

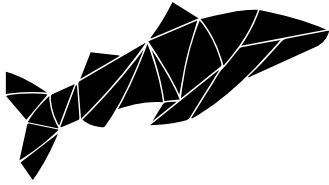


# LAAX 2016

83RD INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE  
EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

## RESOLUTION BOOKLET

7<sup>th</sup> — 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016



The European Youth Parliament's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which only reflects the views of the individual participants of the 83<sup>rd</sup> International Session in Laax mentioned in the resolution booklet. The European Youth Parliament, Laax 2016, or its partners cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



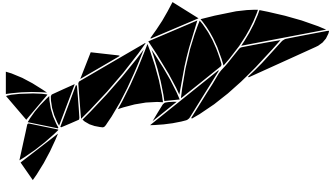
## Programme of the General Assembly

### Friday, 14th October 2016

09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the General Assembly
09:30 – 10:20	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I
10:20 – 10:50	Coffee Break
10:50 – 11:40	Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
11:40 – 12:30	Committee on Foreign Affairs
12:30 – 14:20	Lunch Break
14:20 – 15:10	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs I
15:10 – 16:00	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs III
16:00 – 16:20	Coffee Break
16:20 – 17:10	Committee on Constitutional Affairs
17:10 – 18:00	Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
18:00 – 18:20	Coffee Break
18:20 – 19:10	Committee on Development
19:10 – 20:00	Committee on Fisheries

### Saturday, 15th October 2016

08:00 – 08:50	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II
08:50 – 09:40	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety I
09:40 – 10:20	Coffee Break
10:20 – 11:10	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs II
11:10 – 12:00	Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 13:50	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety II
13:50 – 14:40	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs III Transfer to the Closing Ceremony



## Procedure of the General Assembly

### General rules

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

The authority of the board is absolute.

### Procedure and time settings

Presentation of the Motion for a Resolution

Presentation of the amendment

- Speech by the amendment sponsor (1.5 minutes)

- Open debate on the amendment

- Statement by the proposing committee (1.5 minutes)

- Voting on the amendment

Resolution debate

- Defense Speech (3 minutes)

- 2 Attack Speeches (2 minutes each)

- Response to the Attack Speech (1.5 minutes)

- Open Debate

- Summation Speech (3 minutes)

Voting on the Resolution

Announcement of the votes

### Point of Privilege

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

### Point of Order

A delegate feels that the board has not properly followed parliamentary procedure.

The placard is used by chairpersons after a request from the delegate.

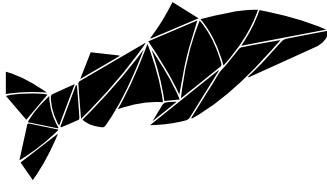
### Direct Response

Once per debate, each committee may use the Direct Response placard. Should a delegate raise the Direct Response placard in combination with the committee placard, the board will recognise them immediately. The direct response sign is used to contribute to the point made directly beforehand.



## Voting Outcome

LIBE I – Passed  
EMPL – Passed  
AFET – Passed  
ECON I – Passed  
LIBE III – Passed  
AFCO – Did Not Pass  
FEMM – Passed  
DEVE – Passed  
PECH – Passed  
LIBE II – Passed  
ENVI I – Passed  
ECON II – Passed  
AGRI – Passed  
ENVI II – Did Not Pass  
ECON III – Passed



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

**Building new opportunities: After the arrival of approximately one million refugees in Europe in 2015, how should European states and civil society cooperate to provide adequate education, training and integration for asylum holders?**

**Submitted by:**

Aleksa Antić (RS), Noa Čemeljić (HR), Adela Cupi (AL), Erik Davtyan (AM), Elisa Irle (FR), Tereza Jeníčková (CZ), Rita Jevdokimova (LV), Elviira Luoma (FI), Olivier Mousel (LU), Arda Ulas Mutlu (TR), Clare Poveda (ES), Ellen Stretton (IE), Zosia Sznajder (PL), Christina Tanou (CY), Ine Weyts (BE), Marie Sanne Van Vliet (NL); Onur Can Uçarar (Chairperson, TR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Concerned about the uncertainty of refugees' futures in Europe due to
  - i) unforeseeable developments in their own countries,
  - ii) unpredictable and often lengthy periods of stay in refugee camps,
  - iii) frequent changes of asylum laws in receiving countries,
  - iv) long and bureaucratic processes of asylum seeking,
- B. Alarmed by the biased representation of refugees in the media that leads to an inaccurate perception of refugees by host country citizens,
- C. Noting with deep concern the discrimination towards refugees by employers and landlords,
- D. Concerned by the lack of information on how host country citizens can engage in activities that might help refugee integration,
- E. Aware of refugees' lack of knowledge regarding bureaucratic procedures and the labour market in the receiving country,
- F. Noting that many refugees are traumatised by the war in their own country and their journey to Europe,
- G. Aware of the insufficient amount and poor specificity of state-funded language learning opportunities for asylum holders,
- H. Concerned that the lack of sustainable and inclusive housing plans for refugees may lead to the formation of ghettos,
- I. Reaffirming the importance of educating child refugees, which currently account for 50% of all refugees that come to Europe fleeing the Syrian war according to the United



Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),

- J. Disturbed by the fact that refugees are required to leave camps shortly after their asylum is granted, which results in hardship and difficulty finding accommodation,
  - K. Alarmed by the complicated and lengthy process of refugee skill recognition,
  - L. Disturbed by the exploitation of refugees in the employment sector through unfair practices such as child labour and longer working hours for lower wages;
1. Aims for a society where equal opportunities are provided for all asylum holders;

### **Social**

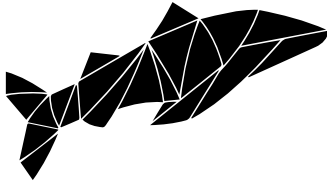
2. Encourages non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to invite already integrated refugees to exchange their experiences with recent asylum holders;
3. Encourages NGOs to organise events such as intercultural markets, sports and cultural activities where refugees and host country citizens can interact;
4. Calls upon the European Commission Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) to create an online network which would connect refugees and volunteers from host countries who are willing to help them in different aspects such as language education, tutoring or providing accommodation;
5. Suggests that the UNHCR works with EU Member States' governments in order to decrease bureaucracy and provide refugees with legal help;
6. Strongly suggests that Member States introduce obligatory and free counselling for refugees;

### **Language Barriers**

7. Calls upon host Member States to provide asylum holders with
  - a) free basic language courses,
  - b) professional language courses for refugees that already have basic language knowledge,
  - c) a citizenship education course;

### **Education**

8. Recommends that Member States provide refugees with interest-free loans for the aforementioned professional language courses, which they will start paying back after they find a job;
9. Recommends that the European Commission DG HOME supports and promotes online language courses for refugees;
10. Recommends that EU Member States implement optional field trips and voluntary work directed at refugees for students;
11. Calls for EU Member States to ensure equal opportunities for refugees when distributing scholarships and student loans;



### **Housing**

12. Urges EU Member States' governments to ensure refugees are temporarily hosted in social housing<sup>1</sup> projects that are integrated in host country communities until they can afford their own housing;
13. Invites the DG HOME to financially and logistically support civil initiatives such as Refugees Welcome<sup>2</sup>;

### **Employment**

14. Instructs the European Commission Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) to establish international nostrification<sup>3</sup> criteria based on
  - a) practical and theoretical tests,
  - b) a Bachelor's thesis defence,
  - c) internships to assess the skills of applicants;
15. Invites Member States to create webinars on the structure of national labour markets for refugees;
16. Encourages Member States to impose random checks in workplaces where refugees are employed in order to ensure that their labour rights are being respected.

### **Voting results Passed**

*Due to technical difficulties, this vote was conducted by a show of hands. The board unanimously counted a minimum of 130 votes in favour in the plenary of 223 delegates. No delegates were absent, and there were two abstentions from the vote.*

---

<sup>1</sup> **Social housing** refers to the low-priced renting of homes which are owned by the government or NGOs in order to provide affordable housing to the ones in need.

<sup>2</sup> **Refugees Welcome** is a social initiative which allows host country citizens to share their flats or rooms with refugees through an online platform to connect.

<sup>3</sup> **Nostrification** is the process or act of granting recognition to a degree from a foreign university.





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

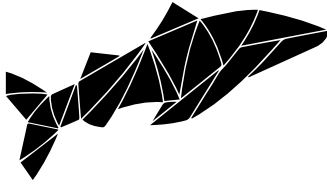
### **Sustainability in a modernised economy: With 87% of workers world-wide unhappy in their jobs, how should more modern, healthy and sustainable workplaces be made available throughout Europe?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Tomas James Hain (AT), Guldana Dadashova (AZ), Saskia Puusaar (EE), Hannah Illouz (FR), Emilia Howard (GE), Nicolaos Moraitis (GR), Enea Bordon (IT), Maria Carlota Martins (PT), Dusan Karalic (RS), Anna Liden (SE), Marriette Peutz (NL), Poppy Richler (UK), Vladislav Korshenko (UA), Tanguy Ciccone (CH), Sigbjorn Hansen Kahrs (NO); Anastasia Ntracha (Chairperson, GR)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Guided by the Europe 2020 Strategy and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 8.2 on decent work, sustainable and inclusive economic growth,
- B. Drawing attention to the European Council Framework Directive 89/391, under which all employers have a legal obligation to protect the occupational safety and health of workers,
- C. Deeply alarmed by the economic losses related to absenteeism and presenteeism that account respectively for losses of
  - i) 2.5% of the average European GDP,
  - ii) 1.35 billion euros annually on a global scale,
- D. Concerned by the fact that one in three European managers experience difficulty in identifying and tackling depression in the workplace,
- E. Bearing in mind the Strategic Framework of EU- OSHA and the Workers' Health: Global Plan of Action 2008-2017 of the WHO on occupational safety and health,
- F. Taking into account that the working environment as well as positive social interactions improve employees' task performance, health and engagement levels in the workplace,
- G. Alarmed by the negative effects connected to the burnout syndrome and the absence of a work-life balance,
- H. Recalling the 2014 discussion of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) with the European Commission on increasing employees' influence in the company's decision-making process,
- I. Observing that happy employees can increase their productivity by 12%,
- J. Considering that various reward systems can boost employee performance rates by up to 44%,



- K. Acknowledging that value-driven companies whose employees have a shared sense of purpose economically outperform their counterparts,
- L. Emphasising the importance of skill development in the workplace as mandated by the 2020 benchmark of 15% of adults participating in lifelong learning, set by the Council of the European Union in their “Future of Workplace” project,
- M. Noting that Europe has an increasingly ageing workforce<sup>1</sup> of 44% which requires support to adjust to technological developments;

### **Health in the working environment**

1. Calls upon the European Network for Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP) to raise awareness on mental health issues by
  - a) emphasising its toolbox on improving health in the workplace consisting of best practices models, questionnaires, and information material for the employers of the companies in the network,
  - b) providing interactive workshops and seminars on stress management for the employees of the companies within the network,
  - c) cooperating with and contributing to the ILO’s Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety database;
2. Reaffirms the importance of a hazard and risk prevention health culture within the workplace by
  - a) promoting the usage of psychologists and mental health specialists,
  - b) organising sport and outdoor activities,
  - c) offering balanced nutritional options,
  - d) asking the WHO to conduct regular surveys on health risk identification;
3. Encourages EU Member States to pursue the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by promoting schemes regarding the progressive modification of the social and physical aspect of the working environment by means of
  - a) introducing smart technology which supports environmental sustainability,
  - b) providing recreational areas,
  - c) allowing employees to personalise their individual workspaces,
  - d) organising teambuilding activities and social events within the workforce;
4. Calls upon the Directorate General on Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission (DG EMPL) to issue a recommendation that Member States follow policies applied in the Danish labour system including, but not limited to
  - a) implementing a flexible working hours management system where employees, given a specific number of weekly working hours, can shift the duration of daily working time,
  - b) promoting employee representation with the creation of a board of employees,

---

<sup>1</sup> An ageing workforce refers to workers over the age of 45.



elected annually by their peers, which participates in regular meetings with the executive board,

- c) endorsing the availability of telework opportunities via the Programme on Employment and Social Innovation<sup>2</sup>;

### **Empowerment and recognition**

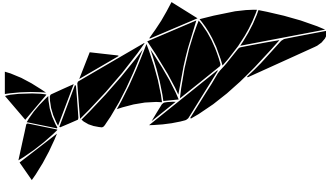
5. Urges the continuation on the dialogue between ETUC and the European Commission, on increasing employees' involvement in decision-making that was halted in 2014;
6. Strongly encourages the implementation of a multi-level incentives system within the workplace based on the social theory on the power of small wins<sup>3</sup> by means of
  - a) setting clear objectives and tasks to be implemented individually and within groups,
  - b) assessing the success of the implementation schemes based on a variable compensation plan,
  - c) granting both tangible and intangible rewards<sup>4</sup>;
7. Promotes the implementation of a 360 degree evaluation scheme within the workplace through the
  - a) creation of a platform, accessible to both employers and employees, for disseminating constructive feedback on individual and group performance,
  - b) establishment of regular meetings between employees and their department managers;
8. Promotes the alignment of employees' personal goals with the values of the company by means of
  - a) inviting the employees to participate in company vision-building and impact workshops, and giving the right to the representatives of the employees to vote on these issues,
  - b) organising volunteer office days towards a shared cause,
  - c) enhancing transparency amongst the different hierarchy levels through constant and direct communication;

---

<sup>2</sup> **The Employment and Social Innovation programme** is a financing instrument at EU level to promote sustainable employment and working conditions.

