



**LEIPZIG 2015**

80th International Session of the European Youth Parliament  
From tearing down walls to setting new stones

# **RESOLUTION BOOKLET**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015**



## Table of Contents

Committee On Internal Market And Consumer Protection	4
Committee On Economic And Monetary Affairs I	7
Committee On Foreign Affairs	11
Committee On Civil Liberties, Justice, And Home Affairs	14
Committee On Environment, Public Health And Food Safety li	18
Committee On International Trade	23
Committee On Women’s Rights And Gender Equality	26
Committee On Legal Affairs I	29
Committee On Legal Affairs II	32
Committee On Economic And Monetary Affairs li	35
Committee On Human Rights II	38
Committee On Human Rights III	41
Committee On Human Rights I	44
Committee On Security And Defence	48
Committee On Environment, Public Health, And Food Safety I	51

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## Voting results

**IMCO** - Passed

114 in favour; 95 against; 2 abstentions

**ECON I** - Not Passed

43 in favour; 167 against; 10 abstentions

**AFET** - Passed

147 in favour; 58 against; 10 abstentions

**LIBE** - Passed

164 in favour; 43 against; 8 abstentions

**ENVI II** - Passed

123 in favour; 78 against; 9 abstentions

**INTA** - Not Passed

93 in favour; 109 against; 12 abstentions

**FEMM** - Not Passed

80 in favour; 126 against; 9 abstentions

**JURI I** - Passed

170 in favour; 47 against; 12 abstentions

**JURI II** - Passed

129 in favour; 74 against; 9 abstentions

**ECON II** - Passed

155 in favour; 42 against; 13 abstentions

**DROI II** - Not Passed

96 in favour; 103 against; 15 abstentions

**DROI III** - Passed

144 in favour; 64 against; 6 abstentions

**DROI I** - Passed

174 in favour; 41 against; 11 abstentions

**SEDE** - Passed

118 in favour; 77 against; 15 abstentions

**ENVI I** - Passed

141 in favour; 58 against; 24 abstentions



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

**A right to digital identity: With EU institutions maintaining that data protection is a fundamental right, which principles should be introduced to manage customer data of companies online within and beyond the EU's borders?**

**Submitted by:**

Ilana Barak (ES), Thibault Bienvenue (FR), Lukas Frank (AT), Srdan Hromis (RS), Tudor Jitaru (RO), Michal Karbownik (PL), Hannariin Lamp (EE), Kristyna Lesna (CZ), Joe McKenzie (UK), Danny Naar (GR), Andreas Nikolaou (CY), Jeroen Smeulders (NL), Saverio Spinella (IT), Enio Vrushi (AL), Ricards Zalmezs (LV)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Viewing with appreciation that the protection of personal data is recognised as a fundamental right in Article 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
- B. Taking into consideration that the amount of data generated on the Internet is exponentially increasing,
- C. Convinced that the outdated Data Protection Directive<sup>1</sup> from 1995 fails to account for technological advances, globalisation and increased use of the Internet,
- D. Welcoming that the European Commission has proposed the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)<sup>2</sup> in order to update the European legal framework on data protection,
- E. Having examined that 31% of European citizens feel that they have no control over their online data, while only 15% feel that they have complete control,<sup>3</sup>
- F. Noting with deep concern that 82% of European Union (EU) citizens do not fully read privacy statements<sup>4</sup>, mainly because these are often considered to be lengthy and overly difficult to understand,

<sup>1</sup> The Data Protection Directive is the current EU legislative framework on data protection.

<sup>2</sup> The GDPR is a comprehensive reform of data protection rules in the EU, which aims at unifying data protection legislation within the EU. The twofold aim of the regulation is to enhance data protection rights of individuals, as well as to improve business opportunities by facilitating the free flow of personal data in the Digital Single Market.

<sup>3</sup> According to the Data Protection Eurobarometer - June 2015.

<sup>4</sup> According to the Data Protection Eurobarometer - June 2015.



- G. Realising that companies may require personal data for:
- i) offering certain services,
  - ii) targeted advertising,<sup>5</sup>
  - iii) research and development,
- H. Bearing in mind that companies often request personal information that is irrelevant to the products and services offered,
- I. Taking note of the requirement of personal data by companies potentially leading to a loss of trust in those companies, thus negatively affecting their profits,
- J. Concerned that EU citizens are generally uninformed about existing measures regarding data protection,<sup>6</sup>
- K. Recognising that the procedure undertaken when exercising the “right to be forgotten”<sup>7</sup> is excessively lengthy and complex,
- L. Acknowledging that despite the “right to be forgotten” granting Internet users the right to prevent certain links from appearing in search engines, it does not allow for erasure of the actual data,
- M. Conscious that the recent increase in breaches of companies’ customer data<sup>8</sup> is more likely to harm the consumer’s personal and work life,
- N. Fully aware that the Court of Justice of the EU has declared the Safe Harbour agreement<sup>9</sup> to be invalid, thereby making the legal situation of data being processed outside of the EU unclear;
1. Calls upon the involved EU institutions to implement the GDPR and update it at least every five years;
  2. Believes that upon withdrawing from the use of a company’s service, all raw data provided by the customer should also be withdrawn except in circumstances where the data has already been processed by the company;
  3. Urges the European Commission to harmonise the work of national Data Protection Authorities (DPA)<sup>10</sup> across Member States;

<sup>5</sup> Targeted advertising is the gathering of target group traits in order to make advertisements as effective as possible. Such traits can be demographics, purchase history and/or online activity.

<sup>6</sup> According to the Data Protection Eurobarometer - June 2015, 67% of EU citizens are unaware of national data protection authorities.

<sup>7</sup> Under certain conditions, individuals have the right to ask search engines to remove links containing personal information about them. According to Paragraph 93 of the ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU C-131/12, this applies where the information is inaccurate, inadequate, irrelevant or excessive for the purposes of the data processing.

<sup>8</sup> According to the Data Protection Eurobarometer - June 2015, data breaches increased by 78% worldwide between 2013 and 2014.

<sup>9</sup> The Safe Harbour agreement proposed a framework for data protection standards to allow the free flow of personal data from European Economic Area (EEA) data controllers to organisations or companies in the US, who voluntarily joined the scheme. It was declared invalid on October 6th, 2015.

<sup>10</sup> A Data Protection Authority (DPA) is an independent public supervisory authority, present in every Member State, responsible for monitoring and promoting data protection. As the Data Protection Directive has been transposed into national laws, each DPA currently applies different laws.



4. Requests that the DPAs create summaries of online companies' Terms and Conditions clearly highlighting points of importance to the customers;
5. Instructs the European Commission to compel online companies to explicitly request the consent of the customer upon registration to use their online history for targeted advertisements;
6. Directs the European Commission to require online companies to justify the collection of certain customer data in their Terms and Conditions summary and restrict such collection to data required for the provision of their services;
7. Asks the European Commission to help raise awareness amongst customers regarding data protection rights by supporting campaigns such as the Data Protection Day;<sup>11</sup>
8. Further requests the European Commission to oblige online companies to implement an automatic system for the removal of customer data upon their withdrawal from the service;
9. Further instructs the European Commission to require online companies to respond to requests based on the "right to be forgotten" within 30 days;
10. Instructs the European Commission to implement the "right of erasure", as suggested in the GDPR, to ensure permanent deletion of personal data, when the purposes for which they were collected no longer applies;
11. Further encourages the European Commission to establish a European security certification system, with certificates granted by the respective DPA;
12. Recommends that the European Commission prohibit transfers of personal data to countries that do not comply with EU legislation regarding data protection, as suggested in the GDPR;
13. Further urges the European Commission to impose fines on companies of up to one million euro or two percent of their total worldwide annual turnover upon infringement of any of the aforementioned measures, as advocated in the GDPR.

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<sup>11</sup> The international Data Protection Day takes place on January 28th with the aim of raising awareness on best practices in data protection.



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

**Preventing future crises: Learning from the European economic, financial and sovereign debt crises, how should the governance of the Eurozone be restructured to safeguard the European Economic Area against asymmetric shocks?**

**Submitted by:**

Evin Badrniya (SE), Kevin Boland (IE), Dimitrije Davidović (RS), Uğur Emek (TR), Palina Haurlyiuk (BY), Zuzana Hovorková (CZ), Valdyslav Kozachuk (UA), Luka Kvachrelishvili (GE), Telman Maharramov (AZ), Lucius Miller (CH), Ine Møllegaard (NO), Roland Reif (DE), Aino Röyskö (FI), Simonas Rubis (LT), Argishti Stepanyan (AM)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Recognising that the introduction of the single currency has made the economies of the Eurozone more intertwined and interdependent, increasing the risk of financial contagion,
- B. Concerned by the increase of average public debt levels across the Eurozone, from below 70 per cent in 1995 to over 90 per cent in 2015,<sup>1</sup>
- C. Taking into account that macroeconomic imbalances within an area that has a single currency make it more vulnerable to asymmetric shocks,
- D. Bearing in mind that the European Central Bank (ECB) has price stability as its main objective and implements a one-size-fits-all monetary policy,
- E. Realising that the one-size-fits-all monetary policy of the ECB is inadequate considering the macroeconomic differences amongst the Member States whose currency is the euro, and hinders effective responses to asymmetric shocks,
- F. Affirming that fiscal and monetary policy in the Eurozone are insufficiently coordinated due to these competences being exercised by Member States and the ECB respectively,
- G. Emphasising that national fiscal policies diverge due to ideological differences and national economic conditions,
- H. Taking into account that public opinion regarding fiscal integration is split across Member States, as it would lead to a significant loss in sovereignty,
- I. Believing that the EU currently lacks the financial means to effectively address large-scale macroeconomic imbalances,

<sup>1</sup> European Commission report on Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union, 2015.



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- J. Realising that the insufficiency of financial resources to counter macroeconomic imbalances leads to increased vulnerability to asymmetric shocks,
  - K. Fully aware that explicit fiscal transfers are not politically feasible, as Member States lack the political will to contribute,
  - L. Expressing its appreciation for the measures that have been put in place since the outbreak of the European Sovereign Debt Crisis, namely:
    - i) the strengthening of the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) through the Six Pack and the Two Pack,
    - ii) the establishment of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM),
    - iii) the introduction of the Banking Union,
  - M. Having examined the European Commission's recent communication "On steps towards Completing Economic and Monetary Union", which proposes to:
    - i) strive for a single seat for the Eurozone on the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF),
    - ii) establish a system of national Competitiveness Boards<sup>2</sup>,
    - iii) establish a European Deposit Insurance Scheme<sup>3</sup>,
    - iv) establish an independent European Fiscal Board<sup>4</sup>;
1. Calls upon the European Council to initiate the necessary treaty changes to create the position of European Finance Minister, which will combine the offices of Commissioner responsible for the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) and chair of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (Ecofin);
  2. Suggests that the European Finance Minister be appointed by the European Council acting by qualified majority;
  3. Emphasises the responsibility of the European Finance Minister in enforcing the rules of the SGP;
  4. Calls upon the European Council to initiate an amendment to the protocol of the Eurogroup to accredit the presidency of the Eurogroup to the European Finance Minister;
  5. Affirms that the European Finance Minister should use their capacity as President of the Eurogroup to further coordinate the economic and fiscal policies of the individual Eurozone countries;
  6. Reaffirms that the position of Chair of the Board of Governors of the ESM be held

<sup>2</sup> The proposed national Competitiveness Board would be responsible for tracking performance and policies in the field of competitiveness at the national level.

<sup>3</sup> The proposed European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS) would complement national deposit guarantee schemes, which protect bank deposits up to €100.000 in case a bank defaults. The EDIS would be funded by banks and only be used if national deposit guarantee schemes do not have sufficient means.

