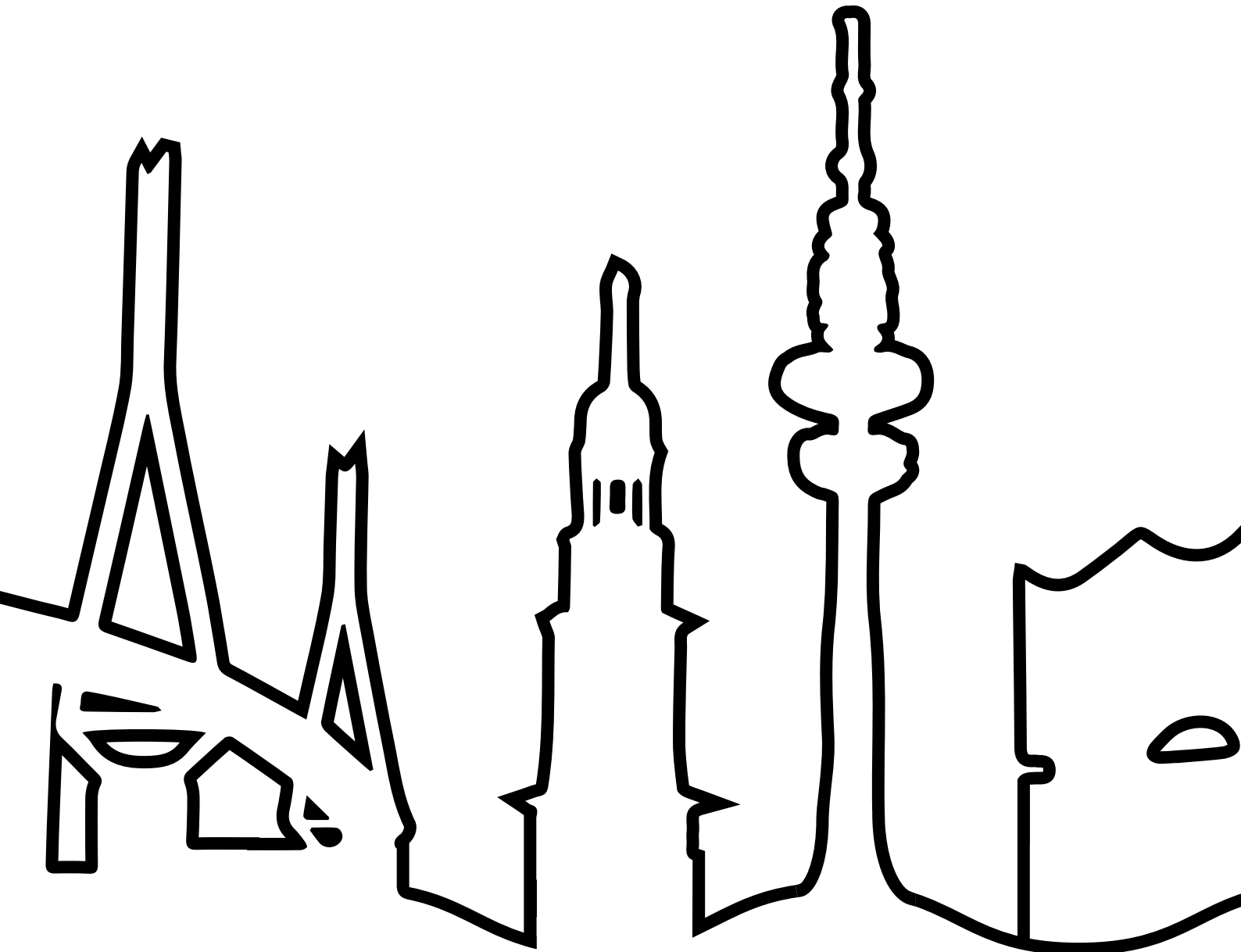


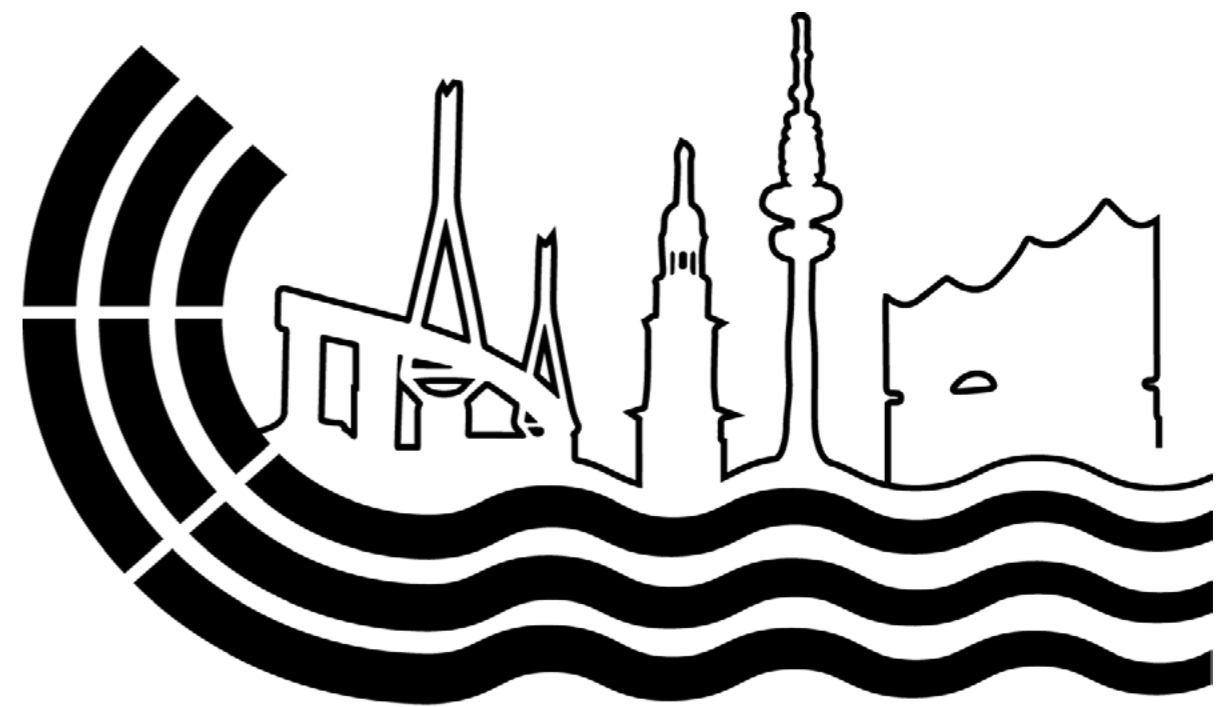
EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

HAMBURG 2019 | 91ST INTERNATIONAL SESSION

EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT





HAMBURG 2019

91ST INTERNATIONAL SESSION
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PROGRAMME OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

10:00 – 11:00	<i>Opening of General Assembly</i>
11:00 – 11:45	<i>Debate I – ITRE</i>
11:45 – 12:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12:15 – 13:00	<i>Debate II – DEVE</i>
13:00 – 13:45	<i>Debate III – INTA</i>
13:45 – 14:45	<i>Lunch</i>
14:45 – 15:30	<i>Debate IV – LIBE I</i>
15:30 – 16:15	<i>Debate V – AFCE</i>
16:15 – 16:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:45 – 17:30	<i>Debate VI – ENVI II</i>
17:30 – 18:15	<i>Debate VII – JURI</i>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

09:15 – 10:00	<i>Debate VIII – CULT</i>
10:00 – 10:45	<i>Debate IX – ECON</i>
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15 – 12:00	<i>Debate X – REGI</i>
12:00 – 12:45	<i>Debate XI – SEDE</i>
12:45 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	<i>Debate XII – LIBE II</i>
14:15 – 15:00	<i>Debate XIII – IMCO</i>
15:15 – 16:00	<i>Debate XIV – ENVI I</i>
16:00 – 16:45	<i>Debate XV – EMPL</i>
16:45 – 17:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17:15 – 18:15	<i>Closing Ceremony</i>



GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

Defence Speech (3 minutes)

Two Position Speeches (90 seconds each)

Response to Attack Speeches (90 seconds)

Open debate

Summation Speech (3 minutes)

Voting

REMEMBER.
REFLECT.
REACT.





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

Technological innovation in the energy sector: Transitioning towards a sustainable Europe.

With the transformation within Europe's energy systems from conventional to renewable power potentially taking decades, investments in research and development are key to facilitating and expediting the process. What steps should be taken to promote innovation and provide the best conditions for this transition to occur?

Submitted by: Kamila Abdullah (SE), Luan Blakaj (CH), Ezra Cerpac (NL), Andrii Chemerysov (UA), Yeseo Choi (DE), Kato Herregods (BE), Amelia Kurti (AL), Adrian Mladenici Grobelni (SI), Iida Salonurmi (FI), Matteo Severi (IT), Simonas Simenas (LT), Mateusz Wawrzyniak (PL), Julia Zygmunt (AT), Klara Birchley (Chairperson, PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the vulnerable position of the EU due to a lack of **energy security** that is a consequence of its high **dependency rate** of 55%¹ on imports of non-renewable energy from third countries,
- B. Highlighting that the EU currently relies on fossil fuels for 80%² of its energy supplies,
- C. Concerned by the ineffective **electricity grid** within the EU which causes low electricity interconnection between Member States,
- D. Noticing with regret that the EU currently lacks the means to store excess in energy production, thus resulting in a diminished energy security,
- E. Regretting the existence of leaks within the electricity grid due to the lack of efficient infrastructure and technologies,
- F. Emphasising that the legislative differences and contrasting foreign policies throughout Member States may hinder the establishment of a fully integrated **European energy market**,
- G. Acknowledging the fact that although the **Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action** requires Member States to report on their progress to the European Commission and reminds them of the climate targets of the EU, it does not impose any concrete policy changes or immediate actions,
- H. Alarmed by the lack of economic interest by some Member States to transition to renewable energy and reach the 2030 Energy and Climate Framework targets set by the EU,
- I. Noting the fact that achieving the goals of the **2030 Climate and Energy Framework** will require an estimated EUR 180 billion³ in additional annual investment between 2020 and 2030,
- J. Deeply alarmed by the diminishing will of the private sector to invest in new technologies in the sustainable energy industry due to the occurrence of the **valley of death**⁴,
- K. Noting with concern that the higher costs of electricity from sustainable energy sources currently result in them being less favourable amongst consumers,

¹ "Energy imports dependency", Eurostat, 2017

² "Energy technology & innovation", EU Science Hub, 2018

³ "Fourth Report on the State of the Energy Union" European Commission, 2019

⁴ "[Boldly crossing the Valley of Death](#)", Renewable Energy World, 2010

- L. Conscious of the absence of consumer investments in sustainable energy sources, due to:
 - i) a lack of knowledge about their viability, existence and benefits,
 - ii) traditions that revolve around fossil fuels,
 - iii) the lack of financial means,
- M. Deploring the fact that consumers across the EU do not have the possibility to choose the energy source from which their electricity is produced,
- N. Deeply disturbed by the false propaganda regarding renewable energies, such as fabricated scientific research, promoted by fossil fuel orientated **lobby groups**⁵,
- O. Taking into consideration that there are numerous workers employed in the non-renewable energy industry who are not equipped with the skills to thrive within a renewable energy job market,
- P. Fully alarmed by the fact that some non-renewable energy facilities are not outputting at their full potential, as well as heavily polluting the environment due to using outdated and obsolete technologies,
- Q. Seriously concerned by the impact renewable energy infrastructure has on the ecosystems of Member States and natural landscape,
- R. Bearing in mind that renewable energy infrastructure has an impact on citizens who live within its proximity;
 1. Proposes that Member States lower taxes on electricity that is produced from renewable energy sources;
 2. Further suggests that Member States progressively raise taxes on all imports of fossil fuels and other non-renewable energy products;
 3. Requests the **Joint Research Centre (JRC)** to:
 - a) investigate on technological solutions to improve the European energy grid,
 - b) design the logistics behind the infrastructure of energy distribution throughout the EU,
 - c) continue their work on energy storage,
 - d) promote technologies such as solar thermal fuel through the **EU Science Hub**;
 4. Further requests the European Commission to revise the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action aiming to ensure coordinated action, combining both legislative and non-legislative acts at European, regional, national and local level;
 5. Calls upon the European Commission to boost energy independence in Member States through promoting **prosumerism** as a crucial part of creating an energy network by:
 - a) subsidising small, local energy producers e.g. households, farms or schools,
 - b) supporting IT-related research to encourage an online energy-market;
 6. Encourages the **European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E)** to modernise already existent power grids within the Member States and to further expand the infrastructure with international power lines to establish an EU high-power electricity grid;
 7. Further encourages the Member States, the European Commission, and the European Investment Bank to secure investment for new renewable energy projects in the form of post-launch subsidies to help them overcome the valley of death;

⁵ "[Fossil fuel firms are still bankrolling climate denial lobby groups](#)", The Guardian, 2015



8. Encourages the EU Science Hub to inaugurate a consumer-friendly advertisement campaign on educating the population of affected countries on the use and benefits of renewable energy, following the example of the **UNICEF Tap Project Campaign**;
9. Invites sustainable electricity companies to expand their services using the international powerlines, making them available in all Member States;
10. Calls upon Member States to requalify workers previously employed in the non-renewable energy industry, whilst providing workers incapable of requalification the option of retirement with financial compensation;
11. Encourages private companies which operate with non-renewable energy to optimise their existing systems in order to reduce their impact on the environment by introducing carbon filtering;
12. Applauding the work of the **European Environment Agency** and its measures which diminish the negative impact of renewable energy infrastructure on the environment and inhabitants who live in its proximity.