<sup>3</sup> **The theory on the power of small wins** notes that the workers gain a sense of accomplishment when achieving a series of small goals and specific objectives which can lead to higher engagement levels within the workplace

<sup>4</sup> **Tangible rewards** include cash bonuses and gifts while intangible rewards refer to praise and public recognition for one's work



### **Lifelong learning**

9. Approves the usage of Erasmus+ programmes concerning vocational education and training for specialised skill development and lifelong learning within the Future of Workplace<sup>5</sup> project of the Council of the European Union;
10. Seeks to bridge the gap between different generations of employees by means of
  - a) implementing mentoring programmes for expertise-sharing,
  - b) organising workshops on technological skill development,
  - c) setting different work arrangements according to the needs of each working target group, inspired by the BMW double-production line.

### **Voting results** **Passed**

*In favour: 152*

*Against: 69*

*Abstentions: 2*

*Absent: 0*

---

<sup>5</sup> “Future workplaces” is a project that explores future workplace needs in 7 basic areas including lifelong learning and skills development



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

### **From frozen conflict to lasting peace: After the cease fire of April 2016 in the conflict region Nagorno-Karabakh, how should peace in the region and a long-term perspective for cooperation between Armenia and Azerbaijan be secured?**

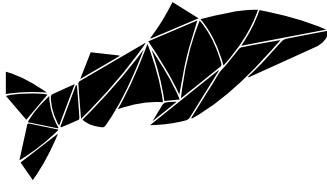
#### **Submitted by:**

Teodors Bankovskis (LT), Beth Bhargava (UK), Daniel De Weerd (NL), Mara Dutu (RO), Patrik Houzar (CZ), Guljannat Huseynli (AZ), Diana Isaian (BY), Gabriela Junquera Prat (ES), Tatia Kakhetelidze (GE), Megan O'Mahony (IE), Stephanie Papatheodorous (CY), Nikola Popovic (RS), Tuukka Rytkönen (FI), Yury Shakhazaryan (AR), Zosia Szewczuk (PL), Laura Zanella (LU); Anna Nichols (Chairperson, IE)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Acknowledging that Nagorno-Karabakh
  - i) operates as a de facto self-declared independent state,
  - ii) is not recognised as an independent republic by any internationally recognised state,
  - iii) is currently de jure part of Azerbaijan,
- B. Disappointed by the events of April 2016, where 350 people were killed in the Four-Day Way, in a break of the ceasefire<sup>1</sup> brokered at the end of fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan in 1994,
- C. Emphasising that an absence of diplomatic relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan and a lack of political will to engage amongst their leaders
  - i) is underpinned by centuries of historical, cultural and religious differences as a source of animosity,
  - ii) prevents the progress of further agreements, peace talks and the normalisation of relations,
- D. Bearing in mind that the population of Nagorno-Karabakh is currently 95% Armenian,
- E. Recognising that the Armenian occupation of 20% of Azerbaijani territory
  - i) is concentrated around the Nagorno-Karabakh region,
  - ii) has been ongoing since Armenia and Azerbaijan became independent in 1991,
  - iii) prevents an estimated 600,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Azerbaijan from returning to Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding occupied territories,

<sup>1</sup> A **ceasefire** is a cessation of armed hostilities between parties. This does not mean that the conflict has formally ended, as the parties have not begun formal peace talks yet.



- iv) escalates tensions and instability,
- F. Aware that the absence of external peacekeepers or international monitoring missions in Nagorno-Karabakh
  - i) leaves Armenia and Azerbaijan entirely responsible for ensuring the ceasefire is maintained,
  - ii) sustains a lack of international awareness and attention on the situation,
- G. Noting with concern that the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group<sup>2</sup> has
  - i) reached a deadlock in negotiations as demonstrated by the outbreak of violence in April 2016,
  - ii) failed to move peace negotiations beyond a ceasefire thus far,
- H. Disturbed that the USA, France and Russia in their capacity as co-chairs of the Minsk Process
  - i) have conflicting national interests on the implementation peace process,
  - ii) cannot be totally impartial because of their historical, social and political links to Armenia and Azerbaijan,
  - iii) are not fully trusted by Armenia and Azerbaijan due to the scepticism both have about the nature of the other's relations with the co-chairs,
- I. Regretting that existing United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolutions have not deterred further breaches of ceasefire by either side,
- J. Concerned that future UN support for the Minsk Process
  - i) is dependent on relations between UN Security Council members,
  - ii) may be undermined if a shift in relations between Security Council members occurs,
- K. Noting that the European Union
  - i) does not exercise multilateral action toward peace and dialogue in Nagorno-Karabakh,
  - ii) has no official strategy or framework for dealing with the conflict that simultaneously engages Armenia and Azerbaijan,
  - iii) instead maintains separate bilateral relations with Armenia and Azerbaijan through separate European Neighbourhood Policy Agreements,
- L. Perturbed that the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline as a vested geopolitical interest hinders Turkey's ability to be an effective mediator in the conflict,
- M. Aware that Armenia's and Azerbaijan's level of military spending escalates tensions surrounding the conflict;

### **Armenia and Azerbaijan**

1. Strongly encourages the relaunch of bilateral diplomatic relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan;

---

<sup>2</sup> The OSCE Minsk Group has brokered the resolution to the peace process, known as the Minsk Process, since 1992.



2. Expresses its support for a sustainable peace based on the Madrid Principles<sup>3</sup>;
3. Recognises the OSCE Minsk Group as the internationally accepted broker of the peace process;
4. Further promotes the work of the European Partnership for the Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh (EPNK)<sup>4</sup> through
  - a) encouraging the EPNK to work with a more diverse range of local NGOs,
  - b) supporting additional EU funding for EPNK projects that engage local NGOs and community representatives in areas of Armenia and Azerbaijan outside of Nagorno-Karabakh;
5. Calls on member states of the UN Security Council or the UN General Assembly to ask the International Court of Justice to issue an advisory opinion on the legal territorial status of Nagorno-Karabakh;
6. Calls for an immediate withdrawal of Armenian forces from Nagorno-Karabakh and the seven Armenian occupied territories surrounding Nagorno Karabakh<sup>5</sup>;

### **Weapons and Conflict**

7. Urges the European External Action Service to make their fulfilment of terms regarding economic and infrastructural support in their bilateral European Neighbourhood Policies with Armenia and Azerbaijan conditional on a limiting of excessive weapon accumulation;
8. Calls upon UN Peacekeeping and the OSCE to begin a process of demilitarisation in the region by
  - a) negotiating with Armenia and Azerbaijan to send external peacekeeping missions to the Line of Contact,<sup>6</sup>
  - b) instigating the immediate withdrawal of local troops;
9. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to offer development aid and peacebuilding measures in Nagorno-Karabakh when further peace agreements have been reached;

### **International Bodies**

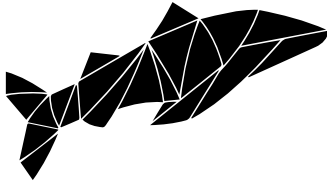
10. Calls upon the OSCE as an independent body to
  - a) monitor and organise a plebiscite on the legal territorial status of Nagorno-Karabakh,

<sup>3</sup> **The Madrid Principles** are a proposed peace settlement for the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. Elements of the settlement include returning Armenian-occupied territories to Azerbaijan, the and a corridor linking Armenia to Nagorno Karabakh.

<sup>4</sup> **The EPNK** is an EU funded umbrella organisation for five international charity groups who work with local groups to promote dialogue and increase confidence in peacebuilding measures across Nagorno Karabakh.

<sup>5</sup> The **seven territories** are Kalbajar, Lachin, Qubadli, Jabrayil, Zangilan, Agdam, and Fuzuli.

<sup>6</sup> **The Line of Contact** is a 160 mile long de facto boundary between Armenian-controlled territory and Azerbaijan. It is where most of the violence of the conflict has been concentrated.



- b) allow for a period of adjustment and IDP resettlement before deciding on a time for the plebiscite,
  - c) clarify whether the eligible voting pool for the plebiscite would include IDPs and current citizens of the region;
11. Recommends the reorganisation of the OSCE Minsk Group through
- a) periodically rotating the entities who take on the role of co-chair,
  - b) suggesting other permanent members of the Minsk Group for the role of potential new co-chairs;
12. Calls upon the UN Refugee Agency to facilitate the return of IDPs to Nagorno Karabakh by
- a) providing humanitarian aid, resources for social reintegration and the necessary relief funding,
  - b) supporting further implementation of Azerbaijan's IDP Great Return Program<sup>7</sup>.

**Voting results**  
**Passed**

*In favour: 211*  
*Against: 32*  
*Abstentions: 10*  
*Absent: 0*

---

<sup>7</sup> **The IDP Great Return Program** is an initiative lead by the Azerbaijani government to restore infrastructure, implementing new economic programmes and create new jobs in Nagorno Karabakh upon resettlement of the conflict.





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

### **From Tobin tax to vertical equity: As inequalities between rich and poor increase in most developed economies, how should fiscal measures be used to contribute to fair societies?**

#### **Submitted by:**

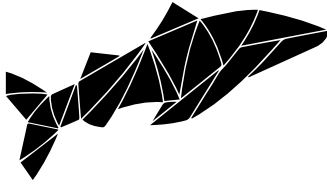
Guido Cimino (IT), Henri Eichholzer (CH), Fadi Fahad (NL), Lukas Feddern (DE), Anne Fevang (NO), Jacob Hoffstedt (SE), Lilja Kanerva (FI), Tanja Mitrović (BA), Ani Mukhigulashvili (GE), Lesya Pohorila (UA), Rania Ramli (UK), Dušan Ristić (RS), Johanna Roniger (AT), João Silva (PT), Frank Üksvārav (EE); Juan Estheiman Amaya (Chairperson, ES)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Believing that a fair society should have wealth redistribution policies that safeguard citizen's fundamental rights and guarantee equal opportunities for social mobility<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Having considered research conducted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) showing that inequality is harmful for long-term economic growth given the accumulated loss of human capital potential,
- C. Noting with deep concern that economic inequality undermines democracy when only a few stakeholders have disproportionate influence over countries' political institutions, decision makers or mass media,
- D. Noting with regret that currently implemented taxation models in the European Union (EU) often place a larger burden on those who have less, by
  - i) mainly taxing income,
  - ii) taxing consumption proportionately,
  - iii) providing incentives for economic activity in the form of deductions or lower tax rates,
- E. Noting with regret that the Fiscal Compact<sup>2</sup> has increased austerity by limiting Member States' public spending to a 3% deficit of their respective GDPs,
- F. Deeply conscious of reports by Oxfam estimating an additional 15-25 million people

<sup>1</sup> **Social mobility** refers to the possibility of individuals or groups to move within a social hierarchy with changes in income, education or occupation.

<sup>2</sup> The **Fiscal Compact** refers to the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (TSCG). The treaty aims to ensure budgetary stability by implementing a debt brake, a balanced budget requirement and an automatic correction mechanism, through which the European Commission can impose sanctions over the Member States which fail to meet the deficit and budgetary objectives.



- living in poverty by 2025 if austerity policies in the EU are not redirected,
- G. Fully aware that 123 million EU citizens were at risk of poverty or social exclusion<sup>3</sup> in 2015,
  - H. Taking into consideration reports by Oxfam indicating that the richest 1% in the EU now hold more than a third of its wealth, whilst the bottom 40% own less than 1%,
  - I. Observing that only 23% of children from the EU, whose parents do not have any academic background, are engaged in higher education,
  - J. Contemplating that the creative destruction<sup>4</sup> resulting from the digital age has been a significant factor in the rise of inequality in the last 30 years,
  - K. Alarmed by the annual loss of a potential €1 trillion in the EU budget due to tax evasion and avoidance, resulting from
    - i) illegally deprived money from public budgets,
    - ii) tax havens which facilitate tax evaders and avoiders by storing money offshore,
    - iii) aggressive tax planning by big businesses or individuals, which exploits the limits of the law;
- 1. Has resolved to urge the European Parliament to submit an ordinary revision proposal for the amendment of Article 4 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, granting the EU shared competences regarding fiscal policy;
  - 2. Has resolved to urge the European Parliament to submit a simplified revision proposal to amend the Fiscal Compact, enabling Member States to pursue more expansionary budgetary policies;

## **Taxation**

- 3. Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a directive proposal for the implementation of income tax exemptions for incomes below the at-risk-of-poverty rate<sup>5</sup> for each Member State;
- 4. Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a directive proposal for the implementation of progressive taxation for capital gains and inheritance taxes;
- 5. Congratulates EU Member States for the implementation of a reduced value added tax (VAT) rate for basic needs, in accordance to Article 98<sup>6</sup> of the Council Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax;

<sup>3</sup> **People at risk of poverty or social exclusion** shows the number of people affected by at least one of three forms of poverty: monetary poverty, material deprivation and low work intensity.