<sup>4</sup> The proposed European Fiscal Board would be an independent body, composed of five internationally renowned experts, to advise the European Commission on fiscal matters.





- by the president of the Eurogroup, i.e. the European Finance Minister;
7. Invites the Council of the European Union to increase the resources allocated to the structural and cohesion funds in the EU budget, with the aim of addressing macroeconomic imbalances;
  8. Supports the implementation of the measures proposed in the European Commission's communication "On steps towards Completing Economic and Monetary Union".



## Fact Sheet on ECON

An **asymmetric shock** occurs when a particular event of economic relevance affects a certain area more than another, either positively or negatively.

The **Banking Union** has been initiated to prevent Eurozone banks from failing in the future. The Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) puts all Eurozone banks under the supervision of the ECB. The Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) will come into force in January 2016, and is tasked with efficiently resolving the banks that do fail. The required funds are provided by the Single Resolution Fund, to which banks contribute.

The **Economic and Financial Affairs Council** is the configuration of the Council of the European Union in which the economics and finance ministers of the Member States convene.

The **European Stability Mechanism** is an intergovernmental organisation that provides assistance to Eurozone countries and banks in difficulties. Assistance from the ESM comes with strict conditions. The ESM has a maximum lending capacity of € 500 bn.

**Financial contagion** refers to the spreading of market disturbances, from a market in one geographical region to another.

**Fiscal policy** is a government's policy regarding taxation and spending.

**Macroeconomic imbalances** refer to large economic differences between geographical areas, for example in terms of overall output, employment rates, inflation, competitiveness, household and government debt, etc.

**Monetary policy** is the use of the money stock by the responsible institution, most commonly a central bank, to affect interest rates, and consequently have an impact on economic activity and inflation. This is the way in which governments determine how much money is available on the market, and how much it costs.

A **one-size-fits-all policy** is a policy that is standardised, rather than being tailored to individual needs.

**Price stability** means price levels remain stable or change very slowly. The ECB has set the inflation target for the Eurozone at close to but under 2 per cent.

Introduced in 2011, the **Six Pack** contained six separate pieces of legislation to improve fiscal discipline in the Eurozone. It established the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure, aimed at increased supervision of national budgets and the identification of macroeconomic imbalances at an early stage. It also included the possibility of issuing financial sanctions against Eurozone countries that do not comply with the SGP.

The **Stability and Growth Pact** is a set of rules that were designed to ensure fiscal discipline in the EU, and particularly the Eurozone. Having entered into force in 1999, it requires Member States to have a deficit of less than 3 per cent of GDP, and a debt of less than 60 per cent of GDP.

The **structural and cohesion funds** are the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund. These funds are aimed at correcting imbalances between regions, promoting employment, and reducing social and economic disparities across the EU respectively.

Building on the Six Pack, the **Two Pack** introduced further measures to intensify budgetary surveillance, particularly for those countries that are under increased monitoring for not complying with the rules of the SGP.



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**Armed conflicts as the greatest cause of fundamental rights' violations worldwide: With many having criticised the European External Action Service for lacking ambition, how should the EU use its role as a diplomatic power to contribute to peace in the world?**

**Submitted by:**

Filippo Bertolini (IT), Ha My Bui Nguyen (RU), Chalint El Champasi (GR), Maria Leonor Dargent (PR), Júlia Gimbernat (ES), Rebecca Lensink (NL), Jack Nicholson (UK), Rebecca Okk (EE), Elena Petridou (CY), Léo Sartori (FR), Sam Van Landeghem (BE), Milena Wilbrandt (PL), Kristi Xharau (AL), Madara Zvine (LT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Convinced that the European Union (EU) can hold a power position on the global arena, yet has failed to match its potential in the field of foreign affairs,
- B. Concerned by the inefficiency of the EU foreign policy, due to:
  - i) the limited autonomy of the European External Action Service (EEAS)<sup>1</sup> and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP),<sup>2</sup>
  - ii) unclear long-term guidance from the European Council,
- C. Noting with regret the proliferation of armed conflicts worldwide, with 42 in 2015, leading to 180 000 fatalities and 12 181 000 refugees,<sup>3</sup>
- D. Recognising the conflict between the EU's global interests and that of individual Member States, leading to neutrality on behalf of the Member States and the lack of a common goal,
- E. Aware of the hierarchy within the Union, whereby larger nations have lesser interest in the EU, due to holding power positions in other international organisations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO),
- F. Further noting that the involvement and the choices of other countries and international organisations in armed conflicts often results in the EU having to deal with the aftermath of conflicts rather than preventive mechanisms,

<sup>1</sup> European Union's diplomatic service, specifically designed to support EU's foreign affairs chief – the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – in carrying out the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy.

<sup>2</sup> A position created under the Lisbon Treaty, the HR/VP combines the previously existing roles of the High Representative for CFSP, the Commissioner for External Relations, and the Foreign Minister of the rotating presidency country. The HR/VP is charged with representing and coordinating the CFSP, ensuring coherence and consistency in EU foreign policy.

<sup>3</sup> International Institute for Strategic Studies Armed Conflict Database 2015.



- G. Keeping in mind the ineffectiveness of incentives for unanimous sanction-enforcement, due to the Member States' divergent interests, in particular with regards to economic and energy policies,
  - H. Bearing in mind that the absence of a standing EU army inhibits immediate response and effective preventive diplomatic measures,
  - I. Observing role overlap amongst the functions of EU institutions and their highest-ranking officials, causing a non-pragmatic and slow approach to decision-making,
  - J. Alarmed by the fact that merely 5.83% of the EU budget is spent on global foreign policy,<sup>4</sup>
  - K. Deeply concerned that the funding of the EEAS is solely dependent on the European Commission,
  - L. Deeply conscious of the sensitive nature of moral and religious conflicts, leading to difficulties in being sanctioned or dealt with through political measures,
  - M. Taking into account the negative media portrayal of the EEAS and the Treaty of Lisbon, referring to the former as the "bureaucratic monster,"<sup>5</sup> and the latter as "the rotten treaty",<sup>6</sup>
- 
- 1. Proposes the appointment of a deputy to the HR/VP to deal with long-term preventive measures through the EEAS;
  - 2. Requests further cooperation with entities such as the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM),<sup>7</sup> and support for projects such as CAERUS,<sup>8</sup> in order to prevent further conflict escalation in post-conflict regions;
  - 3. Hopes for a stronger involvement of bodies, such as the Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO),<sup>9</sup> to aid countries' transition from conflict to safe areas;
  - 4. Suggests that the Member States have the ability to temporarily opt-out or abstain from a particular common foreign policy decision, provided they can justify their actions by a pivotal national interest;
  - 5. Encourages the European Commission to pursue further Free Trade Agreements

<sup>4</sup> European Commission Annual Budget 2015.

<sup>5</sup> Brok, E. (2011). "Prejudices, Challenges and Potential: an Impartial Analysis of the European External Action Service." European Issue, (199).

<sup>6</sup> Jenkins, S. (2009). The Guardian.

<sup>7</sup> The think tank's main goal is to link policy and practice in European development and international cooperation and to act as an independent broker between Europe, Africa and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).

<sup>8</sup> The project aims to improve policies for transitional situations at global and regional levels, as well as strengthen operational policies in the field; to identify the compatibilities and contradictions in relief to development policies in UN, EU and other key actors such as US, Japan and regional inter-governmental bodies and propose reforms.

<sup>9</sup> DG DEVCO is in charge of development cooperation policy in a wider framework of international cooperation, adapting to the evolving needs of partner countries. This encompasses cooperation with developing countries at different stages of development, including with countries graduated from bilateral development assistance to cover the specific needs of these countries during the transition period between low income countries and upper middle income countries.



- (FTAs)<sup>10</sup> with third countries as a tool of leverage and influence to increase interdependence and reduce the likelihood of war;
6. Reminds the European Commission to impose penalties on political regimes that oppress and violate human rights;
  7. Supports the expansion of the scope of qualified majority voting, introduced by Article 329 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,<sup>11</sup> to economic sanctions;
  8. Asks the European Union Military Committee (EUMC)<sup>12</sup> to set flexible guidelines for a common military policy in order to have the Member States united in conflict zones in case of differing individual state interests;
  9. Calls upon the European Commission to adapt the guidelines of the Regulatory Fitness and Performance programme (REFIT)<sup>13</sup> to the sphere of foreign policy, in order to decrease the number of institutions and officials that do not actively take part in the decision-making process;
  10. Endorses the cooperation between the EEAS, the EUMC, and the Political and Security Committee (PSC)<sup>14</sup> in order to facilitate cooperation, transparency, and exchange of information among the organisations;
  11. Instructs the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)<sup>15</sup> to ensure the financial independence of the EEAS, through the means of an annual increase in the budget and an emergency reserve fund;
  12. Directs the EU institutions to engage more actively with the civil society and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), such as the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO),<sup>16</sup> to promote the EU's principles, such as democracy and the rule of law, on the world scene.

<sup>10</sup> FTAs are treaties between two or more countries to establish a free trade area where commerce in goods and services can be conducted across their common borders, without tariffs or hindrances.

<sup>11</sup> The article declares that Member States may indicate, when they make a request to establish enhanced cooperation, if they intend already at that stage to make use of the extension of qualified majority voting or to have recourse to the ordinary legislative procedure.

<sup>12</sup> EUMC is the highest military body set up within the Council. It directs all EU military activities and provides the Political and Security Committee (PSC) with advice and recommendations on military matters. The EUMC is composed of the Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) of the Member States, who are regularly represented by their permanent Military Representatives (MilReps).

<sup>13</sup> A programme that takes action in order to simplify EU law and reduce regulatory costs, thus contributing to a clear, stable, and predictable regulatory framework supporting growth and jobs. REFIT requires a joint effort between the European Parliament, the European Council, the European Commission, Member States and other relevant stakeholders. Every level of government should be involved to ensure that the benefits are realised at minimal expense for citizens and business.

<sup>14</sup> The PSC monitors the international situation in the areas covered by the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). It plays a central role in the definition of and follow-up to the European Union's response to a crisis.

<sup>15</sup> MFF serves as a framework for financial programming and budgetary discipline by ensuring that EU spending is predictable and stays within the agreed limits over a period of at least 5 years.

<sup>16</sup> EPLO is the independent civil society platform of European NGOs, NGO networks and think tanks which are committed to peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict. EPLO aims to influence the EU so that it promotes and implements measures which lead to sustainable peace between states and within states and their peoples, and which transform and resolve conflicts non-violently.



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

**A legal and practical fundamental rights safeguard for those deprived of freedom in prison facilities: Which common guidelines should the EU Member States agree on regarding detainees' rights and freedoms, detention facilities, and social rehabilitation?**

**Submitted by:**

Nina Djukanovic (CZ), Gvanca Dolbaia (GE), Nune Hayrapetyan (AM), Jennifer Holmgren (SE), Mikkel Angelo Anchissi Joner (NO), Hugo Khan (UK), Nikos-Pavlos Kotzias (GR), Haroldas Mackevičius (LT), Crina-Daniela Marc (RO), Ezgi Menzi (TR), Nikola Milenkovic (RS), Vincent Nikles (CH), Lawrence Redford (DE)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Bearing in mind that penitentiary legislation is a supporting competence<sup>1</sup> of the EU, making a harmonised legally-binding regulation of common penitentiary standards implausible,
- B. Recognising the European Prison Rules (EPR)<sup>2</sup> put in place by the Council of Europe as the only comprehensive legal framework on European penitentiary systems,
- C. Noting with concern the discrepancies between Member States' penitentiary legislation concerning detainees' rights and freedoms<sup>3</sup> and the minimum standard conditions of detention facilities,
- D. Fully aware that the Council of Europe has no judicial power to enforce the EPR in individual Member States, thereby being ineffective,
- E. Regretting the increasing number of violations<sup>4</sup> of the fundamental rights and freedoms of detainees as prescribed by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU<sup>5</sup> in certain Member States,

<sup>1</sup> Supporting Competence means that the EU can only intervene to support, coordinate or complement the action of Member States. It has no legislative power in these fields and may not interfere in the exercise of these competences reserved for Member States.

