the options a woman has in the event of an unwanted pregnancy. This includes information on travelling to another part of the United Kingdom to seek an abortion if a woman so wishes given that abortion is not legal in Northern Ireland.

⁴ NGOs like the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) have specialist knowledge about the problems faced by minority communities.

15. Calls upon Member States to combat sexual violence by
 - a) more actively prosecuting those who commit acts of sexual violence against women,
 - b) promoting existing campaigns which denounce sexual violence,
 - c) setting up treatment centres providing emotional and physical care for victims of sexual violence;
16. Promotes the cooperation between the UNFPA and REPROSTAT⁵ to create a database describing the SRHR status of European countries;
17. Desires further collaboration between hospitals, local and national governments and the WHO and UNFPA in order to increase the standard of pre- and post-natal care, obstetrics and gynaecological services offered.

⁵ REPROSTAT is a European statistics project with special focus on reproductive rights.

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

The second pillar of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP): In light of the priorities announced for the Rural Development Policy (RDP) for the period 2014-2020, how should the EU endeavour to balance the competitiveness of its agricultural sector, sustainable management of natural resources and the territorial development of rural economies?

Submitted by: Rosa Beijen (NL), Rudolf Crețu (RO), Nils Eric Danielsson (SE), Conor Dunne (IE), Tor Frøytvedt Dahl (NO), Beliz Koçyiğit (TR), Stephen Morawski (PL), Sarah Mpokfuri (FR), Stella Näbauer (DE), Madeleine Panholzer (AT), Alisea Stroligo (IT), Adélaïde van der Hoeven (BE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Bearing in mind the varying levels of development amongst Member States due to different climates, traditions and current techniques,
- B. Fully aware that the differing implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) among Member States hinders coordination at an EU level,
- C. Taking into consideration the widespread lack of knowledge regarding both the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) application system and the use of up-to-date technologies in agriculture,
- D. Taking into account that the lack of infrastructure and public services in rural regions is causing rural flight,
- E. Alarmed that the current decline in competitiveness within the EU may jeopardise its role as a global trader,
- F. Recognising that small farms are fundamental for agricultural development and for ensuring food security,
- G. Realising that the BPS has not reached its full potential in balancing the disparities in the assignment of funds to large versus small farms¹,
- H. Deeply concerned that only 1% of the cross-compliance direct payment recipients are being monitored, with a fund reduction of 3% for one year in case of infraction²,
- I. Noting with deep concern that low wages and few job opportunities make agricultural work unattractive to youngsters,

¹ The 70% of EU's provided agricultural funds is granted to biggest farms, whilst only 8% is allocated to smallest farms that represent 70% of the total amount of farms in the EU ("[EU Agricultural Economic Briefs](#)", [European Commission](#)").

² "[Environmental Cross Compliance in Agriculture](#)", OECD 2010.

- J. Noting with regret that only 4% of all EU farmland is used for organic produce despite an increase in demand for these goods on the market³,
- K. Aware of the environmental consequences and the unsustainable use of natural resources caused by monocultures and widespread use of antibiotics and hormones on livestock;
1. Encourages Member States to establish annual conferences focusing on the CAP's implementation and its bureaucratic procedures;
 2. Invites each Member State to submit more specific annual reports on the use of subsidies, development stage and condition of the agricultural sector of the country to the European Commission;
 3. Further encourages Member States to increase the level of knowledge and education of current and future farmers by establishing:
 - a) scholarships on agriculture-related subjects,
 - b) one-month internships in rural areas,
 - c) interactive online platforms;
 4. Calls upon Member States to improve the existing facilities in villages with a strategic central position in each rural region;
 5. Expresses its hope that consortia buy produce from small farms and distribute it across the market, allowing small farms to mainly focus on production rather than distribution;
 6. Recommends the European Commission support Member States in increasing the percentage of the overall BPS envelope for the Small Farmers Scheme;
 7. Supports Member States in implementing lower prices as incentives for farmers who use sustainable technologies in their production cycles;
 8. Requests that Member States increase the cross-compliance investigation frequency from annual to quarterly, revoking payment in case of infraction;
 9. Further requests that every Member State implements the young farmers direct payment by 2018 in the hope of involving more young farmers in the agricultural sector;
 10. Further invites the European Commission to establish a 30% organic production requirement for receiving Green Direct Payment;
 11. Further recommends Member States to gradually implement a tracking system for all unrefined agricultural foods produced in the EU to allow consumers to trace their origin;
 12. Invites the Member States to implement a mandatory prescription system for the purchase of antibiotics used on livestock;
 13. Expresses its appreciation for an increased taxation of hormones used on livestock.