<sup>4</sup> **Creative destruction** refers to the incessant product and process innovation mechanism by which new production units replace outdated ones. Its consequences can comprise the destruction of jobs for non-skilled workers when their functions are substituted by technological advances.

<sup>5</sup> **The at-risk-of-poverty rate** is the share of people with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfer) below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income after social transfers.

<sup>6</sup> **Article 98 of the Council Directive** refers to the application of reduced VAT rates to the supply of basic need goods or services. These goods and services comprise: foodstuffs, supply of water, medical equipment and pharmaceutical products, transport of passengers and cultural events, amongst others.



### **Increase in social spending**

6. Urges the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) to increase the budgets for financial transfer mechanisms, such as
  - a) the European Regional Development Fund<sup>7</sup>,
  - b) the Cohesion Fund<sup>8</sup>,
  - c) the European Social Fund<sup>9</sup>;
7. Urges the European Commission's DG EMPL to increase funding for programmes which provide employment, training and entrepreneurial opportunities, such as
  - a) the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation <sup>10</sup>,
  - b) the Youth Employment Initiative<sup>11</sup>,
  - c) the European Investment Fund<sup>12</sup>;
8. Suggests EU Member States guarantee that at least the poorest 30% of citizens have free access to higher education;
9. Further suggests EU Member States implement progressive tuition fees in higher education for students above the 30% poverty threshold;

<sup>7</sup> **The European Regional Development Fund** aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions.

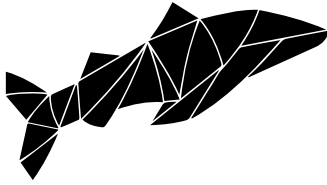
<sup>8</sup> **The Cohesion Fund** is aimed at Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average. It aims to reduce economic and social disparities and to promote sustainable development.

<sup>9</sup> **The European Social Fund** is Europe's main tool for promoting employment and social inclusion. In the short term it aims to mitigate the consequences of the current economic crisis, especially the rise in unemployment and poverty levels. In the longer term it is part of Europe's strategy to remodel its economy, creating not just jobs, but an inclusive society.

<sup>10</sup> **The Employment and Social Innovation 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.

<sup>11</sup> **The Youth Unemployment Initiative** aims to support particularly young people not in education, employment or training in regions with a youth unemployment rate above 25%.

<sup>12</sup> **The European Investment Fund** 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.



### **Fighting tax-avoidance and lobby influence**

10. Urges EU Member States to rapidly implement the Anti-Tax Avoidance Package<sup>13</sup> set forth by the European Commission;
11. Strongly encourages EU Member States to implement the recommendations set out by the Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO)<sup>14</sup> in regards to the funding of political parties.

### **Voting results Passed**

*In favour: 127  
Against: 84  
Abstentions: 10  
Absent: 2*

---

<sup>13</sup> **The Anti-Tax Avoidance Package** is part of the Commission's agenda for fairer, simpler and more effective corporate taxation in the EU. The Package contains concrete measures to prevent aggressive tax planning, boost tax transparency.

<sup>14</sup> **GRECO's objective** is to improve the capacity of its members to fight corruption and increase transparency. It helps to identify deficiencies in national policies, prompting the necessary legislative, institutional and practical reforms.



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

### **A contribution to transparency or a threat to security: Following the Snowden, WikiLeaks and Panama Papers cases, what approach should European states have towards whistleblowers' disclosures of sensitive information?**

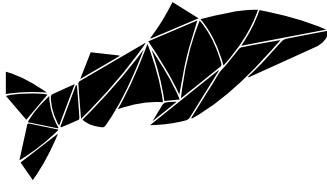
#### **Submitted by:**

Ellen Chkhitadze (GE), Isabel Donaldson (UK), Filipa Ferreira (PT), Ivan Ilić (BA), Vincent Jakubowski (DE), Mees Riemer Jansma (NL), Elias Khabbal (FI), Viljar Jørgesnsen Kjeilen (NO), Isidora Kraguljac (RS), Ustym Mytsak (UA), Ricarda Pfingstl (AT), Romain Prina (CH), Elise Teemus (EE), Lena Teufelberger (ES), Cathal Whelan (IE); David Corish (Chairperson, IE)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Noting with concern the lack of a comprehensive and accepted legal definition of whistleblowing,
- B. Concerned by the varying levels of whistleblowing legislation across EU Member States,
- C. Noting with regret that many EU Member States do not offer satisfactory levels of whistleblowing protection,
- D. Deeply concerned by the lack of a comprehensive and legally binding pan-European framework for whistleblowing legislation,
- E. Deeply conscious that the social perception and acceptance of whistleblowing varies within the individual EU Member States,
- F. Noting with grave concern that the whistleblowers often suffer from negative repercussions for their disclosures while the accused<sup>1</sup> goes unpunished,
- G. Regretting that the term whistleblower cannot be easily translated into other languages leading to very few EU Member States having a neutral term to describe a whistleblower in their native language,
- H. Pointing out the need for adequate consideration towards the wellbeing of both the whistleblower and the accused throughout the whistleblowing process and especially directly after the disclosure of information,
- I. Observing that whistleblowers often do not have the option to choose whether or not their identity is revealed to the public when they make a disclosure,

<sup>1</sup> **The accused** is the person, organisation or entity which is reported or accused of wrongdoing in the disclosures by a whistleblower.



- J. Appreciating the work of NGOs such as Transparency International<sup>2</sup> and Whistleblowers International Network<sup>3</sup> in supporting and assisting whistleblowers throughout the process of disclosing information,
- K. Recognising the need for whistleblowers to be discrete and only disclose information that is relevant and not unnecessarily harmful;
- 1. Strongly affirms whistleblowing to be a non-malicious act which plays a vital part in ensuring a safe, democratic, and transparent society;

### **Defining Whistleblowing**

- 2. Calls for all EU Member States to define whistleblowing as the disclosure or reporting of wrongdoing in relation to
  - a) information that is in the interest of the public,
  - b) corruption and criminal offences,
  - c) fraud, tax evasion, and fraudulent financial disclosures,
  - d) breaches of legal obligation,
  - e) miscarriages of justice,
  - f) specific dangers to public health, human rights, safety or the environment,
  - g) abuse of authority,
  - h) unauthorised use of public funds or property,
  - i) breaches of privacy,
  - j) gross waste or mismanagement of resources,
  - k) acts to cover up any of the aforementioned;
- 3. Calls for all EU Member States to define a whistleblower as any public or private sector employee or worker who discloses information about the aforementioned types of wrongdoing and is at risk of retribution;
- 4. Urges all EU Member States to accept that the aforementioned definition of a whistleblower also includes individuals who are outside the traditional employee-employer relationship, such as, but not limited to; consultants, contractors, trainees, interns, volunteers, student workers, temporary workers, former employees;

### **Whistleblowing Legislation Framework**

- 5. Calls upon the European Commission to propose a directive outlining the legal framework for implementing a pan-European whistleblowing legislative procedure which

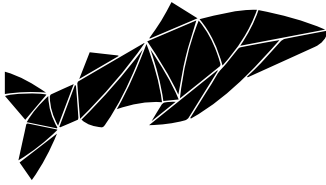
---

<sup>2</sup> **Transparency International** is an international non-governmental organisation, whose nonprofit purpose is to take action to combat corruption and prevent criminal activities arising from corruption.

<sup>3</sup> **The Whistleblowing International Network** is an emerging global coalition of organisations with experience advising whistleblowers and protecting them through the courts, in the press and in national legislatures.



- a) adopts the aforementioned definitions of whistleblowing and whistleblowers as the official legal terms within the EU,
- b) affirms that if an individual comes across information of wrongdoing or illegal activity they have the duty to disclose it to the relevant authorities as outlined below,
- c) strongly affirms that the whistleblower's disclosure is in the public interest and does not result in unnecessary harm to the accused, national security or other external parties,
- d) directs the burden of proof to fall upon the whistleblower to provide evidence sufficient to initiate an investigation by the relevant authorities into the alleged wrongdoing,
- e) ensures both the whistleblower and the accused have the right to access optional support services from the point of disclosure of the information,
- f) confirms that whistleblowers should have the right to choose whether or not their identity is revealed to the public and the accused party,
- g) requests that an annual report be submitted to the European Commission by each Member State detailing the progress and effectiveness of the protection offered to whistleblowers,
- h) outlines that the distinct disclosure channels a potential whistleblower can explore when disclosing information are the appropriate employer or authorised person within the organisation, the appropriate ombudsman or governmental minister within the relevant public sector area of the disclosure, an independent legal advisor, or appropriate third parties such as the police or Media;



### **Further Measures**

6. Requests the Directorate-General for Translation to establish an official and neutral term for whistleblowing in each official EU language;
7. Proposes that the European Commission establishes of a public EU database which is regularly updated with all closed cases under the whistleblower legislation;
8. Instructs EU Member States to ensure that every company, organisation and institution inform their public and private sector employees about internal whistleblowing procedures;
9. Proclaims the interest of the people should be prioritised above the interest of the government when a conflict of interest arises due to a disclosure of information;
10. Encourages the use of existing online platforms such as EU Leaks<sup>4</sup> for making anonymous disclosures in necessary cases.

### **Voting results**

#### **Passed**

*In favour: 165*

*Against: 49*

*Abstentions: 7*

*Absent: 2*

---

<sup>4</sup> **EUleaks** is a European platform established by Greens / Europe Free Alliance in the European Parliament, where you can submit information in a highly secure and anonymous way.





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

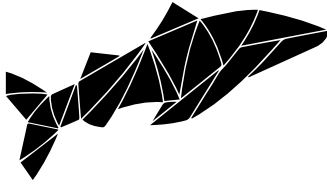
**Facing crises of democracy: Given the decline in general election in all developed democracies, to what extent should national governments make use of direct or deliberative democracy in order to boost the public interest in policy decisions?**

**Submitted by:**

Aikaterini Bannerton (GR), Sofia De Martin (SE), Freya Elgood Curtis (UK), Pia Engelbrecht (DE), Francesca Luzzatto (IT), Amanda Louise Bolann Håland (NO), Klara Kokalj (SI), Louisa Mathoux (FR), Polina Medvedieva (UA), Aijan Mukhtar (CH), Eva Maria Õunapuu (EE), Diogo Pereira (PT), Deniz Turan (TR), Guldar Mardanova (AZ); Arman Gasparian (Chairperson, AM)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Fully alarmed that voter turnout for European Parliament elections has decreased from 56.67% in 1994 to 42.61% in 2014, and the average voter turnout in national elections of European Union (EU) Member States has decreased from 77.7% in 1990 to 68% in 2014, according to Eurostat,
- B. Acknowledging the lack of voting accessibility in certain countries when it comes to
  - i) the complexity of voting procedures,
  - ii) citizens' time constraints and logistical difficulties,
- C. Aware of how citizens' insufficient and inadequate knowledge about the subject and the outcome of their votes is preventing governments from reflecting their will due to
  - i) inefficient education on political and civic matters in schools,
  - ii) citizens' misconception that their vote will not make a difference,
- D. Deeply concerned about citizens' scepticism, declining trust and gradual detachment from political figures and systems due to
  - i) lack of transparency in government affairs and political institutions,
  - ii) the presence of corruption and electoral fraud in voting and law-making procedures,
  - iii) EU politicians' lack of communicativeness on European affairs,
- E. Alarmed by the disenfranchisement and feelings of intimidation and apathy potential voters have displayed regarding existing democratic processes,
- F. Noting with regret that mass media information may be biased and mislead potential voters,
- G. Noting with regret that democracy, if implemented in a politically uneducated society, can potentially incur issues such as



- i) voter fatigue,
  - ii) disregard for minorities,
  - iii) limited legislative power,
  - iv) higher potential for manipulation,
- H. Deeply concerned that few countries take advantage of deliberative democracy in the policymaking process,
- I. Appreciating the positive efforts of countries such as Australia, Denmark and Canada in the implementation of deliberative democracy processes;

### **Citizen Participation in Policymaking**

1. Encourages local government bodies of EU Member States to organise world cafés hosted by local communities during the European Local Democracy Week<sup>1</sup> with the support of national government and aiming at
  - a) creating a better understanding of government processes and specific policies,
  - b) providing a possibility for communication between local governments and citizens,
  - c) raising citizens' awareness on local level policymaking;
2. Calls upon the European Commission's services to increase transparency on policy implementation and improve interaction with citizens through
  - a) funding organised visits to the EU institutions by citizens,
  - b) making online resources more understandable, clearly structured and available in minority languages,
  - c) ensuring that a wider spectrum of different social and age groups is reached by the Members of the European Parliament's interactions with citizens;

### **Education and Political Knowledge**

3. Encourages all EU Member States to endorse the Open Government in Europe<sup>2</sup> project and sign the Open Government Partnership Declaration<sup>3</sup>;
4. Designates to invite watchdog organisations and international non-governmental organisations such as Transparency International and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance to provide support, expertise and guidance in the aforementioned activities;

---

<sup>1</sup> **European Local Democracy Week** is an annual event organised by local authorities in all Council of Europe member states and aimed at fostering the knowledge of local democracy and promoting the idea of democratic participation at a local level.

