



# RESOLUTION BOOKLET

of the 51<sup>st</sup> International Session of the European Youth  
Parliament in Paris.

23.03.2006 – 02.04.2006

## **Resolutions of the 51st International Session in Paris**

### **1. ENVI1 - Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety 1**

The EU's approach after the UN climate change Conference in Montreal: Are the new targets for gas emissions from 2012 onwards a sufficient step and how should Europe continue to approach this issue?"

### **2. ENVI2 - Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety 2**

Food disorders and Metabolic disorders are one of the main stakes in Europe in the coming years. What measures should the EU take in order to ensure a better balance of food among young people?

### **3. ITRE - Industry, Research and Energy**

'The knowledge-based economy; a key factor in growth, the competitiveness of companies and employment'.

How can the EU stop its current "brain drain" and encourage academics, researchers and professionals to stay and invest their skills in Europe?

### **4. EMPL1 - Committee on Employment and Social Affairs 1**

"Each country has its own traditions. There is no point to try to unify our social systems. Each country spends more or less the same thing in proportion for the social, but in different ways". (Vice President of the European Commission, Günter Verheugen).

Should the European Union continue to search for a common European social model? What parts of the welfare state can be unified on EU level and which things should remain purely domestic issues for the Member States?

### **5. EMPL2 - Committee on Employment and Social Affairs 2**

The Lisbon Strategy and its mid-way evaluation by the Kok Report (2004): taking into account the Kok report, how can the EU involve the Member-States, the companies and the organised civil society to reach the goals of the Lisbon Strategy ?

### **6. AFET - Committee on Foreign Affairs**

"The super powers are not opposed to nuclear weapons, because they have it, but they are opposed to scientific advancement of other nations" (Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad)

In light of the increasing tension between Iran and the international community, what should the European Union's common approach be in order to take a lead in negotiations towards a peaceful settlement?

### **7. AFCO1 - Committee on Constitutional Affairs 1**

Democracy, dialogue and debate - The Plan D of the European Union.

What measures should the EU take to especially involve young Europeans to ensure that the Union responds to the needs and expectations of its citizens?

### **8. FINP - Committee on Policy challenges and budgetary means of the enlarged Union 2007-2013**

"The budget negotiations gave me this picture in my mind: it is like a house with many different rooms but all the rooms have been constructed in different eras and to different designs and the result is a building not suitable for the modern world." (Tony Blair addressing the European Parliament, 20th December 2005).

Given the recent difficulties with the Union's budget discussions, what principles and policies should guide future discussions as regards the cost of Enlargement, CAP and the position of net contributors?

**9. LIBE1 - Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs 1**

In the light of recent tragic events such as those in Ceuta and Melilla, the need for an EU-wide immigration and asylum policy has never been more striking. What should EU's approach be on this issue?

**10. LIBE2 - Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs 2**

Despite proclaiming multiculturalism and multi-ethnicism, Member States remain confronted with racism, xenophobia and intolerance. How can the European Institutions act to fight effectively those threats to a pluralist society?

**11. CULT - Committee on Culture and Education**

Voluntary work and mobility of young Europeans: How can European institutions contribute to support volunteer activities and mobility of young Europeans and what obstacles are to be attacked?

**12. INTA - Committee on International Trade**

WTO Summit in Hong Kong (December 2005): The European Union deceived those who waited for its support in the negotiations.

What conclusions are to be taken and what attitude is to be adopted by the EU as regards its future international trade policy?

**Failed resolutions:**

**13. SEDE - Committee on Security and Defence**

"We should be worried that the Americans spend five times as much on defence research and technology than Europeans do." (Nick Witney, Chief executive of the European Defence Agency).

What should the aim of the European Security and Defence Policy be and how should it be organised in the future?

**14. AFCO2 - Committee on Constitutional Affairs 2**

"This has been a project for a small elite, a political elite. That has worked, until now," (Vice President of the European Commission, Margot Wallstrom).

After two negative referenda, what is next for the EU? Should the Constitutional Treaty be renegotiated or is it the signal for the end of this project?

**15. JURI - Committee on Legal Affairs**

"European institutions and EU law have contributed to the growing social and legal acceptance of equal rights for same-sex couples".

At a time when there is great divergence between Member States on such issues, what should the role of the EU be in this area?

## Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety 1

***The EU's approach after the UN climate change Conference in Montreal: Are the new targets for gas emissions from 2012 onwards a sufficient step and how should Europe continue to approach this issue?***

**Submitted by:** Peter Skopec (AUT); Nadejda Nikolova (BUL); Eirini Christofidou (CYP); Laura-Helene Künnapas (EST); Alexiane Lacroix (FRA); Sofia Zafeiriou (GRC); Lara Coyle (IRL); Mārtiņš Pelšs (LVA); Julia Ploum (NLD); Ingrid Wester Amundsen (NOR); Grzegorz Mroczkowski (POL); Tatiana Tambasova (RUS); Erik Lundin (SWE); Antonina Davydenko (UKR); Carla López González (ESP – chairperson)

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

- A. Stating that global warming is a result of Greenhouse gas emissions and a severe problem for the future of the earth and mankind,
  - B. Realising the need to effectively address the challenge of global climate change,
  - C. Confident that the Kyoto Protocol and the Montreal Conference provide the framework for combating global warming,
  - D. Regretting that Member States continually fail to adhere to emission targets,
  - E. Emphasising the need to reinforce the Kyoto Protocol,
  - F. Bearing in mind that transport, industry, and agriculture are the main contributors to global warming,
  - G. Considering that methane emitted by organic waste contributes greatly to the greenhouse effect,
  - H. Disapproving of the majority of current energy sources, i.e. nuclear power or oil, which are non-renewable,
  - I. Alarmed by the global dependence on oil and other fossil fuels,
  - J. Convinced that countries in the process of economic development may contribute to global warming due to the lack of both environmental awareness and clean technology,
  - K. Deeply concerned by the effects on human health, caused by climate change,
  - L. Concerned by the lack of responsibility and environmental awareness among consumers,
  - M. Expressing our disappointment with the lack of international cooperation concerning the issue of global warming;
- 
- 1. Accepts the new emission targets and strongly encourages Member States to comply;
  - 2. Recommends regular revision and constant surveillance of the goals stated in the Kyoto Protocol;
  - 3. Urges Member States to decrease the number of environmentally harmful vehicles by increasing taxes according to the polluter-pays principle;
  - 4. Further requests these funds to be invested in improvement of public transportation networks and research of environmentally-friendly technology;
  - 5. Encourages local food production and organic produce;
  - 6. Accordingly suggests alternative eating habits in order to reduce meat-production and the amount of livestock;

7. Intends to gradually replace the use of nuclear power (and all non-renewable power) and strongly recommends further research and implementation of alternative energy sources, such as:
  - i) Bio energy,
  - ii) Solar energy,
  - iii) Wind energy,
  - iv) Geothermal energy,
  - v) Salinity gradient energy,
  - vi) Hydropower energy,
  - vii) Energy forest,
  - viii) Fuel cells,
  - ix) Nuclear fusion;
8. Strongly condemns the deforestation of the Amazon region and other tropical rainforest;
9. Requests total debt-relief for developing countries in order to continue sustainable development;
10. Encourages and supports Fair Trade;
11. Endorses campaigns and educational program to increase public awareness and responsibility towards the environment;
12. Calls for the establishment of a new EU financed institution whose goals shall be:
  - i) representation of each Member State's opinion concerning environmental issues;
  - ii) International cooperation
    - α) Within the EU to finance the improvement of environmentally harmful technology concerning transportation and industry;
    - β) With countries outside the EU encouraging their governments to accept and follow terms declared by the Climate Change Conference in Montreal and future arrangements;
  - iii) Financing and initiating educational campaigns to change the environmental values of modern society.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety 2**

**Food disorders and metabolic disorders are one of the largest stakes in Europe. What measures should the EU take to ensure a better balance of food among young people?**

**Submitted by:** Anna Pacher (AUT); Alexandrina Vladimirova (BUL); Elvira Bakhar (BYL); Klara Machackova (CZE); Maret Kaska (EST); Solène Gouteyron (FRA); Chryssa Rutter (GRC); Gillian O'Halloran (IRL); Monta Krūklīte (LAT); Jasmijn Groen (NLD); Patricia Guedes (PRT); Denis Zakharov (RUS); Matin Kabirinia (SWE); Yulia Babenko (UKR); Tine Marie Balto (NO); Christopher Tripp (DEU – chairperson)