³ ["Facts and figures on organic agriculture in the European Union", European Commission.](#)

FACT SHEET COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

The role of the CAP is to provide a framework that fully supports and encourages producers to address the challenges of viable food production, sustainable management of natural resources and climate action, and balanced territorial development. It is built upon two pillars, the one concerned with the economic impact of agriculture and the other addressing the competitiveness of and social welfare in rural areas.

Basic Payment Scheme (BPS)

The BPS is the European Union's biggest rural payments scheme to help the farming industry. The BPS allocates payments to farmers when they apply for the first year and it has to be renewed by them from the second year on. The BPS is divided into green direct payments, redistributive payments, payments for young farmers and payments for areas with natural or other constraints.

Cross-compliance

Farmers have access to direct payments if they meet the basic standards for environmentally friendly practices, food safety, animal and plant health, animal welfare and keeping their land in good condition.

Small Farmers Scheme

Optional for Member States, any farmer claiming support may decide to participate in the Small Farmers Scheme and thereby receive an annual payment fixed by the Member State of between €500 and €1.250, regardless of the farm's size. This will be an enormous simplification for the farmers concerned and for national administrations. Participants will face less stringent cross-compliance requirements, and be exempt from greening. The total cost of the Small Farmers Scheme may not be more than 10% of the national envelope.

Green Direct Payment

Each holding will receive a payment per hectare for respecting certain agricultural practices beneficial to the climate and the environment. Member States will use 30% of their national envelope to pay for this. This is compulsory and failure to respect the greening requirements will result in penalties. The three basic requirements to receive the direct payment are maintaining permanent grassland, crop diversification and maintaining an "ecological focus area" of at least 5% of the arable area of the holding.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS I

**After almost a decade of accession negotiations and more than 15 years
as a Candidate, what should the framework for exploiting the full
potential of EU-Turkey relations look like?**

Submitted by: Liza Bex (NL), Andrea Christophi (CY), Corentin Bienfait (BE), Filip Eyoun (PL), Gabriel Gheorghiu (RO), Christian Gruber (AT), Stefan Hadžović (RS), Camilla Hatling (NO), Tuuli Helind (EE), Ifigenia Moutzi (GR), Simone Maria Russo (IT), Jasmin Khalaj Samadi (SE), Paul Sander (DE), Laura Tillard (FR), Eylül Yalçinkaya (TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware of the decline in support for the Turkish accession to the EU:
 - i) amongst both the Turkish population and EU citizens,
 - ii) amongst several Member States and the Turkish government,
- B. Emphasising the significance of Turkey's geopolitical location for the EU,
- C. Alarmed by the ongoing violations of fundamental Human Rights in the Republic of Turkey,
- D. Noting with concern the legal restrictions and discrimination minorities such as the Kurdish are confronted with¹,
- E. Further noting the allegations of corruption, which call into question the impartiality of the judiciary, the rule of law and the separation of powers in Turkey,
- F. Deeply conscious about the Turkish Cypriot relations affected by:
 - i) The non-recognition of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey,
 - ii) The presence of Turkish military forces on the Cypriot island,
- G. Noting with regret the non-recognition of the Armenian genocide in 1915 by Turkey,
- H. Believing that the Customs Union² between the Republic of Turkey and the EU is not fulfilling its potential due to technical barriers,
- I. Observing a lack of monitoring in terms of economic progress relevant for the accession negotiations;
 - 1. Declares that the accession of Turkey to the EU should continue to be a long-term goal;
 - 2. Reaffirms the Positive Agenda³;

¹ For example the fact that public services are only provided in Turkish.

² The Customs Union came into force on 31 December 1995 and covers nearly all industrial goods. In addition to providing for a common external tariff for the products covered, the Customs Union foresees Turkey's alignment with the *acquis communautaire* in several essential internal market areas, notably with regard to industrial standards.