<sup>2</sup> **Open Government Europe** is a project that promotes the active participation of citizens in public life, more efficient social services, administrative and decision-making transparency and open access to public data.

<sup>3</sup> **The Open Government Partnership Declaration** is a multilateral initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption and harness new technologies to strengthen governance.

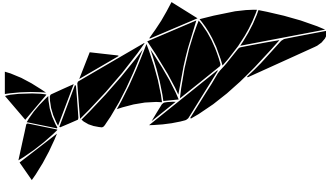


5. Strongly advises national governments to improve the secondary education system through
  - a) the establishment or further improvement of civic education classes focusing on the structure of government institutions and the voting procedure,
  - b) mandatory critical thinking classes;
6. Expresses its appreciation towards the ongoing efforts to make EU-wide legislation understandable and visible through its website;
7. Calls upon national governments to provide citizens clear information about political structures, ongoing legislature and to turn government websites into a network through which citizens can ask questions and discuss pressing political issues;
8. Calls upon democracies around the world to employ direct democracy<sup>4</sup> at local levels on matters that are of communal concern;
9. Recommends democracies around the world endorse of deliberative democracy<sup>5</sup> at regional levels through active engagement of representatives from each community within the designated region;
10. Encourages national and local governments to implement citizen parliaments in which the citizens of their respective country or municipality are selected through stratified random sampling;
11. Trusts in the government of Australia to provide expertise and share best practices on the aforementioned matter;
12. Requests that EU Member States adopt a national election voting system where foreigners permanently residing for a minimum of five years would be given the right to vote;
13. Invites all EU Member States to facilitate voting procedures by
  - a) suppressing the procedure of voting registration,
  - b) offering voters the possibility to vote online, through mail-in ballots or visits to the voting booth in their area of residence;

---

<sup>4</sup> **Direct democracy** is a form of citizen participation in which people decide on policy initiatives by voting.

<sup>5</sup> **Deliberative democracy** is a form of citizen participation in which discussion and exchange is central to decision-making and elements of both consensus decision-making and majority rule are present.



14. Recommends that the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs drafts a resolution encouraging EU Member States' educational programmes directed at refugees to include information about local culture and democratic processes;
15. Urges democracies at all levels to increase public trust in referenda by
  - a) ensuring that corruption and voter manipulation during referenda are prevented,
  - b) providing leaflets that contain unbiased phrasing and simple language.

**Voting results**  
**Did not pass**

*In favour: 92*  
*Against: 125*  
*Abstentions: 5*  
*Absent: 1*



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

**Equal pay for equal work: With women receiving on average 16% lower wages than men, how should progress be made towards income equality for women?**

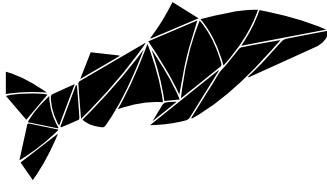
**Submitted by:**

Marina Chochishvili (GE), Stanislaw Czerwiński (PL), Debra Maria Daly (IE), Aline Daneels (BE), Irene Garcia (ES), Noah Myron Hitzhusen (NL), Malin Nyberg (FI), Eliška Rezková (CZ), Katarina Stefanović (RS), Patricia-Elena Trofin (RO), İlayda Uzun (TR), Era Psatha(AL), Davit Yeghiazaryan (AM); Can Elvanlioğlu (Chairperson, TR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Aware that the unadjusted Gender Pay Gap<sup>1</sup> currently amounts to 16.1% in the European Union (EU), varying from 2.9% in Slovenia to 28.3% in Estonia,
- B. Emphasising that the fundamental right of equal pay for work of equal value included in Article 157 of Treaty of Functioning of the EU is not respected,
- C. Appreciates the European Commission's recommendation 2014/124/EU on pay transparency aiming to combat pay discrimination and the persistent gender pay gap,
- D. Considering the apparent dominance of men and women in particular professional fields due to gender based stereotypes assigned by society to specific fields of education and professions,
- E. Concerned by the differences in average wages in male and female dominated fields,
- F. Aware that women are less likely to be hired than men because employers fear economic ineffectiveness in the cases of pregnancy, parental leave and child rearing duties,
- G. Deeply concerned that the portrayal of men and women in mass media and popular culture perpetuates prejudices and reinforces the public perception of gender roles,
- H. Keeping in mind that the abrupt implementation of gender quotas can have negative effects on the performance of pre-existing employees,
- I. Noting that women are often less inclined than male candidates to negotiate their employment contract resulting in lower remuneration,
- J. Disturbed that 32.9% of women do part-time work as opposed to 8.9% of men, that women are employed in less well paid jobs and are less represented in decision making positions as

<sup>1</sup> **The unadjusted gender pay gap** is the difference between the average gross hourly earnings of men and women expressed as a percentage of the average gross hourly earnings of men.



- i) they often perform most domestic duties,
  - ii) employers do not account for childrearing duties,
  - iii) national governments do not provide parents with sufficient support to combine their professional and domestic duties,
- K. Acknowledging the gender gap in pensions in the EU is 39% as a result of the gender pay gap,
- L. Disturbed that only 21.2% of board members of the largest publicly listed companies in the EU are women due to
  - i) Chief Executive positions being dominated by men,
  - ii) nepotism,
  - iii) direct discrimination and unequal opportunities in the workplace;

### **Pay Transparency**

1. Requests EU Member States to provide an equal pay self-test tool for companies to identify and measure unexplained wage differences by gender;
2. Supports the adoption of annual pay reports by employers accessible to the general public and submitted for review to national labour inspection authorities, trade unions or worker committees and employer representatives present in the Standing Committee for Social Dialogue<sup>2</sup>;

### **Childbearing and Child rearing**

3. Recommends EU Member States to adopt legislation that guarantees three months of non-transferable mandatory paid parental leave to each legal guardian and an additional three months of leave granted to the legal guardians to share as they choose;
4. Further recommends EU Member States to ensure sufficient public funding for childcare facilities to make day care widely accessible;

### **Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the Workplace**

5. Promotes the introduction of an anonymous and genderless preliminary application system on the labour market;
6. Advises the World Health Organisation to award enterprises with more than 25 employees, that conduct wage analysis by gender and set out strategies to correct unjustified differences, with the business equality label<sup>3</sup>;

---

<sup>2</sup> **The Standing Committee for Social Dialogue** consists of a maximum of 66 representatives of the social partners, comprising an equal number of employers' and workers' representatives.

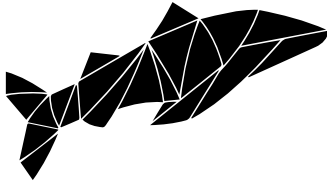
<sup>3</sup> **The business equality label** is based on neutral remuneration criteria and job classification systems free of gender bias reviewed by the Evaluation Committee.



7. Encourages the implementation of leadership and management training to ensure the availability of qualified personnel of both genders in EU Member States where gender quotas apply for management positions;
8. Encourages EU Member States to raise awareness of the gender pay gap by
  - a) supporting existing EU campaigns prepared together with UNESCO and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund,
  - b) organising seminars surrounding women and entrepreneurship as well as career and scholarship fairs in alliance with NGOs and experts on gender equality for young EU citizens.

**Voting results**  
**Passed**

*In favour: 131*  
*Against: 102*  
*Abstentions: 5*  
*Absent: 1*



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

### **Beyond economic poverty: After the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, what approach should Europe promote and which stakeholders should it prioritise collaborating with, in order to effectively end poverty in all its forms in Africa?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Lika Abramishvili (GE), Ezgi Acar (TR), Sarah Christina Bliss (FI), Olivier Cano (LU), Sammy Frenkel (NL), Jules Genbrugge (BE), Veraonika Hauerpvá (CZ), Bogdan Iodchik (BY), Issam Jamaledine (CY), Carmen Jaume (ES), Schila Labitsch (AT), Ljubica Mitić (RS), Samranda Moroşanu (RO), Talin Saghdasaryan (AM), Emīls Vālbergs (LV), Ruairí Walsh (IE); Lukas Rosenkranz (Chairperson, DE)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Asserting that poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon encompassing the economic, social, political, educational, environmental and health aspects of an individual's well-being,
- B. Bearing in mind that sub-Saharan Africa suffers from high levels of poverty as indicated by
  - i) half the population living in extreme poverty, which is defined as having an income of less than \$1.25 per day,
  - ii) 25% of all children being undernourished,
  - iii) one in three people aged 15-24 not having completed primary education,
  - iv) a ratio of 0.2 physicians available per 1,000 citizens,
- C. Deeply conscious that sustainable development requires the empowerment of local communities,
- D. Gravely concerned that food aid represents competition to local farmers, thus undermining the emergence of self-sufficient and sustainable food markets in affected countries,
- E. Affirming the need to tailor development strategies towards receiving communities' specific socio-economic and cultural conditions,
- F. Noting with deep concern that the tying of aid<sup>1</sup> reduces its efficiency by 25%,
- G. Gravely concerned that in 2014, more than \$15 billion of Official Development Aid (ODA) remained tied despite commitments made by donors to reduce tying in the Busan

---

<sup>1</sup> **Tied aid** requires the receiving country to spend the aid at least partially on goods that were produced in the giving country.





- Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation<sup>2</sup>,
- H. Alarmed by the unpredictability of national ODA commitments, as exemplified by repeated failures of most Member States to increase ODA to a share of 0.7% of their GDP,
  - I. Convinced that debt relief granted under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)<sup>3</sup> initiative is not sufficient to solve receiving countries' current or potential future debt crises,
  - J. Recognising that policy incoherencies and a lack of collaboration between donors lead to the inefficient use of funds intended for development efforts,
  - K. Disappointed by the slow progress in the conclusion of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) between the EU and African states under the Cotonou Agreement<sup>4</sup>,
  - L. Further noting that non-reciprocal trade easements granted under the EU's Everything but Arms (EBA) arrangements<sup>5</sup> reduce the incentives for African states to conclude EPAs,
  - M. Observing that corruption diverts development aid from its intended use,
  - N. Defending a limited amount of conditions attached to ODA as a useful instrument for ensuring the appropriate use of funds and facilitating desired political change,
  - O. Aware of the risk that these conditions reduce receiving countries' ownership of their own development process,
  - P. Aware that companies working in African states may prioritise private profit motives over promoting sustainable development;
1. Endorses sustainability, equality, efficiency, local empowerment and ownership as guiding principles for future European development cooperation;

### Local empowerment

2. Congratulates the United Nations for the holistic and multidimensional approach taken towards poverty in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals;
3. Proposes limiting the supply of food aid to short-term humanitarian relief in times of crises;
4. Recommends the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation<sup>6</sup> (DC-DEVCO) to
  - a) reallocate funds from budget support to project aid,
  - b) focus on instruments empowering small local businesses in Africa such as

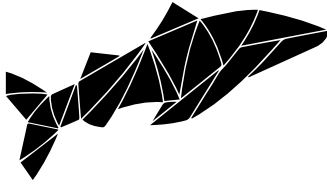
<sup>2</sup> **The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation** was signed by more than 100 donors and recipients of ODA, committing them to principles of ownership, sustainability, and effectiveness.

<sup>3</sup> Managed by the International Development Association and the IMF, **the HIPC initiative** offers HIPCs partial debt relief from several multilateral and bilateral creditors.

<sup>4</sup> **The Cotonou Agreement** regulates the EU's relations to the African, Pacific and Caribbean (ACP) group of states. Focusing on poverty reduction, sustainable development and integration of ACP economies into the world market, it aims at establishing EPAs between the EU and five African sub-regions.