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

- A. Bearing in mind that eating disorders have many causes including
- a) Psychological problems, such as low self-esteem,
  - b) Family problems, such as abuse leading to trauma,
  - c) Social difficulties, such as peer pressure,
  - d) Career options, for example athletics or modelling,
  - e) Lifestyle in general,
- whilst metabolic disorders are caused by bodily dysfunctions,
- B. Fully alarmed by the fact that currently 14 million children in the European Union (EU) are overweight, 3 million of which are obese, and this number is increasing by 400.000 annually,
- C. Fully aware that metabolic disorders are a problem in the EU,
- D. Fully aware that extreme dieting is an unhealthy way of controlling one's weight,
- E. Deeply disturbed by the increasing amount of young people who suffer from eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia,
- F. Recognizing that the food pyramid is an accurate guide to a healthy, balanced diet,
- G. Noting with deep concern the existence of an unbalance between advertising healthy and junk food,
- H. Deeply conscious of the fact that public opinion, peer pressure and low self-esteem lead to eating disorders;
1. Urges the promotion of after-school activities such as sports and youth clubs;
  2. Recommends that EU-member states' governments fund the advertising of healthy lifestyles;
  3. Calls for the removal of all vending machines from schools;
  4. Encourages clever and creative commercials which promote a healthy body;
  5. Calls for state provided centres for physical and psychological rehabilitation;
  6. Further recommends check-ups on competitive athletes by government employed doctors once or twice annually;
  7. Draws attention to the need for better labelling on food products;
  8. Endorses tax incentives for producers of healthy foodstuffs.
  9. Requests a healthy school plan involving theoretical, practical and physical education for all students starting from kinder garden until the end of school comprising of classes on nutrition, cookery and physical education;

10. Urges the establishment of parental education on nutrition, including how to adequately feed their families, with compulsory and non-compulsory elements;
11. Calls for resident dieticians and doctors to be allocated schools to execute regular physical and psychological examinations on all students;
12. Further requests that nutritionists and dieticians be called to assist in the formation of healthy of cafeteria menus.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy**

**«The knowledge-based economy; a key factor in growth, the competitiveness of companies and employment.» How can the EU stop its current “brain drain” and encourage academics, researchers and professionals to stay and invest their skills in Europe?**

**Submitted by:** Rina Juniku (AUT); Laurent Compere (BEL); Hristos Mexias (BUL); Vojtěch Prášil (CZE); Vahur Vallistu (EST); Antonia Proka (GRC); Katie Price (IRL); Krišjānis Dzalbe (LVA); Anne Moraal (NED); Ellen Margarethe Salamonsen (NOR); José Matos (POR); Vitaly Zmetnyy (RUS); Ivan Korolev (SWE); Jack Breslauer (GBR); Helya Houshmand (SWE – chairperson)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Defines “brain drain” as the departure of educated or professional people from one country, economic sector or field for another, usually for better pay, living and/or and working conditions,
  - B. Deeply concerned by the fact that the under-funding of research and development (R&D) in the EU leads to low salaries, poor facilities and a lack of materials compared to our competitors,
  - C. Noting that private sector investment in R&D is crucial in order to expand the EU’s knowledge-based economy,
  - D. Believing that funding for R&D should be allocated entirely on the basis of scientific merit and not subject to political influences,
  - E. Recognizing that the quality of R&D would greatly improve if there was more competition for funding and closer communication between research groups,
  - F. Acknowledging that unfair publishing procedures can demoralise researchers,
  - G. Noting with regret the lack of public appreciation for science and scientific achievements,
  - H. Convinced that bureaucracy is one of the major causes of brain drain,
  - I. Taking into account that ethical laws can be a barrier to the development of science,
  - J. Fully aware of the uneven distribution of highly qualified workers within the EU;
- 
- 1. Authorizes EU-funded tax breaks for private companies that invest in R&D projects within the EU;
  - 2. Urges national governments to reinvest a portion of the income derived from corporation tax into state R&D projects;
  - 3. Proposes the introduction of a European Research Council (ERC), an independent organizing body for European R&D which would:
    - i) Use independent scientists who are free from political pressure to allocate EU research funding,
    - ii) Organize competition for funding on a European, rather than National, scale, thereby improving the quality of successful projects,
    - iii) Act as a communication centre for researchers, thus improving cooperation between them,
    - iv) Tackle bureaucracy by simplifying the funding application process;



4. Insists on the creation of an authorship review panel managed by the ERC to ensure fair and transparent publishing procedures;
5. Proposes the launch of a public promotion campaign emphasizing the beneficial value of science;
6. Endorses the creation of an electronic system for ordering equipment & funding requests in order to simplify the current procedure;
7. Calls for the formation of a committee of experts to draw up ethical guidelines for European scientific research;
8. Recommends that EU regional development funds be targeted at R&D projects to keep highly qualified workers within the new EU member states.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs 1**