<sup>2</sup> European Prison Rules (EPR) were drawn up by the Council of Europe and provide good principles and practices in the treatment of detainees and the management of detention facilities.

<sup>3</sup> Detainee-specific rights include the right to admission, accommodation, hygiene, clothing, nutrition, work, exercise, education, freedom of thought, religion and release.

<sup>4</sup> In France and Greece, having an occupancy level (based on official capacity) of 115.8% (1.7.2015) and 121.2% (1.11.2014) respectively, or the UK case, in which detainees were denied the right to vote by the Government (2009-2011)

<sup>5</sup> The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU brings together in a single document the fundamental rights protected in the EU. The Charter contains rights and freedoms under six titles: Dignity, Freedoms, Equality, Solidarity, Citizens' Rights, and Justice.



- F. Cognisant of the lack of common EU guidelines to protect detainees' rights and freedoms,
- G. Deeply concerned by the recurring legal disputes between Member States with regard to compliance to the principle of mutual recognition<sup>6</sup> and the Council Framework decision on the transfer of prisoners,<sup>7</sup>
- H. Alarmed by the grave disparities in the spending of Member States' governments on penitentiary systems and social rehabilitation programmes resulting in deviation from EPR standards,
- I. Pointing out that the limited investment of less affluent Member States in social rehabilitation initiatives,<sup>8</sup> results in:
- i) a high rate of criminal recidivism,
  - ii) high unemployment rates of ex-detainees,
  - iii) mental and physical health problems of detainees,
  - iv) lack of financial independence of ex-detainees;
- J. Strongly supporting the work of the European Prison Observatory project<sup>9</sup> funded by the EU Criminal Justice Support Programme<sup>10</sup> and the Committee on the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Punishment (CPT),<sup>11</sup>
- K. Noting with regret that the needs of vulnerable groups<sup>12</sup> in prison facilities are inadequately catered to in certain Member States,
- L. Profoundly concerned by the numerous administrative problems<sup>13</sup> penitentiary institutions face, such as:
- i) corruption,
  - ii) bribery,
  - iii) clientelism,

<sup>6</sup> EU countries have agreed to recognise one another's laws or decisions, to judgments in criminal matters imposing prison sentences.

<sup>7</sup> The EU aims to facilitate the social rehabilitation of convicted persons by ensuring that they serve their sentence in their home country. To this end, a system was established for transferring convicted prisoners back to their EU country of nationality, habitual residence or another EU country with which they have close ties.

<sup>8</sup> Social rehabilitation is the re-integration into society of a convicted person and the main objective of modern penal policy, to counter habitual offending, also known as criminal recidivism.

<sup>9</sup> The European Prison Observatory (EPO) is a project coordinated by the Italian NGO Antigone. It studies the condition of the national prison systems, comparing these conditions to the international norms and standards relevant for the protections of detainees' fundamental rights. The EPO highlights to European experts and practitioners 'good practices' existing in different countries, both for prison management and for the protection of prisoners' fundamental rights.

<sup>10</sup> Criminal Justice Support Programme (CJSP): Set up by the European Commission, the CJSP provides financial support for projects initiated and managed by the Commission with a European dimension, transnational and national projects implemented by organisations in EU countries as well as activities of NGOs or other entities pursuing an aim of general European interest.

<sup>11</sup> CPT: Preventing ill-treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in Europe. The CPT organises visits to places of detention, in order to assess how persons deprived of their liberty are treated. These places include prisons, juvenile detention centres.

<sup>12</sup> Vulnerable groups: Women, children, people from ethnic, religious and racial minorities, people with disabilities, foreign nationals, LGBT people, older prisoners.

<sup>13</sup> In many prisons bribery and blackmailing is an everlasting problem, where in some cases a specific group of prisoners has abnormal privileges and freedoms as well as various exchanges with the officers, that should not be allowed otherwise.



- iv) social exclusion of detainees;
- M. Concerned by the negative social impact incarceration has both on prisoners and their immediate family and social circle;
  - 1. Urges Member States to adopt other forms of punishment for minor offences to reduce levels of imprisonment and improve humane treatment, such as:
    - a) probation and parole,
    - b) house arrests,
    - c) electronic monitoring,
    - d) community service,
    - e) fines;
  - 2. Calls upon the European Commission to increase its funding of the Criminal Justice Support Programme to expand the work<sup>14</sup> of the European Prison Observatory to all Member States;
  - 3. Encourages the Member States to follow the recommendations made by the CPT following visits to places of detention;
  - 4. Proposes that CPT and EPO reports showing signs of improvement of detention facilities should be used as grounds for financial grants for the respective Member States;
  - 5. Declares financial transparency of detention facilities as a prerequisite for EU grants targeted at improving national penitentiary systems;
  - 6. Recommends that the Member States make voluntary arrangements to comply with the requirements prescribed by EPR ensuring eligibility for EU grants;
  - 7. Implores Member States to improve intergovernmental cooperation of EU detention facilities by utilising EuroPris<sup>15</sup> to share best practices, penitentiary expertise and prison staff trainings;
  - 8. Emphasises the need to fund social rehabilitation initiatives to decrease long-term criminal recidivism;

<sup>14</sup> The European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services (EuroPris) is an organisation that exists to improve co-operation among European Prison and Correctional Services, with the aim of improving the lives of prisoners and their families, enhancing public safety and security, reducing re-offending, and advancing professionalism in the corrections' field.

<sup>15</sup> The European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services (EuroPris) is a European organisation of prisons and correctional services, aiming to improve public safety and security through improved detention standards and practice in Europe, through reduced re-offending and through advanced professionalism in the correctional field.





9. Suggests that national detention facilities provide detainees with platforms to voice their individual and collective concerns as outlined in Rule 50 of the EPR,<sup>16</sup> thereby granting them freedom of expression;
10. Calls for the establishment of custom-built programmes to satisfy the needs of respective vulnerable groups by:
  - a) providing psychological support to detainees,
  - b) involving Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), which represent the interests of women, the mentally ill, children and other minorities,
  - c) benefitting from EU grants under the condition of establishing special programmes,
  - d) training prison staff;
11. Expresses its hope that the Council of Europe adopts the recommendations from the White Paper on Overcrowding<sup>17</sup> in the EPR, by:
  - a) making improvements in the efficient allocation of tasks and responsibilities in the criminal justice system,
  - b) addressing the problem of overcrowding by considering the decriminalisation of minor offences and increasing early release schemes,
  - c) inviting national judicial bodies to follow the ruling of the European Court of Human Rights in the Case of Torreggiani and Others v. Italy.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> EPR Rule 50 states that "subject to the needs of good order, safety and security, prisoners shall be allowed to discuss matters relating to the general conditions of imprisonment and shall be encouraged to communicate with the prison authorities about these matters /.../ to elect representatives and form committees that can express the feelings and interests of their fellow-inmates."

<sup>17</sup> The White Paper on Overcrowding is aimed at inciting Member States to open a debate at national level regarding their penal system and to take decisions on clear needs and objectives which need to be met in shorter and longer time-spans. White Paper on Overcrowding, Document Prepared by the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Strassbourg, 24 September 2015, pages 18-19.

<sup>18</sup> Torreggiani and Others v. Italy ECHR 007 (2013): The Court's judgment is a "pilot judgment" concerning the issue of overcrowding in Italian prisons.



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

**Towards an integrated European Energy Market: In the light of COP21, which innovative practices should the EU introduce to ensure affordable energy for consumers across the Member States whilst maintaining sustainability?**

**Submitted by:**

Vardan Abrahamyan (AM), Polina Berezina (UA), Derya Çalış (TR), Felix Heilmann (DE), Lowie Hendrickx (BE), Davit Kikoria (GE), Josef Kvapilík (CZ), Conor Lehane (IE), Rúben Leite (PT), Tilda Nilsson (SE), Agastya Pisharody (CH), Justyna Rojek (PL), Andrei Stan (RO), Ida Teriö (FI), Tim Weber (SI).

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Conscious that according to Article 4 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) energy falls under the shared competences of the European Union (EU),
- B. Observing that the slow implementation of the European Commission's Energy Union<sup>1</sup> project may be attributed to:
  - i) insufficiently developed energy infrastructure,
  - ii) inadequate governance of energy storage schemes,
  - iii) limited interconnection facilities between Member States,
  - iv) strong interests from energy providers, forming monopolies and bundles,
- C. Realising that a functioning integrated European energy market would:
  - i) increase energy security by diversifying energy supply and reducing imports,
  - ii) lower consumer prices by increasing market competition,
  - iii) address the increasing energy poverty in the EU,<sup>2</sup>
- D. Expecting that at the outset of a market free from monopolies and bundles, the current big energy companies would be able to adapt quicker than smaller firms to the new economic environment,

<sup>1</sup> The Energy Union is a project launched by the European Commission in February 2015 with the aim of coordinating the transformation of European energy supply into a secure, affordable, competitive and sustainable energy.

<sup>2</sup> Energy poverty is a lack of access to modern energy services, defined as household access to electricity and clean cooking facilities. In 2014, 11% of European citizens were living in energy poverty in the EU.



- E. Aware that in 2014, the EU's energy mix<sup>34</sup> consisted of:
- i) 34% petroleum and derived products,
  - ii) 23% gases,
  - iii) 17% solid fuels,
  - iv) 14% nuclear energy,
  - v) 11% renewables,
  - vi) 1% waste, such as landfills,
- F. Fully alarmed by the low level of energy efficiency in terms of:
- i) waste of energy from consumers,
  - ii) lack of capacity in EU's energy storage facilities required to provide an adequate response in the event of a major energy shortage,
- G. Recognising the threat that "carbon bubbles"<sup>5</sup> pose to the economic stability of Member States and companies, with the value of fossil fuel companies being overestimated by €1 trillion,<sup>6</sup>
- H. Believing in the need for public and private actors to further invest in Research and Development (R&D) for renewable energy technologies and thorium-based nuclear energy,
- I. Considering that many countries are hesitant to adopt new environmental policies due to the potential clash between environmental protection and economic growth,
- J. Noting with deep concern that Member States are not legally obliged to enforce the EU-wide binding 2030 targets,<sup>7</sup> leading to unequal levels of involvement,
- K. Regretting that the EU emissions trading system (EU ETS)<sup>8</sup>, as the EU's main tool to fight climate change, is still not living up to its promises,
- L. Further regretting that the newest addition to the EU ETS, the Market Stability Reserve<sup>9</sup> is only to be implemented in 2018, whereas an earlier implementation would have been possible,

<sup>3</sup> The energy mix is the distribution of different energy sources used for the energy consumption of a territory.

<sup>4</sup> "EU energy in figures – statistical pocketbook 2014", European Commission.

<sup>5</sup> A carbon bubble is the idea that there is a bubble in valuation of companies dependent on fossil-fuel-based energy production. This is because the true costs of carbon-dioxide in intensifying global warming are not taken into account in a company's stock market valuation.

<sup>6</sup> Green European Foundation (2014). 'The Price of Doing too Little Too Late : The impact of the carbon bubble on the EU financial system'. p.6.