FACT SHEET

Energy security: The uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price. It is influenced by factors such as the dependency on imports, available natural resources and efficient functioning of energy related infrastructure.

Energy dependency rate: A measure that shows the proportion of energy that an economy (e.g. EU) must import to meet its energy needs.

Electricity grid: A system that enables the transmission of electricity from energy producers to consumers.

European energy market: The EU aims to fully integrate national energy markets in order to give consumers and businesses more and improved products and services, more competition, and more secure supplies.

Regulation 2018/1999/EU: The Regulation on Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, stipulates that Member States must present integrated national energy and climate plans, which will include national targets, contributions, policies and measures.

2030 Energy and Climate Framework: The framework sets the goals of a 40% reduction in GHGs, raising renewable energy consumption to 32% and 32.5% improvement of energy efficiency.

Valley of death: A term used by financial experts to describe the period of time that startups and small businesses often find themselves in while developing a new product. The valley of death occurs when a product has been already developed and launched but has not yet started to being in profit. Oftentimes this means substantial losses for a company, and in some cases bankruptcy.

Lobby group: A group of people drawn or acting together because of a common interest, concern, or purpose whose goal is to make changes in policy.

Joint Research Centre (JRC): The European Commission's science and knowledge service. It supports EU policies with independent scientific evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.

EU Science Hub: A part of the JRC that brings together scientific knowledge produced by the JRC, the science and knowledge service of the European Commission. It is the platform for information and exchange about all scientific activities carried out by the JRC.

Prosumerism: A process by which the role of producer or professional or manufacturer and consumer merges to participate in the design and production requirements of products. The end product is a situation where manufacturers adapt or create their products to the specific requirements of consumers to satisfy the customers and generate profit.

European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E): An association that represents 43 electricity transmission system operators from 36 countries across Europe.

UNICEF Tap Project Campaign: An example of an awareness campaign that used a mobile application to make people more aware of clean water issues.

European Environment Agency: An agency of the EU that is involved in developing, implementing and evaluating environmental policy throughout Member States.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

From post-colonial policies to strategic partnership: A Marshall Plan for Africa?

As Africa is home to the world's fastest growing economies and largest population growth rate, it is becoming an increasingly important corner of the ever-changing global geopolitical landscape. In the face of ongoing immigration concerns within Europe and growing Chinese competition globally, what role should the EU development policy and governmental international aid programmes play in shaping the future euro-african relations?

Submitted by: Urška Filipič (SI), Raya Giger (CH), Matyáš Hamilton Hatcher (CZ), Machteld Hammink (NL), Marcel Joda (PL), Igor Kaspin (UK), Stěňaldó Mehilli (AL), Monica Ratinen (FI), Anca Savoiu (RO), Nicolò Setti (IT), Sydney Sturdivant (LU), Linn Wikner (SE), Kevin Boland (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Drawing attention to the differing stages of economic and political development in African countries,
- B. Acknowledging mutual mistrust between Europe and Africa arising from historical colonial grievances and the rise of populism across Europe,
- C. Noting the inequalities in terms of human rights and the working conditions in the EU, China and Africa,
- D. Alarmed by the high investment risks in some African countries,
- E. Noting with concern the lack of a single EU investment policy in relation to Africa, with differing degrees of influence exerted by the Member States,
- F. Understanding that the utility of **development aid** depends on both the type and the circumstances under which it is provided,
- G. Considering the geopolitical challenges that are posed by the rising influence of foreign global powers across Africa,
- H. Concerned that African governments are prone to accept short-term solutions from external stakeholders due to endemic poverty and weakness of their democratic institutions,
- I. Taking into consideration the different production costs in Africa and the EU,
- J. Emphasising the importance of education, especially tertiary education, for the creation of a highly-skilled workforce,
- K. Concerned by the fact that unemployment and underemployment in many African countries are pervasive and on a rising trajectory,
- L. Acknowledging the importance of private sector investment in infrastructure development, particularly in **Special Economic Zones (SEZ)**,
- M. Recognising that economic development relies on the enforcement of the rule of law, transparent institutions, and absence of **corruption**,
- N. Realising that **economic migration** is one of the causes of the economic instability in some African nations,
- O. Drawing attention to the fact that the already existing SEZs are being granted their special status for an insufficient amount of years;

1. Calls upon the European Commission to create an online platform to provide information about the benefits of European investment in Africa;
2. Urges European companies involved in **foreign direct investments** in Africa to uphold EU labour standards;
3. Instructs the **European Development Fund** to:
 - a) create an investment index categorising African countries on the basis of structural risk factors such as political instability and ease of doing business,
 - b) act in an advisory capacity for prospective investors and Member State governments,
 - c) construct a framework of incentives to improve the current **investment climate**;
4. Invites African governments to implement the **African Union (AU) Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance** and the United Nations Convention against corruption;
5. Has resolved to work with the European Development Fund and African governments to create and support existing SEZs;
6. Encourages the EU Member States to promote local **value chains**, as well as value creation across Africa;
7. Urges African countries to establish long-term SEZs in which political stability and the effectiveness of the judicial system is safeguarded in collaboration with the European Development Fund;
8. Urges Member States to cooperate in the subject of foreign investments in order to maximise their leverage when dealing with local stakeholders;
9. Advises the European Commission to promote private sector investment in the African labour markets;
10. Urges the European Commission to highlight the long-term impact of EU development plans in Africa;
11. Reaffirms the importance of protectionist tariffs to shield African countries from unfair global competition;
12. Suggests that African governments invest in equal access to education for males and females through implementing the **New Partnership for Africa's Development**;
13. Recommends that African governments should include career orientation courses in university to ensure that higher education reflects the needs of the labour market;
14. Welcomes the further funding of scholarships for African students to receive higher education in Europe;
15. Asks the African Union Commission and African governments to further invest into the **African Youth Charter** so that more effective microeconomic interventions are provided;
16. Urges non-governmental organisations and investors to offer **micro-financing** opportunities in African countries which safeguards basic human rights.



FACT SHEET

Development aid: Financial aid given by governments or agencies to support the social, political, environmental and economic development of developing countries.

Special economic zones (SEZ): An area in which the businesses and trade laws are different from the rest of the country. SEZs are aiming for increased trade balance, increased investment, job creation and effective administration.

Corruption: A form of dishonesty or criminal activity undertaken by a person or organisation entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire illicit benefit, or, abuse of entrusted power for private gain.

Economic migrants: Individuals seeking improved life standards in a foreign country, because the job opportunities or conditions in the migrant's homeland are insufficient.

Foreign direct investment (FDI): An investment in the form of a controlling ownership in a business in one country by an entity based in another country.

European Development Fund (EDF): The main tool through which EU Member States channel their development assistance to the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) as well as overseas countries and territories (OCTs).

Investment climate: Referring to the socio-political, financial, economic conditions in a country that affect whether individuals, banks, and institutions are willing to lend money and acquire a stake in the businesses operating there.

AU character on democracy: Promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance within Africa.

Value chain: A set of activities that a firm operating in a specific industry performs in order to deliver a valuable product.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD): A socio-economic flagship Programme of the African Union (AU). NEPAD's four primary objectives are to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable growth and development, integrate Africa in the world economy and accelerate the empowerment of women.

African Youth Charter: A political and legal framework, which serves the purpose of providing a strategic framework and direction for youth empowerment and development activities at continental, regional and national levels across Africa.

Microfinance: Microfinance is a category of financial services targeted at individuals and small businesses who lack access to conventional banking and related services.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The New Silk Road: A pathway to development or a geopolitical threat?

While China's "One Belt, One Road-Initiative" aims to connect and integrate Asian, African and European economies, critics perceive the initiative as a way to foster Chinese hegemony and irreversibly shift the balance of power. How can the EU and its Member States seize the initiative's benefits without sacrificing strategic interests, environmental sustainability, and social protections?

Submitted by: Mahammad Aliyev (AZ), Catarina Alves (PT), Tamara Bezljudova (AM), Fritz Fehlert (DE), Filip Golubović (RS), Halvard Hamre Danielsen (NO), Emily Huber (CH), Stephanie Keane (IE), Albert Kotěšovec (CZ), Marģers Liepiņš (LV), Ivor Meštrović (HR), Belén Pineda Rafols (ES), Eli Tapnack (UK), Rıza Arman Tosun (TR), Lars Kieni (Chairperson, CH)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with concern the differences in accessibility and equal treatment in the Chinese and European markets for foreign companies,
- B. Concerned about the potential severing of ties and loss of economic and political connections between Member States, resulting from disputes over their varied concerns of approaches to the **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**,
- C. Welcoming that the BRI includes trains as an environmentally sustainable option for transportation of goods between China and Europe,
- D. Noting with deep concern that environmentally harmful projects, such as coal power plants and mining facilities, are a part of the BRI,
- E. Aware of concerns about the People's Republic of China's (PRC) rising geopolitical influence on the world stage,
- F. Alarmed by the fact that predatory lending may lead to BRI partners becoming dependent on the PRC,
- G. Deeply regretting that countries are more prone to accept loans provided by the PRC instead of the International Monetary Fund or the **European Investment Bank (EIB)** due to the conditionality of the latter funds,
- H. Bearing in mind that accepting said Chinese loans, especially in developing countries, can create economically unsustainable situations,
- I. Appreciating the fact that the BRI will strengthen and diversify Europe's trade opportunities, making its partners less dependant on internal trade,
- J. Believing in the BRI's potential to improve Euro-Asian relations,
- K. Pointing out that there remains scepticism within Europe about the true intentions of the BRI, despite the transparency claims by the Chinese government,
- L. Deploring the PRC's aggressive behaviour regarding the acquisition of critical infrastructure and service providers in Europe,
- M. Concerned about the lack of domestic control in European companies and critical service providers with significant Chinese ownership,
- N. Concerned by the fact that European companies with a strategic public role may fall under the reach of the Chinese government,



- O. Bearing in mind the implications of Chinese interferences on European countries' national sovereignty,
- P. Considering that less developed countries can benefit from infrastructure projects that they could not otherwise afford,
- Q. Strongly supporting the July 2019 letter by 22 United Nations Ambassadors condemning the PRC over domestic violations of human rights,
- R. Endorsing the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) conventions for workers' rights,
- S. Noting with regret that China has failed to fully guarantee the labour rights according to **C138** of the ILO,
- T. Welcoming the EU's new Free Trade Agreements with Japan and South Korea;

Political/Institutional

1. Encourages the European Council to discuss and adopt a favourable, yet cautious common stance towards the BRI, also taking into account the input of potential EU candidate countries;
2. Asks Member States to restrict their involvement in BRI projects if the PRC is unwilling to:
 - a) increase the transparency of said projects,
 - b) switch from heavily-polluting industries to ecologically friendly alternatives,
 - c) enforce the protection of intellectual property as guaranteed by the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works,
 - d) guarantee the workers' rights as laid out in C138 of the ILO;
3. Calls upon the European Commission to increase the priority of railroad infrastructure within the **Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) programme**;

Infrastructure

4. Calls upon the **Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE)** to support more TEN-T infrastructure projects in the Member States, as proposed alternatives to the BRI;
5. Further asks the DG MOVE to consider the needs of EU accession candidates and countries of the **Eastern Partnership** in TEN-T projects as an alternative to the BRI;
6. Calls upon Member States to prohibit stakeholders from non-EU Member States to acquire a majority share in critical infrastructure and service providers;
7. Calls upon the **Asia-Europe Meeting** to extend its activity by:
 - a) involving all European countries participating in the BRI,
 - b) including topics such as energy, environment and infrastructure in the agenda;

Geopolitics

8. Calls upon the **Directorate General for Trade (DG TRADE)** and the Member States to deepen their trade relations with Japan and South Korea in order to reduce the dependence on China;
9. Calls upon the European Commission to identify European non-EU Member States trapped in BRI-related debt and offer them further access to the European market and financial assistance;

Loans

10. Calls upon the European Investment Bank to promote the sustainability of the EU's funds to European countries by showcasing success stories;
11. Requests the European Commission to form an expert group to review the existing bureaucracy and streamline the process of accessing EU funding mechanisms for infrastructure without compromising on the European standards for conditionality;
12. Condemns the practice of **Debt Trap Diplomacy**;
13. Recommends Member States to submit their credit payment plans when applying for foreign loans to the European Commission, so it can provide expertise in the budgetary plan;

Market Access

14. Demands the PRC to open its market to European companies to the same extent granted by the EU to Chinese companies;
15. Calls upon the European Commission to restrict Chinese access to the European market should the PRC not grant access reciprocity.



FACT SHEET

Belt and Road Initiative (BRI): The BRI is a programme initiated by the People's Republic of China, which funds the construction and improvement of transport infrastructure such as highways, railroads and ports in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The aim of the BRI is to foster economic interconnections among partner countries.

European Investment Bank (EIB): An EU agency which lends money to governments and organisations for projects such as infrastructure with the mission of driving European integration and social cohesion. 90% of the projects supported by the EIB take place in EU Member States. Contrary to Chinese credit providers, the EIB only funds projects if they meet certain requirements (such as transparency and the upholding of democratic principles and the rule of law), and only contributes up to 50% of the funding.