3. Recommends that the European Council opens benchmarks of chapter 23 and 24⁴ of the *acquis communautaire*⁵ once the compliance with fundamental rights on the part of the Turkish government is visible and ensured;
4. Further recommends the European Court of Human Rights to impose more severe penalties on Turkey in the case of continued Human Rights violations;
5. Urges the Cypriot and Turkish governments to resume peace talks and seek a consensus before the end of 2020 whilst proposing the option of an eventual trade agreement between both countries;
6. Emphasises the political importance of the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by Turkey for its accession to the EU;
7. Encourages the Turkish government and the EU to exploit the full potential of the Customs Union by measures such as, but not limited to:
 - a) Launching new negotiations to re-examine the agreement and to realise mutual benefits,
 - b) Forming a monitoring group to assess the economic progress of Turkey based on the model of the already established Reform Action Group⁶,
 - c) The removal of obstructive restrictions to the Customs Union in Turkish legislation;
8. Urges the Turkish government and Member States to strengthen their cooperation in the field of energy security;
9. Encourages the European Commission to include its free trading partners, including Turkey, in the TTIP⁷ negotiations.

³ [The Positive Agenda, launched in 2012, is a joint initiative of Turkey and the EU. It aims at giving new momentum to reforms in Turkey and at enhancing cooperation in a number of crucial areas of common interest.](#)

⁴ [Chapter 23 of the *acquis communautaire* deals with the judiciary and fundamental rights, whilst chapter 24 covers the area of justice, freedom and security.](#)

⁵ [The *acquis communautaire* is the body of common rights and obligations which bind all Member States together within the European Union. Adhering to the *acquis* is one of the Copenhagen Criteria, which are to be fulfilled for the accession to the EU.](#)

⁶ [The Reform Action Group takes decisions on the priorities of the political reform process and presents these decisions to the Council of Ministers for approval.](#)

⁷ [The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership \(TTIP\) is a trade agreement currently being negotiated between the European Union and the United States.](#)

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I

Crisis at the EU's Eastern borders? Considering the ongoing violence in Eastern-Ukraine, what role should the EU play in bringing back peace and stability to Ukraine?

Submitted by: Iker Bengoetxea de Tena (ES), Alexandra de Vacleroy (BE), Iuliia Drobysch (UA), Julika Enslin (DE), Nathan Freret (FR), Nicolas Hellner (IT), Jovan Ivic (RS), Amanda Karlsson (SE), Victoria Konstantinidou (GR), Anne Katrine Ravnanger (NO), Agatha Seifert (AT), Bulat Shkanov (RU), Melina Theodorou (CY), Hiie Marie Uibo (EE), Nikki Weststeijn (NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine and the ineffectiveness of the first and second Minsk Agreements¹ to establish a lasting ceasefire,
- B. Taking into account the fragile transatlantic consensus in regards to the actions taken by the international community to combat the crisis,
- C. Welcomes the persistent efforts pursued by the heads of the Member States in reaching a peaceful solution to the crisis and certain of their significant role in the future,
- D. Realising that a longer lasting conflict in Ukraine may lead to an even more complex situation with potential third parties involved,
- E. Deeply concerned by the Russian annexation of Crimea and the related violations of Ukraine's territorial integrity,
- F. Alarmed by the current humanitarian crisis occurring in Eastern Ukraine, especially in regards to the conditions faced by refugees² and internally displaced³,
- G. Concerned by the failure of the Ukrainian military 'ATOs' (anti-terroristic operations)⁴, to remove Russian forces from the region,
- H. Alarmed by the deteriorating economic situation in Ukraine resulting in:
 - i) significant debt from having to accept foreign loans,
 - ii) shrinking GDP as result of the economic crisis,
 - iii) devaluation of the hryvnia (UAH),
- I. Aware of Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas exports and the importance of a mutual agreement securing Ukraine's energy dependency,

¹ The Minsk Agreement II was adopted on the 12th of February 2015, consisting of 11 point agenda.

² According to the current estimation over 770 000 people have fled as refugees to the countries bordering Ukraine.

³ As of 3rd of April 2015, there are over 1,2 million internally displaced people registered according to the UN OCHA.

⁴ ATO refers to the Anti-Terrorist Operations in the Eastern Ukraine designed to counter military aggression from outside.