<sup>7</sup> The 2030 strategy proposes a greenhouse gas reduction target of at least 40% compared to 1990 and a target of at least 27% for renewable energy and energy savings by 2030.

<sup>8</sup> The EU ETS is EU's key tool for reducing industrial greenhouse gas emissions cost-effectively, covering around 45% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions. The ETS limits emissions from more than 11,000 heavy energy-using installations in power generation and manufacturing industry as well as aircraft operators performing aviation activities in the EU and EFTA states.

<sup>9</sup> The Market Stability Reserve will aim, as of 2018, to address the current surplus of allowances and improve the system's resilience to major shocks by adjusting the supply of allowances to be auctioned.



LEIPZIG 2015

80th International Session of the European Youth Parliament  
From tearing down walls to setting new stones

- M. Deploring that the EU imports over half of its energy at an annual cost of around €400 billion,<sup>10</sup>
- N. Further deploring that, with natural gas imports having increased by 16% over the last 15 years, current EU energy dependence is at 53,2% and is expected to rise to 87% by 2030<sup>11</sup>,
- O. Profoundly concerned by the EU's level of energy dependency on the Russian Federation with six Member States<sup>12</sup> relying entirely on Russian gas imports,
- P. Deeply concerned about man-made climate change posing a still unresolved threat, as half of the threshold of 2°C of global warming for the 21st century had already been reached by the end of October 2015,
- Q. Viewing with appreciation EU Member States' common stance for the United Nations' 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to produce a new and legally binding international climate agreement;

### **The set up of a EU integrated energy market**

- 1. Proposes the introduction of subsidies in EU Member States for the 54 million Europeans who are currently living in energy poverty,<sup>13</sup> while simultaneously introducing progressive taxes and charges for private households who currently over-use the median amount of energy;<sup>14</sup>
- 2. Strongly urges Member States to fully implement the Energy Union programme including cooperation, unbundling regulation,<sup>15</sup> and efficient transmission management;
- 3. Calls upon the European Commission to propose a directive which aims at the elimination of monopoly and bundling practices in the energy sector;
- 4. Encourages the European Investment Bank, the European Commission and Member States to keep on funding the development of:
  - a) necessary energy-related infrastructure,
  - b) efficient energy transport systems,
  - c) public-private partnerships (PPPs) at a local level;

<sup>10</sup> European Commission (2014). 'Sustainable, Secure and Affordable Energy for Europeans'. p.11.

<sup>11</sup> 'Enforceability of a Common Energy Supply Security Policy in the EU: An Intergovernmentalist Assessment', Caucasian Review of International Affairs.

<sup>12</sup> Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Finland and Slovakia all rely 100% on Russian gas imports.

<sup>13</sup> EurActiv (2013). "Soaring energy costs make Europeans poor".

<sup>14</sup> The optimal median amount is to be calculated by an independent study allowing for each Member State's individual geographical and climatic circumstances to be taken into account.

<sup>15</sup> Unbundling is the separation of energy supply and generation from the operation of transmission networks. If a single company operates a transmission network and generates or sells energy at the same time, it may have an incentive to obstruct competitors' access to infrastructure. This prevents fair competition in the market and can lead to higher prices for consumers.



5. Further encourages the Commission to analyse the potential of decentralised, local grids' energy infrastructure and introduce measures to promote those, such as:
  - a) financial support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) operating grids,
  - b) funding for research on innovative technologies, such as smart grids;<sup>16</sup>
6. Suggests Member States decrease taxes in energy efficiency building renovation;
7. Welcomes the Projects of Common Interest (PCIs)<sup>17</sup> and the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)<sup>18</sup> initiatives as means to unify the European energy market;

### **Sustainability**

8. Requests the European Investment Bank and Member States' pension funds to divest from fossil fuels so as to increase their resilience against the "carbon bubble";
9. Further requests companies that are affected by the "carbon bubble" to enhance their transparency by releasing information to their investors on their current state;
10. Invites the European Commission to develop an emergency plan on how to react to a problem burst of the "carbon bubble";
11. Further invites Member States to gradually stop implementing new fossil fuels subsidies and relocate the money to the R&D of renewables;
12. Calls for Member States to push for an earlier implementation of the Market Stability Reserve and devote 20% of its free allowances to carbon-neutral energy producers;
13. Encourages Member States heavily invest in domestic production of renewable energy with a flexible and ambitious investment framework, taking into account the importance of decentralised production;
14. Proposes the EU invest in renewable energy storages as a backup, whilst researching thorium technology for a potential launch in Europe of thorium reactors;

### **Energy diplomacy**

15. Urges the European Commission to fund the development of interconnectors and regional grids in more isolated Member States and regions<sup>19</sup> by reallocating the budget of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

<sup>16</sup> A smart grid is a modernised electrical grid that uses digital information and communications technology to gather and act on information, such as information about the behaviours of suppliers and consumers, in an automated fashion to improve the efficiency, reliability, economics, and sustainability of the production and distribution of electricity.

<sup>17</sup> The PICs list includes 248 initiatives towards the creation of an EU energy market which will benefit from accelerated licensing procedures, improved regulatory conditions and access to financial support.

<sup>18</sup> Through the SET-plan, the EU is supporting innovation and R&D on low-carbon technologies, self-efficient and pan-European energies.

<sup>19</sup> Such as the Balkans or Baltic countries.



LEIPZIG 2015

80th International Session of the European Youth Parliament  
From tearing down walls to setting new stones

16. Further urges the European Commission to negotiate new international agreements on energy deals with countries from Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and Caucasus states on behalf of Member States to ensure a greater diversification of supply;
17. Expresses its belief that EU Member States will push for an ambitious and legally-binding international agreement at the COP21 which would include:
  - a) individual greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for every participating country,
  - b) punishments if the agreements are ignored by the parties.



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

**Fundamental rights in a globalised economy: After more than 10 years of prolonged free trade negotiations, how can the EU put in place a coordinated approach to facilitate international trade while ensuring human rights and self-determination in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries?**

**Submitted by:**

Daniel Broghan (IE), Ewout Celis (BE), Matas Čuplinskas (DE), Manuel Dias (PT), Mykhailo Hasiuk (UA), Beatrice Kang (SE), Ashot Khudgaryan (AM), Kaspar Laks (EE), Julian Leopold (CH), Rusudani Manveli (GE), Zuzanna Nowak (PL), Daira Ortega (ES), Alexander Pashevich (RU), Romane Soule de Lafont (FR), Uğur Yağmur Yavuz (TR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Strongly emphasising the lack of transparency of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)<sup>1</sup> negotiations,
- B. Fully aware of the slow implementation of the EPAs with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries,
- C. Noting with deep concern the violation of fundamental and human rights among the ACP countries, including child labour, unacceptable working conditions and unfair wages,
- D. Observing the exploitation and repression of ACP countries through the European Union's (EU) superior market power and leverage in EPA negotiations,
- E. Conscious of the economically asymmetrical trade relations between the EU and ACP countries,
- F. Concerned that ACP countries are still politically and economically disadvantaged in regional trade relations as a consequence of former colonial ties with Member States,
- G. Having considered that a majority of ACP countries are least developed countries with low education and healthcare standards, corrupt public institutions and insufficient infrastructure,
- H. Alarmed by the amount of corruption in the administration of public services, which hinders the development of virtual and social infrastructure in ACP countries,
- I. Aware of the lack of sustainable trade and investment schemes between ACP countries,

<sup>1</sup> EPAs between the EU and ACP countries and regions aim at promoting ACP-EU trade and contribute through trade and investment to sustainable development and poverty reduction.



- J. Noting with concern that small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are often disadvantaged by EPAs, as their production standards are often inferior to those of the EU and large corporations,
- K. Noting that the Cotonou Agreement<sup>2</sup> expires in 2020 and negotiations for a future framework will begin in 2018;
1. Welcomes the European Commission initiative to disclose negotiation documents and agreement papers of future trade negotiations;
  2. Calls for the European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection department<sup>3</sup> to cooperate with the United Nations, the African Union and various non-profit organisations to monitor human rights abuses in ACP countries and jointly discuss possible local measures;
  3. Strongly urges the EU to prioritise trade relations with ACP countries that show substantial enforcement of human rights;
  4. Asks for the incorporation of principles of development and human rights into EPAs, following the principles of the Cotonou Agreement;
  5. Recommends that ACP countries attract foreign investment in infrastructure through incentives, such as tax breaks and land allocation;
  6. Proposes the creation of an institution for the seven ACP regions,<sup>4</sup> that:
    - a) makes recommendations for better ACP-EU cooperation, specific to the respective region,
    - b) consists of public and private sector representatives and includes regional trade experts;
  7. Requests the European Commission to facilitate the selection of a neutral third party expert comprehensively advising ACP countries during EPA negotiations;
  8. Emphasises the need for exemption from the most favoured nation clause<sup>5</sup> in cases of regional trade amongst ACP countries;
  9. Requesting the European Investment Bank to offer loans with a suitable interest rate to SMEs in ACP countries;
  10. Stresses the creation of an ACP-EU assistance programme to support SME's to be competitive on the market;

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<sup>2</sup> The Cotonou Agreement is the most comprehensive partnership agreement between developing countries and the EU. Since 2000, it has been the framework for EU's relations with 79 ACP countries.

<sup>3</sup> The European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection department aims to save and preserve life, prevent and alleviate human suffering and safeguard the integrity and dignity of populations affected by natural disasters and man-made crises.

<sup>4</sup> The ACP EPA countries cluster themselves into seven regions to take full account of the particularities of individual countries.

<sup>5</sup> EPAs contain a most favoured nations clause, which means that in the future, if ACP EPA signatory counterparts negotiate free trade agreements with other developed countries or a large developing regions, they would have to extend more favourable treatment towards the EU.





11. Invites further development of virtual and social infrastructure in ACP countries to boost sustainable trade relations;
12. Encourages the creation of a new partnership programme between EU and ACP countries facilitating an exchange of expertise on trade, production and social infrastructure;
13. Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a directive focusing on fair virtual trade rules between the EU and ACP countries.



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

**Health care and reproductive justice: After the failed resolution on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the European Parliament, which strategy should the EU pursue to ensure that women have access to effective sexual education as well as reproductive health standards?**

**Submitted by:**

Jonas Brügger (CH), Mikoláš Fišer (CZ), Shavalley Fornerino (BE), James Keaveney-Jimenez (IE), Cara Lynn Kim (DE), Ani Machaidze (GE), Valeriia Nikitenko (UA), Deniz Ece Öztürk (TR), Sabina Sancu (RO), Rikke Storvik Sjøhelle (NO), Emilija Kotryna Trunovaitė (LT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Expressing its satisfaction that introducing sexual education in schools has led to:
  - i) a decline in teenage pregnancy rates,
  - ii) a decline in Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs),
  - iii) increased contraceptive use at first intercourse<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Recognising that the media is a persuasive influence on society, especially young people, in relation to moral values and sexuality,
- C. Emphasising the lack of statistical data available regarding sexual reproductive health and rights in Europe,
- D. Conscious that EU Member States prioritise secondary preventative strategies over primary strategies<sup>2</sup>,
- E. Alarmed by the negative stigma that surrounds discourse in relation to sexuality and reproductive health in society,
- F. Having examined the existing mentality of many Member States that sexual education deprives children of their innocence and encourages them to become sexually active,
- G. Deeply concerned by the high prevalence of STDs in Europe,
- H. Having considered the implications that some religious beliefs pose when implementing strategies of reproductive health and sexual education in society,

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organisation (WHO), Federal Centre for Health Education and the United Nations Populations Fund. Sexuality Education, Policy Brief No.1.

<sup>2</sup> Primary prevention aims to prevent injury or disease before it ever occurs and secondary prevention aims to reduce the impact of the event that has already occurred.