Convention C138 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO): Set up in 1973, Convention C138 obliges its signatories to abolish child labour by introducing minimum ages for various categories of work. The People's Republic of China has mostly ratified the convention, but is criticised for not following through on these commitments.

Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T): An EU programme by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport. In its current aim, it supports infrastructure projects all over Europe which are grouped into nine so-called corridors spanning all across the continent.

Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE): The European Commission's department for issues related to mobility and transport, including the TEN-T.

Eastern Partnership: A cooperation framework between the EU and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine with the aim of increasing trade and strengthening their ties with the EU.

Asia-Europe Meeting: A forum for political dialogue between 51 national governments, as well as the European Union. It includes representatives from all EU Member States, the EU itself, as well as other major stakeholders like the People's Republic of China, India, Japan, Norway, Russia, South Korea, and Switzerland. Its meetings revolve around political, economic, financial, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest.

Directorate General for Trade (DG TRADE): European Commission's department for trade related issues, tasked with negotiating and administering free trade agreements.

Debt Trap Diplomacy: A strategy for a wealthy or powerful country to achieve its goals versus another country by a two-step strategy. In a first step, the lender supports another country by giving loans at an excessive interest rate. In a second step, once the indebted country becomes unable to pay back the credit, the lender country demands political and/or economic concessions to make up for the debt.



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

The rise of illiberal democracies: Defending civil liberties at a time of crisis of the Western model.

Over the past decade, some populist governments have been thwarting the democratic order by undercutting the division of powers, neutralising the judicial systems and actively engaging in propaganda. What steps should be taken to protect citizens' rights, thus living up to the Council of Europe's fundamental values?

Submitted by: Ofelia Akofian (AM), Manuel Arbona Llorca (ES), Toon Van der Coelden (BE), Jānis Edmunds Daugavietis (LV), José Dias (PT) Gregor Flego (HR), Philipp Krömer (DE), Anastasiia Lapteva (FI) Gleb Lepeyko (BY), Aideen Murphy (IE), Emma Sundli-Härdig (NO), Jovana Videnović (RS), Oleksandra Zolotarevych (UA), Jonas Weider (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the increasing number of people espousing the eurosceptic ideas promoted by illiberal parties such as Fidesz in Hungary,
- B. Contemplating that some of the measures implemented by illiberal governments have led to the deepening of social divisions and polarisation of the public,
- C. Seriously concerned about efforts aimed at suppressing judicial independence in European Member States, such as in Poland in 2018 and Hungary in 2010 and 2018,
- D. Deeply disturbed by attacks on academic freedom, such as the closure of the Central European University in Hungary in 2018,
- E. Deeply concerned by the practice of state-sponsored propaganda in countries with strong illiberal tendencies undercutting political pluralism and opposition,
- F. Fully alarmed by the fact that according to Freedom House only 66%¹ of the press in Europe can be considered free,
- G. Recognising that the fulfilment of the **Copenhagen Criteria** is not adequately monitored after a country becomes a Member State,
- H. Noting that the European Commission is not effective in ensuring the protection of the EU's fundamental values defined in **Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU)**,
- I. Fully aware of the ineffectiveness of **Article 7 of the TEU**, currently resulting in a political stalemate during the procedures against Hungary and Poland,
- J. Acknowledging that the **Council of Europe (CoE)** possesses only advisory competences
- K. Noting with regret that most school curricula do not include the teaching of critical thinking and media literacy;

¹ ["Regional report on Europe"](#), Freedom House



1. Invites the European Council to set up a committee that independently monitors the Member State compliance with the Copenhagen Criteria after joining the EU;
2. Urges the European Commission to continue the proceedings under the **Rule of Law Framework** when the CoE's fundamental values are at risk;
3. Encourages the European Commission to avail itself of the Article 7 provision allowing for restrictions to financial aid from the **European Structural and Investment Funds**;
4. Further urges the European Parliament and European Council to implement the **European Values Instrument** in the EU's next Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027;
5. Calls upon the European Commission to further support non-governmental organisations (NGOs) which promote the CoE's fundamental values, such as the Civil Liberties Union for Europe, by sharing best practices regarding social media marketing and public relations;
6. Requests the European Commission to increase its funding for projects by the **European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)**, such as the **EU Justice Scoreboard**;
7. Congratulates the Mercator Foundation for developing the "Re:constitution index" on tracking Member States' attitude towards liberal and democratic values;
8. Further invites the European Commission to increase **Citizens' Dialogues** and intercultural activities, such as Erasmus, in areas with strong illiberal tendencies;
9. Suggests that Member States raise citizens' trust in governments by direct involvement in decisions on local issues;
10. Encourages the European Commission to fund and support the creation of youth think-tanks to support and shape political agendas in Member States;
11. Recommends Member States to include extracurricular classes on critical thinking and media literacy for students aged between 12 -18 in their school curriculum.



FACT SHEET

Copenhagen Criteria: The requirements a country must fulfill if it wishes to become a Member State of the EU. These include, but are not limited to, stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities.

Article 2 of the TEU: Article 2 of the TEU precisely lists the fundamental values of the European Union. These include the "respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities" based on societies supporting "pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men".

Article 7 of the TEU: Article 7 of the TEU grants the European Council the power to sanction non-conforming Member States, either through issuing recommendations for Member States at serious risk of breaching the values listed in Article 2, by a four fifth majority, or withdrawing said Member State's voting rights, via a unanimous vote.

Council of Europe (CoE): A European human rights organisation, separate from the EU. It is committed to protecting the values of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law and includes 47 Member States.

Rule of Law Framework: A combination of measures which the European Commission can trigger in cases where it suspects systemic threats to a Member State's rule of law.

European Structural and Investment Funds: The biggest European funds for supporting countries in their economic development with the aim of ensuring a sustainable and healthy European economy and environment. It consists of five funds, the European regional development fund, European social fund, Cohesion fund, European agricultural fund for rural development, and European maritime and fisheries fund.

European Values Instrument: A proposed fund that would offer support to civil society organisations working to uphold and spread civil rights, the rule of law, and democracy. It is currently being debated by the European Parliament and Council.

European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ): An NGO that unites councils and members of the judiciary in Member States and candidate countries with the aim of improving cooperation and ensuring the protection of judicial independence throughout the EU.

EU Justice Scoreboard: An annual report, issued by the ENCJ providing an overview of the quality and independence of national justice systems through objective and comparable data.

Citizens' Dialogues: Public debates where European citizens can exchange their ideas with European, national, and local decision makers organised by the European Commission all around the EU.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

From the Luxembourg Compromise to Brexit: The crisis of the EU's institutional architecture.

In light of the debates regarding the perceived democratic deficit of the EU institutions, the Spitzenkandidat process and a Multi-speed Europe with different levels of integration among its Member States, how can the EU reform its institutional framework whilst protecting its Member States' interests and fuelling democratic participation?

Submitted by: Theresa von Auer (DE), Andrii Bilovusiak (UA), Georgia Canură (RO), Flavia Gjoni (AL), Ambar Karlsson (SE), Martyna Leśniak (PL), Maren van Lint (BE), Ivan Shkulepa (FI), Jana Stekar (IT), Jan Verovšek (SI), Rokas Vilys (LT), Daniel Wagner (AT), Eva Wildoër (NL), Alina Khan (Chairperson, LU)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Prioritising the importance of establishing a common vision for the future of the EU in order to overcome the different political stances on the concept of **multi-speed Europe**,
- B. Alarmed by the fact that an estimated 75% of EU legislation is influenced by interest representation organisations (lobbying groups)¹,
- C. Lamenting the inadequacy of EU legislation regulating lobbying,
- D. Observing that Article 7 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) stipulates that a Member State can be sanctioned if the majority of the European Parliament and the unanimity of the European Council find it in breach of the **EU's founding values**,
- E. Realising that the triggering of Article 7 TEU is conditioned by existing political alliances,
- F. Observing the confounding nomenclature and associated visual symbols of the EU institutions, respectively the European Council and the Council of the EU,
- G. Acknowledging with deep regret the lack of mechanisms for **direct democracy** within the EU,
- H. Observing the abandonment of the established **Spitzenkandidat process** with the confirmation of President-elect Ursula Von der Leyen after the 2019 European elections,
- I. Gravely concerned by the public in 13 Member States distrusting the EU with levels reaching a staggering 69% in Greece²,
- J. Aware of the lack of representative mechanisms fostering youth engagement in European institutional affairs,
- K. Recognising a geographical disconnect between the EU institutions and Member States with the majority of EU institutions situated in Brussels, France, and Luxembourg,
- L. Congratulating EU citizens on reaching a voter turnout of 50% in the 2019 European elections³,
- M. Aware of the lack of legislative harmonisation in voting procedures across Member States for the election of the European Parliament,
- N. Realising that Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) candidates primarily represent their national

¹ ["30,000 lobbyists and counting: is Brussels under corporate sway?"](#), The Guardian, 2014

² ["Public opinion in the European Union Spring 2018"](#), Eurobarometer, 2018

³ ["Elections 2019: highest turnout in 20 years"](#), European Parliament, 2019

parties rather than the European party groups,

- O. Noting with concern the apparent absence of adequate educational programmes regarding the institutional structure of the EU;
1. Calls upon the European Council to create a unified vision for the future of the EU on the basis of the European Commission's **White Paper on the Future of Europe**;
 2. Proposes separate, identifiable symbols representing the European Council and the Council of the EU;
 3. Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a proposal to the Council according to Article 48 of the TEU to:
 - a) amend Article 11 of the TEU to add a category on European interest representation organisations including the disclosure of their monetary expenses,
 - b) amend Article 7 of the TEU, establishing **reinforced double qualified majority** in the decision making process for penalising Member States in breach of the EU's founding values,
 - c) change the name of the European Council to the "Cabinet of Heads of State and Government",
 - d) introduce a legal framework for the *Spitzenkandidat* process;
 4. Suggests that the European Commission explore the possibilities for the **European Citizens Initiative (ECI)** to provide EU citizens with the option to:
 - a) delay the entry into force of EU legislation by collecting 1 million signatures from a minimum of seven different Member States,
 - b) bar legislation with the requirement of 10 million signatures from at least 15 different Member States;
 5. Recommends Member States, following the example of Estonia, to introduce e-voting in European Parliament elections in order to increase voter turnout;
 6. Suggests that the European Commission implement either a physical or electronic platform for EU citizens to voice their concerns during open plenary sessions of the European Parliament;
 7. Endorses the Directorate-General on Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) to create a European Youth Council for young European citizens aged 16 to 25, appointed by their respective Member State;
 8. Encourages the European Commission to consider the possibility of rotating the location of its meetings after every EU parliamentary election, using the facilities of existing EU agencies across Member States;
 9. Welcomes Member States to include the European parliamentary groups affiliated to the candidate MEPs on European parliamentary electoral ballots;
 10. Asks the Directorate-General on European statistics (DG EUROSTAT) to conduct research on the increased voter turnout in the 2019 European parliamentary elections and on how to stimulate similar trends for future elections;
 11. Requests the DG EUROSTAT to conduct research on whether a common European electoral law would foster a sense of common belonging among EU citizens;
 12. Calls upon the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency to create a comprehensive educational curriculum for Member States, covering the topic of the EU with special regard to the institutional framework and active citizenship.



FACT SHEET

Multi-speed Europe: The concept that Member States should integrate at different levels and pace depending on the political situation in each individual country.

EU's founding values: These founding values consist of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

Direct democracy: A form of democracy in which people decide on policy initiatives directly. This differs from the majority of currently established democracies, which are representative democracies.

Spitzenkandidat process: The method of linking European Parliament elections with the European Commission nominations by having each major political group in the European Parliament nominating their candidate for Commission President prior to the parliamentary elections.

White Paper on the Future of Europe: The European Commission presented on 1st March 2017 a White Paper on the Future of Europe, which forms the Commission's contribution to the Rome Summit of 25 March 2017. The White Paper looks at how Europe will change in the next decade, from the impact of new technologies on society and jobs, to doubts about globalisation, security concerns and the rise of populism.

Reinforced qualified majority: This form of voting would comprise at least 72% of the members of the European Council representing 65% of the EU's population.

European Citizens Initiative (ECI): The ECI is an EU mechanism aimed at increasing direct democracy by enabling EU citizens to participate directly in the development of EU policies introduced with the Treaty of Lisbon in 2007. The initiative enables one million citizens of the EU, who are nationals of at least one quarter of the Member States, to call directly on the European Commission to propose a legal act.

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

Healthy by Design: The New Frontiers of Medicine

With the first human trials using CRISPR on cancer patients underway, there has been growing concern regarding the future of gene modification as an effective treatment and prevention tool. How can the EU and its Member States safeguard the integrity of patients, whilst realising the potential of precision medicine?

