# RISE 2016

# RESOLUTION BOOKLET

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EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT

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# VOTING OUTCOMES

**CULT II - Passed**

**AFET - Passed**

**LIBE II - Passed**

**LIBE I - Not passed**

**REGI - Passed**

**INTA - Passed**

**ITRE I - Passed**

**DEVE - Passed**

**EMPL I - Passed**

**ITRE II - Passed**

**EMPL II - Passed**

**SEDE - Not passed**

**ECON - Passed**

**AFCO - Passed**

**CULT I - Passed**

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# FACT SHEET CULT II

**Digital society**
25% of EU citizens are non-internet users.[1]
67% of the EU internet users are daily users.[2]
95% of youth (16-24 years old) are regular internet users.[3]
19% of households in the EU did not have access to internet in 2014.[4]
41% of the EU's non-internet users do not use internet due to a lack of digital skills.[5]

**Lifelong learning**
40% of EU citizens have insufficient levels of digital skills.[6]
22% of EU citizens have no digital skills at all.[7]

**Digital Innovation**
3% of businesses do not have internet access.[8]
E-commerce accounted for 15% of turnover among enterprises with at least 10 employees within the EU.[9]

**Employment perspectives**
According to Eurostat 32% of the EU's workforce has low or no digital skills, while 15% of the workforce has never used the internet.[10]
15.4% of the population aged 15-29 is neither in employment, nor in education or training (NEET).[11]
According to an estimate by the European Commission every job created in ICT leads to another three jobs elsewhere in the economy.[12]
The demand for ICT professionals increases by 3% every year.[13]
Estimates by the European Commission show that the amount of unfilled vacancies for ICT professionals will increase from 373.000 in 2015 to 756.000 in 2020.[14]

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[1] Eurostat (2012), online data codes: isoc_ci_ifp_iu and isoc_ci_ifp_fu

[2] Eurostat (2015), eurostat.ec.europe.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do

[3] European Commission (2014) as seen in the Academic Preparation Kit

[4] Office for National Statistics (2014), Internet Access - Households and individuals: 2014

[5] European Parliamentary Research Service (December, 2015), Bridging the Digital Divide in the EU (p. 3), www.europarl.europe.eu/RegData/etudes

[6] EurActiv (2015), infographic in Digital Skills in Europe

[7] European Commission (2016), The European Digital Competence Framework for Citizens

[8] Eurostat (2015), Information society statistics - enterprises

[9] Eurostat (2013) online data codes: isoc_ec_evaln2

[10] European Commission (2014), Digital Single Market: Digital Skills and Jobs

[11] Eurostat (2012), online data code: edat_lfse_20

[12] European Commission (2014) as seen in the Academic Preparation Kit

[13] Digital Agenda: ICT for Jobs (ec.europe.eu)

[14] European Commission (2016), Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs

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

**In light of the increasing importance of digital technologies in everyday life, how should educational sys- tems prepare young people for the digital life of tomorrow?**

**Submitted by:**

Veronika Barkhudarova (RU), David Fox (IE), Júlia Gonová (SK), Nelly Gunnarsson (SE), Maryia Hermanovich (BY), Dzvenyslava Koman (UA), Jonas Krohn (DE), Michal Kytnar (CZ), Milja Miettinen (FI), Adelina Teodora Nicula (RO), Sandro Papashvili (GE), Elena Pavāre (LV), Galini Poimenidou (GR), Jakub Taratuta (PL), Athanasios Theofanakis (NL), Deimantas Tumas (LT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Defining digital competence as the ability to adapt to rapidly changing digital technologies and to use them confidently, critically, ethically, and safely in order to successfully be part of digital society, enable lifelong learning, foster future innovation, and ensure a brighter employability perspective,

B. Fully alarmed by the lack of critical thinking of internet users resulting in misinformation and fraud,

C. Disturbed by that fact that the youth are active users of technology without being aware of the risks and dangers associated with this frequent use,

D. Noting with deep concern that not everyone has access to technology or internet,

E. Deeply concerned that only 37% of students are aware of intellectual property rights of online material,[1]

F. Fully aware that digital exclusion can lead to social exclusion,[2]

G. Alarmed by the out-dated Information and Communication Technology (ICT) curricula in some Member States and the absence of an ICT curriculum in other Member States,

H. Convinced that language skills can increase digital competences,

I. Perturbed by the lack of resources in Europe's educational systems, including a lack of digitally competent teachers and a lack of adequate equipment in

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[1] Joint Research Center (2008), Digital Competence for Lifelong Learning.

[2] Kirsti Ala-Mutka (2008), The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens.

schools,

J. Bearing in mind that amongst the European population the level of digital competence is lower in the area of problem solving and creating content than in communication & data processing,[3]

K. Noting with concern that young people with ICT backgrounds have decreased chances for success in the EU due to the lack of infrastructures,

L. Further noting that the high number of vacancies in the ICT sector negatively affects the EU, both financially through the lack of investment, and socially through the lack of services to citizens,

M. Taking note of the clear correlation between digital incompetence and unemployment in the EU,

N. Believing that digital education in the EU should aim to provide the youth with the right tools to be a part of the digital society in a safe and responsible manner,

O. Aiming at an educational system that fosters inclusion of all students into digital society and a mind set that digital skills are attainable,

P. Seeking to create an educational system where young people become aware of their opportunities in digital society,

Q. Aiming for an up to date ICT curriculum in every Member State that provides young people with the basic knowledge, a variety of skills and the attitudes necessary to continually update their digital skills and to access open educational resources for their self improvement,

R. Aiming to use digital competences education to make the labour market accessible for young people by teaching job-seeking skills, entrepreneurial skills, providing financial and physical resources, and improving infrastructure;

**Digital Society**

1. Authorises the Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC)[4] to support the Consortium of Institutions for Development and Research in Education in Europe (CIDREE)[5] to develop standards for ICT curricula which guide Member States in teaching ICT skills and competencies while also removing digital language barriers;

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[3] DG Connect (2014), Measuring Digital Skills across the EU: EU wide indicators of Digital Competence, p.15.

[4] The Directorate General of the European Commission that focuses on educational policy cooperation; helping countries learn from one another and work together to improve education across Europe.

[5] A self-managing European network of educational bodies that play a recognised national role in the field of curriculum development and/or educational research.

2. Urges the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF),[6] to prioritise funding educational institutions, in order to update digital equipment and improve access to these resources;

3. Advises Member States to implement compulsory digital courses in teacher training enhancing teaching and encouraging further use of technology in schools;

4. Calls upon the European Commission to set up a strategic media campaign for the European citizens outlining the benefits associated with technology, and emphasising safe and responsible use of these technologies;

5. Further calls on Member States to implement the provision of free WiFi at educational institutions to allow further access to online resources, while allowing them to restrict sites and applications inappropriate for education;

**Lifelong learning**

6. Calls upon the Joint Research Centre (JRC)[7] to cooperate with organisations that create open educational resources (OER),[8] such as the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME)[9] and OER Commons,[10] to develop OERs, which enhance digital skills and highlight the benefits of participating in digital society;

7. Further advises local and national governments of Member States together with the ERDF, European Social Fund (ESF),[11] and Horizon 2020[12] to fund organisations that provide free courses and training related to digital literacy and digital competence;

8. Designates the DG EAC to also initiate the development of EU certification examinations for any citizen, especially people not in education, employment or training (NEET), to show the extent of their digital competence;

9. Further calls on the European Commission to work together with certification organisations, such as the European Computer Driving License (ECDL) Foundation,[13] to develop EU-recognised certificates to be used in Member States

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[6] An EU financial instrument specifically aimed at reducing the gap between the levels of development of Europe's regions.

[7] The Directorate General of the European Commission responsible for scientific support to other Directorate Generals.

[8] A freely accessible, openly licensed documents and media that are useful for teaching, learning, and assessing as well as for research purposes.

[9] A NGO that helps schools, colleges, universities, and organisations to create open knowledge-driven environments focused on learning and success.

[10] A digital library and network of open educational resources.

[11] An EU financial instrument aimed at supporting employment in the Member States, as well as promoting economic and social cohesion.

[12] An EU financial instrument that supports research and innovation projects in the policy area of the Europe 2020 strategy.

[13] A foundation that provides the computer literacy certification programme ECDL.

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curricula to foster an acceptable level of digital literacy or digital competence;

**Innovation & employment**

10. Expresses its hope that technology enterprises provide university grants and subsequent employment opportunities to potential ICT students;

11. Calls upon the European Commission to create and promote a bi-annual 'European Digital Day' where citizens can engage in professional workshops provided by enterprises, and job fairs where employment opportunities can be explored;

12. Advises Member States to promote the development of specific regions within their countries where technology start-ups can operate interdependently and share innovation, while also establishing a link between these regions and educational institutions, similar to the Startup Delta Initiative[14] and the Lviv IT Cluster;[15]

13. Further advises the Member States' Education Ministries to support the implementation of micro business ICT programmes by secondary schools, where students develop their digital skills and knowledge and develop entrepreneurial attitudes.

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[14] A Dutch Startup hub situated near the University of Twente that boosts the entrepreneurial climate by removing barriers and improving access to talent, capital, networks, knowledge, and markets.

[15] A community of leading information technology companies, which together with universities and local authorities improve and develop the IT business climate in the city of Lviv.

## FACT SHEET OF AFET

**Eastern Partnership of the European Union (EaP)**

The EaP policy concerns six post-soviet states: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Launched in 2009, this partnership was created to support the efforts of the concerned countries with regards to political, economic and social changes in order to strengthen democracy and good governing, energy security, the protection of the environment and a social and economic development.[1] The function of the partnership is to initiate political association through Association agreements (AA) and economic integration through Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTA).

The long-term goal of the EaP is to reduce social and economic disparities between these countries and the EU, and to make a wider collaboration possible.

**Goals for the 2014-2017 term[2]:**

strenghten stability and democracy,

economic integration thanks to Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTA), and convergence with European policies through Association Agreements (AA),

energy security,

contact between the people.

**Relations between the EU and the countries of the Eastern Partnership**

In the context of the EaP, the European Union is engaged in a strategy of "more for more": the level of support that the EaP countries receive depends on the concrete measures taken by governments from those countries.

The Eastern Partnership Index (EaP Index 2014)[3], which measures the progress made by the countries that are part of this partnership from 0 to 1, shows the following levels of integration:

Moldova: 0.70

Georgia: 0.69

Ukraine: 0.60

Armenia: 0.61

Azerbaijan: 0.42

Belarus: 0.32

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[1] Technical notes about the European Union "Countries of the Eastern Partnership", European Parliament

[2] Report from the 15th meeting of the EP the 24 July 2016 in Brussels

[3] http://www.eap-index.eu

**Corruption**

The Corruption Perceptions Index 2015[4] created by the NGO Transparency International, ranks the most corrupt countries. Out of a total of 168 countries, the EaP countries are ranked:
Ukraine: 130th (most corrupt)
Azerbaijan: 119th
Belarus: 107th
Moldavia: 103rd
Armenia: 95th
Georgia: 48th (least corrupt)

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[4] http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015

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

**Considering the recent tensions in some of the Eastern Partnership countries, how should the future relation between these countries and the EU be shaped?**

**Submitted by:**

Miriam Aitken (CH), Olsi Arapi (AL), Emilie Arson (FR), Camille Bleeker (CH), Tom Carroll (UK), Iana Culic (CZ), Sorana Mara Gheorghiade (RO), Jone Heriz Aguirre (ES), Emre Cem Kaya (TR), Tetiana Lavrichenko (UA), Yannick Mertens (LU), Charlotte Nijdam (NL), Anna Tauber (AT), Kilian Tranchant (FR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Expressing its appreciation with the functioning of the EaP and its "more for more" policy,

B. Noting with regret the high level of corruption in the EaP countries,

C. Alarmed by the lack of measures taken by the EaP countries when it comes to human rights and fundamental liberties as indicated by the 2014 EaP Index,

D. Concerned by the influence of Russia on economic and political affairs of the member states of the Partnership, namely:

   i)   the use of energy resources as a pressure tactic,

   ii)  the exploitation of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and its free trade area,

E. Regretting the military interventionism of Russia in Caucasian conflict areas, as well as in the Eastern part of Ukraine,

F. Taking into consideration conflicts around the independence of some areas and the neighbourhood policy of the EU aiming at maintaining the stability of its borders,

G. Fully aware of the choice of Armenia and Belarus to join the EEU and the subsequently low likelihood of signing the Association Agreements (AA) and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTA),

H. Noting with satisfaction that Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova have signed the AA or DCFTA,

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I.   Reaffirming the differences and particularities between national governmental institutions of the EaP countries and their diverse economic capacities,

J.   Aware of the positive impact of the Erasmus+[1] programmes on young people of the EaP countries, particularly those affected by high unemployment rates,

K.   Considering that the EU does not currently encourage membership of the EaP countries, which does not correspond to the goals of the EaP;

**Long-term strategy**

1.   Approves the proposition made during the 2015 Riga Summit to create a bilateral approach between each EaP country and the EU, taking into account the economic and political situation of the countries, which aims to:

   a)   strengthen the cooperation with countries which already signed the AA/DCFTA like Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova on economic and political matters,

   b)   pursue the development of a collaboration with Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Belarus considering the interests and the needs of each of these states;

2.   Accepts that the EaP member states integrate the EEU while maintaining economic exchanges with the EU;

3.   Encourages the European Commission and the Member States to pursue the "more for more" policy aiming at negotiating and respecting treaties while giving:

   a)   financial support from the European Union,

   b)   visas from the Member States;

4.   Considers that if the member states of the EaP tend to have similar political systems and economic levels comparable to those of EU Member states, their membership needs to be reconsidered;

5.   Invites renewable energy companies to invest in countries which are depending on Russia regarding energy, by cooperating with European companies in this field;

**Education and culture**

6.   Calls upon the European Commission to create an Erasmus+ platform facilitating cultural and educational exchanges also between the EaP countries;

7.   Recommends the creation of an exchange platform between EaP countries and EU countries aimed at training civils servants from the EaP countries in public institutions of the EU countries by creating:

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[1] The Erasmus + program allows the strengthening of skills for better employability to support innovation within institutions as well as educational and training organisms to encourage co-operation between countries. https://www.erasmusplus.fr

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a) a special educational platform like Erasmus,

b) a lifelong training programme like Leonardo da Vinci[2];

8. Recommends that the countries engaged in conflicts create exchange programmes for youth through meetings in neutral zones;

**Peace and Human rights**

9. Encourages the EaP member states, through the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), to use diplomatic interventions to limit every military intervention, continuing the work of the Minsk Group[3];

10. Calls upon the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE to pursue the monitoring efforts in the EaP member states in order to ensure transparent elections, to promote human rights and to strengthen the rule of law and fight against corruption;

11. Urges the National Assembly of Belarus to repeal the death sentence in order to join the Council of Europe;

12. Supports the cooperation between civil societies and governments in the field of human rights like the NGO "Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum" (EaP CSF)[4].