**«Each country has its own traditions. There is no point to try to unify our social systems. Each country spends more or less the same thing in proportion for the social, but in different ways.» (Vice President of the European Commission, Günter Verheugen).**  
**Should the European Union continue to search for a common European social model?**  
**What parts of the welfare state can be unified on EU level and which things should remain purely domestic issues for the Member States?**

**Submitted by:** Masoumeh Moridian (AUT); Martin Carlier (BEL); Natalie Chrastova (CZE); Uku Talmar (EST); François Oriol (FRA); Alexandra Karabournioti (GRE); Maja Orešić (HRV); Simona Crea (ITA) ; Lâsma Sirmule (LVA); Laila Chomrikh (NLD); Karen Kristine Fredeng Bårje (NOR); Nuno Amaral (POR); Karina Egorova (RUS); Richard Hedlund (SWE); Eloise Preston (GBR); Emma Campbell (GBR – chairperson)

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

- A. Defining a common European Union (EU) social model as mutual goals for all member states in fields such as, but not limited to:
    - i) Universal access to health and social services,
    - ii) Universal access to education,
    - iii) Equal opportunities for all members of society,
  - B. Deeply convinced that social systems should be converged at EU level in terms of goals,
  - C. Aware that unification of social systems could cause cultural and economic problems,
  - D. Declaring that cultures and traditions must be preserved,
  - E. Bearing in mind the different social status and level of infrastructure in each of the Member States,
  - F. Convinced that wealthier Member States with strong social systems have a responsibility to help other Member States with weaker social systems to develop and to guarantee the human rights of all EU citizens,
  - G. Recognising that immigration could cause differing levels of strain on EU nations,
  - H. Fully believing that member states should develop their own individual immigration policies,
  - I. Emphasising every EU citizen's right to a high standard of health care,
  - J. Affirming that the level of unemployment benefits should be considered a domestic issue,
  - K. Expressing its appreciation of state systems that help job seekers find employment;
- 
- 1. Calls for Member States to set common goals in the fields of education, health and equality, and to achieve them independently through an Open Method of Coordination (OMC);
  - 2. Encourages the further implementation of Plan D to raise awareness of the aims and benefits of a common European social model;
  - 3. Recommends the use of “best practice” policy sharing between Member States to achieve the goals defined by the social model, as outlined above;
  - 4. Strongly supports the provision of health care for EU citizens in any nation within the Union, via the European Health Insurance cards that are currently available;
  - 5. Urges both state and private schools to offer the European Baccalaureat;

6. Further urges the promotion of a technology module within the Baccalaureat to help provide all young EU citizens with employable skills;
7. Calls for a minimum amount of money from the national budget to be spent on benefits, linked to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita;
8. Authorises both state and private ownership of Merit Goods;
9. Draws attention to the need for a pan-European standardisation of working conditions, such as working hours and safety in the work place;
10. Requests the creation of an independent body charged with inspecting working conditions across the EU;
11. Further requests the setting of a maximum number of working hours;
12. Recommends greater coordination and cooperation between all Member States' job seekers systems and programmes;
13. Calls for the liberalisation of employment law across the E.U. to ensure an easier process of firing and hiring for employers and employees;
14. Endorses work exchange programmes, which allow freer movement of skilled workers between E.U. countries;
15. Condemns forced retirement whilst supporting voluntary retirement;
16. Proposes the founding of a European organisation to combat social inequality between individuals and Member States;
17. Strongly condemns any form of discrimination based on any factor, such as:
  - i) Age,
  - ii) Race,
  - iii) Gender,
  - iv) Sexual orientation,
  - v) Nationality,
  - vi) Religion.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs 2**

**The Lisbon Strategy and its mid-way evaluation by the Kok Report (2004): taking into account the Kok report, how can the EU involve the Member-States, the companies and the organised civil society to reach the goals of the Lisbon Strategy?**

**Submitted by:** Alexandra Kleemann (AUT); Quentin Ramon (BEL); Edward Adrian Beherano (SCG); Tomáš Brzobohatý (CZE); Jari Marjelund (FIN); Julie Couzinet (FRA); Diana Hriberski (HRV); Uldis Krištopans (LVA); Ellen Minkman (NDL); Magnus Skjelmo Kristianse (NOR); Diogo Mendonça (PRT); Paula Iwanowska (SWE); Bilban Meriç Akkan (TUR); Stephanie Lis (GBR); Samuel Sieber (CHE – chairperson)