Submitted by: Marília Araújo (PT), Rina Baljak (HR), Marija Erić (RS), Kristine Herfjord Feragen (NO), Marek Jankovský (CZ), Olha Lenkivska (UA), Diana Manukyan (AM), Maria Rueda Ibañez (ES), Elene Shamanadze (GE), Benjamin Stephenson (CH), Nazmiye Işık Tütüncü (TR), Marcelina Warecka (PL), Nikos-Pavlos Kotzias (Chairperson, GR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Emphasising that access to healthcare and the best possible treatment is a basic human right as prescribed in Article 27 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFR),
- B. Drawing attention to the need of guaranteeing the integrity of individuals when seeking treatment, as prescribed in Art. 3 of the CFR,
- C. Stressing that many European countries have not ratified the **Oviedo Convention** and its protocols on cloning, biomedical research and genetic testing,
- D. Acknowledging that **Precision Medicine** could be used to diagnose disease and prescribe adequate outcome-based healthcare that reduces suffering for the patient,
- E. Further acknowledging that **CRISPR-Cas9** and precision medicine can be more cost-effective and efficient than conventional medicine when it comes to the diagnosis and treatment of certain diseases, such as cancer,
- F. Cognisant that precision medicine is in its early development stages in terms of potential and commercial application,
- G. Further recognising the need to have the efficacy of a particular therapy or diagnosis tool scientifically proven before its commercial application,
- H. Alarmed by instances of illegal and unmonitored genetic experimentation on human beings,
- I. Regretting the repeated bioethics violations in medical research,
- J. Having observed the current legislative framework on gene editing in human beings as being insufficient in regards to its application and extent,
- K. Keeping in mind the differences in Member States' national health systems in relation to their accessibility, affordability, and universality,
- L. Alarmed by cases of abuse during the sequencing of the genome of individuals caused by:
 - i) exposing patients to potentially dangerous treatments,
 - ii) fraudulent data extraction,
 - iii) preventing patients from having effective control over their personal data,



- M. Aware of the difficulties in the **market authorisation** procedures for **Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs)** due to:
- their personalised nature,
 - the costs associated with research,
 - the time necessary to adequately test the therapy,
- N. Anxious of the potential misuse of genetic engineering for economic gain and the creation of a black market for genetic therapy,
- O. Cognisant of the risks and costs associated with individuals seeking genetic treatment outside of Europe leading to instances of **medical tourism**,
- P. Taking into account the effectiveness of CRISPR procedures which allow patients to receive the treatment which best suits their condition, therefore enhancing the process as well as increasing patient satisfaction,
- Q. Noting with concern the practical and legal obstacles in distinguishing treatment from enhancement in the context of modifications to the human genome,
- R. Conscious of the fact that **germline editing**:
- enables for the permanent eradication of multiple genetic and hereditary diseases,
 - is associated with unspecified levels of risk,
 - affects and alters the gene pool,
- S. Having considered the socio-economic inequalities that germline enhancement would create if legalised,
- T. Deeply conscious of the lack of information that leads to increased controversy surrounding genetic engineering amongst the general population, especially in relation to **eugenics**;

- Requests that all changes to the germline in humans be banned;
- Further requests that research into germline editing only be allowed under specific conditions;
- Asks that Member States create national policies on genetic modification, both **somatic** and **germline**;
- Suggests that Member States ratify all already-existing international conventions regarding genetic research and testing, and bioethics;
- Recommends the creation of an independent European regulatory agency on the application of precision medicine, separate from the **European Medicines Agency (EMA)**;
- Calls upon the pharmaceutical industry to fund further research on precision medicine (CRISPR, ATMPs) with the support of the **Horizon 2020** and **ERA-NET** programmes;
- Welcomes public-private partnerships that support research and funding into genetic engineering;
- Urges the **European Research Council** to provide independent researchers and institutions with specific grants to run clinical trials on gene editing diagnosis and treatment techniques, as well as their commercial application;
- Expresses its belief that bioethics guidelines and human rights must be respected when conducting medical research into genetics;
- Proclaims that any illegal activity in the field of precision medicine should be investigated and stopped immediately;
- Demands that researchers involved in said illegal activities be punished in accordance with national legislation;
- Underlines the need to update the existing national and international legislative framework following the breakthroughs in precision medicine;

- Calls upon Member States to cover any expenses for the purposes of precision medicine through their national health insurance schemes;
- Recommends that maximum and minimum prices be set for gene-based treatments;
- Declares that patients undergoing treatment or diagnosis involving precision medicine must:
 - be informed of the risk involved in their operation,
 - be able to give informed consent,
 - have absolute and total control over their medical records and data;
- Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a media campaign to raise awareness regarding the potential benefits and application of precision medicine and CRISPR-Cas9;
- Welcomes all efforts to curb medical tourism by informing individuals of the dangers associated with it;
- Calls upon the European Research Council and EMA to classify all genetic procedures as genetic enhancements or genetic treatments;
- Requests that any procedure for the purpose of genetic enhancement be banned;
- Calls upon Member States to henceforth:
 - provide medical personnel with training on genetic engineering,
 - create special licences for the performance of such procedures.

FACT SHEET

The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the application of Biology and Medicine: Also known as the **Oviedo Convention**, is an international treaty ratified by 29 Members of the Council of Europe. It aims to secure the individual and collective human dignity within the field of biomedicine by setting professional standards and outlining the conditions for equitable access to healthcare. It is legally binding only to the extent that it complements the **European Convention on Human Rights**, meaning it does not confer legal rights and obligations to any individual. It was followed by:

- the **Protocol on the Prohibition of Cloning in Human Beings** in 1998;
- the **Additional Protocol on Transplantations of Organs & Tissues of Human Beings** in 2002 which prohibits financial gain, and makes informed consent mandatory;
- the **Additional Protocol concerning Biomedical Research** in 2005, which bans research on humans unless no alternative exists;
- the **Additional Protocol in regards to Genetic Testing for Health Purposes** in 2008. Neither the Convention nor its Protocols have been signed by all Member States of the Council of Europe.

Precision medicine: Also known as personalised medicine, it is a form of medicine that uses information about each person's genes, proteins, and environment to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease, instead of the traditional one-size-fits-all traditional approach of medicine.

Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR-Cas9): A recent approach to genome editing, which is considered more accurate and efficient than the other existing ones.

Market authorisation: In medicine, it refers to the procedure through which a particular tool, method or product is tested, evaluated and allowed to be used commercially. It covers everything from diagnostic tools, specific treatments, drugs of any form, to more particular practices (e.g. gene therapy).



Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs): Medicines for human use that are based on genes, tissues or cells. They offer groundbreaking new opportunities for the treatment of diseases and injuries. ATMPs can be classified into three main types: gene therapy medicines, somatic-cell therapy medicines and tissue-engineered medicines.

Medical tourism: It can be defined as the process of traveling outside the country of residence for the purpose of receiving medical care.

Somatic cell editing: A method to alter cells which are not reproductive, such as blood or skin cells and is mainly a treatment tool. In **germline editing**, changes are made in sperm cells or embryos, which will be incorporated in the person's genetic code, and be passed on to that person's children.

Eugenics: The study of or belief in the possibility of improving the qualities of the human species or a human population, especially by such means as discouraging reproduction by persons having genetic defects or presumed to have inheritable undesirable traits (negative eugenics) or encouraging reproduction by persons presumed to have inheritable desirable traits (positive eugenics).

European Medicines Agency (EMA): The European regulation authority that authorises the commercial use of treatments, drugs and medicines. The Committee on Advanced Therapies aims to observe and regulate the field, deciding on which practices should be approved and be made available to the public.

Horizon 2020: Also known as the EU's 7th Research Framework Programme, it is the EU's main research and innovation programme. It provides funding to various research projects and public-private partnerships across the EU. The **ERA-NET** is one of the leading projects supporting and coordinating such partnerships.

European Research Council: A pan-European agency of the EU aimed at supporting and funding scientific research across the EU. It provides funding for independent researchers and sets the priorities and regulations regarding scientific research.

Genetics: The study of heredity or more particularly, **DNA**. DNA is a molecule within the nucleus of a cell that codifies genetic information that determines how an organism grows and develops. Strands of DNA serving a particular purpose are called **genes**. A **genetic** mutation is a permanent alteration (natural or not) in the DNA sequence that makes up a gene.

Genetic disease: A condition that occurs as a result of a mutation or an anomaly in an individual's genome. Genetic diseases, while they may or may not be hereditary, will always be the result of a mutation. **Hereditary diseases** are health conditions that are caused by genetic mutations and have the potential of being hereditary, that is, be passed on to the individual's children.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

The rise of big data and the danger of a surveillance state: Balancing between safety and privacy.

Although data is used for the development of knowledge and scientific progress, there are many examples in history of its misuse by the public sector. Given that potential violations of privacy by government agencies are becoming easier with the ongoing digitalisation of services, how can the EU ensure the responsible use of big data within Member States?

Submitted by: Kristaps Brics (LV), Anabel Dautović (HR), Conor Dorgan (IE), Mariana Fonseca (PT), Mariam Hovhannisyanyan (AM), Lana Jurišić (RS), Mihkel Kiil (EE), Vruyr Kocharyan (BY), Kristýna Kvapilová (CZ), Haakon Sæle Bjørlykke (NO), Friederike Schmid (DE), Idil Seçil (TR), Diego Taibo (ES), Lily Varley (UK), Annelotte de van der Schueren (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Realising the need of finding a balance between state security and **subjects'** privacy, as having complete security would infringe on subjects' right to privacy, and complete privacy would compromise security,
- B. Recognising that the collection and analysis of big data can allow for a more secure state,
- C. Stressing the possible misuse of big data by the Member States when conducting constant surveillance on their citizens,
- D. Bearing in mind that surveillance and personal data mining pose a threat to privacy, due to an increasing amount of data being created by the **Internet of Things (IoT)**, and the digitalisation of public services,
- E. Deeply alarmed by the danger posed by data breaches of personal data,
- F. Acknowledging the challenge of creating a comprehensive and secured cybersecurity system, due to the difficulty of eliminating vulnerabilities,
- G. Concerned by the limited amount of transparency between Member States and their subjects concerning surveillance and the instances in which it is authorised,
- H. Convinced that the public awareness regarding the collection of data is too low and European citizens have insufficient skills to prevent the collection of data,
- I. Aware of the fact that some political parties use the analysis of big data to micro-target people and directly influence their political orientation¹,
- J. Declaring that results from the analysis of big data can be unreliable because:
 - i) artificial intelligence (AI) systems can recognise correlation but not causation,
 - ii) the outcome of analysis can be influenced by the method used and by the information selected,
- K. Alarmed by the borderless nature of data allowing for big data to be transferred over the world within seconds,
- L. Emphasising the lack of a common approach by Member States in their effort to retain big data, as prescribed by the **General Protection and Data Regulation (GDPR)**;

¹ ["Data in Politics: an overview"](#), Medium, 2019



1. Urges Member States to identify and classify different levels of threat to national security posed by individuals or groups of people;
2. Calls upon the European Commission to propose criteria for Member States outlining to what extent the privacy of subjects can be compromised such as, but not limited to:
 - a) the recent and current personal data collection regarding their online activities,
 - b) the tracking of physical movement and analysis of surveillance cameras footage of subjects,
 - c) the access of recent and current telecommunication data;
3. Encourages Member States to publish an outline of the criteria that must be met for constant surveillance to be authorised by the judiciary and the methods of the surveillance conducted;
4. Endorses Member States to analyse subjects' personal data when national security is compromised to the highest level of threat in instances such as, but not limited to:
 - a) repeated activity on internet platforms that are extremist and action provoking,
 - b) association with known criminal organisations;
5. Invites the European Commission to create guidelines for Member States on how to conduct secure big data analysis, to be enforced by the **European Data Protection Board (EDPB)**;
6. Further invites the European Commission to establish a working group to oversee the responsible management of big data by Member States;
7. Asks Member States to emphasise the risks and benefits of computing and data analytics in the computer science curricula;
8. Reminds Member States to continue the implementation of the GDPR;
9. Further reminds Member States to uphold their legal obligation to sanction those who fail to abide by the GDPR, specifically in regards to its demands of:
 - a) no personal data leaving the EU area without the required protection and consent,
 - b) the amount of data collected and processed,
 - c) limits to the duration of data storage;
10. Strongly urges Member States to further promote and implement the GDPR guidelines regarding clarity and simplicity of the users' terms and conditions;
11. Suggests the EDPB to supervise governments in their big data analyses, ensuring the analysis is not manipulated purposely or accidentally.

FACT SHEET

Subjects: In this resolution, subjects refers to people under the jurisdiction of Member States.

The Internet of Things (IoT): The combination of every device that can be connected to the internet. By 2008, there were already more objects connected to the Internet than people. The IoT is a network of all these 'things' connected to each other, consisting of devices as well as people that have access to the internet. All of these are in constant communication with each other, which offers for the creation of big data.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): The GDPR is an EU regulation that controls the collection and creation of data. It provides protection for the personal data of users, such as email addresses, phone numbers, names, dates of birth, and more, but this does not include the regulation of non-personal data (data mined through, for example, cookies).

European Data Protection Board (EDPB): This council is involved as a mediator between companies, governments and citizens. It is the role of the European Data Protection Board to ensure the correct application of existing regulations that protect the security and privacy of citizens, as well as play into the advantages of big data for the EU.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Towards a new culture of remembrance: Facing the shades of our past.

Several European countries promote the positive aspects of their history without acknowledging their most critical legacies. Since this sanitisation of the past has detrimental impacts on society at large, how best can the culture and education sector adapt to reverse the trend? What concrete steps can be taken at both European and national level to improve public recognition of those who have suffered from oppression, colonisation and crimes against humanity?