- I. Regretting the low priority of sexual and reproductive health policy measures in some Member States,
  - J. Noting with regret the unsatisfactory quality and implementation of sexual education in primary and secondary schools across the EU,
  - K. Alarmed by the number of unwanted pregnancies, especially amongst teenagers in Europe as a result,
  - L. Noting with concern the implications to intergenerational dialogue regarding reproductive health, as a result of the differences in sexual education received,
  - M. Aware of the high abortion rate in Member States,
  - N. Deploing the fact that approximately 68,000 women die annually as a result of unsafe abortion<sup>3</sup>;
1. Asks Member States to facilitate access to reliable information on reproductive health, provided and spread by medical experts, to all members of society regardless of their socio-economic background;
  2. Endorses further medical development in the area of sexual health;
  3. Requests that hospitals and clinics in Member States collect data anonymously, including STD and HIV testing;
  4. Urges Member States to take action with regards to the prevalence of HIV and STDs by:
    - a) providing STD testing free of charge,
    - b) improving accessibility to HIV and STD treatments through means testing,
    - c) clearly demonstrating the consequences of contracting STDs in sexual education classes;
  5. Recommends the implementation of:
    - a) a standardised EU sexual health information booklet,
    - b) a website containing all aforementioned information, accessible in all EU languages;
  6. Calls upon religious institutions to support the initiatives of sexual education within their communities;
  7. Further requests Member States to place more emphasis on reproductive health amongst counselling services in schools and hospitals;
  8. Encourages NGOs to collaborate with schools in the respective Member States, with regards to their sexual education aims, by giving the opportunity to connect with experts and victims;
  9. Calls on the EU Member States to adopt a standardised, non-judgemental, age-appropriate, gender-sensitive, compulsory sexual education in all schools for

<sup>3</sup> WHO, Department of Reproductive Health and Research (2009).



- children and adolescents in compliance with the WHO standards for sexual education;
10. Directs Member States to extend the realm of parent-teacher meetings in all primary and secondary schools to include sexual education seminars;
  11. Expresses its hope for the maintenance and progression of sexual education standards across Member States as society progresses in the future.



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS I

**Rethinking public policies: How can the EU better contribute to the implementation of its good governance principles on local, national and European levels? Which steps should it take to combat corruption?**

**Submitted by:**

Hanna Aranovich (BY), Patricia Brandl (AT), Jon Dunne (UK), Patrycja Gliwka (PL), Marija Gojkovic (CY), Katja Häglund (SE), Livia Hoxha (AL), Milla Lehtimäki (FI), Dionysia Machaira (GR), Katerina Mucci (IT), Lucian Parau (RO), Isidora Pavlović (RS), Andréa Pintor (FR), Māreta Roze Purviške (LV), Kamila Zahradníčková (CZ)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Emphasising that the incoherent implementation of good governance principles such as accountability, transparency and integrity is a direct cause of corruption,
- B. Alarmed by the annual costs of corruption adding up to at least €120bn per year,<sup>1</sup>
- C. Disturbed by the fact that 76%<sup>2</sup> of European Union (EU) citizens deem corruption to be a major problem in their country,
- D. Affirming the importance of the United Nations Convention against Corruption<sup>3</sup> for globally defining and criminalising corruption,
- E. Noting with regret the failure to coherently implement law enforcement and prosecute suspects of corruption,
- F. Taking note of the large number of organisations involved in the research and monitoring of corruption, such as the Group of States against Corruption<sup>4</sup> (GRECO), Transparency International<sup>5</sup> and national anti-corruption agencies,
- G. Further reaffirming GRECO's leading role in evaluating anti-corruption policies in Member States and issuing recommendations to be implemented on the national level,

<sup>1</sup> European Commission. (2014). EU Anti-Corruption Report.

<sup>2</sup> European Commission. (2014). EU Anti-Corruption Report.

<sup>3</sup> The United Nations Convention against Corruption contains measures aimed at criminalising certain conduct, strengthening judicial cooperation and law enforcement, and is ratified by 173 states.

<sup>4</sup> GRECO has been created under the framework of the Council of Europe and consists of 49 European states and the United States of America. GRECO initiates the exchange of good practices and the monitoring of compliance with anti-corruption standards through mutual evaluation.

<sup>5</sup> Transparency International is an NGO active in more than 100 countries, conducting research and publishing reports on corruption and good governance.



- H. Concerned that some Member States lack the appropriate monitoring mechanisms to detect and combat corruption, such as anti-corruption agencies or courts of audit,
- I. Concerned by disparities in political party funding regulations in Member States, particularly with regards to anonymous donations,
- J. Approving of the EU's policy on Freedom of Information<sup>6</sup>, defining the fundamental right and regulating the access to documents of EU institutions<sup>7</sup>,
- K. Taking into account the absence of legislation concerning the freedom of information in some Member States,
- L. Regretting the absence of national lobbying registers,
- M. Noting with deep concern that codes of conduct of national and regional institutions fail to guarantee the principle of integrity, particularly with regard to:
  - i) defining conflict of interests<sup>8</sup>,
  - ii) restricting mobility of labour between the public and private sector,
  - iii) sanctioning violations of the aforementioned principles,
- N. Observing that conflicts of interest are only criminalised in one Member State<sup>9</sup>,
- O. Gravely concerned by insufficient legislation in Member States regarding monetary and fiscal disclosure in public procurement, leaving room for petty corruption<sup>10</sup> and bribery,
- P. Conscious of bureaucracy and red tape<sup>11</sup> facilitating petty corruption,
- Q. Identifying bid rigging<sup>12</sup> in public procurement at all levels to be costly, particularly in fields of construction, waste-management and health care, with annual costs up to € 2.5bn in only eight Member States<sup>13</sup>,
- R. Aware of nepotism and favouritism existing on a local level,
- S. Regretting insufficient legal protection for whistle-blowers in Member States;

1. Asks the European Commission to complement GRECO's work through:

<sup>6</sup> Freedom of Information legislation guarantees citizens' access to documents of legislative and executive decision-making.

<sup>7</sup> The EU's policy framework on Freedom of Information is defined by Article 42 CFR, Article 15 TFEU and No 1049/2001.

<sup>8</sup> A conflict of interest is a situation in which a person or organisation is involved in multiple interests, financial interest, or otherwise, one of which could possibly corrupt the motivation of the individual or organisation.

<sup>9</sup> The criminal code in Germany defines acts of conflict of interest as administrative offence.

<sup>10</sup> Petty corruption occurs at a smaller scale and takes place at the implementation end of public services when public officials meet the public.

<sup>11</sup> Red tape is an idiom that refers to excessive regulation or rigid conformity to formal rules that are considered redundant or bureaucratic and hinders or prevents action or decision-making.

<sup>12</sup> Bid rigging is a form of fraud in which a commercial contract is promised to one party even though for the sake of appearance several other parties also present a bid. This form of collusion is illegal in most countries. It is a form of price fixing and market allocation, often practiced where contracts are determined by a call for bids, for example in the case of government construction contracts.

<sup>13</sup> European Commission. (2010). Study on Identifying and Reducing Corruption in Public Procurement in the EU



- a) financial support,
- b) exchange of expertise;
2. Declares the importance of law enforcement and judicial independence by harmonising the prosecution of corruption suspects among members of GRECO;
3. Recommends that single anonymous donations to political parties in Member States be subject to an upper limit of € 2.500;
4. Invites Member States to establish voluntary lobby registers containing information on the field of interest, staff and budget of the respective lobby group;
5. Encourages Member States to facilitate the access to parliament for registered lobby groups, following the example of Germany;
6. Calls for the creation of an EU online platform for financial transparency on the national level, based on the example of the Slovenian website Supervisor<sup>14</sup>;
7. Seeks for the aforementioned online platform to be made available to Member States;
8. Suggests the adoption and implementation of e-governance and e-procurement in order to reduce bureaucracy and red tape in public administration procedures;
9. Calls upon the European Commission to recommend and coordinate the harmonisation of national codes of conduct with regard to:
  - a) disclosure of assets and expenses,
  - b) defining conflicts of interests, in particular affiliations with mass media or private interests overlapping with the political portfolio,
  - c) cooling-off periods after leaving public office,
  - d) sanctions in case of violations, i.e. restricting the access to support funds and privileges of office;
10. Emphasises the Member States' need to define and reinterpret in which cases conflicts of interest should be considered criminal, in line with their respective national penal codes;
11. Requests the creation of an independent European-wide corruption hotline for reporting incidents of petty corruption and bribery;
12. Hopes for the further commitment of Member States in the implementation of safety regulations for the protection of whistle-blowers.

<sup>14</sup> Supervisor is an online platform created by the Slovenian Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, which provides financial information on business transactions of the legislative, judicial and executive branch.



LEIPZIG 2015  
80th International Session of the European Youth Parliament  
From tearing down walls to setting new stones

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS II

### **Preventing violations of fundamental rights by police forces: What common guidelines should the EU set to protect both the freedom of speech and public security?**

**Submitted by:**

Marthe Caeyers (BE), Pilar Casares (ES), Robin Hietz (AT), Karolina Agnieszka Jankowska (PL), Lolita Kulumbegova (RU), Egils Otomārs Lūsiņš (LV), Tom Mills (UK), Arielle Roche (FR), Jaana Sild (EE), Cosimo Persio Simoncini (IT), Oleksandr Syrota (UA), Josef Binh Thomas Tran (DE), Maria Vasileiadi (CY), Valeriya Yakovleva (PT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Keeping in mind the duty of Member States to guarantee the safety of both protesters and the general public,
- B. Guided by the two non-binding documents adopted by the United Nations (UN):
  - i) The UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials<sup>1</sup>,
  - ii) The UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials<sup>2</sup>,
- C. Aware of the fact that peaceful demonstrations can turn violent as a result of a small group of instigators,
- D. Bearing in mind that the main objective of the INDECT project<sup>3</sup> is to further develop intelligent monitoring for threat detection without prioritising the protection of human rights,
- E. Recognising that disturbances caused by protesters are only justified to a certain degree under the right to freedom of speech and assembly,
- F. Deeply disturbed by the disproportionate use of force by police officers, harming or even killing protesters and uninvolved civilians,
- G. Observing that the use of weaponry, including less-lethal weapons<sup>4</sup>, by police

<sup>1</sup> The UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials is a non-binding document, which outlines the ethical standards that should be respected by police officers during their operations.

<sup>2</sup> The UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement officials is a non-binding document, which aims to assist Member States in ensuring and promoting the adequate role of law enforcement officials.

<sup>3</sup> The INDECT project stands for the intelligent information system supporting observation, searching and detection for security of citizens in urban environment. It is a research project, funded by the EU, allowing involved European scientists to develop new, advanced and innovative algorithms and methods aiming at detecting and counteracting threats and criminal activities, affecting citizens' safety.

<sup>4</sup> Less-lethal weapons are intended to be less likely to kill a living target than conventional weapons, such as pepper spray, tear gas and water cannons.