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[2] The Leonardo da Vinci programme is one of the sectoral programmes of the Lifelong Learning Programme. It was conceived as a tool for supporting professional training systems in Europe. http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/llp_en.htm

[3] The Minsk group, whose activities became known under the process of Minsk, guides the OSCE's efforts to find peaceful solutions to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. It is co-presided by France, the Russian Federation and the United States. http://www.osce.org/mg

[4] The EaP CSF is a platform of the civil regional society aiming at promoting European integration and facilitating

reforms and democratic transformations in the EaP countries.

http://eat-csf.eu

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# FACT SHEET OF LIBE II

**Religions in Europe**
Religious freedom is a fundamental right enshrined in Article 21 of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights,[1] through which the respect for and protection of diversity and religion are safeguarded.

In 2010, the following religions were represented in the European population:
- 558.260.000 Christianity (75,2%)
- 43.490.000 Islam (5,9%)
- 1.410.000 Judaism (0,2%)
- 134.820.000 without confession (18,2%)
- Other religions (0,5%).[2]

Until 2025, more than 10% of the European population are estimated to be of the Islamic faith.[3]

**Refugee crisis**
In 2015, a total of 1.255.600 asylum applications were submitted, of which 292.540 have already been accepted. With an acceptance rate of 97%, applications from Syrian asylum seekers represented the highest recognition rate, whilst only 2% of the applications from asylum seekers from Kosovo were successful.[4]

From 2014 to 2015, the number of deaths because of terrorist acts in Western Europe rose from 4 to 150 victims.[5]

**Integration**
The European Agenda for Integration contains the following pillar principles:
- Integration should preferably occur at the regional level,
- Knowledge of language and access to employment and education are essential for successful integration,
- Migrants should have the same rights and duties as local citizens,
- There should be an EU-wide exchange of best practices for integration.

According to the estimation of the Eurobarometer poll, only 61% of the surveyed Europeans would feel comfortable in a professional environment if they were Muslim. [6]

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[1] European Parliament, Council of the EU & European Commission. (2010). EUR-lex. Retrieved from: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/pdf/text_de.pdf.

[2] Pew Research Center. (2012). Retrieved from: http://www.pewforum.org/2012/12/18/global-religious-landscape-christians/.

[3] Pew Research Center. (2015). Retrieved from: http://www.pewforum.org/2015/04/02/religious-projections-2010-2050/.

[4] Eurostat. (2016). Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics&oldid=292846.

[5] Die Zeit Online. (2016). Retrieved from: http://blog.zeit.de/teilchen/2016/03/23/terror-in-zahlen/.

[6] Eurobarometer. (2016). Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFrontOffice/PublicOpinion/index.cfm/ResultDoc/download/DocumentKy/68004.

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

**Considering the serious threats religious tolerance and pluralism are facing in European societies following the terror attacks and the migrant crisis, how should they be safeguarded?**

Submitted by: Andrei Copăcianu (RO), Aysylu Nabiullina (RU), Anže Mediževec (SI), Cara Lynn Kim (DE), Conlin Hillert (DE), Edon Boletini (AL), Fee Kirsch (NL), Felix Reding (LU), Lucius Miller (CH), Robin Hietz (AT), Rustam Batyrau (BY), Sophia Simill (AT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Alarmed by division in society, reflected in xenophobic actions, the growing popularity of right-wing populist parties, a lack of open dialogue, as well as growing anxiety and insecurity,

B. Reminds that the de-escalation of societal conflicts and depolarisation depends on sceptics of liberal values not being stigmatised or excluded, rather they are important for open dialogue,

C. Aware that Member States have differing views concerning the separation of religion and State,

D. Alarmed by the lack of awareness about other cultures and religions in parts of European society, caused by insufficient information and education, which leads to, amongst others, the blurred lines between moderate and extremist religious groups,

E. Deeply regretting the mentality and generally negative attitude of Europeans towards the arriving refugees,

F. Noting with regret that the distribution of refugees in the EU is unequal with respect to population size and density, as well as the economic prosperity of Member States,

G. Deeply convinced that integration enables equal participation to all people that permanently and lawfully live in a country,

H. Realising that both short- and long-term factors, such as language, acceptance of national rule of law, and integration into the labour market and the educational system, are indispensable for successful integration,

I. Taking into account that Member States have strongly divergent approaches to integration and asylum processes,

J. Concerned that currently there is a lack of data related to the topic of integration

in the EU,[1]

K. Noting with deep concern that successful integration is often impeded by difficulties in the recognition of migrants' qualifications, geographical segregation, discrimination and insufficient working possibilities,

L. Realising that factors such as poverty, the feeling of inferiority, unemployment and the lack of prospects, segregation and discrimination, as well as the feeling of serving a higher cause can lead to the radicalisation of vulnerable people,

M. Taking into account that Member States' legislation regarding the prosecution of extremist statements and acts of violence differs in its severity;

**General approach**

1. Proclaims its belief in the utmost importance of mutual appreciation of diversity, which manifests itself through tolerance and acceptance;

2. Reminds that the practice of religious freedom is only legitimate if it does not violate the fundamental rights of others;

**Integration of immigrants**

3. Strongly recommends the implementation of the European Agenda for Integration;[2]

4. Supports the July 13th, 2016[3] proposal from the European Commission in favour of an efficient, fair and humane asylum policy;

5. Underlines the need for the European Commission to improve the integration of refugees in the labour market by financially supporting training and educational programmes;

6. Calls for the establishment of a network that would ensure dialogue between migrants in order to exchange know-how on the opportunities of integration into the labour market;

7. Highlights the need to expand and simplify the participatory opportunities for volunteers in the areas of refugee aid and integration of refugees;

8. Further requests that a so-called integration contract,[4] which has to be accepted by the person in question upon receiving a residence permit, ensures the mutual acceptance of and tolerance for cultural and social values;

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[1] European Parliament. (2016). Retrieved from: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/578956/IPOL_STU(2016)578956_EN.pdf.

[2] European Commission (2011). Retrieved from: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-11-911_de.htm.

[3] European Commission (2016). Retrieved from: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2433_de.htm.

[4] Forum d'Accueil et d'Integration en Luxembourg. (2016). Retrieved from: http://www.forum-cai.lu/Aufnahme-und-integrations-vertrag.14-3.html.

9. Calls upon the Commission on Culture and Education of the European Parliament to simplify the recognition of foreign educational qualifications;

**Radicalisation of Society**

10. Calls upon the European Commission to support programmes, such as the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN)[5], which fight the causes and factors of radicalisation through educational programmes for teachers and social workers for the early detection of radicalisation;

11. Suggests the creation of an expert committee which would make a recommendation on how freedom of speech and hate speech can be differentiated;

**Intercultural exchange**

12. Further supports the promotion of intercultural appreciation through, for example:

   a) the creation of a Europe-wide award for the capital of integration, after the example of Germany, for cities that have excelled in the areas of tolerance, acceptance and integration;

   b) educational programmes in schools to promote open debate about values such as diversity and tolerance;

   c) interactive cultural exchange in the form of cultural festivals, through which different cultures could be brought closer.

13. Appreciates the work of organisations and institutions, such as the European Network on Religion and Belief[6], which actively promote diversity.

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[5] The Radicalisation Awareness Network brings together practitioners from around Europe working on the prevention of radicalisation.

[6] The European Network on Religion and Belief is composed of organisations from several European countries and different traditions – inter-faith and inter-convictional organisations, churches and religious associations, philosophical and non confessional associations.

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# FACT SHEET OF LIBE I

**Terrorism**

Since the beginning of the 21st century there has been a nine-fold increase in the number of deaths from terrorism, rising from 3 329 in 2000 to 32 685 in 2014.[1]

Terrorists have been using encrypted communications to plot their attacks, for example, Najim Laachroui, who assembled suicide bomb vests for the attacks that slaughtered 130 people in Paris last November, exchanged a series of messages through an encrypted communication system called Telegram to plot the attacks.[2]

The Police and Justice Department Authorities Directive adopted by the EU on 27 April 2016 is a directive regarding the protection of personal data by the competent authorities for the purpose of the prevention, investigation, protection or prosecution of criminal offences and the cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism.[3]

**Privacy**

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union states that everyone has the right to privacy and thus also the right to the protection of their personal data.[4]

European Commission Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUSTICE) has the role of ensuring that the whole European Union is an area of freedom, security and justice.[5]

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) provides recommendations on cybersecurity, supports policy development and its implementation, and collaborates with operational teams throughout Europe.[6]

**Encryption**

Encryption is any method for converting electronic data into unreadable text using a key or cypher.[7]

A "backdoor" in computing is a method of bypassing the normal method of authentication. Backdoors are usually inserted into a program or algorithm before it is distributed widely. In cryptography specifically, a backdoor would allow an intruder to access the encrypted information without having the correct credentials.[8]

Creating backdoors to encryption systems increases the risk of information leakage, criminal access to sensitive information, and frequent breaches of individuals' right to privacy.[9]

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[1] http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Global-Terrorism-Index-2015.pdf

[2] https://www.propublica.org/article/isis-via-whatsapp-blow-yourself-up-o-lion

[3] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016L0680

[4] https://www.google.be/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/pdf/text_en.pdf&ved=0ahUKEwi-4pWmzv_NAhXEPRoKHRytA0IQFggiMAE&usg=AFQjCNE5wJqDtSM0YcGK3ALhJOi2OLIdwQ&sig2=oog1Z8PGkGjyy4IxJPgmeQ

[5] http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/jourova_en

[6] https://www.enisa.europa.eu

[7] http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P8-TA-2015-0388+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN

[8] https://cs.stanford.edu/people/eroberts/cs181/projects/ethics-of-surveillance/tech_encryptionbackdoors.html

[9] http://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/97690, http://www.veracode.com/sites/default/files/Resources/Whitepapers/static-detection-of-backdoors-1.0.pdf

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

**In light of the growing relevance of data encryption in the field of counter-terrorism, how should the EU balance the rights to privacy and data protection of its citizens with the necessity of keeping them safe?**

**Submitted by:**

Mira Omoigui Youmans Aiwerioba (NO), Marco Balbona Calvo (ES), Varvara Bialik (RU), Meave Buchignani (IT), Ausma Cīrulniece (LV), Manuel Dias (PT), Paula Fritze (FI), April Henrist (BE), Rufat Mirfeyzullazade (AZ), Nadiia Pahava (UA), Ondřej Skrla (CZ), Tatevik Soghoyan (AM), Francisca Somann (NL), Annabel Teetamm (EE)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Noting with deep concern the growing number of terrorist attacks around the world,

B. Deeply concerned that the usage of encrypted communication as well as backdoors to encryption technologies by terrorists greatly complicates the EU's counter-terrorism efforts,

C. Fully aware that the protection of personal data is necessary in the protection of the fundamental right to privacy,

D. Perturbed by the variety of ways unencrypted or weakly encrypted data could be exploited by terrorists, hackers, and criminals, thus endangering the privacy and security of EU citizens,

E. Believing that creating backdoors to encryption technologies poses risks to the security and privacy of EU citizens

F. Noting with regret that the misinterpretation of data obtained through government surveillance may lead to the stigmatisation of individuals,

G. Fully alarmed that weakened encryption could result in:

    i)   the unauthorised access of third parties to the private data of EU citizens,

    ii)  violation of individuals' right to privacy,

    iii) increased data breaches leading to decreased consumer trust and thus threaten the functioning of the Digital Single Market,

H. Recognising that the existing EU and Member States' legislation does not

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efficiently resolve the conflict between privacy and national security,

I. Disturbed by the conflicting stances of major stakeholders, such as EU institutions, Member States' governments, law enforcement and security agencies, security experts, and private companies, in the debate on creating backdoors to encryption technologies,

J. Committed to preventing further acts of terror within Europe,

K. Aiming to secure EU citizens' right to privacy as stated in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights,

L. Seeking a high level of transparency in the processing of EU citizens' personal data in law enforcement and counter-terrorism efforts;

**Security and privacy**

1. Urges both public and private actors to develop strong encryption mechanisms to protect the security and privacy of EU citizens;

**Counter Terrorism**

2. Urges Member States and independent service providers to block access to websites which spread terrorist ideals and activities through the mechanism of judicial judgement;[1]

3. Encourages the Directorate General Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) to draft legislation that would make it obligatory for the members of the Schengen area to conduct biometric data checks of all individuals entering the Schengen area;

4. Strongly urges Member States to fulfil the aims stated in the Police and Criminal Justice Authorities Directive as a means of defending the right to privacy and enhancing cooperation between Member States in the field of counter-terrorism;

**Protection of privacy**

5. Reminds the courts and national intelligence agencies of Member States to handle cases where evidence is obtained through successful decryption of private data in absolute confidentiality while respecting the presumption of innocence;

6. Requests EU institutions to regularly review and update relevant legislation to ensure their alignment to the rapid advances of technology following the principle of legal stability;[2]

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[1] A judgement is a decision by a court or other tribunal that resolves a controversy and determines the rights and obligations of the parties. To be valid, a judicial judgement must be given by a competent judge or court, at a time and place appointed by law, and in the form it requires.