Submitted by: Jona Bako (AL), Luca Barriviera (IT), Helena Burm (BE), Mihai Cosmin Iacob (RO), Damla Kanalan (NL), Andirani Kardatou (GR), Renne Kiljala (FI), Lučka Koprivnjak (SL), Maja Kwasny (LU), Kaisa Lindström (SE), Kacper Lubiewski (PL), Mila Rybtsova (UA), Valeria Stylianou (CY), Lisa Weinberger (AT), Lena Kreft (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the lack of teaching in critical thinking in the current educational system regarding past historical events,
- B. Taking into consideration that partiality from educational institutions and media outlets can have strong impacts on societal perceptions,
- C. Noting with deep concern that the school curricula of Member States are often narrowed to the national perspective, are subject to bias, and often lack information about general European history,
- D. Deeply concerned by the passive attitude of society towards the rise of nationalistic parties which promote xenophobic, anti-semitic and racist stances,
- E. Deeply regretting the **sanitisation** of past crimes committed by regimes in the name of their country, operated by countries such as Poland and Hungary,
- F. Alarmed by the insufficient cooperation between Member States regarding the complete representation of past events,
- G. Viewing with appreciation that the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** has prosecuted 165 cases regarding crimes against humanity since 1946,
- H. Expressing its satisfaction that international organisations such as the United Nations (UN) have set up tribunals like the **International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)**,
- I. Noting with concern the existence of few state, private sector or educational programmes for the general public on the topic of crimes against humanity, and their inadequate implementation,
- J. Fully believing that Member States would benefit from a shared approach at remembering past crimes,
- K. Noting with approval the actions taken by the **House of European History** towards critical reflection about common historical processes and their diverging perceptions,
- L. Viewing with appreciation the exchange of methodologies and experiences between institutions, facilitated by the **European Remembrance Symposium**,
- M. Believing that individuals should not be held responsible for the crimes of their ancestors;

1. Asks Member States to organise exchange programmes for the descendants of perpetrators and victims of past crimes to improve relationships;
2. Recommends Member States to integrate in the educational system:
 - a) spaces for neutral, open, and respectful discussions on European and national history,
 - b) a module for teachers on impartial and objective teaching methods;
3. Invites Member States to:
 - a) introduce media campaigns to inform citizens about past crimes against humanity,
 - b) ensure the preservation of historical information in the form of documentaries, books, and TV channels;
4. Requests Member States to provide funds for the already existing non-governmental organisations that tackle remembrance culture and social campaigns;
5. Directs the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) to supervise remembrance programmes of Member States to prevent sanitisation of past crimes;
6. Further directs the DG EAC to:
 - a) encourage unbiased and internationally-minded education,
 - b) increase awareness about European history;
7. Hopes for Member States to develop their legal frameworks to sanction extreme political positions such as those supported by far-left and far-right groups;
8. Urges countries to officially recognise tragic historical events like Srebrenica and the Armenian Genocide;
9. Further requests Member States to promote the European Day of Remembrance against authoritarian regimes on the 23rd of August;
10. Further invites Member States which have committed crimes against humanity to apologise to those who were victimised;
11. Reminds the UN of the importance of maintaining institutions like the ICTY;
12. Trusts the ICJ to make objective judgements for ongoing, unresolved conflicts such as was done with the **Application of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Croatia vs Serbia)**;
13. Appeals to the Member States to collaborate when it comes to matters regarding remembrance that can serve as a catalyst to better international relations;
14. Endorses the establishment of the **Europe for Citizens programme** and further encourages the implementation of such projects;
15. Recommends the European Parliament to enable access to fact-based European history to all Member States:
 - a) through establishing institutions like the House of European History within Member States,
 - b) creating and maintaining a database with information from the House of European History.



FACT SHEET

Sanitisation: The conscious act of trying to hide a country's negative past and only highlighting the heroic acts. The government tries to act like the state and people were not actively taking part in specific crimes.

International Court of Justice (ICJ): The juridical body of the UN. Its main task is to settle legal disputes between countries and to give advice on legal proceedings.

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY): A former court called in place by the UN. Its goal was to settle and prosecute the crimes that took place during the Yugoslavia wars.

House of European History: A museum which was established by the European Parliament and aims at educating its visitors about historical events that took place on the continent.

European Remembrance Symposium: An NGO which aims at facilitating the exchange of methodologies and experiences between institutions. They organise events where European cultural remembrance is discussed.

Application of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Croatia VS Serbia): A case before the International Court of Justice where both Serbia and Croatia had filed the suits against each other. The Republic of Croatia filed their suit in 1999 for war crimes. The Republic of Serbia counter filed a suit charging the Republic of Croatia with genocide. In 2015, the ICJ ruled that neither Serbia nor Croatia proved sufficient evidence and dismissed both cases.

Europe for Citizens Programme: A programme aiming at expanding the knowledge about the diversity and history of the EU.



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

Tax evasion and tax avoidance: The unsolved issues of Europe's fiscal policies.

The Panama papers and Luxleaks scandals have revealed that large networks of individuals and businesses utilise loopholes in financial markets' regulations to lower their tax contributions and shield their capital offshore. With tax avoidance and evasion costing billions to European countries each year, what steps should be taken to ensure a fairer and more effective taxation while respecting the diversity of political stances taken by national governments on the issue?

Submitted by: Ioannis Alekos (SI), Alexandra Beiros (LU), Teodora Berceni (RO), Muhamed Dizdarević (BA), Jasper Federman (UK), Hana Habbosh (SE), Daniela Husníková (CZ), Isotta Magistrali (IT), Ernis Morina (AL), Ana Nakaidze (GE), Ninni Norra (FI), Christos Samaltanos (GR), Arnoud Wijdeveld (NL), Emilie Lutz (Chairperson, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledging that the EU institutions have limited competences regarding **direct taxation** policies,
- B. Taking into account Member States' differing tax policies that complicate comprehensive reforms of European tax systems,
- C. Concerned that governments lose around EUR 825 billion per year due to **tax evasion** and between EUR 50 to 190 billion due to corporate **tax avoidance**¹,
- D. Regretting the unwillingness of the Member States to comply with the suggestions of the European Commission regarding their fiscal policies, particularly the **Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base policy (CCCTB)**,
- E. Deeply concerned by the vagueness of legal definitions regarding taxes, allowing individuals and corporations to commit tax fraud through:
 - i) underreporting annual income or profits,
 - ii) using multiple financial accounts to camouflage the total income,
 - iii) claiming false or overstated deductions on tax returns,
 - iv) declaring personal expenses as business expenses,
 - v) hiding or reclassifying assets or income,
- F. Alarmed by the severe economic consequences of **fiscal dumping** on the Single Market and on the internal economies of the Member States,
- G. Further alarmed by the lack of transparency shown by businesses regarding their annual financial declaration,
- H. Recognising the efforts made by the European Commission on tackling problems caused by **tax havens**, namely the introduction of the **EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions**,
- I. Aware of the difficulties in ensuring tax fairness amongst Member States,

¹ ["The European Tax Gap, A report for the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament"](#), Richard Murphy, 2019



- J. Taking into account that the penalties for tax avoidance are based on the degree of **malicious intent**, and ask for tax returns according to the discrepancy in question,
- K. Keeping in mind that penalties for tax evasion involve the seizure of assets, bank accounts and properties, tax or credit returns, and prison;
1. Requests the Council of the European Union to expand the competences of the **Code of Conduct Group for business taxation** to further support the Member States with implementing various European legislation including **Fiscalis 2020**;
 2. Highly supports further debate over the CCCTB policy to adopt a fairer and more harmonised fiscal system between Member States;
 3. Asks the European Commission to propose a clearer definition of what constitutes tax avoidance and tax evasion;
 4. Invites the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG-ECFIN) to discourage the usage of cash and facilitate money tracking through the creation of a point-based reward system for credit card purchases;
 5. Calls upon DG-ECFIN to draft stricter legislation to monitor properties and assets owned by individuals such as background checks or proof of ownership;
 6. Reiterates the decision of the European Commission to encourage multinational corporations to report financial earnings on a country-by-country basis, instead of a general global report;
 7. Urges the European Commission to demand more financial transparency from corporations regarding their financial status;
 8. Suggests that the European Commission applies diplomatic pressure on the countries stated on the EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions by imposing tariffs and embargoes;
 9. Promotes media campaigns to spread awareness about the detrimental consequences of the fiscal policies implemented by tax havens on the Member States budgets;
 10. Recommends Member States to promote a fairer tax system through the implementation of:
 - a) a minimum threshold under which personal income is not taxed, thus allowing adequate living conditions for everyone, in line with the objectives set by the Finnish presidency of the European Council,
 - b) a progressive taxation set and controlled by each Member State for incomes above the aforementioned threshold;
 11. Requests further sanctions to be considered by the Member States' judicial systems in cases of tax evasion, such as suspension of business licenses or imprisonment.

FACT SHEET

Direct taxation: Direct taxes are paid directly by the taxpayer to the relevant authority, whereas indirect taxes are paid by the consumer as part of the total price of the product, good or service, and collected by an intermediary who pays them to the relevant authority (e.g. VAT). The EU is competent in indirect taxation legislation as part of the single market policies.

Tax evasion: The illegal concealment of one's income or assets in order to reduce the amount of taxes one will pay.

Tax avoidance: The legal usage of loopholes by companies or individuals in any tax system to reduce their tax base or profit from lower tax rates and better tax deductions. The Single Market is particularly vulnerable because of the free circulation of capital and the different fiscal legislations of its Member States.

Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB): The CCCTB is a system to calculate companies' taxable profits in the EU. With the CCCTB, multinational companies can use one single EU system when doing their taxes that will then be redistributed between the Member States. The proposal was re-launched in 2016 and it could be the first step towards a harmonised tax system in the EU.

Fiscal dumping: A country or territory that intentionally sets lower tax rates in order to attract companies or investments.

Tax haven: A territory that combines forms of financial secrecy and low to no tax rates, a large share of their scheme hosts money from illegal activities and money laundering and they allow people and businesses to bypass national tax systems.

EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions: The EU is working to improve tax good governance on a global level. By doing this they maximise efforts against any form of tax fraud. The EU seeks to achieve this by naming and shaming certain jurisdictions.

Malicious intent: The intention of the actor to harm before or during the crime was committed.

Code of Conduct Group for business taxation: A political commitment by Member States to limit harmful tax competition and fiscal dumping measures.

Fiscalis 2020 (Regulation 1286/2013/EU): An EU cooperation programme which aims to enable national tax administrations to create and exchange information and expertise. It also allows developing and operating major trans-European IT systems together, as well as establishing networks by bringing together national officials from across Europe.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The scars of deindustrialisation in Europe's landscape: Bringing dismissed areas to a new life.

With the European Commission's New Industrial Policy Strategy aiming to empower European industries, how can the social, economic and environmental challenges of deindustrialisation be addressed throughout the EU's regions? What measures should the EU and local authorities take in order to secure the sustainable development of dismissed areas?

Submitted by: Armie Adammegeerdichian (AM), Ilinca Adina Margină (RO), Malvina Constantinou (CY), Ali Maeve Fitzgerald (IE), Elsa Hägglund (SE), Felix Heyman (BE), Marta Łazowska (PL), Kseniia Lebid (UA), Lina Lieshout (NL), Akusti Pitkänen (FI), Petar Rajković (RS), Johannes Schäfer (DE), Gregor Vetter (CH), Vladyslav Korshenko (Chairperson, UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply disturbed that 64% of the total carbon emissions by the members of the **European Environment Agency (EEA)** are caused by the industrial sector,
- B. Alarmed by the harmful effect of industrial areas on the landscape and biodiversity of European regions that leads to the creation of **brownfields**,
- C. Noting with regret that increasing globalisation has led to a rise in **carbon leakage**,
- D. Understanding that the costs associated with the remediation of brownfields is a major deterrent to the reindustrialisation of Member States and a threat to the environment,
- E. Observing the continuous shift of EEA countries towards a tertiary-centered economy,
- F. Acknowledging the need for an increase in research and development of automated industrial technology for more cost-efficient production,
- G. Convinced that industries of EEA countries are not currently able to operate using exclusively sustainable resources,
- H. Aware of the need of former industrial societies to transition to knowledge societies while taking into consideration the differences between Member States,
- I. Further noting that European industries are unable to keep up with rapidly developing foreign competitors which rely on cheaper labour,
- J. Disturbed by the fact that 20% of European companies have suffered a breach of their cyber security systems, resulting in industrial espionage and corporate theft,
- K. Taking into account that the departure of industries often leads to de-urbanisation of cities and decay of infrastructure,
- L. Noting with regret that more than 1,169,650 sites with contaminated soil have been identified, and only 15%¹ have been remediated,
- M. Further concerned that the **proposal for a European Cybersecurity Research and Competence Centre** has not been implemented,
- N. Realising that by 2025 there will be an increase in the need for skilled workers by 21% and a decrease in the need for unskilled workers by 17%²,

¹ ["Progress in management of contaminated sites"](#), European Environment Agency, 2019

² ["Skills for industry"](#), The European Commission, 2019

- O. Keeping in mind that 96% of all workers who could potentially lose their workplace due to the implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) could find a similarly paid job given adequate training;

1. Calls upon Member States to re-establish and expand the **Environmental Rehabilitation of brownfield Sites** in central Europe project;
2. Affirms Member States' need for the further implementation of the **Industrial Emissions Directive** through:
 - a) additional monitoring of industry compliance,
 - b) the imposition of stricter punishments for non-compliant actors;
3. Urges Member States to begin retracting financial support from non-environmentally sustainable industries;
4. Further urges Member States to reuse post-industrial sites to build purification infrastructure for air and water;
5. Invites Member States to reuse existing infrastructure and buildings when developing new sustainable and eco-friendly industrial sites;
6. Encourages Member States to subsidise and expand the use of AI and automated machinery in their national industries;
7. Asks European research groups such as the **euRobotics** to further the dialogue with the private sector by establishing workshops and regular conferences;
8. Requests the European Commission to implement the European Cybersecurity Competence Network and Centre proposal;
9. Suggests that the Directorate General for Education and Culture include additional courses on programming and digital literacy in secondary education curricula;
10. Further calls upon Member States to promote the study of cybersecurity and data protection in public universities through:
 - a) increasing the availability of study programs,
 - b) providing scholarships;
11. Further invites the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion to increase funding and the number of re-specialisation programs for blue-collar workers made redundant due to technological advances;
12. Encourages Member States to allocate additional funding to local municipalities of post-industrial areas for:
 - a) the creation of art and exhibition spaces,
 - b) the building of industrial museums and memorials,
 - c) the allocation of remodeled spaces and financial benefits to small and medium enterprises.