<sup>5</sup> **EBA** grants all LDCs full duty-free and quota free access to the EU for all their goods with the exception of arms and armaments.

<sup>6</sup> Within the European Commission, **DC-DEVCO** is responsible for drafting and implementing EU development policies.



microfinance,

- c) Focus its funding on projects building self-sufficient agricultures and quality education in Africa;
5. Encourages Member States to increase their contribution to the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund (EU-AITF)<sup>7</sup>;

### **Making Development Cooperation more efficient**

6. Requests all donors to end tying ODA;
7. Urges all Member States to agree to incorporate the European Development Fund<sup>8</sup> (EDF) into the regular EU budget;
8. Declares accordingly its commitment to increase the budget of the EDF so that collective EU ODA equals 0.7% of EU GNI;
9. Recommends that Member States promote a widening of the scope of the HIPC by
- a) increasing their financial contribution to the programme,
  - b) insisting on a long-term perspective that takes into account future debt problems of partner countries;
10. Invites all non-EU development partners to sign up to joint strategies drafted under Joint Programming<sup>9</sup>;
11. Calls upon the European Commission Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) to cancel subsidy programmes for European goods exported to Africa that make such goods cheaper than the local goods in the African market

### **Integrating African economies into the world market**

12. Expresses its hope that the European Commission will adapt the following goals in negotiations on the future of EU-ACP relations after the Cotonou agreement expires in 2020
- a) replacing Free Trade Agreements<sup>10</sup> as a part of EPA by an extension of EBA to all sub-Saharan states,
  - b) emphasising the conditions concerning the prevention of corruption, improved transparency of the use of ODA, and the strengthening of grass-root approaches in the consultation procedure,
  - c) drafting socio-economic and culturally sensitive development strategies for African states;

---

<sup>7</sup> Funded by the EDF and Member States the **EU-AITF** supports the development of infrastructure in Africa by blending its grants with long-term financing from development financing institutions.

<sup>8</sup> **The European Development Fund** is the EU's principle instrument for financing development cooperation with ACP countries and is currently funded outside of the regular EU budget through voluntary contributions by Member States.

<sup>9</sup> Through **Joint Programming**, Member States and EU development actors coordinate their development efforts by conducting joint analyses and drafting joint responses for development needs in partner countries.

<sup>10</sup> **Free trade agreements** reduce barriers to trade such as tariffs and quotas between collaborating countries on a reciprocal basis.

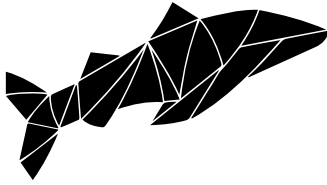


13. Supports the creation of joint ventures between African and European companies through
  - a) offering tax subsidies for such joint ventures,
  - b) expanding funding of Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs to include knowledge exchange with entrepreneurs from Africa;
14. Calls for the introduction of rewards such as tax reliefs or certificates issued by Member States for EU-based companies active in Africa that conduct business practices compatible with sustainable development.

**Voting results**

**Passed**

*In favour: 166*  
*Against: 39*  
*Abstentions: 16*  
*Absent: 0*



## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

### **Awareness, resilience, and innovation at sea: How should fair access to economic activity on European waters be ensured, whilst also protecting and preserving marine ecosystems?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Rafael Sepó Alfonso (CH), Ruslan Ataullin (RU), Flora Clark (UK), Iris Cussac (FR), Yunus Derman (TR), Cornelia Gårdmark (SE), Emil Hasanzadeh (AZ), Andreas Magnussen Kvarme (NO), Joel Laanemäe (EE), Aureliano Morabito (IT), Laura Mulders (BE), Daša Pogorelec (SI), Kira Samtleben (DE), Vasilis Tsenes (GR); Halyna Virt (Chairperson, UA)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Alarmed by the fact that 85% of the world's fish stocks are currently overexploited due to targeted fishing, overfishing, bycatch, ghost fishing,<sup>1</sup> and unsustainable fishing practices such as trawling, ranching, long-line and dynamite fishing,
- B. Having considered that according to calculations by Oceana only 9% of European fish stocks will be managed sustainably by 2022 if current fishing practices continue,
- C. Fully aware of small scale fisheries' positive contribution to the sustainable development of the EU's economy,
- D. Aware that increased marine biodiversity benefits the economy and the world's food market,
- E. Taking into account that only 4% of European waters have been designated as Marine Protected Areas<sup>2</sup>,
- F. Noting with regret the significant amount of criticism towards the EU's Total Allowable Catches (TAC) system,
- G. Alarmed by the fact that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing accounts for 30% of the global annual catch,
- H. Emphasising that existing fleet-tracking technology, namely Automatic Identification systems (AIS), is not used to its full potential,
- I. Deeply regretting the lack of communication and cooperation between the Food and Agricultural Organisations (FAO), fisheries, fish-processing companies, and consumers,
- J. Noting with concern the inattentive attitude of many consumers when selecting seafood

---

<sup>1</sup> **Ghost fishing** is the term used for when fishing gear that has been lost, dumped, or abandoned, continues to kill sea life.

<sup>2</sup> **Marine Protected Area** is a space in the ocean where human activities, such as fishing, disrupting or removing marine life, are more strictly regulated than the surrounding waters.



products and lack of public awareness about the effects of the EU's current fisheries practices,

- K. Viewing with appreciation the landing obligation measure<sup>3</sup> of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP);

### **Sustainability of Fisheries**

1. Urges existing fisheries to use more sustainable alternatives to bottom trawling,<sup>4</sup> such as surface trawling and jigging<sup>5</sup>;
2. Requests Member States to incentivise fisheries to reduce harmful, destructive and unsustainable fishing methods such as chemical fishing<sup>6</sup>;
3. Further encourages Member States to cooperate with Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RMFOs) on building infrastructure for recycling fishing equipment;
4. Calls upon the European Commission Directorate General for the Environment to provide further funding to the European System for Collecting and Recycling Discarded Equipment from the Fishing and Fish Farming Industry (EUFIR);
5. Recommends Member States to use the Horizon 2020 funds to further research sustainable fishing methods;
6. Calls upon the Member States to consider the sustainability of fisheries when distributing European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) funds by prioritising subsidies in research and development;
7. Encourages the Member States to ratify and implement the FAO Code of Conduct for responsible fisheries;
8. Requests Member States to allow the Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) to independently distribute subsidies for small scale fisheries;

### **Increasing Biodiversity**

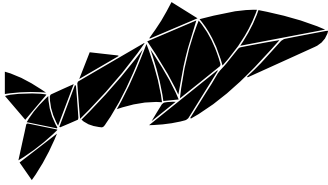
9. Calls upon the European Commission to fully implement the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 with particular emphasis on fisheries;
10. Invites Member States to create additional Marine Protected Areas and adjust their degree of protection according to the needs of the local species;
11. Expecting Member States to register Marine Protected Areas in the Common Database on Designated Areas (CDDA) following the recommendation by the Common Fisheries Policy;
12. Endorses the substitution of the current distribution of Total Allowable Catches (TACs) with a modified Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) system, in which

<sup>3</sup> **Landing obligation** means that fishermen in certain parts of the EU must land all the fish they catch.

<sup>4</sup> **Bottom trawling** is a type of fishing where a large net is dragged along the seafloor harming coral reefs and resulting in enormous amounts of bycatch.

<sup>5</sup> **Jigging** is a method where several hooks are attached to a line, often with lights attached, then frequently jerked in order to attract fish.

<sup>6</sup> **Chemical fishing** means using chemicals such as saponin and rotenone to stun and/or kill before capturing schools of fish.



- a) the amount of quotas large fisheries can buy will be limited in proportion to their original quotas,
  - b) a trial period is used to decide whether this policy is to be implemented in the long-term;
13. Calls upon European States to further develop aquaculture through the Annual Grant Work Programme from the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE);

### **Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing**

14. Encourages the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) to continue their effective work on monitoring commercial fish stocks;
15. Calls upon the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to create a more innovative fleet-tracking system using remote electronic monitoring systems and cameras on board, incorporating the Copernicus Satellite Programme of the European Space Agency;
16. Advises the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) to increase communication and cooperation with monitoring bodies, such as the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) and Regional Fisheries Bodies, in order to prevent illegal and unreported fishing;
17. Calls upon the European Commission DG MARE to improve tracking of illegal fishing by
- a) issuing a common regulation on the implementation of universal fishing licenses and on requirements to the fishing equipment for all Member States,
  - b) working with monitoring organisations, such as the Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring and Evaluation (FAME) support unit, to conduct unannounced inspections of fisheries and confiscate fishing licenses when appropriate;

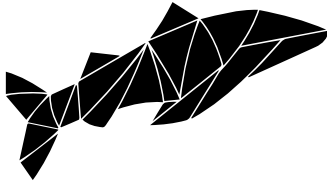
**Communication and Cooperation**

18. Promotes the creation of a social network where all stakeholders on all levels can communicate, cooperate and share information, as demonstrated by the already existing Agrimates<sup>7</sup>;
19. Recommends addition of statistics on bycatch data in the EU Data Collection Framework (DCF);
20. Aims to create a sense of consumer responsibility through
  - a) implementing educational programmes and initiatives such as Fish Forward,
  - b) labelling sea products and producing seafood guides.

**Voting results**  
**Passed***In favour: 176**Against: 28**Abstentions: 5**Absent: 0*

---

<sup>7</sup> **Agrimates** is an online communication forum, also used as a business social network meant for farmers, students and researchers in the agricultural field.



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

**Leaving no one behind: Building on the Council of the EU's first agreement on LGBTI equality in 2016, how should LGBTI rights be protected in Europe whilst acknowledging and addressing public hostility and reservations of individual states?**

**Submitted by:**

Jules Jonkers (BE), Dimitry Lapatin (BY), Sophie Ratcliff (CH), Mia Letic (CZ), Phoebe Bachsleitner (DE), Florine Henault (FR), Roberto Luis Valenti (IT), Marthe Skogland Wedøe (NO), Ekaterina Khodyreva (RU), Rebecca Matthews (SE), Ester Maráková (SK), Emre Örendil (TR), Kateryna Hlebova (UA), Eileen Maguire (UK); Laure Steinville (Chairperson, FR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Appreciative of the enshrinement of the rights of LGBTI<sup>1</sup> individuals in EU primary law within Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU<sup>2</sup>,
- B. Aware that the European official LGBTI acronym is inadequate in representing the many identities that constitute the community,
- C. Concerned with the disparities amongst EU Member State LGBTI legislation, ranging from acceptance of the LGBTI community and their rights to a constitutional ban on same sex marriage,
- D. Further concerned that the aforementioned legislation divide can negatively impact the mobility of LGBTI individuals and families,
- E. Expressing its satisfaction with recent pro-LGBTI rights achievements across the EU, including
  - i) the fact that same-sex sexual intercourse is legal in all EU Member States,
  - ii) a strong pro-LGBTI equality stance taken by the Council of the EU in June 2016,
  - iii) a comprehensive roadmap established by the European Parliament against homophobia and discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender equality,

<sup>1</sup> In the **LGBTI** acronym, a Lesbian/Gay is a woman/man whose enduring physical, romantic or emotional attraction is to a person of one's own sex. An individual physically, romantically or emotionally attracted to both men and women is referred to as 'Bisexual'. Transgenders are individuals whose gender identity or gender expression differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. Being Intersex means that the individual shows bodily variations from culturally established standards of maleness and femaleness, including variations in chromosomes, gonads and genitals.

<sup>2</sup> **Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU** states that: "Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, (...) genetic features, (...) sexual orientation shall be prohibited".





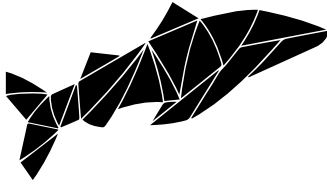
- iv) a list of actions created by the Commission to advance LGBTI equality,
- F. Emphasising that a country's LGBTI rights legislation does not always reflect existing behaviours towards the community in that country,
- G. Observing that traditional and religious values regarding the definition of family often conflict with achieving LGBTI equality,
- H. Further observing that traditional attitudes on the concept of gender often conflict with achieving LGBTI equality,
- I. Deploring the absence of LGBTI issues in most standard national sex education curriculum requirements of EU Member States,
- J. Convinced that stereotypes and a lack of awareness on the reality LGBTI people face are enhanced by
  - i) their misrepresentation and lack of visibility in mass media, advertising, the film industry and other cultural artefacts,
  - ii) the underrepresentation of LGBTI individuals in politics, both as a lobby for their rights, and as role models,
- K. Regretting the existence and a recent rise<sup>3</sup> of violence (assault, bullying, rape) towards the LGBTI community,
- L. Further regretting the lack of law enforcement with
  - i) severe underreporting of the aforementioned violence and discrimination,
  - ii) falsifying the statistics and representation of the issues faced by the LGBTI community,
  - iii) LGBTI rights not always being upheld and respected when brought before the law,
- M. Noting with regret that despite the Employment Framework Directive (EFD)'s prohibition of discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, LGB individuals still face discrimination in the workplace,
- N. Conscious of the omission of specific protection on the grounds of gender identity on the Equal Treatment Directive<sup>4</sup> and the Employment Equality Directive<sup>5</sup>,
- O. Having reviewed that LGBTI individuals face discrimination in healthcare services with
  - i) only 10 EU Member States prohibiting insurance exclusion for transgender healthcare,
  - ii) the non-acceptance of blood donations after admitting sexual contact with a person of the same sex in all EU Member States except Spain,
  - iii) Malta being the only EU Member State to prohibit LGBTI conversion therapy<sup>6</sup>,

<sup>3</sup> For example, in 2015, the UK and France have registered a 22% rise in homophobic hate crimes.