[2] The principle of legal stability refers to the need to create legislation with a long-term perspective in order to ensure sufficient time and resources for it to be implemented.

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**Improving encryption**

7. Calls upon Directorate-General Justice and Consumers (DG JUSTICE) to draft legislation that:

   a) criminalises the usage of backdoors in encryption technologies,

   b) obliges security and intelligence agencies to obtain orders from the respective judicial national authorities before attempting to hack encrypted systems or crack encrypted data for the purpose of prosecution;

8. Invites the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) to work alongside NGOs and specialists' groups to enhance the quality of encryption technologies and algorithms used within the EU;

9. Further requests that information technology companies provide users with the option of two factor authentication[3].

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[3] Two factor authentication is a security process in which the user provides two means of identification from separate categories of credentials; one is typically a physical token, such as a card, and the other is typically something memorized, such as a security code.

# FACT SHEET OF REGI

**Paris Climate Agreement (COP 21)**
At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. The agreement is due to enter into force in 2020.

**Cities responsible for the economy and climate change**
75% of EU citizens live and work in urban areas are responsible for:
- 85%of the EU's Gross Domestic Product (GDP),
- 80% of the total energy usage,
- 70% of greenhouse gas emissions.

**C40**
A network of the world's megacities committed to addressing climate change. They support cities to collaborate effectively, share knowledge and drive meaningful, measurable and sustainable action on climate change.

**Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**
Brings together thousands of local and regional authorities to voluntarily commit themselves to implementing EU climate and energy objectives in their territory. New signatories now pledge to reduce CO2 emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and to adopt an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

**BASE project**
The EU research project "Bottom-Up Climate Adaptation Strategies for a Sustainable Europe" (BASE) supports action for sustainable climate change adaptation in Europe. BASE makes experiential and scientific information on adaptation meaningful, transferable and easily accessible to decision-makers at all levels.

**FreeWifi Tree**
A project to let trees in the city measure pollution and reward people for keeping the air clean by giving free WiFi: Tree-WiFi.

**2030 Climate and Energy Framework**
EU countries have agreed on a new 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030. These targets aim to help the EU achieve a more competitive, secure and sustainable energy system and to meet its long-term 2050 greenhouse gas reductions target.

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# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**In light of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, adopted last December, how should the EU support cities in becoming drivers of climate action throughout Europe?**

**Submitted by:**

Alara Değirmenci (TR), Clémentine Ducasse (FR), Máedóc Ellis (UK), Ștefan-Paul Georgescu (RO), Rodrigo Guitián (ES), Nisso Kaeser (CH), Sara Kallis (CY), Nikos-Pavlos Kotzias (GR), Sergey Kumelov (AM), Petra Kumi (AL), Raffaella Meninno (IT), Dominika Piosik (PL), Simonas Rubis (LT), Veronika Sedláková (CZ), Victor Verhaert (BE)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Emphasising that, despite the 2°C goal set at the Paris Climate Conference (COP21), there are several barriers still remaining towards climate action such as:

   i)   a lack of coordination between city, regional and national governments;

   ii)  failure to work effectively with the private sector;

   iii) securing funding for green projects in cities.

B. Having examined that small and medium enterprises (SME) contribute 64% of the total industrial pollution in the EU[1] and do not have the resources to be able to transition towards greener production,

C. Deeply conscious that constantly changing national political agenda is in conflict with the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework, leading to a lack of continuity and implementation of the framework,

D. Taking note that, due to their age, European cities' eco-friendly infrastructure is either old or non-existent which leads to energy waste and unnecessary pollution, as well as great logistical issues in implementation,

E. Having considered that each city's issues and priorities are different due to their unique geographical factors,

F. Concerned that the government's role as an intermediary between the local governments and their funding causes transparency issues in terms of budget allocation,

G. Noting with regret the political power of local authorities being undermined by

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[1] European Commission (2012) Eurobarometer survey

national laws and the pressures exerted by private enterprises,

H.  Observing the fragmented nature of city to city cooperation[2] that favours large cities while neglecting smaller ones,

I.  Alarmed the hesitation for citizens to adopt a greener lifestyle due to high costs, especially for those who have a lower income,

J.  Convinced that companies are reluctant to make the initial investment towards sustainable and eco-friendly solutions despite their cost efficiency in the long-term,

K.  Affirming that sustainable urban planning is a key factor towards a smart city with reduced pollution levels,

L.  Taking into consideration the multiple sources of pollution such as food waste, meat industry, etc. which includes leftover materials from green initiatives,

M.  Having considered that cities have the highest levels of pollution due to high concentration of population and economic activities[3],

N.  Believing in a collaborative network which will empower cities through innovative and flexible solutions to create smart and eco-friendly urban areas using a transparent bottom-up approach while challenging the status quo;


## Collaboration and networking

1.  Suggests collaboration on city level, among local authorities, city institutions, advisors, and private sector representatives to reach a common agreement in order to have greener cities;

2.  Reaffirms that the Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy should cooperate with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) network in order to implement the suggestions made by the Covenant;


## Towards Smart, Eco-friendly Cities

3.  Congratulates long-term, flexible urban planning in cities drawing on the resources and knowledge of non-governmental organisations (NGO), urban architects, and data sharing between cities;

4.  Endorses the further implementation of Bottom-Up Climate Adaptation Strategies for a Sustainable Europe (BASE), taking into consideration the evaluation to be conducted soon;

5.  Calls upon the European Commission to further oversee local governments' implementation of updates and improvements within the green agendas;

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[2] All possible forms of relationship between local authorities at any level in two or more countries which are collaborating together over matters of mutual interest, whether with or without external support.

[3] Mathiesen (2015) Here is the worlds most polluted city? Guardian.

6. Recommends the renovation of already existing infrastructures in cities and the investment in more eco-friendly alternatives such as:

   a) affordable public transportation and bike lanes, while at the same time reducing the number of motor vehicles in city centres,

   b) the preservation of green areas and creation of new ones in the most polluted areas;

7. Encourages SMEs to move towards green initiatives that will reduce long-term losses by:

   a) promoting the use of low interest green loans,

   b) providing additional assistance to SMEs who show considerable progress;

8. Trusts city councils to take on eco-friendly initiatives, such as the FreeWifi Tree in Amsterdam or the Smog Free Tower project[4];

9. Confirms the need for an online platform that:

   a) shows citizens the effectiveness of their city's green initiatives,

   b) grants the possibility for citizens to give feedback,

   c) makes budget information accessible;

**Changing The Status Quo**

10. Calls for the creation of personalised and coordinated climate agendas or updates to the already existing ones for European cities with long-term goals which:

   a) should be respected and implemented regardless of the political agenda of the party or person in charge,

   b) will be updated and reviewed to remain flexible and be responsive to changes if needed;

11. Supports every major city with more than twenty thousand inhabitants in its effort to seek membership in the C40 as an observer, in order to benefit from the knowledge sharing mechanisms of the network.

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[4] The Smog Free Tower uses patented ion technology to produce smog-free bubbles of public space, allowing people to breathe and experience clean air for free.

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# FACT SHEET OF INTA

**Country-by-Country reporting**
On April 12th, 2016, the European Commission proposed tax transparency rules for multinational companies active in the EU's single market with a turnover exceeding 750 million EUR per year. These companies are asked to publish their profits and taxes for each country as well as the amount of taxes they pay on business outside of the EU.[1]

**Investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) transparency**
Under the existing rules concerning Investor-State disputes, hearings are treated as entirely private matters and publication of the resulting award often depends on the decision of one or both parties.[2]

**ISDS use by multinational corporations**
Currently ISDSs are being used to sue countries over laws concerning public health (tobacco industry) and environmental concerns (energy industry). [3]

Investor Court system (ICS) included in the EU-Canada trade agreement
The system includes clear language confirming the right to regulate for all levels of government. A permanent and institution-based dispute settlement tribunal was set up. The members of the tribunal are no longer to be designated by the investor and the state involved in a specific dispute but in advance, by the authorities of the EU and Canada. Judges will have to be sufficiently qualified and demonstrate proven ethical conduct. The three members of the tribunal dealing with a given dispute will be allocated at random to guarantee their impartiality. An appeals system similar is introduced to domestic legal systems, meaning that decisions will be checked for legal correctness and reversed where an error arises.[4]

**Agriculture**
Currently India is rated 27th out of 47 countries concerning the agricultural yield rates.[5]

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[1] OECD overview retrieved from: http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/about-automatic-exchange/country-by-country-reporting.htm

[2] OECD Transparency and Third Party Participation in Investor-State Dispute Settlement Procedures retrieved from: https://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/WP-2005_1.pdf

[3] OECD Transparency and Third Party Participation in Investor-State Dispute Settlement Procedures retrieved from: https://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/WP-2005_1.pdf

[4] EU-Canada trade agreement overview retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/

[5] OECD data on agricultural output retrieved from: https://data.oecd.org/agroutput/crop-yields.htm

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**Direct investments**

The Indian market is an attractive zone for investors, however due to the lack of transparency and clarity in regulations investors consider the risks to be too high.[6]

Environmental regulation enforcement

Environmental policy includes almost international agreement regulating pollution, but the punishment system is too inefficient to meet the objectives, which means no possibility to check and control the pollution, thus only 73% of highly polluting industries are in compliance with environmental laws in India.[7]

[6] Article by Ernst and Young investments in India retrieved from: http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/EY-Brave-new-world-for-India-real-estate/$FILE/EY-Brave-new-world-for-India-real-estate.pdf

[7]Analysis of the EU-India trade deal retrieved from: http://thewire.in/26540/many-issues-stand-in-the-way-of-india-the-eu-agreeing-on-an-free-trade-deal-in-brussels/

# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Keeping in mind that the EU and India have not concluded a Free Trade Agreement, how should the EU seek to reinvent its trade policy towards one of the largest nations on earth?