FACT SHEET

European Environment Agency (EEA): An agency of the EU whose objective is to support sustainable development of its Member States by providing reliable and independent data on the environment. It consists of the EU Member States together with Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, and Turkey.

Brownfield: An area of land previously used for industrial needs, the re-use of which might be complicated due to contaminants left after the industrial activity. Usually, brownfields can no longer be used for human activity.

Carbon leakage: A phenomenon that occurs when production is moved to a country with lower environmental protection standards, and thus moving the emission of greenhouse gases. This may result in the increase of the overall amount of emissions.

Proposal for a European Cybersecurity Research and Competence Centre: A proposal by the European Commission to establish a separate body whose task is to invest in the long-term development of the EU's cyber security.

Environmental Rehabilitation of brownfield Sites in central Europe project: A project implemented by the city of Venice which identified and successfully remediated brownfield sites in Italy, Croatia, Germany and Poland.

Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and the Council on industrial emissions: A main piece of legislation regulating emissions by industrial installations within the EU. Its main objective is to secure high levels of health and environmental protection by reducing the amount of harmful emissions.

euRobotics: An international organisation whose goal is, in cooperation with the European Commission, to develop and implement a long-term strategy for research, innovation, and technological advancement of robotics within the EU.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

From the Pleven Plan to the 2016 EU Global Strategy: A new role for European Defence.

With the changing nature of foreign threats close to Europe's borders as well as violent conflicts globally, new forms of defensive cooperation are required. What role should the Member States' armed forces play? What should the extent of military cooperation at the EU level be in the future?

Submitted by: Gustas Akstinas (LT), Vincent Belpaire (BE), Nathalie Bredenkamp (CH), Mira Engström (FI), Evgeniia Grib (RU), Savvas Hadjimichalakis (CY), Weronika Idler (PL), Anton von Kollichen (DE), Vladyslava Kuriacha (UA), Gordon Lindquist (SE), Matt Mallen (IE), Petru-Liviu-Pavel Musat (RO), Nastja Orel (SI), Benjamin Schlager (AT), Bibi Wielinga (NL), Thanos Theofanakis (Chairperson, NL/UA)

The European Youth Parliament,

Structures of Cooperation

- A. Taking into account the divergent priorities and sentiments concerning the type and extent of military cooperation within the EU,
- B. Aware of the impact of Brexit on the defence of the EU, due to:
 - i) the resulting 24% gap in the EU's defence budget¹,
 - ii) the uncertainty of future military cooperation between the United Kingdom (UK) and the EU,
- C. Concerned that a majority of Member States do not meet North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) 2% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expenditure threshold,
- D. Further aware of the potential flaws in the **interoperability** between the EU and NATO, leading to:
 - i) inefficiencies in EU-NATO joint operations, partially due to different fields of expertise of said organisations, hindering the benefits of cooperation,
 - ii) replication of effort, caused by different agencies tackling the same threats,

Cyber Defence, Intelligence and Diplomacy

- E. Noting with regret the lack of trust among Member States preventing effective intelligence sharing,
- F. Alarmed that the EU may be at threat from potential foreign attacks due to insufficient capabilities for intelligence gathering and processing,
- G. Recognising with great concern the increasing possibility of a cyber attack on European digital infrastructure,
- H. Considering the inability of the EU to respond quickly to military threats due to the inefficient decision-making structure,

¹ ["DEFENCE: Member States' Spending"](#), Policy Department D for Budgetary Affairs, May 2018



Military Industry

- I. Worried by the insufficient innovation in the field of military technologies due to a lack of internal competition in the European military-industrial sector,
- J. Concerned by the over-reliance of Member States on imports of arms and other military technologies,
- K. Discouraged by the inefficient allocation of funds to military equipment due to a lack of coordinated spending amongst Member States,
- L. Further discouraged that the limited scope of **Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)** projects duration may prevent the use of European Defence Fund (EDF) funding for long-term strategic innovations,
- M. Further recognising the positive influence that PESCO has had on EU innovation, particularly in the fields of Cyber & **C4ISR**, Common Training and Facilities, and Enabling and Joint Capabilities;

Structures of Cooperation

1. Encourages Member States to foster cooperation between national militaries and intelligence agencies by organising an annual joint training that includes team-building exercises;
2. Urges the European Council to initiate negotiations with the UK to agree on a shared vision for post-Brexit military cooperation;
3. Calls upon the European Defence Agency to encourage Member States to meet the NATO 2% GDP threshold by allocating EDF funding to Member States proportionally to the percentage of their GDP that is allocated to national military spending;
4. Expresses its wish for EU-NATO joint operations to be led by NATO with the EU providing military and technological support;

Cyber Defence, Intelligence and Diplomacy

5. Asks the European Commission to improve the EU's international diplomatic presence by increasing funds allocated to the European External Action Service (EEAS);
6. Invites the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to increase the EU's international diplomatic presence by investigating options for creating the position of EU Special Representative in those conflict regions where such figure is not yet present;
7. Directs the European Commission to allocate further funds to the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity and other agencies tasked with the protection of the EU's cyberspace;
8. Further directs the European Commission Legal Service to investigate under which circumstances a cyber attack would trigger **Article 221 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)**;

Military Industry

9. Suggests Member States to stimulate the growth of the military-industrial sector by:
 - a) reducing the Value Added Tax (VAT) on EU-made military equipment,
 - b) implementing a capital gains tax reduction for investors in EU-based manufacturers of military equipment,
 - c) increasing the funding for the EDF;
10. Instructs the European Commission to stimulate growth of the military-industrial sector by investigating options to set a maximum limit on the VAT on EU-made military equipment;

11. Further instructs the EEAS to further incentivise military innovation by expanding the scope of PESCO projects to include long-term strategic options;
12. Encourages Denmark, Malta and the UK to join PESCO;
13. Further urges the EEAS to create a platform under PESCO that is accessible to the militaries of Member States and EU-based manufacturers with the aim of:
 - a) stimulating investments in the European military industry,
 - b) creating a network that allows Member States to place orders for military equipment on a **tender** basis,
 - c) coordinate defence expenditure amongst Member States to maximise interoperability and reduce duplication.

FACT SHEET

Interoperability: The ability of different organisations to conduct joint operations. These organisations can be of different nationalities or different armed services (ground, naval and air forces) or both.

Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO): The part of the European Union's Security and Defence Policy in which 25 of the 28 national armed forces pursue structural integration through the funding of joint Member States military projects.

C4ISR: Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance.

Article 221 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU): A solidarity clause, meaning that if a Member State is attacked, every Member State must come to its defence.

Tender: An invitation from a buyer who requires particular goods or services to prospective suppliers of those products to put in competing price bids. The buyer will usually detail the precise specifications of the product, and will make a final decision about which supplier's bid to accept on the basis of comparative price and how well bids match up to the stated requirements.



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

Asylum seekers and reception standards: Safeguarding human rights in an increasingly hostile continent.

Despite European-level legislation addressing asylum seekers' right to healthcare, in reality their access to it is hindered by practical obstacles such as language barriers and improper reception facilities. What measures should be taken by Member States to safeguard the physical and mental health care needs of asylum seekers following their arrival in the EU?

Submitted by: Amir Abdelamir (FI), Ausama Ali (DE), Greta Buhmann (DE), Carina Hauri (CH), Ani Honarchian-Masihi (AM), Teodor Ilea (RO), Valeria Kozich (BY), Mathias Lind-Høyning (NO), Marichka Nadvernyuk (UA), Ailill Park-Sullivan (IE), Rijk Robijns (NL), Inés Santos Robledo (ES), Athina Stavrou (CY), Kristina Taš (RS), Sabina Şancu (Chairperson, AL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Convinced that the denial of **asylum seekers'** right to healthcare is a direct violation of the **European Charter of Fundamental Rights**,
- B. Cognisant of the European Parliament and the European Council's efforts towards updating relevant legislation, specifically:
 - i) the **Reception Conditions Directive**,
 - ii) the **Dublin III Regulation**,
- C. Recognising that the implementation of the Reception Conditions Directive is hindered by the divergent criteria for healthcare provision followed by Member States,
- D. Noting with regret the insufficient monitoring of aggregated data in Member States, hindering targeted responses to asylum seekers' healthcare needs,
- E. Bearing in mind the discrepancy amongst the **resettlement procedure** of Member States,
- F. Noting with concern that during the resettlement procedure it is difficult to identify health issues affecting asylum seekers due to the lack of emergency healthcare and viability of long-term treatment,
- G. Fully alarmed by the increasing waiting periods of asylum seekers' applications,
- H. Concerned by the difficulties experienced by asylum seekers in obtaining accurate and relevant information regarding their entitlements,
- I. Appreciating that the **World Health Organisation** and various European Union institutions support the provision of healthcare to everyone based on the **Health 2020** policy framework,
- J. Aware of the fact that if asylum seekers' cultural and national backgrounds are not taken into consideration, internal conflicts inside temporary settlements may further aggravate their physical, psychological and social wellbeing,
- K. Taking into account the need for cultural mediation throughout the resettlement process,
- L. Expressing its appreciation for the crucial work of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) towards the rescue, care, and integration of asylum seekers,

- M. Contemplating the special needs of vulnerable segments of the asylum seeker population such as women, unaccompanied minors, LGBTQIA+ persons, and persons with preexisting medical conditions,
- N. Expressing its dissatisfaction with the lack of data on the mental health needs of asylum seekers,
- O. Further noting that mental health issues can occur at various phases in asylum seekers' journeys, specifically in their home country, during relocation, and in resettlement centres, making them significantly more vulnerable than the EU's general population,
- P. Deeply concerned by the way in which anti-immigrant rhetoric fuels asylum seeker stigmatisation;

Physical and mental healthcare

1. Directs the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) to improve physical and mental healthcare in reception facilities by:
 - a) clearly defining universal standards for the harmonisation of said facilities, including, but not limited to, a minimum doctor-patient ratio and a minimum equipment-patient ratio,
 - b) developing a standardised, validated questionnaire for efficient detection of psychological
2. Asks the DG HOME to support the implementation of the aforementioned guidelines by:
 - a) providing supervisors for compliance,
 - b) assisting the countries which have difficulties finding the resources necessary to comply with the new guidelines;
3. Strongly recommends Member States to provide minors in reception facilities with access to personalised consultations by trained psychologists and psychiatrists;
4. Further recommends that Member States cooperate with NGOs to create guidelines for the provision of disabled access to areas in reception facilities where residents with special needs can receive appropriate treatment and medical care with the necessary equipment;
5. Proposes the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** to create local centres and hotlines handled by specialised multilingual psychologists and interpreters providing care and advice to asylum seekers in cases of harassment;
6. Further supports the expansion of the **Refugee Youth Service** efforts in more European countries aimed at:
 - a) addressing the special needs of minors through legal representation,
 - b) providing accompaniment to unaccompanied minors in relevant cases;

Resettlement and integration

7. Calls upon Member States under the **Common European Asylum System** to:
 - a) urgently create a common, transparent, and standardised procedure for asylum applications across the EU,
 - b) further promote accessible online leaflets and information about the process of granting asylum,
 - c) help asylum seekers enquire about the status of their application within four months of its submission;



8. Instructs the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) to further provide information to asylum seekers about their rights, opportunities, and responsibilities through means such as, but not limited to:
 - a) handbooks and leaflets,
 - b) seminars conducted in collaboration with UNHCR in the preferred languages of the asylum seekers;
9. Encourages Member States and NGOs to take into account the preferences of the asylum seekers regarding the method in which they want to be informed about their newly acquired rights;
10. Recommends Member States to take examples of best practice from the **Finnish resettlement programme** and the **Finnish Red Cross**, adopting these to the extent that their system allows it;
11. Expresses its appreciation for Member States which follow the United Kingdom's example by allowing asylum-seekers to volunteer in healthcare-oriented spaces;

Data and research

12. Endorses the existing legislation regulating anonymity and consumer protection in the process of gathering data regarding asylum seekers;
13. Trusts Member States to track asylum seekers' needs by gender, age, country of origin, and special needs in order to target aid towards specific groups;
14. Invites the **European NGO Platform on Asylum and Migration** to cooperate with the **Migration Data Portal** to improve research efficiency;
15. Authorises Eurostat to expand research by mapping trends in reception centres, within the bounds of existing data protection policies;
16. Supports the UNHCR in the development of a European database tasked with gathering and analysing information about needs and potential problems within reception centres in each Member State;

Mediators and volunteers

17. Requests Member States, in collaboration with NGOs and the UNHCR, to promote **cultural mediation** through the adoption of integration buddy projects between both settled refugees and asylum seekers, with mediators from their culture, and from the culture of the country of resettlement;
18. Further encourages Member States and the UNHCR to establish guidelines for mediators, enhancing the accuracy of information being provided to asylum seekers and refugees on the asylum process and their newly acquired rights;
19. Further invites NGOs and Member States to honour the Reception Conditions Directive by inviting asylum seekers to participate in socio-cultural activities such as:
 - a) group counselling,
 - b) community outings,
 - c) first aid and mental problem recognition courses.