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

- A. Recognising that the main goal of the Lisbon Strategy is for the European Union (EU) to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-driven economy by 2010,
  - B. Recognising that the Kok Report concludes:
    - i) Member states have not made sufficient progress in meeting the goals by 2010,
    - ii) There are differences between Member States concerning the progress made to achieve the Lisbon Strategy's goals,
    - iii) The lack of political will is a major obstacle to the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy,
  - C. Aware of the fact that non EU Member States do not have to take the Lisbon Strategy into account,
  - D. Affirming that unemployment benefits are too high in some EU countries and too low in others,
  - E. Deeply disturbed by the stagnation of numerous EU member states' economies,
  - F. Recognising the inability of the EU to compete within the secondary industry market,
  - G. Noting with concern that acts of protectionism, a breach against free markets rules, are still performed inside the EU,
  - H. Keeping in mind that investments in research and development are an important factor for economic growth,
  - I. Aware of the significance of small and medium sized companies for European economic growth,
  - J. Recognising the lack of social responsibility demonstrated by many companies, and thus a need for more social security for employees,
  - K. Deeply regretting the existence of discrimination in employment structures throughout Europe,
  - L. Observing that several companies do not consider environmental issues as their utmost priority;
- 
- 1. Recommends that all the EU member states incorporate the Lisbon Strategy in their official policy;
  - 2. Endorses the consideration of the Lisbon Strategy by non EU Member states in order to enable easier economic cohesion with a view to their possible accession to the EU;
  - 3. Urges closer cooperation between all EU Member States in order to exchange information and best practise;

4. Emphasises the need to focus on a knowledge based economy;
5. Urges all the Member States to obey the rules of the free internal market of the Union;
6. Encouraging an increase in economic productivity through social means with the use of:
  - i) The introduction of cheaper childcare for working parents with the help of governmental subsidies,
  - ii) More facilities for the disabled and the implementation of workshops to teach skills to enable part-time work,
  - iii) The provision of a basic pension for all, with the possibility of a larger pension for those who work to an older age,
  - iv) The promotion of a basic medical service for everyone to ensure a healthy workforce;
7. Expresses its hope for social harmonisation in Europe by achieving a balance between welfare and productivity through government tax incentives;
8. Calls for the establishment of a fair minimum wage throughout the EU, relative to the economic performance of the particular country and relatively higher than the unemployment benefits offered by that country;
9. Encourages the Member States to apply tax reductions on investments in the environment, research and development;
10. Calls for the reduction of bureaucracy in the establishment of companies, with the possibility of lowered taxes for smaller firms;
11. Emphasises that in order to achieve economic growth there is a need for more education including the introduction of vocational courses to empower the European workforce with lifelong skills;
12. Further recommends an increase in public awareness regarding the Lisbon Strategy through a greater availability of basic information and more media coverage.

## Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Foreign Affairs

**«The super powers are not opposed to nuclear weapons, because they have it, but they are opposed to scientific advancement of other nations" (Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad)»** In light of the increasing tension between Iran and the international community, what should the European Union's common approach be in order to take a lead in negotiations towards a peaceful settlement?

**Submitted by:** Sebastian Greiner (AUT); Arnoud Zamboni (BEL); Nina Bozovic (SCG); Zuzana Machackova (CZE); Reeta Metsänen (FIN); Mathieu Girard (FRA); Andreas Kosiari (GRC); Sonja Radošević (HR); Andrea Madrigali (ITA); Jānis Kacēns (LVA); Gerald Gilhooley (NLD); Kjærstin Berntzen (NOR); José Miguel Barbosa (PRT); Helena Moradi (SWE); Zeynep Alp (TUR); Dhakshi Muhundhakumar (GBR); Christoph Holzhaider (AUT – chairperson)

### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Having considered the existence of cultural differences between Iran and the Western world,
  - B. Fully aware that the export of natural energy resources (eg: fossil fuel) is very important for the Iranian economy,
  - C. Bearing in mind the interest of other countries in Iran's vast oil reserves,
  - D. Fully aware that changes in the diplomatic situation between Iran and foreign states could cause an economic crisis,
  - E. Aware of the decrease in energy resources,
  - F. Bearing in mind that according to the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Iran has the right to develop nuclear research programmes for civilian purposes,
  - G. Deeply concerned by the current political situation in Iran,
  - H. Noting with deep concern the declining effectiveness of the NPT,
  - I. Deeply concerned by the resentment within Iran towards the western world;
- 
- 1. Accepts the right of Iran to produce nuclear energy provided that they follow the NPT and allow inspections from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
  - 2. Proclaims that the European Union (EU) will not interfere with Iran's nuclear programme as long as it is used for civil purposes and abides by the above rules;
  - 3. Supports the Russian proposal as a temporary solution until further agreement has been reached;
  - 4. Further endorses the development and use of renewable energy resources throughout the world;
  - 5. Disapproves of any sanctions imposed by the United Nations (UN), given the negative effect they would have on the Iranian people and the world economy;
  - 6. Strongly condemns any violent actions against Iran;
  - 7. Condemns speeches which are offensive to foreign nations;
  - 8. Emphasises the need to improve relations with Iran, which can be achieved by:
    - i) Requesting the reinstatement of a trade agreement between the EU and Iran, in addition to subsidising companies interested in investing in Iran,
    - ii) Encouraging student exchanges between Iran and foreign countries as well as initiatives to improve communication with the outside world;