**Submitted by:**

Nikolaos Avramidis (GE), Martynas Duknauskas (LT), Sara Fukushima (PL), Ross Gorey (IE), Mustafa Sinan Gürbüz (TR), Elīna Jekale (LV), Urška Kocutar (SI), Luka Marinčić (HR) Tomáš Mart'ák (CZ), Niall Scullion (UK), Artyom Semianchuk (BY), Desmond Okumbor (SE), Okeme Oziwo (FI),  Sabina Sancu (RO), Jakov Sola (BA), Tomas Turner (CH)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Taking into account that a focus on exports in India can cause food producers to neglect the domestic market,

B. Concerned that lowering EU tariffs for India may cause multinational companies (MNCs) to force small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and local farmers out of business,

C. Noting that existing non-tariff barriers may hinder trade between the EU and India, namely:

   i) differences in environmental and health standards,

   ii) EU subsidies that give European farmers an unfair advantage in the Indian market,

D. Disturbed by the lack of transparency in the trading procedure which hinders the flow of investment into India,

E. Recognising that high taxes are an obstacle for investors in the EU and in India,

F. Deeply concerned by the lack of protection and insurance for EU investors entering the Indian market,

G. Perturbed by India's less strict environmental regulations in the production process,

H. Fully aware that increased trade and production due to the free trade agreement (FTA) will result in a negative environmental impact,

I. Bearing in mind the inefficient use of resources in Indian agriculture,

J. Affirming that Investor State Dispute Settlements lower the risk foreign investors face,

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K. Deeply concerned that Multinational Companies (MNCs) can use Investor State Dispute Settlements (ISDS)[1] to infringe on the sovereignty of states,

L. Noting with deep concern the lack of transparency in the negotiation process of ISDSs,

M. Alarmed by the protectionist policies enacted by India, especially by the discrepancies between economic and legal regulations for foreign and local firms,

N. Fully aware that the EU is India's main trading partner,

O. Realising that several Indian generic medicine companies infringe on the copyright of already established brands by replicating their brand, logo or packaging,

P. Deeply regretting the inability of India and the EU to reach a consensus on data exclusivity,

Q. Further regretting that not accepting any data exclusivity provisions proposed by the EU is part of the Indian negotiation strategy,

R. Believing that the implementation of EU-India FTA will benefit from established European brands in India at the expense of Indian generic companies,

S. Emphasising the importance of the EU-India FTA due to the majority of investments from India towards EU going to the United Kingdom, which is preparing to leave the EU;


## Agriculture

1. Emphasises the need for the creation of a legal framework with fair competition rules so that SME's can survive among the expansion of MNCs due to the FTA;

2. Calls for investment in the agricultural sector in India, in order to introduce modern technologies and provide local farmers with associated training;

3. Encourages the establishment of exchange programmes, courses, and research sharing opportunities for students and professionals involved in agricultural sectors;


## Direct investments

4. Requests the simplification of bureaucratic procedures for EU investors investing in India;

5. Urges India to enforce transparency regulations, such as country by country reporting;

6. Suggests that Member States simplify the procedure for investment into EU

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[1] an instrument of public international law, that grants an investor the right to use dispute settlement proceedings against a foreign government

countries in order to attract investors that have currently been investing in the United Kingdom;

**Environment**

7.  Recommends negotiating a gradual harmonisation of health and environment regulations between EU and India;

8.  Further recommends drafting a deal that would motivate both EU and Indian companies to pursue green policies through lowered taxes and subsidies;

**Investor State Dispute settlements**

9.  Supports the European Parliament's plan to create a permanent Investor Court system (ICS) with independent judges to settle disputes between states and foreign investors as already done in the FTA with Canada;

10. Encourages the EU to allow public access to EU-India Free Trade Agreement and Investment court system negotiations;

**Industry**

11. Calls for India to enforce the same economic and legal regulations for foreign and local firms;

12. Praises the efforts of the Delegation of the European Union to India in promoting products made in the EU for the Indian market;

13. Suggests negotiating market sectors in which to reduce investment regulations, in  order to facilitate trade in those areas;

**Medicine and Pharmaceuticals**

14. Encourages patent sales and research sharing between EU and Indian companies;

15. Further requests the creation of experience sharing programmes for professionals and internship programs for students in the field of pharmaceuticals;

16. Emphasises the need to harmonise the intellectual property regulations (IPRs) with India, and the need to negotiate more severe punishments for violation of IPRs by Indian enterprises;

17. Supports the current EU negotiation strategy that does not include any data exclusivity provisions, or the lengthening of the patent term agreed upon in the Trade-Related aspects of Intellectual Property agreement (TRIPS)[2].

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[2] An international agreement administered by the World Trade Organization (WTO) that sets down minimum standards for many forms of intellectual property (IP) regulation as applied to nationals of other WTO Members.

# FACT SHEET OF ITRE I

**Digital Single Market Strategy**

DSM is one of the top ten main priorities of the European Commission.[1]

Studies show that bringing down the barriers of the European Digital Single Market (DSM) could add EUR 415 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Member States.[2]

**Competitiveness of European Companies**

54% of online services of European digital markets are based in the United States.[3]

The world's 20 largest internet companies are not located in Europe.[4]

**Cross-Border Purchases**

75% of complaints received by European Consumer Centres Network (ECCN) are related to online cross-border purchases.[5]

Only 15% of consumers bought services or products online from other EU countries in 2014.[6]

The digital market today is made up of only 4% EU cross-border online services.[7]

SMEs wishing to trade in another EU country face a Value-added tax (VAT) compliance cost of at least EUR 5000 annually per Member State (MS).[8]

Only 7% of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sell cross-border.[9]

**Views Of Consumers**

72% of Internet users in Europe worry about being asked for too much personal data when using online services.[10]

1 in 3 Europeans is interested in watching or listening to media content from their home country when abroad, but cannot because of geo-blocking.[11]

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[1] European Commission (2016) Digital single market – Bringing down barriers to unlock online opportunities. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/digital-single-market_en

[2] European Commission (2016) Digital single market – Bringing down barriers to unlock online opportunities. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/digital-single-market_en

[3] Hardin, Chris (2015) Can a digital single market give Europe the lead? Computer Weekly. Retrieved from: http://www.computerweekly.com/opinion/Can-a-digital-single-market-give-Europe-the-lead

[4] Forbes (2016) The Worlds most powerful brands. Retrieved from: http://www.forbes.com/powerful-brands/list/

[5] European Commission (2016). European Consumer Centres Network. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/scoreboard/performance_by_governance_tool/european_consumer_centre_network/index_en.htm

[6] European Commission (2016) Why we need a digital single market. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/sites/beta-political/files/dsm-factsheet_en.pdf

[7] European Commission (2016) Why we need a digital single market. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/sites/beta-political/files/dsm-factsheet_en.pdf

[8] European Commission (2016) Why we need a digital single market. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/sites/beta-political/files/dsm-factsheet_en.pdf

[9] European Commission (2016) Why we need a digital single market. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/sites/beta-political/files/dsm-factsheet_en.pdf

[10] European Commission (2016) Digital Single Market. Retrieved from: https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/digital-single-market

[11] European Commission (2016) Why we need a digital single market. Retrieved from:  http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/sites/beta-political/files/dsm-factsheet_en.pdf

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**Value of Digital Market**
In 2014 EUR 368.8 billion (13.4%) of total GDP of the EU came from digital related sources.[12]
The total market value of Business to Consumer (B2C) segment of the DSM is estimated at EUR 231 billion. Tangible goods and online services represent 92%. Digital content 6% and paid online services account for 2%.[13]

[12] Ecommerce Europe (2016) Retrieved from: http://www.ecommerce-europe.eu

[13] Gyzen, Sara (2016) Online Shopping, Where do I begin? GfK. Retrieved from: http://www.gfk.com/ro/noutati/news/online-shopping-where-do-i-begin/

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

**In light of the Digital Single Market Strategy adopted last year, how should the EU ensure that digital sec- tors and services can prosper and become more globally competitive?**

**Submitted by:**

Capucine Briand (FR), Dylan Connolly (UK), Maciej Draguła (PL), Davit Eloyan (AM), Stefanie Everaerts (BE), Sofie Holtestaul (NO), Raymond Mpanga (SE), Haris Muharemović (BA), Anneliis Saarend (EE), Tom Suelmann (NL), Arda Sülecik (TR), Karl Vederhus (IT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Viewing with appreciation the initiatives proposed in the Digital Single Market Strategy (DSMS)[1],

B. Supporting the full implementation of the DSMS,

C. Realising that a rapid implementation of the DSMS may have an initially negative effect on Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as a result of adjustment costs and new competition from companies in other Member States,

D. Recognising the differences in fiscal policy amongst Member States and the inability of the EU to harmonise it without the consent of Member States,

E. Noting with satisfaction the investment of EUR 450 million in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract,[2] signed by the EU and the European Cyber Security Organisation (ECSO),[3]

F. Noting with approval that the DSMS has and will continue to make online transactions safer and simpler, thus increasing consumers' trust in online shopping,

G. Deeply disturbed that major internet companies discriminate consumers based on geographic location by denying certain services and imposing different prices,

H. Noting with regret that Internet Service Providers (ISPs)[4] limit internet usage in

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[1] A strategy pursued by the European Commission with the aim of implementing a Digital Single Market within the EU.

[2] A government service or private business that is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private companies.

[3] The ECSO is a fully self-financed non-profit organisation representing cybersecurity market actors.

[4] A company that provides individuals and other companies with access to the internet and other related services.

an unfair and unnecessary way in order to increase their profits,

I. Noting with regret the failure of EU-based digital companies to compete with American and Chinese rivals,

J. Observing that the European climate for development of digital start-ups is not as favourable as that in the USA or China,

K. Keeping in mind that digital start-ups in Europe have a harder time financing their activities than their American and Chinese counterparts,

L. Further noting that current digital market leaders are well established and that it will take a considerable amount of time and capital investments for European companies to become global leaders,

M. Praising the European Commission's initiative within the DSMS in supporting start-ups;

N. Noting with satisfaction the European Council's decision to adapt the EU Regulation No 910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the European internal market (eIDAS),[5]

O. Noting with concern that internet infrastructure varies between Member States and receives inadequate investment,

P. Emphasising the need for further measures to improve the parcel delivery system in Europe in addition to those proposed in the DSMS;

**Implemetation of the digital single market strategy**

1. Calls upon the European Commission to implement the DSMS rapidly, whilst also ensuring that companies are offered an appropriate time period in which they can make necessary adjustments;

2. Invites the European Council to discuss the possibility of harmonising fiscal policy amongst Member States regarding digital market services;

3. Urges the European Commission to enforce the implementation of the non-discrimination principle regarding geo-blocking;[6]

4. Requests that all owners of non-personal content websites have an English translation, should they originally be in a language other than English;

5. Recommends that all Member States follow the example of Estonia and implement the E-residency programme;[7]

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[5] The eIDAS is a regulation that establishes a legal framework consisting of rules for electronic identification, signatures and documents for trust services.

[6] It restricts consumers from using online services based on their geographic location.

[7] A programme that allows non-citizens of a country access to its services such as company formation, online banking, payment processing and taxation.

**Making European companies globally competitive**

6. Calls upon the Member States to implement subsidies for marketing purposes of start-ups and SMEs;

7. Designates the European Commission to further develop the Investor-to-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)[8] and ensure that it is included in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement (TTIP);[9]

**Improving infrastructure**

8. Urges ISPs to reassess their service provision policies, including data packages and data caps;[10]

9. Expresses its hope that Member States and the European Investment Bank (EIB)[11] will invest more in internet infrastructure, especially in less digitally developed Member States;

10. Invites Member States to ensure that they have the necessary infrastructure to facilitate the likely increase in long distance transportation after implementing the DSMS;

11. Further calls upon the EIB to fund extensive research into the field of infrastructure of parcel delivery and its efficiency;

12. Further recommends transportation companies to incorporate the findings of the aforementioned research into their operations and have this evaluated by independent logistics experts.

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[8] An agreement, part of the TTIP, stating that if an investment suffers damage due to unlawful action by a foreign government, the investor must have access to a fair trial.

[9] It is a trade agreement between the USA and the EU that is currently being negotiated.

[10] A limit on the internet usage of an individual where the individual receives a certain amount of data per a set amount of time.

[11] A non-profit EU insitution that provides loans and guarantees, technical assistance and venture capital for business projects.

# FACT SHEET OF DEVE

**European Development Fund (EDF)**

The EDF is the EU's main instrument for providing development aid to African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and to overseas countries and territories (OCTs). The EDF funds cooperation activities in the fields of economic development, social and human development as well as regional cooperation and integration.

**Female genital mutilation (FGM)**

Includes procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. This can result in many harmful and unnecessary health related problems such as severe bleeding, infections and an increased risk of newborn deaths. More than 200 million girls and women alive today have been cut in 30 countries, particularly Africa, the Middle East and Asia where FGM is concentrated.[1]

**Developing countries**

The United Nations divides countries into three categories: developed countries, economies in transition and developing countries. Countries are classified by their level of development as measured by per capita gross national income (GNI) as researched by the World Bank in 2014.[2]

**Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)**

Good SRH is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system. It implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life, the capability to reproduce, and the freedom to decide if, when, and how often to do so.

**Maternal Health**

Maternal health refers to the health of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. Every day, approximately 830 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. By the end of 2015, roughly 303 000 women will have died during and following pregnancy and childbirth[3].

**Contraception**

In Africa, 23.2% of women of reproductive age have an unmet need for modern contraception. In Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean – regions with relatively high contraceptive prevalence – the levels of unmet need are 10.9 % and 10.4%, respectively.[4]

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[1] WHO, factsheet on FGM. Retrieved from: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/

[2] UN, Statistical annex. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_current/2012country_class.pdf

[3] WHO, factsheet on Maternal Mortality. Retrieved from: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs348/en/

[4] World Contraceptive Reports 2013, UNDESA. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/family/worldContraceptivePatternsWallChart2013.pdf

**EN**

# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

**Considering the relevant differences inherent to local cultures and religions, how can the EU better promote sexual and reproductive health in developing countries.**

**Submitted by:**

Korbinian Franken (GE), Patrick Gorman (IE), Laura Korn (NL), Sandra Koziołkiewicz (PL), Daria Lochoshvili (GE), Ine Johanne Bjerknes Møllegaard (NO), Tilda Nilsson (SE), Nora Schmiedbauer (AT), Vardges Shahmenendyan (AM), Ans Van Gasse (BE), Mariann Võhmar (EE), Eleni Zinga (CY), Elizabete Šmite (LV)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A.  Believing that local cultures and religions should be considered when establishing sexual reproductive health programmes in developing countries,

B.  Convinced that development aid should be used to fund local Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and grassroots initiatives to ensure their sustainability and reduce reliance on aid programs,

C.  Recognising the impact of high corruption rates in developing countries on sustainable funding of governments,

D.  Alarmed by the fact that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is still legal and highly prevalent in developing countries,

E.  Fully believing that every country has the right to have customary law,[1]

F.  Noting with regret that the costs of contraceptives and drugs relevant to sexual health are too high relative to the mean income in developing countries,

G.  Realising the scarcity of healthcare institutions in developing countries,

H.  Noting with deep concern that many healthcare professionals emigrate from developing countries resulting in a lack of doctors and midwives,

I.  Congratulating NGOs on their work in educating healthcare workers and providing medical assistance in rural areas of developing countries,

J.  Acknowledging the lack of use of modern contraception resulting in unplanned pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI's),

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[1] Customary law refers to the right of countries to implement laws based on local customs and traditions. This concept can be seen as highly problematic as it often causes conflict between legislation and human rights.