FACT SHEET

Asylum seeker: A person whose request for sanctuary in another country has yet to be processed.

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union: A solemnly proclaimed but not legally binding charter which, within its 35th article, enshrines that access to preventive healthcare and treatment is a right for everyone, regardless of their migration background.

Directive 2013/33/EU: A piece of legislation which aims at ensuring better as well as more harmonised standards of reception conditions throughout the EU. It ensures that applicants have access to housing, food, clothing, health care, education for minors and access to employment under certain conditions.

Regulation 2013/604/EU: EU regulation that provides a mechanism for determining which country is responsible for examining an application for international protection that has been lodged in one of the Member States by a third country national or a stateless person.

Resettlement: The process of transferring refugees from an asylum country to another state that has agreed to admit them and ultimately grant them permanent settlement.

Resettlement procedure: An instrument to help displaced persons in need of protection reach Europe safely and legally, and receive protection for as long as necessary.

World Health Organization: A specialised agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.

Health 2020: The current European health policy framework. It aims to support action across government and society to significantly improve the health and well-being of populations, reduce health inequalities, strengthen public health and ensure people-centred health systems that are universal, equitable, sustainable, and of high quality.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): A United Nations programme with the mandate to protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people, and assists in their voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

Refugee Youth Service: One of the main organisations providing unaccompanied young people in Europe with a range of support services.

Common European Asylum System: A framework of agreed rules which establishes common procedures for international protection and a uniform status for those who are granted refugee status or subsidiary protection based on the full and inclusive application of the Geneva Refugee Convention and Protocol. It aims to ensure fair and humane treatment of applicants for international protection, to harmonise asylum systems in the EU and reduce the differences between Member States on the basis of binding legislation, as well as to strengthen practical cooperation between national asylum administrations and the external dimension of asylum.

Finnish resettlement programme: In Finland, the state plays an active role in encouraging immigrants, including refugees, to integrate in their new home country. Integration is implemented through individual integration plans for immigrants and integration programmes for resettling municipalities.

Finnish Red Cross: Organisation that establishes reception centres on the request of the Finnish Immigration Service, running about half the reception centres in the country. The state pays for the expenses of reception and is responsible for processing the applications for asylum.

European NGO Platform on Asylum and Migration: The meeting place of European NGOs and networks seeking to contribute to the development of asylum and migration policy in the EU.

Migration Data Portal: Portal that aims to serve as a unique access point to timely, comprehensive migration statistics, and reliable information about migration data globally.

Cultural mediation: The written and/or oral activities of mediation make communication possible between persons who are unable, for whatever reason, to communicate with each other directly. Translation or interpretation, a paraphrase, summary or record, provides for a third party a (re)formulation of a spoken or written source text to which this third party does not have direct access.



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

Online service providers and users' data: Consumers becoming the product?

Collection of consumer data in exchange for online services has become a regular part of many business models. While specific provisions have been adopted at the EU level to protect personal information (e.g. GDPR), the practice of mass data collection remains unchanged. What further steps should be taken to protect consumers' right to their data, while minimising the financial impact on companies and their stakeholders?

Submitted by: Ana Arakhamia (GE), Kristoffer Bauer (NO), Michael Fleming (IE), Farid Gojayev (AZ), Ilija Kocić (RS), Oisín Lucey-Tomiczek (SZ), Svemir Mandana Milićević (HR), Ana Martins (PT), Laura Matevosyan (AM), Beāte Paņko (LV), Erik Halfdan Sanz Lund (ES), Kalila Smith (UK), Jonasz Szukała (PL), Ayla Tataş (TR), Vedad Misirlić (Chairperson, BA)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledges that large internet companies produce a significant portion of their revenues from **targeted advertisements**¹,
- B. Concerned that 13% of companies worldwide do not **encrypt** their data, and 43% encrypt their data only to a basic degree²,
- C. Deeply disturbed that Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) have trouble complying with the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**,
- D. Being concerned about the fact that 56% of SMEs are not confident that their data processing activities are in clear, plain language to data subjects³,
- E. Noting that it is harder for SMEs to recover when penalised for violating the GDPR in comparison to larger companies,
- F. Taking into account that there is a lack of available **data security officers** qualified for the responsible management of large datasets⁴,
- G. Noting with regret that there is a lack of data managers working in supervisory authorities due to⁵:
 - i) the lack of education on data security,
 - ii) restricting requirements in the application process⁶,
- H. Recognising the difficulties for a consumer to opt-out from having their data used since:
 - i) the **cookies** policy information system is poorly developed and hard to understand,
 - ii) certain services have become a necessity for users,

1 [“Alphabet Announces Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year 2018 Results”](#), Alphabet, 2018

2 [“Facebook Annual Report 2018”](#), Facebook INC, 2018

3 [“The State of Encryption Today”](#), Sophos, 2015

4 [“GDPR Small Business Survey”](#), GDPR.EU, 2019

5 [“August LinkedIn Workforce Report: Data Science Skills are in High Demand Across Industries”](#), LinkedIn, 2018

6 [“August LinkedIn Workforce Report: Data Science Skills are in High Demand Across Industries”](#), LinkedIn, 2018

7 [“Everything you need to know about the GDPR Data Protection Officer \(DPO\)”](#), GDPR.EU, 2019

- I. Noting that there is a lack of public knowledge on how their data is collected for the purpose of targeted advertisement⁷,
- J. Fully aware that there were 220,500⁸ data breaches in the first year the GDPR was legally enforced,
- K. Alarmed that some countries are not appropriately enforcing GDPR despite its entry into force in 2018,
- L. Noting with deep concern that regulations such as GDPR could have a negative impact on EU's enterprises in terms of growth and competitiveness in the global digital market;

1. Underlines the importance of safeguarding the fundamental rights of European citizens, including the rights to data protection and privacy;
2. Applauds the GDPR's requirement for companies requesting data from users to explicitly name all third parties involved in handling the data of their subjects;
3. Commends the European Data Protection Board's (EDPB) work in ensuring cross-border cooperation to protect EU citizens' data and privacy rights within and outside of the EU's borders;
4. Encourages the European Commission to draft and frequently update guidelines on what type of data should be encrypted, as well as on various methods and levels of encryption;
5. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) to provide a one-year support program for SMEs aimed to improve data management and GDPR compliance;
6. Calls for the European Commission to propose an amendment to the GDPR which:
 - a) grants companies a longer **grace period** after a **data breach** before sanctioning occurs,
 - b) adjusts fines according to the companies' economic potential;
7. Encourages Member States to incorporate cyber security, data collection and data management into school curricula;
8. Requests that Member States increase the salary of data managers within their respective national supervisory authorities⁹;
9. Asks the European Commissioner for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness with Member States to increase funding for data management training, especially for qualified individuals lacking practical experience in the field;
10. Urges the supervisory authority of each Member State, as outlined in Article 51¹⁰ of the GDPR, to:
 - a) release specific standardised layout guidelines on cookie policy,
 - b) demand explanations on data collection management, based on the companies' previous record in such field;
11. Recommends Member States to launch media campaigns on **personal data** and privacy rights via social media and reliable news outlets;
12. Calls upon the European Data Protection Commission to identify Member States who do not adequately enforce GDPR;
13. Urges the DG GROW to allocate more funding towards statistical data collection in order to:
 - a) gain further understanding of data breaches,
 - b) pinpoint errors or weaknesses in the security measurements.

7 [“\(Un\)informed Consent: Studying GDPR Consent Notices in the Field”](#), ACM ISBN, 2019

8 [“GDPR penalties and fines”](#), itgovernance, 2019

9 As outlined in [article 51 of the GDPR](#)

10 [“Article 51 of the GDPR”](#), EU, 2018



FACT SHEET

Targeted advertisement: Ads that are tailored to the customer, based on the personal data collected about them. The final advertisement placed is usually decided through a complex algorithm which takes many factors like demographics, previous purchases and behaviour into consideration.

Data encryption: A security method where information is encoded and can only be accessed or decrypted by a user with the correct encryption key. Encrypted data, also known as ciphertext, appears unreadable to a person or entity accessing without permission.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): Legal framework that sets guidelines for the collection and processing of personal information from individuals who live in the EU.

Data security officer: The officer responsible for overseeing data protection strategy and implementation of a certain organisation. They are the officers that ensures that an organisation is complying with the GDPR's requirements.

Cookies: A small piece of data that a website asks your browser to store on your computer or mobile device. The cookie allows the website to "remember" your actions or preferences over time.

Grace period: A period immediately after the deadline for an obligation, where a fee for failing to meet the deadline is waived provided that the obligation is satisfied during the grace period.

Data breach: Incident which exposes confidential and/or protected data. In the context of this topic, data breaches are incidents where consumer data is stolen, and the data can range from basic information like name and age, up to bank account details in severe cases.

Personal data: Any information that relates to an identifiable individual. In the context of the topic, personal data is the data which the consumer submits on a certain webpage in order to use the given service. Furthermore, personal data is also the data which is collected through the consumer's habits and usage of the given service. Examples of personal data are name, age, address, date of birth, etc. extra time you are given to pay money you owe without losing something or paying an additional amount.

Data analytics: A process of inspecting, cleansing, transforming and modeling data with the goal of discovering useful information.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY

THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY I

Climate change and demographic growth in least developed countries: An explosive combination?

Climate change has already had observable effects on the environment¹, and its impact is particularly harmful to economically least developed countries whose populations are projected to increase substantially². Given Europe's historic contribution to global warming, what measures should be taken to ensure climate justice³ and preserve living conditions in least developed countries?

Submitted by: Nazrin Abbasova (AZ), Francisco Carvalho (PT), Patricija Čeović (HR), Tomáš Černý (CZ), Yaren Çinar (TR), Alonso Císcar Taulet (ES), Alex Hart (UK), Uta Kopaleishvili (GA), Micaela Soledad Lebed Giambelluca (NO), Luigi Lorenzoni (IT), Diliya Nurgatina (RU), Fatima-Maliha Shah (CH), Christos Tsitsiridakis (GR), Tetiana Ursu (UA), Daša Pogorelec (Chairperson, SI)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledging the technological and economic discrepancies between developed and developing countries which results in divergent approaches towards climate change,
- B. Bearing in mind that **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)** suffer more from extreme climate events due to the fact that they are heavily reliant on agriculture,
- C. Troubled by the subsidisation of fossil fuels, particularly by the Member States, and the slow implementation of renewable energy as a replacement,
- D. Recognising the insufficient use and production of renewable energy resources in Member States,
- E. Concerned by the fact that the transportation sector, which produces 29% of the world's total emissions per year⁴, is not included in the **EU Emissions Trade System (EU ETS)**,
- F. Aware that public transportation is unequally accessible to a large part of the population in many European countries either because of neglected infrastructure or costly services,
- G. Alarmed by the lack of political will to tackle climate change in the EU,
- H. Noticing the ineffective cooperation among multiple funding entities such as the **Climate Investment Fund, Green Climate Fund, European Investment Fund, and Global Climate Change Alliance Plus**,
- I. Deploring the insufficient enforcement of environmental policies in the Member States,
- J. Encouraged by the estimated creation of 18 million working positions should the 2 degrees Celsius temperature rise target included in **Paris Agreement's** be met⁵,
- K. Deeply concerned by the fact that environmentally friendly technologies are often less profitable for private corporations,
- L. Highlighting the current emission objectives stated in the Paris Agreement and **2030 Climate and Energy Framework** are not ambitious enough to effectively mitigate climate change,

¹ ["The Effects of Climate Change"](#), Global Climate Change, 2019

² ["World Population Prospects 2019"](#), United Nations, 2019

³ ["Principles of Climate Justice"](#), Mary Robinson Foundation

⁴ ["Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions"](#), United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2017

⁵ ["Greening With Jobs"](#), International Greening Organization, 2018



- M. Conscious of the fact that the enforcement of the EU ETS is not adequate to:
- i) lower the emissions gap,
 - ii) support the necessity of additional climate control policies,
 - iii) reduce the 43% of free emission allowances for manufacturing industries⁶;
1. Urges the European Commission to establish a common European Climate Finance Fund that shall:
 - a) fund research on technological developments tackling climate issues,
 - b) increase its budget through investing in environmentally-friendly company shares or bonds,
 - c) incorporate the **Technical Expert Group on Sustainable Finance** as a permanent organ to administer the funds investments,
 - d) support the **Climate Action Network Europe** in dealing with extreme weather events;
 2. Further supports Member States to cooperate with LDCs by sharing environmentally-friendly technologies and expertise;
 3. Asks Member States to further invest microfinance programmes targeting local businesses in LDCs;
 4. Encourages the **European Universities' Network** to provide professional training to companies in LDCs with the aim of transitioning away from **climate-sensitive activities**;
 5. Calls upon the **Directorate General for Trade (DG TRADE)** to implement partnership programmes promoting the reduction of subsidies for fossil fuels;
 6. Encourages Member States to implement their climate change strategies by concrete measures, as guided by the Environmental Implementation Review;
 7. Urges Member States to implement incentives for the use of renewable energy, such as:
 - a) progressive carbon tax for corporations consuming fossil fuels,
 - b) a tax incentive for companies consuming renewable energy and materials;
 8. Calls for a public tender to construct a pan-European power line connecting renewable-energy power plants;
 9. Urges the European Commission to propose the following changes to the Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (EU Emissions Trading System):
 - a) expanding the EU ETS to other carbon-emitting sectors, such as transportation,
 - b) measuring companies' emissions on a global level, including European companies based abroad,
 - c) ensuring that the emissions cap is set at an appropriate level based on the industry's average emissions,
 - d) gradually reducing emission exemptions and free allowances for companies;
 10. Urges the Member States to gradually reallocate the funds directed at subsidising fossil fuels into environmentally friendly methods of transportation;
 11. Calls upon Member States to support national products and production facilities by subsidising national and environmentally-friendly industries through the **European Regional Development Fund**;

12. Requests the European Commission to reform the **EU Ecolabel** project to facilitate the transition to eco-friendly products and services by:
 - a) increasing the amount of **eco-labeled companies**,
 - b) preventing **greenwash** through checkups and investigations,
 - c) working with the Member States towards harmonised national schemes of the single EU Ecolabel;
13. Suggests to the DG Trade to seek a trade collaboration with the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations**.