9. Recommends that in order to avoid nationalism and terrorism, the EU can support the Iranian people by:
  - i) Urging the Iranian government to respect the Iranian people's human rights,
  - ii) Encouraging the formation of workers' unions in Iran to empower and represent the people;
10. Calls for a common European policy towards Iran which is independent of foreign influences.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs 1**

### ***Democracy, dialogue and debate - The Plan D of the European Union.***

**What measures should the EU take to especially involve young Europeans to ensure that the Union responds to the needs and expectations of its citizens?**

**Submitted by:** Maria Gasser (AUT); Lara Piret (BEL); Franziska Müller (CHE); Michaela Bendíková (CZE); Marco Koplimaa (DEU); Olli Repo (FIN); Anna Lekidou (GRC); Ljudmila Klasic (HRV); Matteo Rocchi (ITA); Carolina JANEIRO (PRT); Ömer Doğan Dinçer (TUR); Jonathan Ainley (GBR); Xavier Le Garrec (FRA – chairperson)

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

- A. Aware of the recently proposed 'Plan D',
  - B. Defining the expression *needs and expectations* as the demands of the citizens towards the European Union,
  - C. Defining European citizens as citizens of the European Union Member States, partner countries and future members,
  - D. Recognising that the youth have lost interest in European affairs due to lack of knowledge and information,
  - E. Seeking to find solutions to increase communication between the European institutions and the space citizens of the European Union,
  - F. Alarmed by the evident xenophobia and stereotyping that is present in contemporary European society,
  - G. Determined to overcome language barriers within Europe,
  - H. Realising that there is a gap between European cultures, which has resulted in feelings of detachment and distance between European neighbours,
  - I. Noting that it is very difficult to commence exchange programmes due to differences across educational systems throughout Europe;
- 
- 1. Calls upon the EU to establish a pan European television station to broadcast a diverse selection of programmes from all member States in order to broaden the political, cultural and social horizons of European citizens;
  - 2. Encourages the creation of a free, readily available and accessible European newspaper, to be run by a semi-state body;
  - 3. Supports a new European and national network of discussion groups, in accordance with 'Plan D', to promote awareness and dialogue about European issues;
  - 4. Emphasises the need for more direct democracy, via opinion polls, to create a highly transparent political set-up;
  - 5. Endorses the incorporation of European citizenship courses into Member States' curricula, in order to :
    - i) increase European consciousness,
    - ii) teach the structure and the functions of the European Union;
  - 6. Considers 'Houses of European culture', being centres to exhibit and display apolitical information, as an effective means to :



- i) combat xenophobia,
  - ii) increase tolerance within Europe,
  - iii) celebrate the rich and varied cultures and histories of European countries;
- 7. Expressing the belief that free language tuition will facilitate mobility within the EU;
- 8. Appeals to the EU, through talent-seeking competitions, to create opportunities for young graduates, so that they actively seek their future in Europe;
- 9. Strongly urges member States to adopt and develop the International Baccalaureate in parallel to existing national education systems, in order to :
  - i) move towards a common high standard of education,
  - ii) allow for easier movement across Europe at secondary school level, especially stimulating exchange student programmes.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Policy challenges and budgetary means of the enlarged Union 2007-2013**

**«The budget negotiations gave me this picture in my mind: It is like a house with many different rooms but all the rooms have been constructed in different eras and to different designs and the result is a building not suitable for the modern world.» (Tony Blair addressing the European Parliament, 20th December 2005). Given the recent difficulties with the Union's budget discussions, what principles and policies should guide future discussions as regards the cost of Enlargement, CAP and the position of net contributors?**

**Submitted by:** Sabina Piric (AUT); Christophe Mangez (BEL); Steffen Murau (DEU); Loreto Rodriguez (ESP); Eveliina Seppälä (FIN); Matea Pukec (HRV); Heidrun Bjork Gisladdottir (ISL); Lavinia Del Basso (ITA); Visar Ramadani (MKD); Samuel Pereira (PRT); Claire-Aimée Grimshaw (GBR); Dace Neimane (LVA – chairperson)