K. Welcoming the growing number of patients getting tested for STI's following the development of programs working with incentives, such as food stamps, when providing medical services,

L. Taking into account that sexual education in developing countries is often reliant on NGOs instead of the local governments, leading to lack of standardisation across the states,

M. Considering that political relations between developed and developing countries can complicate the distribution of contraception and may lead to dangerous black market purchases,

N. Aware that cultural values result in stigma towards to the use of contraceptives in developing countries,

O. Noting with regret that challenges surrounding maternal healthcare in developing countries results in unnecessary complications for young mothers,

P. Fully aware that midwives who are educated in line with international standards can provide 87% of the essential care needed for women and newborns,[2]

Q. Affirming that if pregnancy care and contraceptive needs were fully met:

    i)   the number of maternal deaths would fall by two-thirds,

    ii)  the number of newborn deaths would fall by more than three quarters;

**Education**

1. Calls upon the European Commission to support watchdog organisations, like Transparency International[3] and Swedish Development Cooperation (SIDA),[4] in ensuring the transparent use of development aid funds in developing countries;

2. Encourages the European Union Special Representatives to strongly urge local and national governments to pass legislation prohibiting the act of FGM;

3. Expresses its appreciation for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund's (UNICEF)[5] efforts in educating local communities to eradicate the practice of FGM;

4. Invites the European Commission to work with and in a manner similar to the Global Partnership for Education[6] in improving sexual education in school curriculums in developing countries;

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[2] https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/SOWMY-Factsheet-Key%20messages-English-web.pdf

[3] A NGO working towards corruption-free world.

[4] An organisation whose main focus is to fight corruption.

[5] A United Nations program that provides long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries.

[6] An international organisation aimed at improving education throughout the world through the funding and sharing of best practices. They coordinate with international organizations, foundations, the private sector, and teacher organisations to ensure a quality education for every child.

5. Calls for improved dialogue between developing countries and EU Member States on the issue of customary laws;

**Access to Healthcare**

6. Encourages developing countries to negotiate new trade agreements in order to provide hospitals with necessary resources;

7. Approves of the use of generic drugs[7] in developing countries;

8. Recommends that the Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO)[8] invest in transportation infrastructure based upon population data in order to improve access to healthcare;

9. Suggests that Doctors Without Borders[9] collaborate with local NGO's to build and maintain pop-up hospitals;[10]

10. Encourages the improvement of working conditions for healthcare professionals in developing countries by:

    a) increasing wages,

    b) improving workplace security,

    c) meeting the standards for hygiene;

11. Requests that the European Development Fund (EDF) introduce financial incentives to developing countries that ensure the availability of a sufficient number of healthcare workers;

**Family Planning**

12. Endorses the use of incentives by NGOs such as food stamps to encourage STI testing and maternal health check-ups to maximise the number of tested individuals and healthy mothers;

13. Asks local NGOs[11] to evaluate the quality of sexual education in developing countries;

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[7] Pharmaceutical medicines equivalent of a recognised brand. They act as a cheaper alternative to the often much needed medicine citizens of developing countries have difficulties accessing.

[8] Responsible for formulating the EU's development policy in order to reduce poverty, ensure sustainable development, and promote European values through external aid.

[9] An international medical humanitarian organisation.

[10] Temporary tent camps set up in problematic areas by NGO's to treat the ill. After a set time they are deconstructed and moved to another area.

[11] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and UNESCO http://www.unesco.org/new/en/hiv-and-aids/our-priorities-in-hiv/sexuality-education/
Guttmacher institute https://www.guttmacher.org/about/gpr/2011/08/advancing-sexuality-education-developing-countries-evidence-and-implications
Advocated for Youth http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/publications-a-z/610-science-and-success-in-developing-countries-executive-summary

14. Authorises UNICEF to provide training for local school staff on family planning;

15. Requests the Planned Parenthood International[12] to compose a basic framework for a curriculum on sexual education for developing countries;

16. Further encourages developing countries to implement the aforementioned framework;

17. Supports close collaboration between medical experts and healthcare institutions in developed and developing countries;

**Maternal Health**

18. Calls for NGOs providing professional training programs for midwives, such as UNICEF, the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations, and the International Confederation for Midwives, to continue their work in cooperation with local NGOs;

19. Encourages the EDF to financially support the training programs facilitated by the aforementioned NGOs;

20. Requests the aforementioned NGOs to include further information on contraceptives, abortion, and FGM as an addition to pregnancy care in the training programmes;

21. Further urges that the trainees are provided with necessary contraceptives designated for distribution after completion of the programmes;

22. Recommends that the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department support, promote, and fund NGO's and healthcare institutions that provide safe abortions in cases where the mother's life is at risk.

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[12] A non-governmental organisation that aims at ensuring access for women and men all over the world to safe sexual and reproductive health services.

# FACT SHEET OF EMPL I

**Definition of refugee**

The number of migrants entering the EU is rising.[1] An asylum seeker is a person who has fled from his or her country seeking legal and physical protection (asylum) as a refugee in another country. The "EU common basic principles of immigrant integration" states that employment is a key part of the integration process and is central to the participation of immigrants in contributing to their host society.[2]

**Unemployment**

The unemployment rate in Europe as a whole is 10.1% although this varies between countries.[3] The gap in long term unemployment between non-EU born and EU native born populations is 16%.[4] In 2015, the gap in labor market participation between EU and non EU citizens (including mobile EU citizens) grew.[5]

**Education and Qualifications**

While 37% of migrants arrive to their host country with little to no education[6], the rate of overqualified, employed foreign-born persons is as high as 34%.[7] This is compared to 19% for natives, with a more severe gap among non-EU migrants (36%). OECD reports confirm that on average 50% of skilled migrants are inactive, unemployed or in jobs for which they are overqualified.[7]

**Treatment of refugees**

There is rising discrimination towards migrants in the labor markets of EU Member States.[8] Coupled with this is the high rate of illegal employment of refugees and the lengthy asylum.

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[1]Eurostat (2016). Migration and migrant population statistics. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics

[2] European Commission (2016). EU actions to make integration work. Retreived from: https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/the-eu-and-integration/eu-actions-to-make-integration-work

[3] Eurostat (2016). Migrant integration statistics- employment. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migrant_integration_statistics_-_employment

[4] Eurostat (2015). Gap in long-term unemployment between non-EU-born and native-born populations. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/File:Gap_in_long-term_unemployment_between_non-EU-born_and_native-born_populations,_2015.png

[5] Eurostat (2016). Migrant integration statistics- employment. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migrant_integration_statistics_-_employment

[6] MIPEX (2015). International key findings. Retrieved from: http://www.mipex.eu/key-findings

[7] Pegiou, S (2013). Over-qualification of immigrants: Inadequacy of brain drain? Retrieved from: http://www.migration4development.org/en/content/over-qualification-immigrants-inadequacy-brain-drain

[8] Barret, D (2016). Immigration from Europe 'cost the British taxpayer £3m a day' last year. Retrieved from: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/16/immigration-from-europe-cost-the-british-taxpayer-3m-a-day-last/

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

**In light of the growing number of migrants settling in Member States, how should they be integrated in the labour force, considering existing challenges with unemployment?**

**Submitted by:**

Pilar Casares (ES), Mallorie Dominé (CH),  Enjd Kumbaro (AL), Fearghal Hosty-Blaney (IE), Johan Johnsen (NO), Mariann Jüriorg (EE), Louise Lotodé (FR), Maria Myrianthopoulou (CY), Maria Poimenidou (GR),  Milena Šmigić (RS),  Anja Taelemans (BE), Aleksandre Tevzadze (Georgian), Iike Zeynep Uçarer (TR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A.  Realising the brain waste and economic inefficiency of the induction period of refugees and asylum seekers entering the EU,

B.  Bearing in mind the skills mismatch between migrant qualifications and employment, due to the lack of common diploma recognition system within the EU,

C.  Alarmed by the continued violation of the labour rights of migrants coupled with the prevalence of social dumping,[1] and the illegal employment of migrants,

D.  Noting that the core causes of unemployment in the EU include the lack of proficiency in the relevant sectors, and the geographical mismatch between the candidate workforce and the vacancies,

E.  Deeply concerned by the level of discrimination towards migrants by EU citizens and the growth of xenophobia in light of recent terrorist attacks,

F.  Recognising a culture of distrust among employers when considering the inclusion of migrants in their workforce,

G.  Acknowledging the abundance of existing organisations, committees, and funds involved in the integration of migrants,

H.  Noting with regret the lack of centralised management and integration of such existing organisations,

I.  Deeply disturbed by the lack of infrastructure and insufficient preparedness of

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[1]Social dumping is a term that is used to describe a practice of employers to use cheaper labour, than is usually available at their site of (1) production and/or (2) selling. In the first case, migrant workers are employed; in the second, production is moved to a low-wage country or area.

Member States for the high inflow of migrants,

J.  Recognising the lack of a standardised and unified integration policy among Member States and the absence of a common assessment procedure for categorising migrants by their professional skills,

K.  Aware of the cultural and language barriers between EU natives and migrants,

L.  Fully aware of the challenges posed by high unemployment on migrants attempting to enter the labour market,

**Migration policy**

1.  Proposes the development of a common migration policy based upon acceptance and integration within all Member States;

2.  Recommends the establishment of Induction and Assessment Camps (IACs) at core migrant arrival points, such as Greece and Italy, where:

    a)  migrants arriving will be hosted for a period of two weeks, during which, interviews to assess their professional skills, qualifications, and psychological state are conducted,

    b)  following the interview period, migrants will be matched with possible host countries based upon assessment of labour market gaps,

    c)  the qualifications of migrants will be cross-checked and certified in CV form for potential host countries,

    d)  upon completion of the induction process, migrants will be offered suggestions for possible relocation;

**Education and cultural integration**

3.  Calls upon the EU to initiate cultural integration programs by;

    a)  hosting conferences whereby government representatives, academics, migrants, employers, and leaders of migrant minority groups, may discuss their individual needs and contribute to the integration dialogue,

    b)  encouraging regional councils affected by integration problems to make use of available funds, such as the AMIF[2], to lead social activities such as festivals, public debates, and cultural exchanges;

4.  Encourages the European Commission to establish a common education and integration policy within the Member States, addressing:

    a)  the training deficits of migrants, through classes on language, culture, and Information Communication and Technology (ICT),

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[2] The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) was set up for the period 2014-20, with a total of EUR 3.137 billion for the seven years. It will promote the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration.

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b) the lack of awareness of existing employment facilitation training schemes,

c) the possibility of utilising currently unemployed nationals as trainers in the aforementioned schemes.

**Employment**

5. Urges the promotion of public employment agencies to all migrants through the aforementioned conferences and training schemes, to target the issue of unemployment amongst integrated migrants and ensure equal access to employment information for migrants;

6. Endorses greater interaction between overqualified employed migrants, and occupation and employment consultants;

7. Urges Member States to implement incentives such as tax breaks to employers to further encourage the inclusion of migrants in the work force;

8. Encourages migrant participation in labour unions, to ensure protection of their working rights and help prevent their illegal employment.

# FACT SHEET OF ITRE II

**Consequences of Climate Change in the Arctic**
Between 1900 and 2015, the average temperature of the Arctic has risen from -1.5°C to over 1°C. Consequently, the Arctic region[1] is estimated to be entirely ice free by 2050.[2]

**Natural and Environmental Resources of the Arctic**
It is estimated that the Arctic holds 13% of undiscovered oil and 30% of undiscovered gas reserves, which would account to 22% of the world's total oil and gas reserves.[3] However, the Arctic region does not only hold fossil fuels, but also other natural resources, such as copper, iron ore, gold, nickel and phosphate. Furthermore, Greenland holds about 10% of the world's freshwater reserves[4] and the Arctic is also inhabited by a variety of fish populations.

**United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**
The UNCLOS governs the rights and responsibilities of nations regarding the use of the oceans. According to the UNCLOS[5] every nation possesses an area of 200 nautical miles, the so called Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in which it controls all economic activities and resources, with the possibility of expanding up to 350 nautical miles in total. If a nation wants to extend its EEZ it can submit territorial claims to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS)[6] which decides upon those territorial claims. It has been signed by the EU, the Member States, and all other Arctic countries except for the USA.

**Arctic Council**
The Arctic Council[7] was founded in 1996 and has eight member states (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, USA), twelve observer states and two pending observer states, including the EU. Its main objective is to address the common threats to the Arctic environment and the impact of pollution on the fragile Arctic ecosystems. Also participating in the Arctic Council are representatives of indigenous communities and environmental groups, in order to ensure their contributions on crucial topics.