<sup>4</sup> **The Equal Treatment Directive 2006/54/EC** implements the principle of equal treatment between men and women in EU labour law.

<sup>5</sup> **The Employment Equality Directive 2000/78/EC** has established a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation.

<sup>6</sup> **Conversion therapy** is a psychological treatment or spiritual counseling designed to change a person's sexual orientation from homosexual or bisexual to heterosexual.



- P. Noting with concern that LGBTI discrimination prevents same sex couples from enjoying basic housing rights, namely joint ownership with rights of succession and joint mortgages,
- Q. Believing that research has shown that same sex homes are equally conducive to the positive development in children as heterosexual couples' homes,
- R. Remembering that 48% of the transgender population under 26 in the EU has attempted suicide, reflecting the prevalence of mental health issues in the LGBTI community,
- S. Further remembering that most LGBTI youth is facing discrimination, non-acceptance, and rejection within their homes and families,
- T. Deeply concerned that gender dysphoria<sup>7</sup>, including transexualism, is still classified as a disease by the World Health Organisation (WHO), upholding the widespread pathologisation of sexual and gender identity,
- U. Recognising binary gender markers<sup>8</sup> as problematic
  - i) at birth and throughout life when one recognises themselves as non-binary,
  - ii) throughout legal documents of non-binary transgender people,
- V. Profoundly concerned that the discrimination and lack of provision in public facilities towards transgender and intersex people
  - i) forces them to choose sex in order to use the facilities,
  - ii) makes transgender and intersex individuals unsafe when using such facilities,
- W. Noting with regret that transsexual transition is inaccessible for many due to the high obstacles connected with pursuing it, including
  - i) medically with mandatory sterilisation,
  - ii) administratively with the complexity and timeframe of the procedure,
  - iii) economically with the expense of such procedure,
- X. Deploing the non-consensual medical procedures<sup>9</sup> performed on intersex individuals in 21 EU member states, which are deemed a form of torture by the United Nations (UN) is a form of torture;

### Enhancing pro-LGBTI Legislation and Public Opinion

1. Calls for the implementation of the more inclusive acronym LGBTIQ\*<sup>10</sup> as an official EU

---

<sup>7</sup> **Gender dysphoria** (formerly Gender Identity Disorder) is defined by the WHO as: "strong, persistent feelings of identification with the opposite gender and discomfort with one's own assigned sex that results in significant distress or impairment".

<sup>8</sup> **Binary gender markers** generally refer to the social construction of gender in most societies in the world where gender is a dichotomy between male and female, and their gender expectations, roles, and functions are generally very rigid.

<sup>9</sup> **Non-consensual medical procedures** mostly relates to surgery and related medical treatment on intersex newborn's genitals, preventing individuals to choose what medical treatment they wish, when they want it.

<sup>10</sup> **The 'Q' in the LGBTIQ\* acronym** refers to: 1) Queer, which can be described as a broad umbrella term for anyone who may identify as being either gender, sexually and/or bodily diverse; 2) Questioning, which refers to someone who is in the process of exploring their own sexuality and/or gender. The asterisque "\*" refers to subcategories of transsexual individuals, such as transgender, non-binary, genderfluid, pansexual, and so on.



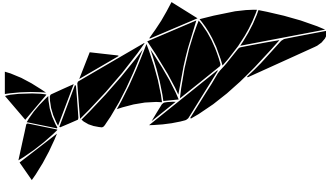
acronym;

2. Calls upon Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia to lift their constitutional ban on same sex marriage;
3. Aims for the standardisation of Member States' recognition of LGBTIQ\* people and partnerships;
4. Encourages EU Member States with supportive attitudes towards the LGBTIQ\* community to lead the EU wide movement for the advancement of LGBTIQ\* rights through cooperation and exchanging best practices with less progressive EU Member States;
5. Instructs that educational and awareness raising campaigns be created by Creative Europe, in consultation with NGOs such as ILGA-Europe and Transgender Europe;
6. Recommends EU Member States introduce lessons on tolerance and acceptance of LGBTIQ\* communities in their primary school curriculum;
7. Further recommends EU Member States fund external providers of sexual education to educate young people on consensual, safe and loving relationships, sexual health, sexually transmittable diseases (STDs) and all the permutations of sexuality, gender identity and sex characteristics;

### **Combatting LGBTIQ\* Discrimination**

8. Compels EU Member States to encourage, support and promote the representation of LGBTIQ\* issues and challenge stereotypes and cisnormativity through
  - a) the establishment of a European agency in the model of the GLAAD Studio Responsibility Index<sup>11</sup> to survey the breadth and accuracy of LGBTIQ\* representation in media and cultural artefacts,
  - b) encouraging both LGBTIQ\* politicians and supporters or allies to speak out in favour of their rights and represent the community in politics;
9. Proposes that EU Member State police forces better protect LGBTIQ\* victims of violence through specific training;
10. Further proposes EU Member States enact anti-hate crime legislation in line with the European Legal Framework on Hate Speech, Blasphemy and its Interaction with Freedom of Expression;
11. Supports NGOs who provide a safe space for victims to disclose their experience, give advice and counselling and offer support in the victim's legal proceedings;
12. Encourages employers in both the public and private sector to hold trainings on LGBTIQ\* acceptance and tolerance in their companies;
13. Calls upon EU Member States to outlaw the use of gender or sexual identity as a criterion for discrimination during recruitment;
14. Calls upon the European Commission Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) to propose an amendment on Article 12 of the Employment Equality directive, stating that "any direct or indirect discrimination based on religion or belief, disability,

<sup>11</sup> The GLAAD Studio Responsibility Index maps the quantity, quality and diversity of LGBT people in films released by seven major motion picture studios during a calendar year.



- age, sexual orientation or gender identity as regards the areas covered by this Directive should be prohibited”;
15. Further calls upon DG JUST to propose an amendment on Article 7 of the Equal Treatment Directive, stating that “employers and those responsible for vocational training should be encouraged to take measures to combat all forms of discrimination on grounds of sex and gender identity”;
  16. Encourages Member States to work towards a healthcare service that is fair and caters to all through
    - a) funding for transgender and intersex specific treatments, experts and investment and research,
    - b) removing all discrimination based on sexuality in blood donation,
    - c) banning conversion therapy as a key factor of the pathologisation of gender and sexual identity;
  17. Aims for all Member States to recognise the full rights of LGBTIQ\* people on housing rights, namely joint ownership with rights of succession and joint mortgages;
  18. Further aims for all Member States to legalise joint adoption;
  19. Supports the continued funding of LGBTIQ\* youth related NGOs through the European Social Fund (ESF)<sup>12</sup> in
    - a) supporting LGBTIQ\* young people unaccepted by their families by sending expert mediators to their houses,
    - b) offering psychological support and counselling, especially to intersex children and their families;

---

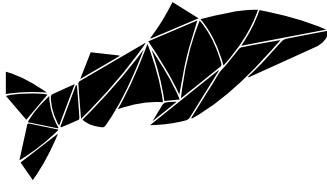
<sup>12</sup> **The European Social Fund** is a fund which provides funding to NGOs working in gender equality and social inclusion.

**Addressing issues specific to Transgender and Intersex individuals**

20. Endorses the WHO's editing of the International Classification of Diseases to further support the notion that gender and sexual identity is innate;
21. Requests the establishment of a third option of legal gender markers for both intersex children at birth and non binary transsexual people;
22. Encourages both public and private actors across the EU to introduce gender neutral sanitary facilities;
23. Invites all Member States to make transitioning easier by
  - a) abolishing the compulsory sterilisation of transgender people as a prerequisite for legal gender recognition,
  - b) diminishing administrative barriers between transgender citizens and gender recognition,
  - c) including sexual reassignment surgery and hormone replacement therapy in public healthcare systems;
24. Further invites Member States to replicate Malta's Gender Identity and Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act especially with regard to prohibiting non-consensual medical procedures performed on intersex people.

**Voting results  
Passed**

*In favour: 158  
Against: 58  
Abstentions: 6  
Absent: 1*



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

### **Health for an ageing society: As Europe faces rapid demographic changes, how should medical care, prevention, and research tackle ageing and the development of sustainable health care schemes?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Niels Appelman (NL), Ilvana Đešević (BA), Martina Havlenová (CZ), Teresa Jakovlev (DE), Aine Kennedy (UK), Nika Kharashvili (GE), Aela O'Flynn (IE), Sofía Rodríguez Pascual (ES), Igor Petrovski (RS), Aleksandra Piela (PL), Claudiu Mihai Popa (RO), Bruno Rebelo (PT), Gunda Sila (LV), Vlada Trofimchuk (UA), Anette Turunen (FI); Dana Kristiāna Skrupska (Chairperson, LV)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Reaffirming that according to the Roadmap for Sustainable Healthcare<sup>1</sup>, people over 60 years will make up one third of the population in Europe by 2050,
- B. Alarmed by the high rate of elderly poverty, caused by the insufficient pension schemes that force certain individuals to work unavailingly whilst others who are fully capable of work are not provided with enough job opportunities,
- C. Nothing with deep concern the failure of national governments to moderate the quality of treatment, care, and conditions in retirement homes and assisted living schemes in EU Member States,
- D. Alarmed by the increasing isolation of older members of society, partly due to reduced social contact after retirement, manifested in the rise of mental disorders such as depression,
- E. Concerned that 80% of the Europeans over the age of 65 are affected by chronic diseases, such as heart diseases, diabetes and dementia,
- F. Deeply alarmed by the fact that even though chronic disease prevention is more economically sustainable than treatment, governments of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development countries invest more in healthcare treatment, whilst only investing 3% of the health budget on prevention,
- G. Pointing out the lack of a worldwide centralised system for the sharing of medical data of patients,
- H. Considering the difficulties faced by older members of society in utilising public services due to a lack of both physical and technological accessibility, such as lack of wheelchair accessibility and IT education services;

<sup>1</sup> **Roadmap for Sustainable Healthcare** is a multi-stakeholder public debate for discussion on concrete ideas and recommendations for long-term sustainability, which took place in March 2015.

**Ageing society**

1. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) to allocate grants of the third EU health programme tailored to Member States' population demographics;
2. Encourages Member States to re-evaluate labour and retirement policies by considering a phasing-out labour period and the opportunity to continue working after retirement, if the health condition allows;
3. Calls upon DG SANTE to enforce a minimum standard of treatment, care and conditions in retirement homes, established in collaboration with World Health Organisation guidelines;
4. Encourages Member States to create co-working spaces for younger and elderly workers to ensure innovative exchange of knowledge;

**Development of healthcare schemes**

5. Asks the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) to allocate further funds from the Horizon 2020<sup>2</sup> budget to the prevention and research of chronic diseases;
6. Recommends that Member States collaborate with the Eurorec<sup>3</sup> to integrate Electronic Health Records into the European healthcare system;

**Public integration**

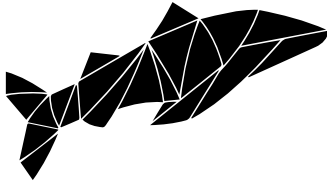
7. Invites Member States to foster social integration of elderly residents by
  - a) improving physical accessibility of public spaces and means of public transport,
  - b) supporting awareness and familiarity with technology through mentorship programmes between local schools and retirement homes;
8. Requests Member States' governments increase national budget allocations for research into mental health services.

**Voting results**  
**Passed**

*In favour: 121*  
*Against: 96*  
*Abstentions: 4*  
*Absent: 2*

<sup>2</sup> **Horizon 2020** is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020).

<sup>3</sup> **The EUROREC Institute** is an independent not-for-profit organisation, promoting the use of high quality Electronic Health Record systems (EHRs) in Europe.