FACT SHEET

Least developed countries (LDCs): Low-income countries confronting severe structural barriers to sustainable development. They are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks.

EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS): A cornerstone of the EU's policy to combat climate change and its key tool for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective manner. It is the world's first and largest carbon market.

Climate Investment Fund: The Climate Investment Fund is one of the world's leading climate finance mechanisms. Founded in 2008, it represents one of the first global efforts to invest in dedicated climate finance.

Green Climate Fund: The Green Climate Fund is a global financial fund focussed on investments related to mitigation and adaptation initiatives, following the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping climate change below two degrees Celsius.

The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus: A flagship EU initiative that is helping the world's most vulnerable countries to address climate change.

Paris Agreement: An agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance, signed in 2016.

2030 Climate and Energy Framework: The framework was adopted by the European Council in October 2014. The targets for renewables and energy efficiency were revised upwards in 2018. The 2030 climate and energy framework includes EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period from 2021 to 2030.

Technical expert group on Sustainable Finance: A group of 35 members from civil society, academia, business and the finance sector, as well as additional members and observers from EU and international public bodies assist the European Commission in the development of a unified classification system for sustainable economic activities, an EU green bond standard, methodologies for low-carbon indices, and metrics for climate-related disclosure.

Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe: A worldwide network of over 1300 Non-Governmental Organizations in more than 120 countries, working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels.

European Universities' Network: A non-profit composed of over 30 higher education institutions from 15 European countries. It is a dynamic network with 25 years of experience in university collaboration within Europe and beyond to foster university excellence in education and research.

Climate-sensitivity: Expresses the relationship between the human-caused emissions that adds to the Earth's greenhouse effect (carbon dioxide and a variety of other greenhouse gases) and the temperature changes that will result from these emissions.

⁶ ["Free Allocation"](#), European Commission, 2019



Directorate General on Trade (DG TRADE): The Directorate-General for Trade is a Directorate-General of the European Commission. It covers a wide area from manufactured goods to services, intellectual property and investment.

Environmental Implementation Review: A tool to improve implementation of EU environmental law and policy.

European Regional Development Fund: The ERDF aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the EU by correcting imbalances between its regions.

EU Ecolabel: A label of environmental excellence that is awarded to products and services meeting high environmental standards throughout their life-cycle from raw material extraction, to production, distribution and disposal.

Greenwash: Greenwash is disinformation disseminated by an organisation in order to present an environmentally responsible public image.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations: Regional intergovernmental organisation comprising ten countries in Southeast Asia, that promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration among its members and other countries in Asia.

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

The Fourth Industrial Revolution: Doom or boon scenario?

While bringing many benefits, ongoing automation and digital transformations are estimated to cause the transformation of up to 45% of the European workplaces in future decades. What measures should be taken to ensure that current and future workers acquire and retain the skills to remain relevant in a rapidly changing economy? How best should labour conditions be adapted to this new scenario?

Submitted by: Christianna Alexandri (GR), Alessandro Carezzi (IT), Kerem Demir (TR), Chimene DeVedur (SE), Sabina Mălina Grădinaru (RO), Sam Grankin (UK), Ani Janelidze (GE), Vildana Karčić (BA), Joana Belle Kola (AL), Ondřej Med (CZ), Guilherme Monteiro (PT), Dominic Resch (LU), Harald Sanz Lund (ES), Nijat Shiraliyev (AZ), Miroslava Yarkova (RU), Rebeca Leal (Chairperson, PT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully aware of the rapid integration of technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, full-automation, and internet of things into society,
- B. Deeply alarmed by the estimation that increasing automation will put 57% of the jobs at risk in the countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)¹,
- C. Aware that 43% of EU employees experienced a recent change in the technologies they use at work²,
- D. Noting with deep concern that 43% of Europeans lack basic digital skills at a time when digital literacy is recognised as one of the most important skills³,
- E. Concerned by the fact that the European economy loses over 2% of productivity per year due to a mismatch of skills⁴,
- F. Noting that 40% of employers estimate that a skill is usable for four years or less, resulting in the need to hire or upskill workers when knowledge gaps form⁵,
- G. Deeply disturbed by the fact that just 23% of employers believe universities are preparing students for work⁶,
- H. Noting with regret that only 20-25% of students in European schools are taught by teachers who are confident with technology use⁷,
- I. Concerned that many workers are not properly informed regarding their possibilities and the skills that will remain/be necessary for the near future⁸,
- J. Recognising that there is a strong link between aging and unwillingness to learn or reskill⁹,

¹ [“The Risk of Automation for Jobs in OECD Countries”](#), OECD, 2016

² [“Insights into skill shortages and skill mismatch”](#), Cedefop, 2018

³ [“Skills gap and training needs analysis study”](#), Digital Skills for You(th), 2018

⁴ [“Skills mismatches: EU businesses are losing millions, and will be losing even more!”](#), European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), 2018

⁵ [“Closing the Skills Gap 2019 Study”](#), Workplace Trends, 2019

⁶ [“Graduates Not Ready For Work”](#), allabout Careers

⁷ [“EU policy in the field of vocational education and training”](#), European Commission, 2019

⁸ [“The Future of Work: OECD Employment Outlook 2019”](#), OECD, 2019

⁹ [“Lifelong learning and employers: Reskilling older workers”](#), Research Gate, 2014



- K. Acknowledging the development of flexible and modular programmes of study supporting access to higher learning through the Erasmus+ strategic partnerships¹⁰,
- L. Congratulating the EU on the implementation of the Vocational Education and Training network in the EU Member States, which:
- i) provides knowledge, skills, competence to students and workers,
 - ii) boosts research and innovation,
 - iii) links employers and potential employees¹¹,
- M. Deeply concerned by the fact that in the last 40 years, the richest 1% of workers alone captured 17% of European-wide growth, compared to 15% for the lowest-paid 50%¹²,
- N. Deploring that 10% of workers receive 48.9 % of total global pay, while the lowest-paid 50% of workers receive just 6.4%¹³,
- O. Aware that the typical reason for a falling **labour share** is stronger growth in labour productivity rather than in average labour compensation¹⁴,
- P. Bearing in mind that in 2017, EU **median disposable income** was almost 70% higher for people with a degree of higher education¹⁵,
- Q. Alarmed by the influence that technological change has on the retirement decisions of elderly people, as **income share ratio** for them is lower than the average ratio of the whole population¹⁶,
- R. Noting that gender inequality in income has declined in recent decades, although fairly slowly among top incomes¹⁷,
- S. Regretting that the majority of Gig workers have no access to traditional employment benefits such as health insurance or pensions¹⁸,
- T. Acknowledging that 70% of **Gig Economy** workers do so due to its flexibility¹⁹,
- U. Deeply concerned that Gig Economy workers in Europe earn on average 43-62% less than workers who are not reliant on the Gig Economy²⁰,
- V. Recognising Gig Workers's tax concerns due to issues regarding worker classification under current labour laws²¹,
- W. Noting with appreciation that **Directive 2019/1152/EU** outlines minimal working conditions for workers in the gig economy²²;

10 ["Inclusive and connected higher education"](#), European Commission, 2019

11 ["EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation \(EaSI\)"](#), European Commission, 2019

12 ["Forty years of inequality in Europe: Evidence from distributional national accounts"](#), Centre for Economic Policy Research, 2019

13 ["Nearly half of global wages received by top 10%, survey finds"](#), The Guardian, 2019

14 ["The Labour Share in G20 Economies"](#), OECD, 2015

15 ["Intergenerational transmission of disadvantage statistics"](#), European Commission, 2013

16 ["Living conditions in Europe - income distribution and income inequality"](#), European Commission, 2019

17 ["Income inequality in France, 1900–2014: Evidence from Distributional National Accounts \(DINA\)"](#), Elsevier, 2013

18 ["Gig economy: EU law to improve workers' rights"](#), European Parliament, 2019

19 ["Gig Economy Statistics for 2019: The New Normal in the Workplace"](#), Fortunisty, 2019

20 ["The Social Protection of Workers in the Platform Economy"](#), European Parliament, 2017

21 ["The Future of Work: Contingent workers and new employment models"](#), Osborne Clarke, 2017

22 ["DIRECTIVE \(EU\) 2019/1152"](#), Official Journal of the EU, 2019

Skills Mismatch

1. Invites Member States to guarantee that labour contracts can not be terminated on grounds of insufficiency of skills as a result of technological advances, unless the company offers a reskilling course;
2. Urges Member States to put in place media campaigns to inform workers on the necessity of reskilling or requalification to stay relevant in the labour market;
3. Encourages all Member States to implement a system of career advice, skillset identification and counselling in secondary education;
4. Suggests that Member States foster partnerships between universities and companies through:
 - a) an increase in the number and variety of internships for students,
 - b) optional internships as part of university programs,
 - c) provision of equipment for universities by companies;
5. Asks Member States to create a lifelong learning programme for teachers whose participation is incentivised by retention bonuses;
6. Endorses initiatives tackling the issue of skills mismatch, such as the **Closing the Skillgap 2020**, and its future developments;
7. Calls upon the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality to implement female empowerment campaigns for digital education, such as "Girls Who Code" and "She Works";

Profit Inequality

8. Encourages all corporations to internally release the salaries and emoluments of all workers;
9. Recommends Member States to offer tax breaks for companies that create employee stock ownership programs, which give employees a meaningful voice in the company's direction and allocate some share of the profits to employees;
10. Instructs Member States to create a tax model on automation tools which taxes both the original cost of the tool at the time of purchase and a proportion of said cost annually;
11. Urges Member States to offer tax breaks to companies which:
 - a) limit the working week to a maximum of 35 hours,
 - b) allow flexible working hours,
 - c) paid leave of a minimum of 30 days per year;
12. Calls upon the European Commission to further study the concept of Universal Basic Income (UBI) and the feasibility of its introduction into EU Member States, which may include small-scale testing across the EU;
13. Suggests that Member States and companies implement stress management classes and create stress-free areas into workplaces and educational facilities;



Gig Economy

14. Calls upon Member States to investigate the enforcement of a company benefit package for Gig Economy workers which includes health insurance, maternity leave and pension;
15. Asks the European Commission to draft a proposal for an EU-wide insurance model that ensures the stability of compensation for gig workers;
16. Calls for Member States to implement the aforementioned model through the provision of compensations to workers whose wage has been delayed or undelivered;
17. Instructs the Member States to recover said amounts from those companies which failed to fulfill their contractual obligations;
18. Invites Member States to open information centers to educate gig workers on their employment status and tax obligations;
19. Congratulates the European Parliament and the Council on the recent Directive 2019/1152/EU on transparent and predictable working conditions in the EU.

FACT SHEET

Labour share: The portion of national income which is allocated to wages.

Median disposable income: The amount of money that households have available for spending and saving after income taxes have been accounted for.

Income share ratio: A measure of the inequality of income distribution. It is calculated as the ratio of total income received by the 20 % of the population with the highest income to that received by the 20 % of the population with the lowest income.

Directive 2019/1152/EU: The directive was adopted in June 2019. It specifies minimal working conditions for workers in the EU, including gig workers. The directive also introduces measures to ensure a higher level of security such as description of employer-employee relationship, maximum duration of probation, and compensations for cancelled work.

Gig economy: A working environment that is based on short-term job engagements and temporary contracts.

Closing the Skillgap 2020: A call for leading companies to commit to specific and measurable actions in order to train, reskill and upskill the current and future workforce worldwide.

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Initiators



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