**Existing EU Legislation**
In January 2014, the EU agreed to a 40% emissions reduction by 2030, compared to the 1990 levels, as well as to produce 27% of its energy out of renewables.[8] The European Energy Union (EEU) is the core of the EU energy policy, based on three long-established objectives: security of

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[1] Compilation of maps of the Arctic: http://bit.ly/1qg9jN6.

[2] Retrieved at: https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/syr/SYR_AR5_FINAL_full.pdf

[3] Public Survey, 19th of July 2016. Retrieved from: https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2008/3049/fs2008-3049.pdf

[4] Government of Greenland: About Greenland. Retrieved from: http://www.greenland.com/en/about-greenland/nature-climate/climate-changes/

[5] Convention Agreements. Retrieved at: http://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/part5.htm

[6] Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS): Purpose, functions and sessions. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/commission_purpose.htm

[7] The Arctic Council Official Website. Retrieved from: http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/about-us/member-states

[8] European Comission: 2030 Energy Strategy. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-strategy/2030-energy-strategy

supply, sustainability and competitiveness. It was formed with the aim of ensuring that Europe has secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy.[9] The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention) was adopted in 1992.[10] The EU Northern Dimension Policy (NDP) is a joint policy between EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland. It aims at providing a framework for promoting dialogue and concrete cooperation, strengthen stability, well-being and intensified economic cooperation, as well as to advocate economic integration, competitiveness and sustainable development in Northern Europe.[11]

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[9] Energy Union and Climate: European Commission. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/energy-union-and-climate_en

[10] Convention: OSPAR Commission. Retrieved from: http://www.ospar.org/convention

[11] European Union - EEAS: EU Relations with Northern Dimension. Retrieved from: http://www.eeas.europa.eu/north_dim/

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

**Considering that higher global temperatures are making the Arctic region increasingly habitable, how can the EU contribute to a fair distribution of natural and environmental resources with the other actors in the region?**

**Submitted by:**

Gustav Dahlqvist (SE), Eline Inghelbrecht (BE), Alexandros Kaimakliotis (CY), Victor Kalinin (RU), Matthias Klonner (AT), Mari Kõrtsini (EE), Rachel Noach (IT), Pavlo Odnonozdryev (UA), Mina Radončić (RS), Ana Reis (PT), Jelle de Ruiter (NL), Marija Samoviča (LV), Anniken Strønen Riise (NO), Emma Young (IE)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Having considered the lack of a sufficient, common Arctic Policy of the EU and its Member States,

B. Fully aware of the disputed and overlapping territorial claims in the Arctic region between Norway and Denmark, Canada and Denmark, and Russia, Canada and Denmark,

C. Recognising that the three Arctic Member States, Denmark, Finland and Sweden, together with the European Economic Area (EEA)[1] members Iceland and Norway, constitute a majority of the Arctic Council members,

D. Further recognising that the geographical distribution and exact locations of resources in the Arctic region is based on estimations,

E. Alarmed by the high likelihood[2] of environmental and humanitarian catastrophes such as oil spills, increased carbon-dioxide emissions from beneath the permafrost, and the effects of erosion on coastal areas, due to the exploitation of resources in the Arctic region,

F. Aware of the public criticism of the exploitation of the Arctic's resources[3],

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[1] The European Economic Area unites both the EU Member States and the three European Free Trade Association (EFTA) states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) in a single internal market governed by the same basic rules.

[2] Greenpeace Official Website. Retrieved from: http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/campaigns/climate-change/arctic-impacts/The-dangers-of-Arctic-oil/ http://www.boem.gov/Risk-and-Benefits-in-the-Chukchi-Sea/

[3] Episodes of public criticism happened, for instance, in the Greenlandic parliament (Greenland), within indigenous communities, in Russia, and in Seattle. Retrieved at: https://arcticreview.no/index.php/arctic/article/view/216 http://bellona.org/assets/sites/2/2015/12/Arktis-rapport-2015_lav.pdf https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/mar/17/arctic-30-activists-damages-russia-court-greenpeace

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G.  Realising the possible conflict between the EU's commitment to the 2030 targets[4] and the exploitation of fossil fuels in the Arctic,

H.  Taking note of the insufficient infrastructure for exploiting and distributing resources in the Arctic region,

I.  Regretting the under recognition of some Arctic indigenous people by non-European Arctic Council Members, [5]

J.  Further regretting the underrepresentation of some Arctic indigenous peoples on a European and international level;

**European Arctic Policy**

1.  Urges the Member States to develop a new European Arctic Policy in collaboration with the EEA members Iceland and Norway, based on the values[6] of the current EU Arctic Policy, contained in three dimensions:

    a)  the exploitation of the Arctic's resources,

    b)  the preservation of the Arctic's ecosystems,

    c)  the protection and inclusion of the Arctic's indigenous peoples;

2.  Encourages the three Arctic Member States[7] and the EEA members Iceland and Norway to promote the approach of the new European Arctic Policy towards the other Arctic Council members;

**Relations between Arctic countries**

3.  Trusts the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) to fairly evaluate, and ultimately decide upon the submitted territorial claims of the Arctic countries,

4.  Calls upon the European Commission to continue pursuing observer status in the Arctic Council;

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http://www.offshoreenergytoday.com/activists-chain-themselves-to-shells-vessel-arctic-challenger/
http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/shell-abandons-arctic-oil-drilling-impact-in-seattle-unclear/

[4] European Commission: 2030 Energy Strategy. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-strategy/2030-energy-strategy

[5] United Nations: Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic Region. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday/pdf/Indigenous_Arctic_Eng.pdf

[6] These values are sustainability, accountability and respect for the endangered environment of the Arctic region. Retrieved from: https://eeas.europa.eu/arctic_region/docs/160427_joint-communication-an-integrated-european-union-policy-for-the-arctic_en.pdf

[7] According to Article 34 (1) TEU, "Member States shall coordinate their action in international organisations and at international conferences. They shall uphold the Union's positions in such forums (…). In international organisations and at international conferences where not all the Member States participate, those which do take part shall uphold the Union's positions. Retrieved from: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=celex%3A12012M%2FTXT.

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**Exploitation of the Arctic's resources**

5. Endorses continued research in the areas of risk assessment of the exploitation, drilling and mining safety in the Arctic seas, means of renewable energy, and oil spills in the Arctic region by means of the Horizon 2020 initiative[8];

6. Further endorses increased exploration of the Arctic in the areas of natural and environmental resource dispersal and diversity;

7. Designates the European Investment Bank to provide financial support for reasonable and necessary infrastructure projects to the Member States as well as the EEA members Iceland and Norway, such as, but not limited to, energy grids, harbours, highways, heliports, and railways;

**Preservation of the Arctic's ecosystems**

8. Seeks further harmonisation of the Member States legislation in the areas of:

    a) the issuing of licenses for drilling, mining and the construction of renewable energy power plants,

    b) the sanctioning of corporations or individuals responsible for environmental hazards;

9. Requests non-European Arctic Council members to introduce compensation schemes and fines for corporations and individuals responsible for environmental hazards;

10. Invites the non-European Arctic Council members to develop a regional contingency plan for preparedness and response under the framework of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation[9] for use following environmental emergencies;

11. Expresses its appreciation towards the OSPAR Commission and the EU Northern Dimension Policy for their efforts in preserving the biodiversity of the Arctic region;

12. Notes the potential of the Arctic region in completing the European Energy Union and achieving the 2030 goals;

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[8] Horizon 2020 is a European innovation and research programme with a budget of approximately EUR 80 billion.

[9] The International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation is an international maritime convention establishing measures for dealing with oil pollution incidents.

**Inclusion of the Arctic's indigenous people**

13. Further encourages the improve the recognition of indigenous groups with the purpose of allowing their participation in the Arctic Council;

14. Further calls upon the European Commission and the other Arctic Council members to include other parties, such as indigenous peoples, Non-Governmental Organisations and business representatives in the sessions of the proposed European Arctic Stakeholder Forum[10].

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[10] The European Arctic Stakeholder Forum is an annual forum planned to commence in 2017, with the purpose of coordinating EU institutions and Member States, as well as regional and local authorities. The aim of the forum is to identify key investments and research priorities for European funds in the European Arctic region.

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# FACT SHEET FOR EMPL II

**Social enterprises**

The Social Business Initiative (SBI) defines a social enterprise as follows:[1]
- its primary objective is to achieve social impact rather than generating profit for owners and shareholders;
- it uses its surpluses mainly to achieve these social goals;
- it is managed by social entrepreneurs in an accountable, transparent and innovative way, in particular by involving workers, customers and stakeholders affected by its business activity.

The definition also incorporates three dimensions:
- an entrepreneurial dimension, i.e. engagement in continuous economic activity, which distinguishes social enterprises from traditional non-profit organisations and social economy entities (pursuing a social aim and generating some form of self-financing, but not necessarily engaged in regular trading activity);
- a social dimension, i.e. primary and explicit social purpose, which distinguishes social enterprises from mainstream (for-profit) enterprises;
- a governance dimension, i.e. the existence of mechanisms to 'lock' in the social goals of the organisation.

**Legal environment**

22 out of 28 EU countries do not have a specific policy framework for supporting the development of social enterprise, and seven are in the process of developing one.[2]

Specific social enterprise marks or certification schemes are only found in Finland, Germany, Poland and the United Kingdom.[3]

**Education**

In an operational European group of entrepreneurs, 48% will have had a post-secondary education. In Australia and the US this percentage rests at 62%.[4]

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[1] DG Internal Market and Services (2015). The Social Business Initiative of the European Commission. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/1aF4DGd

[2] ICF Consulting services (2014). A map of social enterprises and their eco-systems in Europe. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/29RNxxf.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (2016). GEM 2015/2016 Global Report. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/1Lge4OP

**Economy**

Income derived from market sources varies by country and business model. For example, in countries like the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Italy and the United Kingdom, social enterprises derive a majority of their revenue from market sources, particularly from the sale of goods and services to public authorities. In several other countries for which data is available, the entrepreneurial dimension was found to be weaker with social enterprises, deriving less than 50% of their revenue from market sources.[5]

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[5] ICF Consulting services (2014). A map of social enterprises and their eco-systems in Europe. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/29RNxxf.

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

**In light of the Social Business Initiative launched by the European Commission in 2011, how should the EU approach the continued rise and impact of social entrepreneurship initiatives?**

**Submitted by:**

Nina Allaert (BE), Alexandra Constantinescu (RO), Dominik Frej (PL), Kaspars Grabovskis (LV), Jana Jarck (DE), Daria Karlenko (UA), Daniela Kietz (FI), Anastasiia Kurbatkina (RU), Alice Martinotti (IT), Róise McGagh (IE), Paco Pronk (NL), Iman Slaka (SE), Barbora Vašková (CZ)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A.  Believing that the promotion of social enterprises is crucial in order to tackle pressing societal issues,

B.  Fully aware of differences in approach among Member States and the lack of adequate legal frameworks for social enterprises, thus leading to difficulties for social entrepreneurs to start a business,[1]

C.  Having examined that the lack of a common definition of social entrepreneurship within the EU leads to difficulties for social enterprises to grow internationally,

D.  Noting with regret the lack of adequate data available on social enterprises within EU,[2]

E.  Concerned by the inadequate sharing of knowledge and practices between social entrepreneurs,

F.  Noting with concern the challenges aspiring social entrepreneurs face in setting up a social business due to a lack of adequate skills and high economic risk,[3]

G.  Deeply concerned by the lack of viable business models and mentoring schemes, such as business incubators,[4]

H.  Alarmed by the uncertain economic and social sustainability of social

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[1] ICF Consulting Services (2014). A map of social enterprises and their eco-systems in Europe. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/29RNxxf

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Business incubation is a unique and highly flexible combination of business development processes, infrastructure and people designed to nurture new and small businesses by helping them to survive and grow through the difficult and vulnerable early stages of development.

enterprises caused by a general lack of entrepreneurial and managerial skills amongst those active in the sector,[5]

I.  Recognising the difficulties faced by social enterprises in attracting financial aid from the public sector due to bureaucratic procedures, such as excessive amount of paperwork and rigid application criteria,

J.  Observing the high reliance of social enterprises on the public sector as a source of income,

K.  Bearing in mind that insufficient awareness amongst citizens, governments and investors regarding social entrepreneurship leads to inadequate investment in the sector,

L.  Taking into account the tendency of banks to provide loans to other types of businesses over social entrepreneurship initiatives;

M.  Expressing its appreciation towards the existence of online platforms like the Social Innovation Europe Platform (SIE),[6]

N.  Convinced that the size and scope of the aforementioned platforms are insufficient;

**Legal framework**

1.  Recommends the governments of Member States to adopt or amend legal frameworks specifically designed for social enterprises;

**Tackling awareness and definition issues**

2.  Encourages Member States to implement the definition of social enterprises used by the Social Business Initiative (SBI);

3.  Urges the European Commission to develop a guide for Member State governments on how to simplify bureaucratic procedures with regards to financial aid opportunities for social enterprises;

4.  Further recommends the European Commission to establish a European Social Stock Exchange in order to:

    a)  publicly showcase social enterprises,

    b)  measure the impact of social business in the EU,

    c)  facilitate an international environment for efficient and constant development of such enterprises;

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[5] ICF Consulting Services (2014). A map of social enterprises and their eco-systems in Europe. Retrieved from: http://bit.ly/29RNxxf

[6] The Social Innovation Europe Platform (SIE) is Europe's largest active social innovation community.