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

### **Investing for society: How should Europe's banking regulations balance the goals of non-financial returns on investment with economic growth?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Nataliia Drozd (UA), Béatrice Ducharme (FR), Anastasiia Eliseeva (RU), Paul Gaica (RO), Constanza Gulli (IT), Henry Hogstad (NO), Gizem İncesu (TR), Nikolas Kalantzis (GR), Lizaveta Karpovich (BY), Mateusz Komsta (PL), Anastasia Masalova (EE), Vincent Thulin (SE), Andries Tjalma (BE), Jonas Weider (DE); Nicklas Kövamees (Chairperson, SE)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Conscious that investments have a wide range of consequences that do not affect the investor and are therefore not taken into account in investment decisions, including environmental, social, and economic consequences,
- B. Considering that non-financial returns<sup>1</sup> are correlated with long-term financial results more than they are with short-term ones,
- C. Contemplating that most investors weigh in non-financial returns only to a limited extent in their investment decisions, according to a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) working paper,
- D. Convinced of the need for a financial sector that acts not only on its own financial interests but also taking non-financial returns into account,
- E. Confident that non-financial returns must be incentivised or discouraged with measures that impact investors directly,
- F. Concerned that large non-financial returns are sometimes caused by investments that are less financially profitable and thus less interesting for investors,
- G. Bearing in mind that there is no necessary contradiction between financial and non-financial returns; many investments can provide both, for example micro finance, energy efficiency, healthcare and technology,
- H. Aware that overregulating the financial sector risks
  - i) reducing economic growth,
  - ii) restraining investors' freedom in conducting their operations,
  - iii) weakening the European economy's global competitiveness, if other countries'

<sup>1</sup> **Non-financial returns** are positive or negative consequences of investments that cannot be directly measured in terms of money, and can for example be of economic, environmental or social nature.





regulation is less stringent,

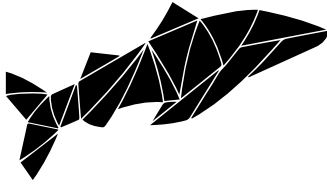
- I. Believing that government regulation needs to be combined with self-regulation within the financial industry,
  - J. Regretting the insufficient size and scope of existing programmes that aim to incentivise investors to engage in impact investing<sup>2</sup>, such as the European Social Entrepreneurship Funds,
  - K. Viewing with appreciation the United Kingdom's Social Investment Tax Relief<sup>3</sup> scheme, which is anticipated to stimulate impact investments amounting to GBP 500 million over the upcoming five years,
  - L. Further confirming the important role of subsidies within sectors such as green energy in making investments therein financially attractive,
  - M. Alarmed that the most significant risk in impact investment portfolios, according to the Global Impact Investment Network, is business model execution and management risk,
  - N. Noting with regret the lack of information available to investors about companies' social and environmental performance, holding back investors from taking it into account in their investment decisions,
  - O. Further regretting the absence of a common framework for measuring, assessing and comparing non-financial returns,
  - P. Further concerned by the difficulties for impact investors and impact investees to establish contact with each other, making it difficult to both provide and acquire financing,
  - Q. Further noting with concern that investors are deterred from small companies and startups that are likely to generate large non-financial returns by the companies' often-short track records, giving rise to uncertainty in predictions about the companies' future performance;
1. Aims to ensure the financial industry as well as regulators make decisions on the basis of both financial and non-financial returns;
  2. Expresses its objective to increase the market size for impact investments in the EU by 80% by 2020;

### **Financial incentivising of non-financial returns**

3. Requests that the European Investment Bank issues guarantees for investors' impact investments at a discount relative to market prices;
4. Urges Member States to make investments in organisations or projects with a social purpose wholly or partially tax deductible for investors;
5. Calls upon the European Commission's Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA) to propose an amendment to

<sup>2</sup> **Impact investing** is an investment approach aiming to achieve not only financial returns but also measurable social or environmental impact.

<sup>3</sup> **The United Kingdom's Social Investment Tax Relief scheme** allows investors to deduct 30% of the cost of investments in organisations or projects with a social purpose from their income tax.



the Capital Requirements Regulation and Directive<sup>4</sup> (CRR/CRD IV) introducing a green discount factor<sup>5</sup>, which decreases the amount of capital reserves that banks are required to hold for investments that live up to certain social and environmental standards;

### Information and measurability

6. Strongly recommends the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund to use the frameworks for measuring non-financial returns that have been developed by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) and the Social Investment Business Group (SIBG) in evaluating potential investments;
7. Encourages all companies and investors that engage in socially responsible investment to use and make public reporting on non-financial returns within the frameworks developed by the GRI, the IIRC and the SIBG in evaluating potential investments;

### Knowledge and information exchange

8. Further calls upon the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurships and SMEs (DG GROW) to organise forums and conferences on impact investment directed at investors, academics, government officials, and companies engaged in impact investing for the sharing of knowledge and best practices as well as supporting contacts between investors and investees;
9. Further requests that Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) improves the governance of and reduces business risk in impact investees by holding management consultants available to provide advice in terms of
  - a) establishing guidelines for and educating companies' boards and managements about creating and executing business strategy,
  - b) providing advice to select impact investees on business strategy creation and execution;
10. Asks that the DG GROW establishes an official website on which companies can present their impact projects and where investors can meet companies and learn about their projects.

### Voting results Passed

*In favour: 147  
Against: 60  
Abstentions: 30  
Absent: 0*

---

<sup>4</sup> **The Capital Requirements Regulation and Directive (CRR/CRD IV)** is a legislative package that regulates how large capital reserves in relation to their risk-weighted assets that banks and certain other financial institutions need to hold in order to cover possible losses.

<sup>5</sup> **A green discount factor** is a discount factor applied to investments or lending that meets certain environmental or social requirements in the risk weighing of a bank's assets. The larger capital reserves a bank is needed to hold, the larger will its cost be for holding this capital, and so also the costs that its interest revenue needs to cover. This discount factor results in the bank having to keep less capital reserves, making it cheaper for a bank to lend money to or invest in such companies.



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

**Farming for the future: As four out of five Europeans are expected to live in urban areas by 2020, how should Europe's food supply be secured, given rising standards for sustainable food production and climate smart agriculture?**

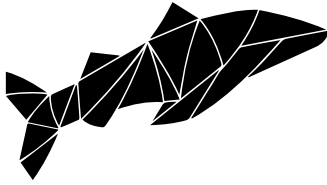
**Submitted by:**

Ayshan Aliyeva (AZ), Erik Andersson (SE), Miha Benčina (SL), Viktoria Bilenko (UA), Patrícia Carvalheira (PT), Frida Faaland (NO), Ekavi Georgopoulou (GR), Camélia Guerraoui (FR), Zina Janssen (NL), Hanna Klar (DE), Alexandre Leuba (CH), Severin Meyer (AT), Madis Steinberg (EE), Vittoria Zaroni (IT); Lena Strehmann (Chairperson, AT)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Taking note of the fact that food demand is expected to increase by 70% by 2050 according to the European Parliament's 2016 Report on Technological Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture in the EU,
- B. Having examined a study of Rewilding Europe which states that four out of five Europeans will live in urban areas by 2020,
- C. Realising that life in rural areas offers fewer job, educational, leisure and cultural opportunities than life in the city,
- D. Noting with satisfaction that the importance and potential of urban agriculture are progressively increasing along with a constantly growing urban population,
- E. Deeply regretting the lack of sustainable and diverse innovation technologies in agriculture,
- F. Fully alarmed that urbanisation results in land abandonment and little agricultural activity in rural areas,
- G. Observing that farmers in rural areas face challenges such as soil and soil mineral overexploitation, pollinator<sup>1</sup> shortages and water overuse,
- H. Noting with regret the lack and inefficient use of financial investments in rural areas,
- I. Aware of the fact that the food supply chain is not sustainable as seen by
  - i) 11% of greenhouse gas emissions coming from food transportation,
  - ii) 42% of food waste being caused by households according to the MAPP centre,

<sup>1</sup> A pollinator is an insect that carries pollen from plant to plant. The most common is the honey bee.



- J. Having considered that 30% of all agricultural land is used for cattle farming according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and that production of one pound of beef requires 6.813 litres of water according to the GRACE Communication foundation,
- K. Observing a lack of consumer education in the fields of food production, food distribution, food waste, and urban agriculture,
- L. Confirming that innovation is an important challenge for European agriculture even though little is known about the performance of the Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS)<sup>2</sup>;

### **Rural Development and Environmental Impact**

- 1. Requests that the EU, national governments, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as arc2020 and private investors promote, support and invest in rural areas through
  - a) advertisement tailored to the specialities the respective rural areas have to offer,
  - b) the promotion of ecotourism<sup>3</sup>,
  - c) infrastructure improvements between urban and rural areas;
- 2. Supports the European Commission's directive on establishing a framework for Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides, which necessarily increases climate-smart agriculture<sup>4</sup>;
- 3. Requests that companies, farms, organisations and citizens stabilise the pollinator population through bee keeping;

### **Urban Agriculture and Innovation**

- 4. Instructs funding programmes such as Horizon 2020 to stimulate the development of urban agriculture by allocating more funding for innovative projects;
- 5. Invites universities and local governments to invest in the development of innovative farming projects such as insect farms and closed system aquacultures;
- 6. Further recommends Member States to encourage knowledge exchange and the creation of innovation labs through increased cooperation between farmers and universities;
- 7. Expresses its hope for the promotion of interactive projects and competitions on farming innovation and biotechnology by educational institutions to generate young and innovative ideas for the future of farming;
- 8. Calls upon EU Member States to increase the amount of green spaces in and around urban areas;
- 9. Encourages Member States to continue developing Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)

---

<sup>2</sup> **AKIS** is a project of the European Commission that has produced a useful set of reports and posters in each EU country, as well as a searchable database and online map showing the many different knowledge systems that EU farmers are involved in.

<sup>3</sup> **Ecotourism** is travelling to natural areas while conserving the environment, sustaining the well-being of the local people, and involving interpretation and education.

<sup>4</sup> **Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)** is an approach that aims at adapting farming systems to the challenges of climate change by sustainably increasing productivity and farmer incomes, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions where possible.



- research with a view to a possible tendency change in relevant EU legislation;
10. Suggests the setting up of a pan-European network to connect rural and urban farmers from smaller- and bigger-scale farms through knowledge sharing and the building of a wider farming community through
    - a) an online platform,
    - b) regularly and locally organised fairs to connect farmers in one region;

### **Meat Consumption and Food Supply**

11. Further requests companies and public institutions to provide at least one vegetarian meal per week to their employees and students;
12. Further recommends the consumption of insects as an alternative to current meat consumption;
13. Calls upon municipalities to offer local farmers more opportunities to sell their products through the promotion of local food markets;

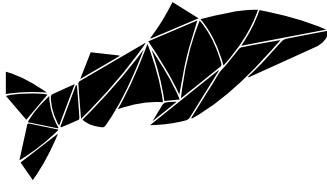
### **Food Waste and Consumer Education**

14. Calls for the EU Member States' Ministries of Agriculture to promote the benefits of composting through organised campaigns involving schools, public institutions and media;
15. Calls upon local waste management centres to support insect farms by providing them with food waste to feed insects;
16. Urges the European Commission to initiate a proposal aimed at supermarkets and restaurants channelling products that have passed their sell-by date to social institutions instead of throwing them away;
17. Encourages EU Member States to promote the usage of food waste to clean the soil from oil through microbial enhanced oil recovery<sup>5</sup>;
18. Recommends EU Member States place more focus on the transformation of food waste into biomass energy;
19. Calls upon EU Member States' Ministries of Agriculture to raise awareness through media, billboards, and school projects on the topics of food waste, local and urban agriculture, and food supply chain.

### **Voting results** **Passed**

*In favour: 140*  
*Against: 93*  
*Abstentions: 1*  
*Absent: 2*

<sup>5</sup> **Food wastes in MEOR** (Microbiological Enhancement of Oil recovery) are used in bioremediation as a biosurfactant to enhance oil recovery and therefore eradicate oil leftovers in seas and soil.