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

#### **A. Deeply convinced that an enlarged Union:**

- iii) Promotes unity,
- iv) Brings economic and cultural advantages,
- v) Provides a competitive and powerful Europe on the world market,

- B. Observing that each country brings a unique perspective to the European Union (EU) and makes a contribution to the common market,
- C. Fully aware of the cost of enlargement to current members, particularly in supporting newer countries of the Union and the Candidate States,
- D. Noting with deep concern the insufficient allocation of funding for poorer regions of more economically developed Member States,
- E. Believing that the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) has become less important since its introduction in 1962,
- F. Appreciating the necessity for domestic food production in order to retain independence and sustain competitiveness on the world market,
- G. Observing that a large proportion of the EU budget is spent on CAP, which benefits the small percentage of the European population who are employed in the agricultural sector,
- H. Fully aware that the United Kingdom (UK) has benefited from its rebate since 1984, and recognising that it is reluctant to relinquish this,
- I. Noting that the UK has recently expressed that it would be willing to compromise in accordance with CAP reductions,
- J. Deeply concerned that ineffective decision making mechanisms within the EU institutions are causing difficulties for budget approval,
- K. Emphasising disapproval regarding the suggestion that net contributions should be reduced as respective Member States benefit economically from developing countries both within and outside the EU;

#### **1. Calls for a deceleration in the rate at which countries are joining EU by:**

- i) Implementing more stringent economic criteria to be reached by countries wishing to join,

- ii) Introducing restriction on the number of countries that are allowed to join in 2013;
- 2. Notes that the aforementioned policy should be reassessed two years after enlargement (in year 2015) to decide when the next year of admission should be and how many countries should be allowed to join;
- 3. Suggests that whilst the enlargement is temporarily frozen the EU should focus on poor regions of current Member States regardless of the economic status of the country;
- 4. Fully supports the provision of monetary and advisory development aid to candidate countries;
- 5. Suggests that limits are set on CAP subsidies, which would be allocated proportionally according to the economic status of each Member State, in order to gradually alleviate the burden of CAP expenditure;
- 6. Authorises the Member States to subsidise food production that exceeds the set limits, for a limited period of time, providing that these subsidies are in accordance with guidelines set by the EU;
- 7. Further recommends the widening of alternative uses for agriculture product surpluses (e.g. regenerative energy sources) and diversification into other industries;
- 8. Demands that the money saved from CAP subsidies should be invested in environmental and citizenship programmes;
- 9. Urges that the rebate given to the UK be gradually reduced in line with CAP reductions in order to eventually achieve complete abolition;
- 10. Calls upon more effective decision making procedures in EU institutions.

## Fact Sheet

### CAP reform

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was first introduced in 1962, to ensure that Europe had secure food supplies at affordable prices. But it generated unwanted surpluses of some products such as beef, barley, milk and wine. Also, the subsidies paid to European farmers were distorting world trade. So the European Commission began reviewing the CAP in 1999. The EU agreed further reforms in 2003, with the emphasis on high-quality farm produce and animal-friendly farming practices that respect the environment and preserve the countryside.

### Rebate

Due to circumstances in the 1970s and early 80s, when the UK was one of the poorer Member States, it was agreed that the UK would receive a rebate on its contributions to the EU budget, since it received much less than it paid into the EU budget. The Fontainebleau principle, named after the 1984 Fontainebleau Summit where the UK rebate or 'correction' was agreed unanimously, accepts the principle that all Member States whose net contribution exceeds a certain level could enjoy a rebate. Rebate implies that a Member State is paid back a certain percentage of its net contribution.

### EU Budget 2006

The budget is divided in to the following categories

Income		Expenditure	
Unspent from previous years	1%	Competitiveness/Cohesion	39%
A uniform rate applied to Gross National Income	13%	Administrative expenditure	6%
Duties (e.g. customs, agricultural)	72%	Environment	11%
VAT revenue	14%	Agriculture	36%
		Citizenship	1%
		Global Partner	7%

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs 1**

**In the light of recent tragic events such as those in Ceuta and Melilla, the need for an EU-wide immigration and asylum policy has never been more striking. What should EU's approach be on this issue?**