**Tackling internal restraining factors**

5. Urges the European Commission to develop a guide for Member State governments for simplifying bureaucratic procedures with regards to financial access for social enterprises;

6. Designates the Expert Group on Social Entrepreneurship to design business models for social enterprises;

7. Further urges the European Commission to supervise the simplification of the European Social Fund application procedure;

**Tackling external restraining factors**

8. Encourages Member States to provide specialist development support and mentoring programmes for social entrepreneurs;

9. Recommends Member States to create national funds for social enterprises that would offer financial aid;

10. Calls upon the European Commission to create a common labelling and certification system for social enterprises;

11. Asks the European Commission to promote regular events regarding social entrepreneurship, such as conventions and talks;

12. Requests that for social enterprises to join the European Social Stock Exchange, they have to comply with the common definition of social enterprises set in the SBI;

**Social Innovation Europe Platform**

13. Further requests Member States to ensure that social entrepreneurs register with the SIE to develop and exchange information.

EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT

# FACT SHEET OF SEDE

**Refugee crisis**

Currently, 3.1 million refugees are living in Turkey. Of these, 2,733,044 originated from Syria.[1] More than 90% of Syrian refugees live outside of refugee centres. In total, around 270,000 refugees live in 25 refugee centres in Turkey.[2]

By 15 June 2016, 511 legal refugees had been accepted in the EU and 1,546 had been deported back to Turkey from Greece.[3] In the month before the implementation of the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, around 1,740 migrants crossed the Aegean Sea to the Greek islands daily. By contrast, since the 1st of May, the average daily number of arrivals has fallen to 47.[4]

**The EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan**

In the context of the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, the EU is providing three billion euros to the Turkish government to help deliver efficient and complementary support to both Syrian and other refugees. This amount could be followed by an additional three billion euros.[5]

Turkey only offers asylum to citizens of member states of the Council of Europe and Syrians[6]. Other nationalities, such as citizens from Iraq, Afghanistan, and Somalia, must apply for asylum at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). However, they are not entitled to a work permit and do not have the right to family reunification.[7]

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[1]UNCHR Data on Syrian Refugees in Turkey, 2016, Retrieved from: http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=224

[2]European Commission Fact Sheet on Regugees in Turkey, 2016, Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/turkey_syrian_crisis_en.pdf

[3] European Commission's Second Report on Progress Made in the Implementation of the EU-Turkey Agreement, 2016, Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/proposal-implementation-package/docs/20160615/2nd_commission_report_on_progress_made_in_the_implementation_of_the_eu-turkey_agreement_de.pdf

[4]European Commission's Second Report on Progress Made in the Implementation of the EU-Turkey Agreement, 2016, Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/proposal-implementation-package/docs/20160615/2nd_commission_report_on_progress_made_in_the_implementation_of_the_eu-turkey_agreement_de.pdf

[5] European Commission, Press Release, EU-Turkey Agreement, 2016, Retrieved from: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-963_en.htm

[6] Turkish Law on Foreigners and International Protection, 2014, Retrieved from: http://mhd.org.tr/assets/law-on-foreigners-and-international-protection.pdf

[7] Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers, Seeking Asylum in Turkey, 2016, Retrieved from: http://www.asylumineurope.org/sites/default/files/resources/noas-rapport-tyrkia-april-2016_0.pdf

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**EU criteria for visa exemption**

Turkey has not yet fulfilled 5 of the 72 criteria for visa exemption, these being:

- the fight against corruption, as Turkey has still to adopt legislation giving an effective follow up to the recommendations issued by the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO);
- the effective cooperation in judicial affairs between the Member States of the EU and Turkey, in particular concerning the extradition;
- the participation in the Operational Cooperation Agreement i.e. the cooperation with EUROPOL, especially concerning the detection and prevention of severe international criminal cases;
- data protection in order to fulfil the EU standards and particularly to ensure that data protection authorities can act in an independent manner, and that the activities of the law enforcement agencies fall within the scope of law;
- the legal frameworks with respect to terrorism laws, freedom of expression and fair court procedures.[8]

[8]European Commission, Turkey's Progress on the Visa Liberalisation Roadmap, 2016, Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/20160504/turkey_progress_visa_liberalisation_roadmap_en.pdf

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EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT

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

**In light of the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, how can the EU and Turkey cooperate to improve public safety in Turkey, while safeguarding human rights, democracy and the rule of law?**

**Submitted by:**

Salome Bladadze (GE), Sophia Bohlscheid (DE), Renata Chalupská (CZ), Leonie Fabian (NO), Dominik Groß (AT), Tamina Huber (AT), Marianne Kerdelhué (FR), Olena Khailenko (UA), Kristian Käsinger (DE), Oleg Rogoza (SI), Pieta Salonen (FI), Niklas Schiffers (DE), Darius Schlaeppi (CH), Valentina Schutze (ES)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A.  Conscious of the disputed legality of the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan,

B.  Bearing in mind that some refugees have sued the EU at the European Court of Justice (ECJ) and that the ECJ will have decide whether the Action Plan is legal according to the EU  asylum law and international law,

C.  Realising that the Joint Action Plan is the only legal way for refugees to enter the EU,

D.  Deeply disturbed by the inappropriate differences in the treatment of refugees from Syria versus other countries in the Action Plan and in Turkish asylum law,

E.  Deeply concerned that Turkey has greater bargaining power than the EU in their negotiations,

F.  Aware of the mutual distrust between both parties involved in the negotiations,

G.  Fully alarmed by the violation of human rights as well as democratic principles and the rule of law in Turkey,

H.  Noting with regret that Turkey has not implemented five of the 72 points which are mandatory for visa liberalisation,

I.  Alarmed by the fact that authorities in Turkey and Greece are overburdened by their lack of sufficient resources to process asylum applications,

J.  Fully aware that Turkeys capacity limit of refugees has been reached, leading to insufficient provision for the needs, cases of refoulement, and the opening of a refugee camp in Syria by Turkey,

K.  Acknowledging that the recent events in Turkey, which have contributed to the political instability of the area, will influence their negotiations with the EU,

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L. Conscious that due to the Syrian Civil War and ISIS terrorism it is unlikely that the migratory flow from Syria to Turkey will decrease in the near future;

**The EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan**

1. Calls for the decision regarding the legality of the Action Plan to be based upon the outcome of the decision of the ECJ;

   a) should the Action Plan be proclaimed illegal, the EU should immediately suspend the Action Plan and search for new cooperation possibilities with Turkey concerning refugees,

   b) should the agreement has been proclaimed legal, the Action Plan and the improvement of their cooperation will be continued;

2. Further calls for Turkey to adjust its asylum law in line with the EU by expanding it to include other nationalities;

3. Urges against the deportation of asylum seekers who are not entitled to asylum in Turkey until the aforementioned adjustment has been completed;

4. Has resolved to rapidly provide trained staff and infrastructure to Member States to accelerate the processing of asylum applications;

**Cooperation with Turkey**

5. Condemns the violation of human rights and the principle of non-refoulement in Turkey;

6. Encourages the Turkish government to consider the proposals made by the World Bank to achieve greater political stability in Turkey;[1]

7. Encourages both parties to implement the already negotiated Customs' Union[2] agreement and improve the cooperation between the parties;

8. Invites the European Commission to continue open-outcome visa negotiations with Turkey;

9. Recommends the suspension of negotiations surrounding the visa liberalisation should Turkey continue to violate human rights or the principle of non-refoulement in the long-term;

10. Supports the Humanitarian Implementation Plan with financial and material resources[3];

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[1] The report of the World Bank proposes to implement measures in Turkey to strengthen solidarity and social cohesion within the country, implement structural reforms, and guarantee human rights and political freedom.

[2] A Customs Union came into force on the 31st of December 1995. Negotiations were, however suspended in 2002.

[3] Humanitarian Implementation Plan, adopted by the European Commission on 3rd of June, 2016, aims at developing an emergency social safety net for refugees in Turkey as well as provision of food, shelter, protection and education.

11. Endorses further financial and material support for Turkey by calculating payments according to every newly registered refugee originating from unsafe home countries with the requirement that the humanitarian situation in Turkey improves through:

    a) visible progress in the refugee accommodation conditions,

    b) encouraged integration and education.

# FACT SHEET OF ECON

**Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups**

SMEs are a category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) made up of enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million. Startups tend to be SMEs, but are sometimes different because not all SMEs have the intention to scale up, that is, looking to grow in terms of market access, revenues, and number of employees.

A startup ecosystem is formed by people, startups in their various stages and various types of organisations in a location, interacting as a system to create new startup companies.

**Financing methods for startups**

There are different financing methods for startups.

Crowd funding is an alternative source of financing. It refers to open calls to the public, generally via internet, to finance a project through either a donation, a monetary contribution in exchange for a reward, product pre-ordering, lending, or investment.

Venture capital is a type of funding for a new or growing business. It usually comes from venture capital firms that specialise in building high risk financial portfolios. With venture capital, the venture capital firm gives funding to the startup company in exchange for equity in the startup.

Angel investors invest in small startups or entrepreneurs. Often, angel investors are among an entrepreneur's family and friends. The capital angel investors provide may be a one-time investment to help the business propel or an ongoing injection of money to support and carry the company through its difficult early stages.

**European Investment Fund (EIF) and its programmes**

The EIF is a specialist provider of risk finance to benefit SMEs across Europe. Its shareholders are the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and a wide range of public and private banks and financial institutions.

The EIF launched and managed in the 2010-2016 programming period the European Progress Microfinance Facility (EPMF), a microfinance initiative funded by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank.

**EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)**

The EaSI programme is a financing instrument at EU level to promote a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions.

**Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME)**

The COSME aims to make it easier for SMEs to access finance in all phases of their lifecycle – creation, expansion, or business transfer. Thanks to EU support, businesses have easier access to guarantees, loans and equity capital. EU 'financial instruments' are channelled through local financial institutions in EU countries and are market-driven. From 2014 to 2020, it is running with a budget of EUR 2.3 billion.

A part of COSME is the Equity Facility Growth (EFG) programme, which provides risk capital to equity funds investing in SMEs, mainly in the expansion and growth-stage phases.

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

**Keeping in mind the potential of entrepreneurship as a solution to youth unemployment, what further steps should be taken to facilitate microloans and financing for startups throughout Europe?**

**Submitted by:**

Eduard Alsina (ES), Finian Carton (IE), Morgan Cumiskey (UK), Ilinca Ştefana Curcudel (RO), Ivar Fagerfjäll (SE), Dionysia Machaira (GR), Bruno Mesaric Hrebac (HR), Danae Stavrou (CY), Petras Tursa (LT), Julia Wodzińska (PL)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A.  Fully alarmed that youth unemployment across the EU stood at 18.6% in May 2016,[1]

B.  Having studied that 85% of all new jobs in Europe are provided by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), including startups,[2]

C.  Fully aware of the wide range of funding options available to startups, including microloans, business angels, crowdfunding and venture capital,

D.  Alarmed by the fact that European startups are less successful in attracting finance and scaling up in comparison with other parts of the world, such as the USA,[3]

E.  Regretting a lack of awareness by European entrepreneurs of the variety of options of finance available for their startups,

F.  Fully alarmed by the decrease in startup financing due to low investment confidence because of the economic and financial crises in the EU in recent years,[4]

G.  Perturbed by the high rate of loan rejections for young SMEs by banks,[5]

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[1] Unemployment statistics, Eurostat. Retrieved from http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Unemployment_statistics.

[2] Report on How can the European Union contribute to creating a hospitable environment for enterprises, businesses and start-ups to create jobs?, European Parliament. Retrieved from http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+REPORT+A7-2014-0101+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN

[3] Entrepreneurship at a Glance 2014, OECD. Retrieved from: http://dx.doi.org/10/1787/entrepreneur_aag-2014-en.