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

### **The two-sided coin of nuclear energy: How should the cross-border risks posed by nuclear power plants be regulated within and on Europe's borders whilst ensuring energy security?**

#### **Submitted by:**

Filip Barda (CZ), Rachel Coulombeau (FR), Naglis Jonas Kazlauskas (LT), Michaël Maex (BE), Marcelina Mierzwa (PL), Jakob Norrhall (SE), Beril Dide Ölmez (TR), Luka Marinčić (HR), Onu-Radu Politic (RO), Liam Wihuri Redmond (FI), Realdo Silaj (AL), Marika Saar (RU), Kristaps Eduards Šerps (LV), Antigoni Tsiakka (CY), Tatiana Villarroel Westerbarkey (ES); Eleftheria-Irida Karasmanoglou (Chairperson, GR)

#### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Fully aware of the lack of common policies related to nuclear power plants (NPPs) in Europe creating tensions between nations,
- B. Recognising that energy falls under the shared competencies of the EU and thus Member States have control over the placement of NPPs,
- C. Approving the joint effort of some border countries which share NPPs and their potentials,
- D. Noting with approval the classification of nuclear energy as a reliable carbon-free source of energy in the 2015 Paris Agreement<sup>1</sup>,
- E. Welcoming Research and Innovation programmes of the European Commission, such as Horizon 2020,
- F. Noting with concern that the new Generation IV reactors<sup>2</sup> have developed slower than initial plans indicated despite being well-funded,
- G. Bearing in mind that the marginal costs of constructing NPPs are higher than those of constructing fossil fuel plants, whilst the costs of keeping plants running is lower in NPPs,
- H. Acknowledging the fact that NPPs have some of the lowest levels of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and highest levels of energy production compared to other types of power plants (PPs),
- I. Noting with regret that renewable sources of energy are highly dependent on weather conditions and thus are not sustainable for providing base-load electricity,

<sup>1</sup> **The Paris Agreement** is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance starting in the year 2020.

<sup>2</sup> **Generation IV reactors** are a set of nuclear reactor designs currently being researched for commercial applications. They are motivated by a variety of goals including improved safety, sustainability, efficiency, and cost.



- J. Taking into account the lack of public awareness of and interest in nuclear energy due to past accidents, resulting in unclear and unrealistic perception of its potential,
- K. Bearing in mind that NPPs are potential targets for terrorist attacks;

### **Cross-border relations and policies**

1. Urges the European Commission to issue a directive which
  - a) requires EU Member States to build their future NPPs in accordance with bilateral agreements with neighbouring states which establish proper evacuation radii appropriate to the size of the countries in question,
  - b) enforces said evacuation radii as the minimal distance between the border and the NPP;
2. Calls upon the European Commission to issue a recommendation for enhanced cooperation between neighbouring EU Member States in the field of nuclear energy sharing by following the example of the Croatia-Slovenia relations;
3. Calls upon the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to amend Article 2.1 of the 2015 Paris Agreement as indicated in Annex 1;
4. Requests all EU Member States to ratify the 2015 Paris Agreement;
5. Re-emphasises the urgency for EU Member States' implementation of the EURATOM Treaty Article 40<sup>3</sup> on nuclear waste management;

### **Research and Development**

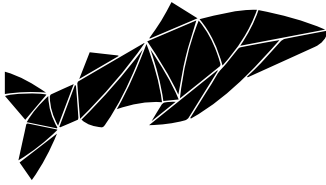
6. Calls upon the Directorate General Energy (DG ENER) to further allocate funding to the development of new nuclear technologies, especially to Generation IV reactors;
7. Urges national governments to provide state aid to nuclear power research and development institutes which work specifically on Generation IV reactors and nuclear fusion;
8. Encourages major European nuclear research centres, such as the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) and Cambridge Nuclear Energy Centre, to collaborate in the development of new nuclear technologies, especially Generation IV reactors;

### **Safety and Security**

9. Expresses its appreciation for the liability measures provided by the European Liability Insurance for the Nuclear Industry (ELINI) concerning the insurance of inhabitants who live close to NPPs;
10. Encourages European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) to include monitoring of the ecological impacts of NPPs in addition to their safety and security checks;

---

<sup>3</sup> **Article 40 of the Euratom Treaty** provides an overview of investments in the EU for all the steps of the nuclear lifecycle.



### **Environmental and Social**

11. Emphasises the use of nuclear power and phasing out of fossil fuels in the European energy mix by
  - a) calling upon the Directorate-General Environment (DG ENV) to increase the carbon tax<sup>4</sup>,
  - b) inviting EU Member States to lower the kilowatt-hour tax on nuclear energy;
12. Encourages Member States to introduce teaching on the importance on different forms of energy production in national school curricula.

### **Voting results** **Did not pass**

*In favour: 108*

*Against: 110*

*Abstentions: 1*

*Absent: 4*

---

<sup>4</sup> **A tax on fossil fuels**, especially those used by motor vehicles, intended to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide.





## ANNEX

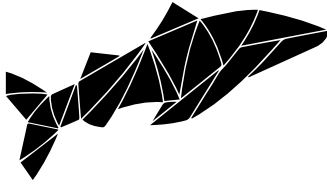
### **Paris Agreement Article 2.1 states that:**

“This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

- (a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
- (b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and
- (c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.”

*(the committee proposes) and*

**(d) Recommending that states prioritise nuclear energy in filling the energy gap left by phasing out of fossil fuels”**



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

**Assessing the growth paradigm: As GDP growth is currently a primary policy objective in Europe, how should the economies of the future define and measure the pursuit of economic success in happy, sustainable, and prosperous societies?**

**Submitted by:**

Agathe Billette (FR), Aleksandra Brzeska (PL), Aaron Connolly (IE), Ludovic Diercxsens (BE), Auguste Dudutyte (LT), David Grigoryan (AM), Helena Jeffmar de Miranda (SE), Kārlis Krēslīņš (LV), Daniel Niklander (FI), Utkan Dora Öncül (TR), Markéta Ovečková (CZ), Anastasiia Pachina (RU), Artenis Peka (AL), Andreea Pop (RO), Álvaro Ritter (ES), Christiana Soteriou (CY); Alex Narayanin (Chairperson, FR)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Seeking prosperity by developing a sustainable multidimensional<sup>1</sup> index built around the degrowth<sup>2</sup> idea,
- B. Having examined that Gross Domestic Product<sup>3</sup> (GDP) growth does not account for quality of life,
- C. Approving the definition of quality of life as outlined by the Eurostat publication Quality of life in Europe - facts and views<sup>4</sup>,
- D. Believing that the elements of quality of life and well-being are strongly interlinked in terms of the data they are based on,
- E. Contemplating that societal changes, such as those in the field of cognitive science since the first introduction of GDP growth as a measurement tool<sup>5</sup>, have made well-being an imperative in realistically reflecting and measuring a society prosperity,
- F. Welcoming the definition of well-being of the Gallup/Healthways Well-Being Index<sup>6</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> A **multidimensional measure** can incorporate a range of indicators to capture the complexity of the matter at hand and better inform policies to relieve it.

<sup>2</sup> The **concept of degrowth** is defined as a sustainable downscaling of production and consumption, that enhances human well-being and enhances ecological conditions.

<sup>3</sup> The **GDP** defines market value of all goods and services produced in a country in a given period of time (usually yearly).

<sup>4</sup> It is defined as “the access to material living conditions, employment, education, health, leisure and social relations, economic and physical safety, governance, environment and overall life satisfaction”.

<sup>5</sup> it became the **main tool** for sizing up a country's economy after the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944.

<sup>6</sup> The **Well-Being index** defines well-being as follows: Purpose: liking what you do each day and being motivated to achieve your goals, Social: having supportive relationships and love in your life, Financial: managing your economic life to reduce life stress and increase security and Community: liking where you live, feeling safe and having pride in your



- G. Having examined that GDP growth alone is not sufficient for policy-makers to make well-founded decisions on national economic affairs,
- H. Deeply regretting that a holistic sustainable growth concept<sup>7</sup> is currently not amongst the driving topics of the agenda of the European Council,
- I. Noting with regret that the unsustainable usage of finite natural resources is enhanced by the current calculation of GDP growth, and thus threatens economic prosperity in the long run,
- J. Taking into consideration that GDP growth-oriented economic policies have driven towards the crossing of four out of the nine planetary boundaries<sup>8</sup> which could mean irreversible Earth system responses with disastrous consequences for society,
- K. Welcoming Bhutan's initiative<sup>9</sup> as an exemplary alternative for measuring the Gross National Happiness<sup>10</sup>;

### **Vision**

- 1. Requests all to shift the focus of assessing prosperity from a purely economic valuation to a social one, streamlined at citizen's well-being and quality of life;
- 2. Calls upon European national governments to implement a three pillar index for measuring prosperity;
- 3. Condemns the usage of the sum of the index' pillars as a single indicator of prosperity;

### **Three Pillar Index**

- 4. Endorses the pillars of the index to be the societal, economic and environmental factors of prosperity assessment;
- 5. Emphasises the practical utilisation of the index, as follows
  - a) the three pillars directed to a general understanding of a society's prosperity,
  - b) the chapters of the pillars targeted at the usage in political decision-making;
- 6. Invites the economic pillar to be composed of the Gini coefficient<sup>11</sup>, the GDP, the consumption rate, the labour productivity measured in working hours, the Gross

---

community.

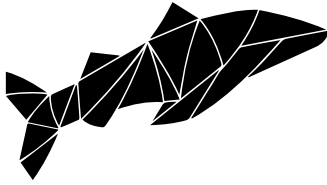
<sup>7</sup> **in the Europe 2020 targets**, the European Commission aims for a resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy.

<sup>8</sup> **Planetary boundaries** is the central concept in an Earth system framework proposed by a group of Earth system designed to define a "safe operating space for humanity" for the international community, including governments at all levels, international organisations, civil society, the scientific community and the private sector.

<sup>9</sup> The initiative represented a commitment to building an economy that would serve Bhutan's culture based on Buddhist spiritual values, instead of western material development led GDP.

<sup>10</sup> **Gross National Happiness** is a measurement of the collective happiness in a nation.

<sup>11</sup> **The Gini index** is the most commonly used measure of inequality in a country. This index is a measurement of the income of a country's residents (based on resident's net income). It helps to define the gap between rich and poor, with numbers ranges between 0 (representing a perfect equality) and 1 (representing a perfect inequality).



National Income per capita<sup>12</sup>, the Global Innovation Index<sup>13</sup>, the unemployment rate in active labour force, and the active labour force in population;

7. Further requests the environmental pillar to encompass the Green GDP<sup>14</sup>, the Climate Change Performance Index<sup>15</sup>, and the Genuine Progress Indicator<sup>16</sup> per capita;
8. Further recommends the societal pillar to be constituted of quality of life and well-being;

### Stakeholders

9. Supports placing the topic of sustainable economic growth and the aforementioned index on the agenda of the European Council;
10. Calls upon the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs to reallocate funding to non-governmental organisations and activists for projects that fundamentally promote and inform the general public about the index and its necessity;
11. Has resolved to work with research bodies and national statistic offices, in order to collect relevant statistics for the proposed index to be implemented.

### Voting results Passed

*In favour: 174  
Against: 45  
Abstentions: 2  
Absent: 2*

---

<sup>12</sup> **The Gross National Income per capita**, an economic indicator by the World Bank, measures the value of all capital produced by a country's citizen inside and outside the country, divided by the number of citizens.

<sup>13</sup> Based on data derived from several sources, including the International Telecommunication Union, the World Bank and the World Economic Forum, the Global Innovation Index is an annual ranking of countries by their capacity for, and success in, innovation.

<sup>14</sup> **The Green GDP** is an index of economic growth which takes into account the loss of biodiversity and accounts costs caused by climate change.

<sup>15</sup> **The Climate Change Performance Index** is an instrument designed to enhance transparency in international climate politics by measuring climate protection performance of 58 countries that together are responsible for more than 90% of global energy-related CO2 emissions.

<sup>16</sup> **Genuine Progress Indicator** has been suggested to replace, or supplement the GDP as a measure of economic growth. The GPI incorporates environmental and social factors which are not measured by the GDP.



## NOTES

Supported by:

**STIFTUNG  
MERCATOR  
SCHWEIZ**



**Finanzgruppe**

**FLIMS LAAX FALERA**  
Management AG

WEISSE ARENA GRUPPE

**EMIL & ROSA  
RICHTERICH-BECK STIFTUNG**

**STIFTUNG  
MERCATOR**


**ch** Stiftung für eidgenössische Zusammenarbeit  
Fondation pour la collaboration confédérale  
Fondazione per la collaborazione confederale  
Fundaziun per la collavuraziun federala

**CLARIANT**



**SwissBanking**



 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
  
Eidgenössisches Departement für  
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF  
Staatssekretariat für Bildung,  
Forschung und Innovation SBFI

**Swiss Re**

**SWISS**

**Hertie  
Stiftung**

**SAPINDA**

**Novelis**  
Not just aluminium, Novelis Aluminium.

**STIFTUNG  
WEGWEISER**

**Paul Schiller Stiftung**

**UBS**

**SWISS POST**

**SBB CFF FFS**

**REPOWER**

**NOVARTIS**

**ZUMSTEIN**  
Papeterie, Bürobedarf, Papier, Künstlerbedarf

Initiated by:

**Schwarzkopf  
Stiftung**  
JUNGES EUROPA

**EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

**EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT**  
**SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA SVIZRA**  
SWITZERLAND

The Schwarzkopf Foundation is the international umbrella organisation of the European Youth Parliament (EYP). EYP Switzerland is a National Committee in the EYP network.