- during protests can result in casualties,
- H. Taking into account the lack of transparency in the procedure surrounding the approval of protests,
  - I. Concerned about the difficulties faced by police forces when analysing complex situations and isolating violent groups during protests,
  - J. Observing that only a small number of cases of police brutality are investigated, due to:
    - i) mistrust in the complaints' systems,
    - ii) a lack of resources for thorough investigations,
    - iii) a lack of willingness to investigate reported cases,
    - iv) a lack of sufficient evidence,
  - K. Realising that police forces in many Member States are not easily identifiable as such,
  - L. Noting with deep regret that the selection of law enforcement officials is overly focused on physical indicators,
  - M. Further noting that the aforementioned selection fails to ensure representation of minorities amongst police forces,
  - N. Fully alarmed that practical police education fails to prioritise human rights education, and training in the de-escalation of protests,
  - O. Conscious that a lack of efficient re-education programmes within police forces results in a resistance to change,
  - P. Pointing out that medical assistance is not provided in all Member States during protests;
1. Asks for Member States to respect the clauses of the UN documents regarding law enforcement officials;
  2. Urges the European Commission to propose a directive enforcing greater transparency and procedural safeguards with regards to the approval of protests;
  3. Calls for the European Union (EU) to continue funding the INDECT project under the condition that human rights are sufficiently prioritised;
  4. Invites the European Police College<sup>5</sup> to expand existing courses on crowd management;
  5. Declares the need for reform of police training programmes in all Member States to include human rights training in relation to practical policing, particularly in the areas of de-escalation and crowd management;

<sup>5</sup> The European Police College is an agency of the European Union that brings together senior police officers across Europe with the aim of encouraging cross-border cooperation in the fight against crime, maintenance of public security and law and order.



6. Stresses the importance of greater diversity within police forces, including more proportionate representation of social and ethnic minorities;
7. Suggests that law enforcement agencies in all Member States prioritise:
  - a) regular assessments of police officers stressing the importance of both psychological and physical qualities,
  - b) training and re-training of police officers supported by EU funded training programmes;
8. Encourages Member States to create an independent Police Complaints Commission to investigate cases of police brutality;
9. Instructs the Member States to introduce body cameras for police officers, recording the entirety of protests, and having the material only viewed in the case of reported violence;
10. Requests the adoption of a universal advisory list of weaponry to be used by police forces for safe interventions during protests in all Member States;
11. Further invites all Member States to include a unique identification number on all police uniforms and introduce sanctions for officers who refuse to comply this measure;
12. Recommends that all Member States provide medical assistance during protests.



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

### **Protection of the national legal standards and the development towards a full common market: How should the EU deal with financial havens, offshore accounts and tax-avoidance regulations in its Member States?**

**Submitted by:**

Kasia Biziuk (PL), Marc Bourdila (FR), Olga Doroshenko (UA), Mikhail Filitov (RU), Joseph Finucane (IE), Sarp Girgin (TR), Tamina Huber (AT), Joao Jesus (PT), Jim van Oosten (NL), Nicolas Sagardoy (ES), Pauls Raimonds Silis (LV), Michael Tallent (UK), Marie Thomas (GE), Liisbet Valgiste (EE), Olivier Verhamme (BE)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Alarmed by the significant loss of tax revenue for public budgets of Member States, estimated at 1 trillion euro a year, due to tax avoidance and tax evasion practices,<sup>1</sup>
- B. Pointing out that a precise quantification of the scale and impact of tax avoidance practices remains undetermined,
- C. Observing an environment of complex tax regulations, fiscal secrecy, and non-cooperation between Member States leading to the exploitation of mismatches in national tax regulations by multinational companies,
- D. Profoundly concerned with transfer pricing<sup>2</sup> practices between parent companies and subsidiaries in low corporate tax rate jurisdictions, such as:
  - i) high interest on intra-group company loans,
  - ii) inflated prices for the use of intellectual property,
- E. Recognising that previous efforts to introduce a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB)<sup>3</sup> by the European Commission have failed in negotiations with the Council,
- F. Noting with deep concern the impact of aggressive tax planning strategies causing a distortion of competition on the internal market,
- G. Expressing its concern about the influx of financial capital into countries with a low corporate tax rate creating a discrepancy between countries of destination and the

<sup>1</sup> A report for the Group of Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament published in 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Transfer pricing is the setting of prices for goods and services between two companies within the same enterprise. If a subsidiary company sells goods to a parent company, the cost of these goods paid by the parent company to the subsidiary is the transfer price.

<sup>3</sup> With the CCCTB, the European Commission proposes a single set of rules, which companies can use to calculate their taxable profit in different Member States. Member States would still be able to set their own corporate tax rate.



- countries where the economic activity occurs, especially in a period of monetary expansion,
- H. Convinced that competition in corporate tax rates between Member States leads to a decline in competition in the provision of sound infrastructure and a qualified labour force to attract multinational companies,
- I. Expressing its appreciation for the work done by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development<sup>4</sup> (OECD) in the context of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)<sup>5</sup> project,
- J. Noting with regret the lack of cooperation of Member States and multinational companies in the investigation into tax rulings conducted by the European Parliament Special Committee on Tax Rulings and Other Measures Similar in Effect or Nature,<sup>6</sup>
- K. Deploring the Council's informal agreement to amend Article 12 of the proposal for a directive to amend Council Directive 2011/16/EU,<sup>7</sup> allowing the European Commission to only monitor and evaluate the effective application of the mandatory automatic exchange of information on tax rulings between Member States;
1. Endorses the intended proposal for a reformed CCCTB by the European Commission in its Action Plan for Fairer and More Efficient Corporate Taxation;<sup>8</sup>
  2. Requests the European Commission tasks Eurostat with quantifying the scale of tax avoidance and its financial impact on the public budget of Member States;
  3. Calls for the Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP) to expand their operations in uncovering tax rulings in violation of EU state aid rules;<sup>9</sup>
  4. Instructs the DG COMP to assess tax rulings by Member States according to the OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines;<sup>10</sup>
  5. Encourages Member States to issue tax rulings in line with the OECD Transfer

<sup>4</sup> The OECD is an international organisation that promotes the improvement of the economic and social well being of people around the world. In 2013, they were tasked by the G20 to come up with an Action Plan based on fifteen key areas to combat Base Erosion and Profit Shifting.

<sup>5</sup> Base Erosion and Profit Shifting refers to tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax jurisdictions where there is little or no economic activity, resulting in little or no overall corporate tax being paid. Fifteen specific actions, BEPS Action Plan, have been developed in the context of the OECD/G20 BEPS project to equip governments with domestic and international instruments needed to address this challenge.

<sup>6</sup> In February 2015, the European Parliament decided on the formation of a Special Committee that was tasked to investigate several tax rulings revealed by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalism in November 2014.

<sup>7</sup> The Council Directive on administrative cooperation in the field of taxation.

<sup>8</sup> An Action Plan by the European Commission including plans for fair and efficient corporate taxation outlined in five key areas. The Action Plan includes the re-launch of the CCCTB proposal and measures to increase transparency on tax rulings between Member States.

<sup>9</sup> Article 107 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU states that any aid granted by a Member State or through State resources in any form whatsoever which distorts or threatens to distort competition by favouring certain undertakings or the production of certain goods, in so far as it affects trade between Member States, is incompatible with the internal market.

<sup>10</sup> The Transfer Pricing Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Tax Administrations provide guidance on the valuation of cross-border transactions between associated enterprises for tax purposes.



Pricing Guidelines;

6. Recommends Member States increase coordination of regulation in the field of taxation to reduce mismatches in national tax regulations;
7. Considers the inclusion of non-EU members of the OECD in the automatic exchange of information on tax rulings following the BEPS Action Plan;
8. Calls upon the Council to reverse their amendment of Article 12 in the proposal for a directive amending Directive 2011/16/EU in the final vote on the proposal;
9. Urges the Council to amend the proposal for a directive amending Directive 2011/16/EU to:
  - a) include all tax rulings in the automatic exchange of information,
  - b) introduce direct disclosure of information on tax rulings to the European Commission and Member States.



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS II

**Social equality and non-discrimination against minorities: With the Roma still being the most discriminated against minority in Europe, how should the EU build on its Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies to guarantee social and economic equality, access to public services, and non-discrimination of Roma?**

**Submitted by:**

Vaneh Andresian (AM), Franz Brandl (DE), Alexandru Dobra (RO), Oleksandra Dulich (UA), Ilse Elpers (BE), Güneş Günay (TR), Temisan Hambraeus (SE), Edvardas Monstvillas (LT), Manana Natsvlshvili (GE), Jenny O'Keefe (IE), Luka Pečar Pahor (SL), Carmen Perry (CH), Kaisa Virolainen (FI), Lucie Vitáková (CZ), Mira Youmans Aiwerioba (NO)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Gravely concerned by the continuous violations of the fundamental rights of Roma people in Europe,
- B. Expressing satisfaction at the work and activities of the Roma Initiative Offices<sup>1</sup> of the Open Society Foundations<sup>2</sup>,
- C. Deeply concerned by the negative effects of social exclusion, particularly school segregation, on the Roma people,
- D. Alarmed by the fact that only 29% of Roma people have graduated secondary school<sup>3</sup>,
- E. Noting with regret that less than 50% of Roma men and 25% of Roma women can find employment,<sup>4</sup>
- F. Concerned by the fact that one in five Roma report experiencing discrimination while job seeking,<sup>5</sup>
- G. Fully alarmed by the fact that approximately 20% of Roma people are not covered by medical insurance or do not know if they are covered,<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Roma Initiatives Office is a program of the Open Society Foundations. It advocates Roma rights at local, national, and European levels. Its mission is to ensure equal opportunities, combat segregation, and challenge all forms of discrimination faced by Roma.

<sup>2</sup> The Open Society Foundations is an international philanthropy network funding programs all over the world. One of its priority issues is to fight discrimination and advance the rights of Roma communities in Europe.

<sup>3</sup> Europe and Central Asia - Brief on Roma 2015 by the World Bank.

<sup>4</sup> Europe and Central Asia - Brief on Roma 2015 by the World Bank.

<sup>5</sup> "Poverty and employment: the situation of Roma in 11 Member States" of 2014 by FRA.

<sup>6</sup> "Roma Health Report: Health status of the Roma population. Data collection in the Member States of the European Union" of 2014 by the European Commission.



- H. Recognising the prevalence of housing segregation for the Roma people in the European Union (EU),
  - I. Deeply convinced of the need for improvement to essential services such as water, gas and electricity for sedentary and non-sedentary Roma,
  - J. Taking into account the lack of comprehensive and consistent data with regards to Roma integration,
  - K. Noting with concern that the Roma lack adequate political representation in the EU,
  - L. Emphasising the lack of understanding among non-Roma concerning Roma culture and history,
  - M. Viewing with appreciation the efforts of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), such as the European Roma Culture Foundation (ERCF),<sup>7</sup>
  - N. Deeply disturbed by the frequency of hate speech directed towards the Romani people;
1. Invites Member States to introduce mediators to offer information and advice to the Roma about:
    - a) the opportunities, importance and benefits of education, including the availability of scholarships,
    - b) their entitlement to healthcare as a fundamental human right,
    - c) the right to non-discrimination with regards to employment;
  2. Encourages the creation of independent support agencies within Member States, similar to the Roma Initiative Offices, aimed at helping Roma people with legal procedures during discriminatory cases;
  3. Proposes that Member States cover all necessary expenses related to pre-school, primary and secondary education, such as uniforms, meals, school material and transport, for financially disadvantaged Roma people;
  4. Emphasises the need of individual support for Roma students who are at risk of leaving education;
  5. Requests that Member States abolish container schools and offer all Roma children places in state schools;
  6. Seeks the continuation of current programs for further education, and the establishment of additional programs for Roma people providing vocational training, language skills, and recognised professional qualifications;
  7. Trusts in the legal procedures of Member States to counter discriminatory occurrences in the job applications;
  8. Calls upon Member States to provide basic training in cultural mediation to healthcare workers so as to better respect Roma cultural values during medical procedures;

<sup>7</sup> The European Roma Culture Foundation (ERCF) is an independent non-profit foundation, based in Budapest (Hungary). Its mission is to promote the role of Roma arts and culture in Europe.