[4] Unlocking Lending in Europe, European Investment Bank. Retrieved from: http://www.eib.org/attachments/efs/economic_report_unlocking_lending_in_europe_en.pdf

[5] EC Memo 12/11/2014, about the results of 'SMEs access to finance survey 2014'. Retrieved from: www.ec.europa.eu/

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H. Noting with regret the disparity in funding conditions and opportunities available between the Member States,[6]

I. Recognising that the main expectation of European entrepreneurs from governments, 34.4% of those surveyed, is that of financial support,[7]

J. Praising EU funding programmes which facilitate access to finance for startups, in particular Europe's Programme for Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME),[8]

K. Noting with deep concern that in certain Member States startups are taxed the same way as already established medium sized enterprises, thus hindering their ability to scale up,[9]

L. Seeking to attract non-EU entrepreneurs with the skills to build innovative businesses in all sectors of economic activity,

M. Appreciating that in 2010 the EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation implemented a pilot programme that helps vulnerable groups, such as migrants and disabled people, develop their enterprises,[10]

N. Noting with approval the existence of campaigns such as 'Watify' which aims to help startups become more digital and to support new business opportunities offered by digital technologies,[11]

O. Recognising the need for stronger networking between potential investors and entrepreneurs, as well as startup ecosystems, within and outside the EU,

P. Noting with regret that currently established business networks, such as Enterprise European Network, do not reach their full potential due to administrative burdens that discourage membership,

Q. Keeping in mind that commercialisation of research and development carried out in higher education institutions remains insufficient;

DocsRoom/documents/7503/

[6] Venture Capital Investments as a Percentage of GDP Source, OECD. Retrieved from: http://younginnovator.eu/wp-content/uploads/European-Startup-Act-2020.pdf

[7] European Startup Monitor, Kollmann, T. et al. p. 62. Retrieved from: http://europeanstartupmonitor.com/fileadmin/presse/download/esm_2015.pdf

[8] Europe's programme for small and medium-sized enterprises, European Commission. Retrieved from: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/node/1842

[9] Report on How the European Comission can Support Web Entrepreneurship in Europe, European Commission. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=1757

[10] EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)), European Commission. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1081

[11] Watify, European Commission. Retrieved from: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/dem/watify

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**European Level Measures**

1. Calls for the European Investment Fund to cover the interest payments of microloans for promising startups for the first three years of their existence, repaid in case of positive commercial results;

2. Supports the expansion of the Startup Europe programme [12] to include startup businesses from all sectors of the economy;

3. Calls upon the European Commission, using the Startup Europe platform, to fund the creation of Pitch Camps across Europe which would train young entrepreneurs to develop skills needed to pitch[13] successfully to potential investors and let them gain experience;

4. Calls upon the European Commission to fund the hosting of regular business networking conferences through the improved Startup Europe framework and establish an online platform that would provide economic news and relevant statistical information to European entrepreneurs;

5. Urges the European Commission to prolong the successful EIF's programme European Progress Microfinance Facility until 2020;

6. Recommends to improve the COSME programme by:

   a) expanding it to cover all Member States,

   b) increasing the budget of its financial instrument Equity Facility for Growth (EFG);[14]

7. Urges the European Commission to establish a startup Visa programme;

8. Supports the establishment of exchange programs between startup ecosystems in the EU and abroad, thus providing young entrepreneurs with the opportunity to experience a different working environment;

**National Level Measures**

9. Recommends the Member States to implement a 15 percent tax relief for SMEs over the course of their three first years of existence;

10. Encourages the Member States to create mentoring programs regarding the commercialisation of research and development in higher education institutions;

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[12] Startup Europe aims to strengthen the business environment for web and ICT entrepreneurs so that their ideas and business can start and grow in the EU.

[13] Pitching refers to entrepreneurs presenting their company vision/product/business model in hopes of attracting funding and receiving feedback from investors.

[14] COSME - Equity Facility for Growth (EFG), European Commission. Retrieved from: http://www.eif.org/what_we_do/equity/single_eu_equity_instrument/cosme_efg/index.htm

**Other Actors**

11. Encourages the Enterprise European Network[15] to simplify its application procedure;[16]

12. Urges the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education to establish partnerships with startup companies that would provide internships, thus improving the employment prospects of graduates.

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[15] The Enterprise European Network is the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions. It has 3,000 experts across 600 member organisations in more than 60 countries.

[16] Report of the Chairman of the Expert group on the cross-border matching of innovative firms with suitable investors, European Commission. Retrieved from: http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail. groupDetailDoc&id=6008&no=1

# FACT SHEET OF AFCO

**The European Citizens' Initiative**

This initiative[1] needs a total of a million signatories from at least seven Member States in a one year time frame to be taken into consideration, which allows the citizens to directly seize the European Commission on a specific topic.

**European legislative procedure**

The European legislative process works on a principle of codecision between the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers on a proposal from the European Commission[2]. The two bodies have to find a consensus for the draft to be implemented. The Commission represents the interests of the EU, the Parliament those of the citizens, and the Council those of the Member States[3].

**Legal and judicial framework**

The competences of the European Institutions are laid down in the Treaty of Lisbon, it can however only be modified or amended by a unanimous ratification from all Member States[4].

**Growing euroscepticism**

The rate of abstention of the European Parliament elections is 57,46% globally, and from 10% (Luxembourg) to 87% (Slovakia) per country[5].
The votes in favour of eurosceptic parties in the European elections have risen from 7.44% to 9.32% between 2009 and 2014[6].

**E-Voting**

E-Voting is an electoral means that enables the voter to give its opinion through a digital key. This voting system has already been implemented in several countries of the European Union at national level[7].

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[1] Lisbon Treaty (2009), art 8B(4). http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:115:0013:0045:en:PDF

[2] Lisbon Treaty (2009) art. 294 http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2016.202.01.0001.01. ENG&toc=OJ:C:2016:202:TOC

[3] Lisbon Treaty (2013) art. 13-20 http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2016.202.01.0001.01. ENG&toc=OJ:C:2016:202:TOC

[4] Lisbon Treaty (2013), art. 48. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2016.202.01.0001.01. ENG&toc=OJ:C:2016:202:TOC

[5] http://www.touteleurope.eu/actualite/l-abstention-dans-les-etats-membres-aux-elections-europeennes-2014.html

[6] http://www.europarl.europa.eu/elections2014-results/fr/election-results-2014.html

[7] whatis.techtarget.com/definition/e-voting-electronic-voting

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# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

**Keeping in mind the complexities the EU is facing in the policy-making field, how should the EU rethink its institutional structure through the use of innovative tools of governance?**

**Submitted by:**

Andrijana Alempijevic (RS), Cecilia Bitrián (ES), Marthe Caeyers (BE), Melodie Girardin (FR), Olga Golovakina (UA), Matthew Harty (UK), Anastasia Korsunsky (AT), Matthias Masini (CH), Pitt Sietzen (LU), Markus Tiula (FI), Roxana-Gabriela Ungurenus (RO), Necmettin Berc Yoleri (TR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Deeply alarmed by the genuine decline in the trust that citizens give to the european institutions, illustrated by the growing importance of euroscepticism,

B. Regretting the pronounced distance between citizens and politicians due to the complexity of the legislative process and the institutional functioning,

C. Deeply saddened by the conflict of interests of Member States and the European Union (EU) in the institutions,

D. Realising the lack of transparence of the legislative decision-making process in the European institutions,

E. Noting with regret that since 2011 only one European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) has had an impact on the policy of the European Commission,

F. Expressing its concern on the fact that an ECI, even though it has all requested criteria, can simply be rejected by the Commission without it having to give a justification,

G. Deploring the European Parliament not having the right of initiative even though it is the direct representant of the European citizens,

H. Emphasising the existence of initiatives of the civil society, and their lack of impact on the decisions made by the European institutions, due to the absence of genuine discussions between civil society and political decision-makers,

I. Believing that NGOs and civil society can represent European citizens' interests and be their spokespersons by bringing an expertise on the topics they handle,

J. Strongly affirming that the European institutions need to listen more to the citizens, provided that it consists of a structured dialogue between European

**EN**

political decision-makers and initiative-bearing citizens,

K. Convinced that while representatives' election is necessary to guarantee democratic legitimacy, the European Union must develop innovative tools to actively involve citizens;

**European Cititzens' Initiative**

1. Demands that the European Commission be bound to give an explanation on its official website for each rejected ECI fulfilling all the requirements;

2. Recommends that an ECI having reached a quota of a million and a half signatories in a year may be directly introduced as a proposal in the ordinary legislative process;

**Lisbon Treaty**

3. Suggests an amendment of the Treaty of Lisbon allowing for:

   a) The European Parliament to formally invite the European Commission to tackle a precise issue,

   b) In case of qualified majority in the European Parliament (two-thirds majority), the required majority for the adoption of the law in the Council of Ministers to be reduced to a third of voters;

**Legislative Procedure**

4. Calls for the creation of an e-voting system, complementary to the traditional voting system, for the European elections, the implementation of which will be dealt with by Members States, according to their digital development;

**The role of the civil society**

5. Strongly supports the existence of numerous initiatives borne by national associations allowing for more dialogue between representants and citizens through digital tools;

6. Highlights the necessity to increase the representation of NGOs and the civil society in the negotiation phase and the discussions prior to the legislative process of the European institutions;

7. Asks the European institutions to officially publish the report of the discussions between civil society and political leaders in order to increase their impact.

# FACT SHEET OF CULT I

**Definition of regional and minority languages (RMLs)**

Under the European Charter, RMLs are defined as languages which are either traditionally used within a given territory of a State by nationals of that State who form a group numerically smaller than the rest of the State's population, or different from the official language(s) of that State. It does not include either dialects of the official language(s) of the State or the languages of migrants.[1]

**European Charter of Regional and Minority Languages**

The European Charter of Regional and Minority Languages (ECRML) is a Council of Europe charter with the aim of protecting and promoting RMLs within countries in which it is implemented. It was adopted in 1992 by the Council of Europe and entered into force on 1 March 1998.[2] Currently, 33 Member States of the Council of Europe have signed and 25 have ratified it.[3] 17 of these 25 are Member States of the EU.

The Charter is divided into two main parts, a general one containing the principles applicable to all ratifying countries and all regional or minority languages (Part II), and a second part, which lays down specific practical commitments which may vary according to the state and the language (Part III).

**Regional and minority languages in the EU**

The EU is home to over 60 indigenous regional or minority languages, spoken by some 40 million people. They include Basque, Catalan, Frisian, Saami, Welsh and Yiddish.[4]

According to the UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages, 128 languages within the EU are considered to be endangered.[5]

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[1] "Article 1 – Definitions." European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages. http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/rms/090000168007bf4b

[2] "ECRML - Introduction." Council of Europe. http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/minlang/aboutcharter/default_en.asp

[3] "Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 148 (ECRML)." Council of Europe.
http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/148/signatures

[4] "Facts and Figures." Mercator. http://www.mercator-research.eu/minority-languages/facts-figures/

[5] "Endangered Languages and Linguistic Diversity in the European Union." Directorate General for Internal Policy. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2013/495851/IPOL-CULT_NT(2013)495851(SUM01)_EN.pdf

**EN**

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

**Keeping in mind that languages are an important element for cultural diversity in Europe, what should be the EU's approach towards regional and minority languages within its territories?**

**Submitted by:**

Veronika Barkhudarova (RU), Narymanne Benzahra-Ahmed (FR), Nina Djukanovic (CZ), Ataberk Hoşgör (TR), Saleh Jafarov (AZ), Neil Jones (UK), Kate Kinsella (IE), Aleksander Larski (PL), Maria Mautino (RO), Mirka Nieminen (FI), Heidi Park (SE), Samuel Randiak (SK), Ieva Šalnaitė (LT), Kateryna Taranova (UA)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

A. Noting with deep regret that not all Member States have signed and ratified the European Charter on Regional and Minority Languages (ECRML),

B. Deeply concerned that existing legislation across Europe is not sufficient to fulfil the needs of regional and minority language (RML) speakers,

C. Recognising the lack of harmonisation between RML related legislation among Member States,

D. Fully aware of the lack of opportunities to study RML at an educational level,

E. Concerned by the existing social barriers for RML speakers such as:

   i) barriers both to and within employment,

   ii) barriers in education at all levels,

F. Noting with deep concern that discrimination towards RML speakers can lead to different societal issues such as xenophobia,

G. Alarmed that the importance of cultural diversity is not being adequately communicated across the EU,

H. Deeply concerned by threats to RML such as globalisation resulting in the loss of cultural diversity and important national and regional heritage,

I. Affirming that minority languages are underrepresented in public life, such as in the media, public services, public administrative and judicial services, and infrastructure,

J. Keeping in mind that little progress has been undertaken in the fields of minority language policies across Europe in general,

K.  Deeply conscious of the lack of financial support concerning RML;

**Legislation**

1.  Invites Member States to draft a common policy on the protection and promotion of RMLs, setting guidelines in the areas of inclusiveness, promotion and development, and protection of RMLs;

2.  Supports the establishment of an international exchange of RML experts;

3.  Requests that the European Commission:

    a)  undertake a report on the progress of Member States who have already ratified the ECRML;

    b)  detail its successes and areas of improvement in which Member States can act upon,

    c)  continue this report biannually;

4.  Recommends that Member States who have not yet signed the ECRML do so, on the basis of the findings of the aforementioned report;

**Education**

5.  Encourages Member States to introduce national teacher training programmes for native RML speakers;

6.  Further encourages Member States to introduce optional RML classes into the national school curricula;

7.  Expresses its hope that NGOs involved with RMLs may explore the possibility of the standardisation of certain RMLs, in areas such as a common grammar system,[1] a common writing system,[2] and a common vocabulary;

8.  Further encourages Member States to include the history and culture of local minorities in their existing national school curricula;

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[1] The system of inflections, syntax, and word formation of a language.

[2] Any conventional method of visually representing verbal communication.

**Societal integration and promotion of RMLs**

9. Endorses the implementation of training for local authorities and bodies in order to deal with members of RML communities which helps to eliminate social stigma surrounding RML speakers;

10. Calls upon the European Commission to offer grants for specific media projects which improve the visibility of RMLs, such as TV and radio broadcasts or social media sites;

11. Further supports the establishment of free courses in the Member States' officially recognised language open for all age groups at a local level taught on a voluntary basis;

12. Further recommends local authorities to provide opportunities for open dialogue with representatives of RML communities to determine their needs such as translation for local governmental literature, informational resources and surrounding infrastructure.

**EN**

Under the high patronage of
Mr **François HOLLANDE**
President of the French Republic

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