- J. Concerned by the inefficient reporting by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)⁵ of verified, non-biased information regarding the current circumstances in the Eastern Ukraine,
 - K. Deeply conscious that the Eastern Partnership (EaP)⁶ is too general and inflexible,
 - L. Noting with regret the lack of efficient dialogue between the EU and Russia,
 - M. Further noting that a long term disagreement will hurt the overall political and economical relations between the Members States and Russia,
 - N. Affirming the lack of clear conditions and timeline for lifting the sanctions imposed on Russia by the EU and the international community,
 - O. Noting that due to variation in domestic financial circumstances and trade relations with Russia, the upholding of sanctions has proven difficult for certain Member States, causing severe disagreements with the EU,
 - P. Conscious of the mutual trade dependency between the EU and Russia, specifically in energy,
 - Q. Deeply conscious of Russia's increasingly strong trade relationships with BRICs⁷ and the possibility of those potentially undermining the current sanctions in place;
1. Suggests the gradual expansion of the sanctions in the absence of:
 - a) the enforcement of the second Minsk Agreement⁸,
 - b) the continuation of the multilateral cooperative negotiations aimed at resolving the territorial dispute of Crimea,
 - c) an end to both military and material support of the separatists operating in the Eastern Ukraine;
 2. Emphasises that the compliance with the aforementioned conditions will lead to the gradual lifting of sanctions;
 3. Calls for further political cooperation between the G7, the remaining BRICs and the international community in order to endorse the existing sanctions;
 4. Expresses its appreciation of the mobilised material assistance through the EU Civil Protection mechanism⁹ and of the contribution of over €139 million¹⁰ in combined emergency and early recovery assistance by the Member States to relieve the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine;

⁵ Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) – the world's largest security oriented intergovernmental organisation.

⁶ Eastern Partnership refers to the strategy for a closer cooperation between EU and its Eastern neighbouring countries, namely Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, Azerbaijan and Belarus.

⁷ BRICs refers to five major emerging national economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

⁸ Multilateral negotiations having taken place in Minsk, Belarus in 12th of February where the second of these Agreements were signed between the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, Germany and France agreeing on a ceasefire, seeking to end the conflict in Ukraine.

⁹ EU Civil Protection mechanism refers to civil protection assistance consisting of governmental aid delivered in the immediate aftermath of a disaster.

¹⁰ Estimated number of people in need of humanitarian aid in Ukraine in April 2015.

5. Draws attention to the estimated 3.2 million people still in need of humanitarian aid in Ukraine and therefore welcomes further efforts in the area;
6. Encourages the Ukrainian government to seek energy source diversity and therefore decrease the nation's long term dependence on gas imported from Russian by:
 - a) seeking ways to increase its domestically produced natural gas,
 - b) further developing its shale gas reserves,
 - c) investigating options for renewable energy sources;
7. Invites further investment and research in renewable energy resources as well as other viable options in order to decrease energy dependency in Europe on imported energy from Russia;
8. Expresses its hope that the Special Monitory Mission of OSCE¹¹ in the region will be made more efficient by revising the OSCE mandate beyond observing and reporting;
9. Calls for the European External Actions Service (EEAS)¹² in cooperation with the Heads of States of the Eastern Partnership to:
 - a) revise the overall Eastern Partnership strategy,
 - b) design a more long term plan based on a country-by-country specifically tailored approach to countries in the middle of crisis and those which are in the state transition period;
10. Further invites both the Meeting of Eastern Partnership Heads of States as well as the Meetings of the Eastern Partnership Foreign Ministers to take place on a more regular basis and to be closely accompanied by the presence of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy¹³;
11. Approves the strengthening of the civil society in Ukraine by:
 - a) encouraging the NGOs on-site, especially in the Eastern part of the country, to deepen their cooperation with one another in order to provide neutral and unbiased information about the situation in Ukraine,
 - b) shifting the focus of the educational exchange programmes such as Erasmus Mundus Partnership for Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova (EMP – AIM)¹⁴ to be extended to include a wider range of universities in order to further facilitate intercultural exchange;
12. Urges the conditions of a Ukrainian anti-corruption plan to be embedded to the EaP;
13. Calls for a closer monitoring system of the efficient utilisation of the loans provided to Ukraine by the International Monetary Fund (IMF);

¹¹ The Special Monitoring Mission is an unarmed, civilian mission, present on the ground 24/7 in all regions of Ukraine. Its main tasks are to observe and report in an impartial and objective way on the situation in Ukraine; and to facilitate dialogue among all parties to the crisis.

¹² The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the foreign policy arm of the European Union. It helps the EU's foreign affairs chief – the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – carry out the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy.

¹³ The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy is in charge of coordinating and carrying out the EU's foreign and security policy.

¹⁴ EMP- AIM is a partnership of 17 universities in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova which aims at strengthening the cooperation and building bridges between the European and Eastern European region countries.

14. Requests Member States review their military exports to the Eastern Ukraine with the aim of preventing a further militarisation of the region;
15. Supports the increased autonomy of the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LPR);
16. Further invites Ukraine's consideration on the rights of their minorities by adopting Russian as the 2nd official language inside the regions of DPR and LPR.

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