9. Strongly urges Member States to provide dispersed housing programs<sup>8</sup> for impoverished Roma in urban cities;
10. Requests that Member States ensure the provision of clean water, electricity and gas to all Roma settlements;
11. Supports Eurostat<sup>9</sup> and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)<sup>10</sup> in conducting the European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey II (EU-MIDIS II)<sup>11</sup>;
12. Asks Member States to create national councils of minorities that will represent the political interests of Roma people, as well as those of other minorities;
13. Further invites Member States to introduce modules on Roma culture and history at primary school level and increase the teaching of non-discriminatory values;
14. Directs Roma-related NGOs to promote Roma culture, following the example of the ERCF;
15. Urges Member States to further reinforce national laws against incitement of hatred and hate speech directed towards Roma people.

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<sup>8</sup> Dispersed housing programs are housing facilities spread over a variety of areas, to prevent the concentration of the Roma population in one location.

<sup>9</sup> Eurostat is a Directorate-General of the European Commission that provides statistical information to the European institutions.

<sup>10</sup> The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is a decentralised European agency, which provides Member States and the EU with expert advice regarding fundamental human rights as well as helping ensure the protection of these rights.

<sup>11</sup> The European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey II (EU-MIDIS II) of 2015 collects comparable data from all Member States to support the EU in protecting the fundamental rights of people with an immigrant or ethnic minority background, including Roma.





## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS III

### Europe's external wall: How should the EU respond to the perils of illegal immigration and improve living conditions for asylum seekers whilst accounting for fair burden-sharing amongst Member States?

#### Submitted by:

Margherita Bozzoli (IT), Brian Camacho (PL), Melanie De Sousa (FR), Zoe Efstathiou (CY), Lucas Fernández (ES), Mariann Jüriorg (EE), Tijs Linssen (BE), Aisylu Nabiullina (RU), Matthias Nebel (AU), Catarina Simao (PT), Louis Sutcliffe (UK), August Winter (NL), Andriy Yuzov (UA), Adrija Zake (LT).

#### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Concerned that the EU's current approach to the refugee crisis is insufficient due to the lack of a coordinated response,
- B. Alarmed by the fact that refugees are forced to take alternative and illegal routes to Europe due to the visa restrictions for entering the Schengen area,
- C. Realising that the Refugee Convention<sup>1</sup> does not entail common criteria for defining refugee status, which can lead to uncalled-for deportation and increased deportation costs for the Member States<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Bearing in mind that according to the Refugee Convention, the term "refugee" is defined as someone who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a social group or a political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country",
- E. Noting with deep concern the violations of Article 7, 13 and 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>3</sup>,
- F. Viewing with appreciation the few successful agreements on the reallocation of incoming refugees, including the:

<sup>1</sup> The Refugee Convention is a 1951 United Nations multilateral treaty defining who is a refugee, as well as laying out the rights of an asylum seeker.

<sup>2</sup> Eurostat Quarter year report. September 2015.

<sup>3</sup> The Declaration of Human Rights is a declaration adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948. Article 7 states that "All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. Article 13 states that "Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country." Article 14 states that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. (2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations". All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination".



- i) implementation of the EU-Turkey joint Draft Action Plan<sup>4</sup>,
  - ii) recent decision<sup>5</sup> to relocate 120,000 refugees from Italy, Greece and other Member States directly affected by the crisis,
- G. Seriously concerned by human rights violations during the refugees' journey to the European Union and in Member States,
- H. Deeply alarmed by the nonfunctionality of the current legal framework under the Common European Asylum System, such as:
- i) Dublin Regulation III<sup>6</sup> limiting the possibility of applying for asylum only when physically present in the country,
  - ii) Dublin Regulation III failing to develop a fair burden-sharing system leading to increasing pressure in external border countries,
  - iii) The Eurodac Regulation<sup>7</sup> often violated by the first-entry countries due to a lack of administrative resources,
- I. Taking into account that the option for Member States to temporarily suspend the Schengen Agreement<sup>8</sup> would be undermining a coherent EU response to the refugee crisis,
- J. Recognising the failure of the Operation Triton<sup>9</sup> in effectively combating smuggler activity in the Mediterranean,
- K. Noting with regret the increase of anti-refugee activism, which often results in violence,
- L. Deeply concerned by the appalling living conditions in refugee camps and centres, often worsened by acts of violence against refugees,
- M. Emphasising the positive long-term impact of refugees on Europe's economy,<sup>10</sup>
- N. Expressing its concern over the lack of financial resources needed to provide for sufficient shelter and care for refugees both inside and outside of the EU,
- O. Deeply disturbed by the continued discriminatory language used by many European leaders in their public statements regarding refugees, thus openly violating Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union<sup>11</sup>,

<sup>4</sup> The EU-Turkey Action Plan comprises of a series of collaborative actions to be implemented both by the EU and the Republic of Turkey with regards to the current refugee crisis, with the objective of supplementing Turkey's efforts in managing the situation.

<sup>5</sup> Meeting of the Justice and Home Affairs Council of the 22 September 2015.

<sup>6</sup> The Dublin Regulation III establishes the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person.

<sup>7</sup> Eurodac Regulation is the current common asylum seeker fingerprint database, that registers the incomers in the country they first entered.

<sup>8</sup> In September 2015, Germany temporarily reinstated border controls.

<sup>9</sup> Operation Triton is a border security agency taking action in the Mediterranean, operating under the Common European Asylum System.

<sup>10</sup> European Economic Forecast. (2015). Institutional Paper.

<sup>11</sup> Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights states that: "(1) Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited. (2) Within the scope of application of the Treaty establishing the European Community and of the Treaty on European Union, and without prejudice to the special



- P. Profoundly concerned by the fact that individuals are not allowed to work while going through the asylum seeking process;
1. Proposes the creation of an Emergency Right of Entrance (ERE), a provisional visa to be issued in the country of origin at the embassies of Schengen members, that would grant fast and safe legal access to the EU for refugees coming from crisis areas;
  2. Requests ERE holders to have physical access to the Schengen area to be assessed by the new Common Refugee Assessment System (CRAS);
  3. Further requests that ERE holders assessed by CRAS be distributed to a country where they can apply for asylum;
  4. Suggests the assessment criteria, prior to the distribution, to be:
    - a) the capacities of the receiving country, e.g. GDP, population density and unemployment rate,
    - b) employable skills of the individual refugees,
    - c) cultural compatibility such as the language skills of said refugees,
    - d) the refugees' country of preference;
  5. Calls upon CRAS to ensure the asylum seekers' security and human rights in refugee camps through a system of fair distribution of refugees between Member States;
  6. Encourages the recruitment of psychologists, translators, doctors and security forces to improve the living conditions in refugee camps;
  7. Proposes the creation of a European Immigration Board (EIB) to:
    - a) define common criteria for granting asylum,
    - b) supervise and support the implementation of CRAS;
  8. Invites asylum seekers who have obtained ERE to have the possibility to pay a deposit on their flights, which would be equal to the amount of a return flight, to compensate for their possible deportation;
  9. Asks the European Commission to support organisations campaigning against racism and xenophobia;
  10. Further encourages additional discussions on and exchanges of personal narratives of the refugees, using different local, national and international platforms;
  11. Calls for the further development of programmes that integrate asylum seekers already during the asylum seeking process.

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provisions of those Treaties, any discrimination on grounds of nationality shall be prohibited".



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS I

### **Fundamental rights and statelessness: With many people across Europe being stateless, how should EU Member States work towards providing a nationality and a legal identity for every individual?**

**Submitted by:**

Manfredi Aliberti (IT), Haris Amin (UK), Mélanie Carrel (CH), Alexandra Constantinescu (RO), Stephanie Grabenwarter (AT), Anna Hovorková (CZ), Emmi Ilmanen (FI), Laura Joël (NL), Mélanie Juvany (FR), Clara Korsgren (SE), Enid Kumbaro (AL), Ekaterina Orjonikidze (GE), Noreen Raza (NO), Artyom Semianchuk (BY), Miša Vučković (RS), Thomas Konrad Yioustic (GR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Deeply regretting that statelessness, affecting over 600,000 people across Europe,<sup>1</sup> violates fundamental human rights,<sup>2</sup>
- B. Noting with deep concern that stateless people<sup>3</sup> are denied various basic rights, including access to education and healthcare,
- C. Taking into account the unique situation of non-citizens in Latvia and persons of undetermined citizenship in Estonia, who enjoy only some rights of national citizens,<sup>4</sup>
- D. Alarmed by the lack of awareness and insufficient coverage of statelessness in mass media, resulting in widespread ignorance towards the problem,
- E. Observing that currently available data on statelessness is insufficient and findings are often conflict,
- F. Noting with regret that statelessness can cause hopelessness, possibly also leading to psychological, and even physical problems,
- G. Further noting that, in addition to the various groups directly affected or at risk of statelessness, there are negative consequences for society in general as a result of unfulfilled human potential
- H. Recognising that children, a particularly vulnerable group, can be born, or become stateless,
- I. Highlighting the lack of sufficient legislation to prevent statelessness and address inadequate legal safeguards,

<sup>1</sup> According to data by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

<sup>2</sup> According to Article 15 of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "everyone has the right to a nationality."

<sup>3</sup> Stateless people are people not considered nationals of any State under the operation of its law.

<sup>4</sup> Non-citizens in Latvia are denied the right to vote, work in the civil service, and occupy positions of significance to national security.



- J. Having observed the infringement by European States of international legal standards regarding statelessness, including the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons<sup>5</sup> and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,<sup>6</sup>
- K. Deeply regretting the insufficient protection of stateless refugees within EU legislation,<sup>7</sup> as well as the total vulnerability of in situ<sup>8</sup> stateless persons,
- L. Welcoming the work of the European Court of Human Rights in the field of nationality protection, especially recent rulings in its case law,
- M. Keeping in mind that statelessness is an issue across Europe, but especially in some Former Soviet Union countries and the Balkans,
- N. Viewing with appreciation the UNHCR's target to eradicate statelessness in Europe by 2024,
- O. Deeply conscious that cooperation between relevant stakeholders, including the European Network on Statelessness<sup>9</sup> (ENS) and national governments, remains insufficient to address the problem,
- P. Concerned by gender discrimination in nationality laws outside of Europe, which leads to new cases of statelessness in Europe as part of the ongoing refugee crisis,<sup>10</sup>
- Q. Deeply alarmed by the lack of efficient and accessible birth registration procedures for disadvantaged groups, including ethnic minorities, in rural areas of Europe,
- R. Aware of the fact that political conflicts, including wars, may create new cases of statelessness, especially following state secession,
- S. Further noting significant differences between naturalisation procedures across Europe;

<sup>5</sup> The 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons is one of the two milestone instruments on statelessness, providing the definition of a 'stateless person' and establishing the status of a stateless person under international law. The instrument also seeks to improve the access of stateless persons to fundamental rights by, for example, issuing identity papers and travel documents to stateless people.

<sup>6</sup> The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness establishes a set of concrete safeguards for states to incorporate within their nationality law to limit and prevent statelessness.

<sup>7</sup> According to Article 67 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and for the purpose of the area of freedom, security and justice in the EU, stateless persons shall be treated as third-country nationals.

<sup>8</sup> In situ statelessness refers to those persons who are stateless 'in their own country', i.e. a country to which they have significant long-term ties, through, e.g., birth or long-term residence.

<sup>9</sup> The European Network on Statelessness is the most prominent civil society alliance aimed at addressing statelessness in Europe since its establishment in 2012.

<sup>10</sup> For example, Syria discriminates against women in its nationality law and does not allow Syrian citizen mothers to confer nationality to their children. This puts a child born to a Syrian refugee mother and unknown, absent or deceased father at risk of statelessness – despite the mother holding a nationality herself.



1. Encourages greater cooperation amongst European States<sup>11</sup> and the sharing of best practises, such as through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR);<sup>12</sup>
2. Calls for the European Commission to financially support the work of the ENS in monitoring the implementation of safeguards and conventions regarding statelessness across Europe;
3. Calls upon the European Council to discuss the issue of statelessness in Europe at least once a year;
4. Requests the European Council to discuss the establishment of an EU residence permit scheme that would be granted to stateless persons upon applying for a nationality in any Member State;
5. Urges all European States to change their nationality laws and unconditionally apply the jus soli<sup>13</sup> principle to children that would otherwise become stateless;
6. Emphasises the importance of raising awareness on statelessness through measures such as the #IBELONG<sup>14</sup> campaign on social media, radio and television;
7. Instructs all European States to establish national agencies to monitor the number of stateless people, analyse demographic data and examine their quality of life;
8. Further calls upon the European Commission to establish a Data Collection Agency on Statelessness, which would compile national level data to complement the work of the International Observatory on Statelessness;<sup>15</sup>
9. Asks all European States to ensure a family naturalisation process through which nationality gained by a stateless parent automatically passes on to their children;
10. Further encourages the European Commission to fund the establishment, as well as reinforcement, of birth registration centres in refugee camps and remote areas, thus ensuring that every child obtains a birth certificate;
11. Further urges European States to implement safeguards against statelessness in their nationality laws for cases of territorial integrity changes;
12. Invites Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to further involve stateless people in activities with other groups in society to facilitate their integration, as well as help them obtain nationality through measures such as information sessions on naturalisation processes;
13. Further encourages NGOs to adopt specifically tailored programmes aimed at illiterate stateless people in order to explain the benefits of citizenship, as well as the naturalisation process;

<sup>11</sup> Within the Council of Europe, whilst also reaching out to Belarus.

<sup>12</sup> The Universal Periodic Review is a mechanism of the UNHCR which periodically examines the human rights performance of UN Member States and conducts country reviews.

<sup>13</sup> According to the jus soli principle, nationality is established at birth by a person's place of birth, in comparison with jus sanguinis (bloodline).

<sup>14</sup> The #IBELONG campaign by the UNHCR aims to draw global attention to the devastating lifelong consequences of statelessness. Following the campaign launch, an open letter in the form of an online petition aims to collect 10 million signatures in support of ending statelessness within a decade.

<sup>15</sup> The International Observatory on Statelessness promotes research on patterns and causes of statelessness on a global scale.



14. Advises European States to simplify the content of their naturalisation exams on civic knowledge for stateless people and work towards the harmonisation of procedure across Europe;
15. Further advises European States to establish facilities that would prepare stateless applicants for naturalisation exams, free of charge;
16. Further calls upon European States to lower the price of obtaining citizenship, so as to overcome the inability of some stateless people to cover such expenses.



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

### **Unregulated Warfare: What stance should the EU take on the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and which common principles should be accepted globally?**

**Submitted by:**

Andreas Aalto (FI), Ugnė Alškaitė (LT), Adria I. Berari (RO), Vojkan Budić (RS), Rahman Akhtar Chaudhry (NO), Anton Erlandsson (SE), Benedikt Foltmann (DE), Mushegh Galstyan (AM), Özgür Gençer (TR), Vít Hránek (CZ), Iovan Kurua (GE), Carl L. Petersen (CH), Grace Preston (IE), Qarib Quliyev (AZ), Myroslava Savisko (UA)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Gravely concerned by the recent statistics<sup>1</sup> reporting a high number of civilian casualties of UAV<sup>2</sup> strikes,
- B. Emphasising the ambiguity of international humanitarian law regarding drone strikes,
- C. Having considered that the military UAV usage has yet to be directly addressed in international law,
- D. Recognising the possibility of human rights violations posed by unregulated military UAVs,
- E. Aware of the controversy caused by the lack of transparency and accountability regarding the use of military UAVs,
- F. Observing the global asymmetry in the research and development of UAVs<sup>3</sup>,
- G. Keeping in mind the many political interpretations of terms regarding laws of armed conflict<sup>4</sup> (LOAC),
- H. Having considered that the EU only exercises its supportive competence in defence, foreign and military policy,
- I. Noting the lack of EU policy on the proliferation and the use of military UAVs,
- J. Acknowledging the EU's power and influence as an international actor and promoter of human rights;

<sup>1</sup> The Bureau of Investigative Journalism (2015).

<sup>2</sup> Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are divided into military and civil UAVs with four different control categories ranging from full human control to fully autonomous.

<sup>3</sup> The U.S. fiscal year 2016 budget included \$2.9 billion for drone research, development, and procurement. Friends Committee on National Legislation (2015).

<sup>4</sup> The laws of armed conflict (LOAC) include the principles of military necessity, distinction, proportionality and humanity.





### Transparency and accountability

1. Encourages Member States to increase the efficiency and precision of carrying out missions abroad through further research in military UAV technology;
2. Invites Member States to consider developing defence systems for military UAVs;
3. Emphasises that Member States report and conduct investigations on the effectiveness of military UAVs;
4. Urges Member States that engage in UAV activity to issue:
  - a) public official statements regarding numbers of both civilian and militant casualties caused by UAV operations,
  - b) any additional information on UAV activity where possible;
5. Appreciates the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme<sup>5</sup> for funding common research in dual-use<sup>6</sup> drone technology;
6. Calls for a working group aiming at a common understanding of key terms on UAV warfare consisting of:
  - a) experts on international law,
  - b) Member States' executive military personnel,
  - c) delegates from the International Criminal Court<sup>7</sup> (ICC),
  - d) representatives of human rights Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);
7. Encourages the Member States and the European Aviation Safety Agency<sup>8</sup> (EASA) to implement a vehicle identification system to report the number and type of drones owned by Member States;

### Foreign Policy

8. Urges the EU to take a leading role in the re-evaluation and amendment of the existing Missile Technology Control Regime<sup>9</sup> (MTCR);
9. Strongly condemns the use of lethal autonomous weapon systems<sup>10</sup> (LAWS);
10. Asks that lethal unmanned aerial vehicles<sup>11</sup> (LUAVs) should only be authorised on a case to case basis when there is an imminent threat to innocent life and that threat cannot be prevented in any other way;

<sup>5</sup> Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU research and innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years.

<sup>6</sup> The new generation of UAVs are designed for both commercial and military applications.

<sup>7</sup> The International Criminal Court (ICC), governed by the Rome Statute, is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community.

<sup>8</sup> European Aviation Security Agency (EASA) is an agency of the European Union (EU) with regulatory and executive tasks in the field of civilian aviation safety.

<sup>9</sup> The Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) is an international voluntary association of 34 countries with a common goal to limit the risk associated with UAVs delivering weapons of mass destruction.

<sup>10</sup> Lethal autonomous weapon systems (LAWS) are weaponised UAVs that are fully operational without human interaction or supervision; due to lack of proper technology these are not used in warfare at the moment.

<sup>11</sup> Lethal unmanned aerial vehicles (LUAV) are also known as unmanned combat aerial vehicles that are usually armed, such as with missiles.



11. Trusts that the EU Member States respect the national sovereignty of states when carrying out UAV missions;
12. Emphasises that any military UAVs stationed on EU soil are to comply with EU standards;
13. Confirms the EU's role in advocating its common stance on UAV regulation internationally.



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

**Mental health and the quality of human lives: With the rise in the number of Europeans suffering from mental health problems, how should the EU approach the insufficient treatment of patients suffering from mental illness?**

**Submitted by:**

Clara Carlino (ES), Ilona Cenoli (AU), Stefanie Everaerts (BE), Lucie Garnie (FR), Klaudija Elizabete Gauja (LV), Isabelle Kleinveld (NL), Petra Kumi (AL), Sara Major (RS), Michelle Nikolaou (CY), Hugon Oziewicz (PL), Josh Richards (UK), Chiara Savarese (IT), Diana Vederik (EE), Inês Vieira (PT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Alarmed by the lack of cooperation and uniformity between Member States concerning mental health policies and the implementation of promotion and prevention strategies,
- B. Highlighting the prevalence and size of treatment gaps<sup>1</sup> within Member States,
- C. Concerned by the prioritisation of physical health over mental health within the national health policies of many Member States,
- D. Emphasising the complexity of mental illness, which can manifest through a combination of genetic, biological, social and economic factors,
- E. Bearing in mind the widespread misconceptions and stigma surrounding mental illness,
- F. Fully alarmed by the rate of misdiagnosis<sup>2</sup> and inadequate treatment of mental illness,
- G. Deeply conscious that suicide is a significant cause of death in the European Union (EU), with 90% of the cases preceded by mental illness,<sup>3</sup>
- H. Aware of the strain on healthcare systems resulting from deinstitutionalisation;<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Treatment gap is the percentage difference between number of people needing treatment for mental illness and number of people receiving treatment.

<sup>2</sup> A recent study reported that 40 percent of a group of patients with bipolar disorder had previously received an incorrect diagnosis of major depression.

<sup>3</sup> Council conclusions on 'The European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being: results and future action'. (2011)

<sup>4</sup> Deinstitutionalisation is the policy of moving severely mentally ill people out of large state institutions and then closing part or all of those institutions.



1. Requests Member States to review existing legislation and policies surrounding mental illness with a focus on improving the provision of resources and training to primary care providers;
2. Urges the European Commission to give importance to mental health in all relevant policy areas, such as employment, education, and social protection;
3. Calls upon the European Commission to facilitate the monitoring of mental health care development through:
  - a) encouraging cooperation with agencies, such as the Institute of Mental Health, for data collection under the support of Horizon 2020,<sup>5</sup>
  - b) standardising the requirements for transparent, accessible, and easily comparable data among Member States,
  - c) evaluating the progress of Member States towards more comprehensive mental health policies and legislation;
4. Recommends the development and adoption of common EU guidelines concerning the regional balance of resources and funding for mental health care within Member States;
5. Reiterates the importance of using common up to date diagnostic criteria, such as the ICD-10-GM<sup>6</sup>, and uniform treatment programmes between Member States;
6. Encourages the use of available media to tackle stigmatisation through strategies such as:
  - a) cooperation between Member States, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and agencies such as the Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Agency,<sup>7</sup>
  - b) implementation of mass-media campaigns,
  - c) establishing of hotlines for people with mental illness,
  - d) supporting and encouraging the use of e-mental health<sup>8</sup> platforms to reduce the treatment gap and assist the provision of information;
7. Invites relevant parties to help raise awareness of mental illness through:
  - a) more positive and informative representations of mental illness in the media,
  - b) including the topic of mental health in school and university curricula with an emphasis on reducing misconceptions about mental illness,
  - c) establishing information sessions within local communities covering topics such as the availability of programmes targeting at risk groups, types of mental illness, and further information on the link between mental illness and suicide;

<sup>5</sup> Horizon 2020 is an EU funding program aimed at encouraging and supporting research in the European Research Area.

<sup>6</sup> ICD-10 : the 10th revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD), a medical classification list by the World Health Organization. It contains codes for diseases, signs and symptoms, abnormal findings, complaints, social circumstances, and external causes of injury or diseases.

<sup>7</sup> The Consumer, Health and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA; until 2014 known as the Executive Agency for the Public Health Programme, PHEA) of the European Commission to improve the implementation of the Community public health programme.

<sup>8</sup> E-Health: Internet based interventions and support for mental health conditions.



8. Further invites Member States to establish publically available support systems aimed at preventing and treating mental illness through:
  - a) localised welfare teams,
  - b) specialised community care,
  - c) NGOs.

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Partners



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