**Submitted by:** Fahimeh Dussaiwoir (BEL); Nadine Pfiffner (CHE); Nikolas Metaxas (CYP); Andreas Huschke (DEU); Maria Inmaculada León (ESP); Helena Ryttilähti (FIN); Johnny McKenna (IRL); Giulia Nicolai (ITA); Elena Georgievska (MKD); Agata Kostrzewa (POL); Maria Carolina Pinheiro (PTR); Ipek Nergiz (TUR); Maanas Jain (GBR); Silke Jansen (NLD – vice-president)

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

- A. Defining asylum as protection given by a state on its territory to a person unable to seek protection in his country for fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality or membership of a particular social or political group, based on the principle of non-refoulement and internationally/nationally recognised refugee rights,
- B. Defining legal immigration as the voluntary movement of people from one country to another for reasons of work, housing, social- and health care, with the permission of the receiving country,
- C. Bearing in mind that the root causes of immigration, such as lack of social care, health care, education and root causes of asylum seeking such as political and humanitarian difficulties, are located in the country of origin,
- D. Recognising that the application and decision procedures for asylum are unjustifiably long in some Member States,
- E. Emphasising the need for a more extensive European Union (EU)-wide database detailing the numbers of asylum-seekers, refugees, immigrants and their countries of origin for each Member State,
- F. Defining reception capacity as the total number of immigrants/asylum-seekers a single country can realistically accept based on economic and demographic factors,
- G. Recognising the need to protect human rights of asylum-seekers as defined by the Geneva Convention 1951,
- H. Noting that according to the Commission of European Communities on Immigration, Integration and Employment, immigration does not cause unemployment,
- I. Bearing in mind that some immigrants exploit welfare benefits in host countries,
- J. Approving the existing legal framework consisting of:
  - i) Dublin Regulation,
  - ii) Qualification Directive,
  - iii) Reception Conditions Directive,
  - iv) Asylum Procedure Directive;
- 1. Urges EU member states to financially support sustainable development programmes, such as infrastructure, buildings and education, for those countries from which they receive most immigrants and asylum-seekers;
- 2. Calls for each Member State to spread more and better information concerning the EU asylum and migration policy through their embassies in non-EU countries.
- 3. Calls for common minimum standards for reception of asylum-seekers within the EU member states such as housing, limited travelling and access to legal aid;

4. Calls upon immigrants to be encouraged to attend lessons and learn the indigenous language in order to fully integrate into the society;
5. Endorses the need for a basic EU-wide procedure detailing the minimum standards required for dealing with an asylum application;
6. Urges the creation of a new body called the EU Support Office (EUSO) who will:
  - i) Appoint a single EU official for each of those countries from which the EU receives most asylum seekers/refugees,
  - ii) Use financial grants to enable Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to implement strategies to combat social and political insecurity in non-EU through the appointed official;
7. Encourages regular and continuous cooperation between NGOs and the EU official to ensure effective exchange of information in regular meetings;
8. Calls for the council of ministers of the EU to collectively decide on concrete criteria to assess the asylum and immigration reception capacity for each Member State;
9. Calls upon the EU to employ an independent body, made up of experts, to apply the agreed criteria to each case and accordingly suggest a reception minimum to which each Member State should adhere;
10. Requests that Member States produce a concise report every five years detailing their development on the issue and in return receive constructive feedback from the independent body;
11. Recommends that the independent body considers the use of flexible time limits within which to assess asylum applications in order to speed up the process of asylum and reduce waiting times for refugees upon entry into the EU;
12. Calls for the sharing of immigration and asylum statistics between Member States in order to develop a system of distribution of immigrants and asylum-seekers in accordance with each country's reception capacity.

## Fact Sheet

The four main legal instruments on asylum are:

The **Dublin Regulation** contains clear rules about the Member States responsible for assessing an application for asylum. It is an important instrument for the prevention of multiple demands.

The **Reception Conditions Directive** guarantees minimum standards for the reception of asylum-seekers, including housing, education and health.

The **Qualification Directive** contains a clear set of criteria for qualifying either for refugee or subsidiary protection status and sets out what rights are attached to each status.

The **Asylum Procedures Directive** will ensure that throughout the EU, all procedures at first instance are subject to the same minimum standards.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs 2**

**Despite proclaiming multiculturalism and multi-ethnicism, Member States remain confronted with racism, xenophobia and intolerance. How can the European Institutions act to fight effectively those threats to a pluralist society?**

**Submitted by:** Auore Macau (BEL); Marius Suter (CHE); Nestoras Liassides (CYP); Christian Macht (DEU); Liana Zöbina (EST); Carmen Indrani Rivera (ESP); Pinja Lehtonen (FIN); Riogtnach O'Leary (IRL); Giulia ARRIGONI (ITA); Magdalena Bielecka (POL); Alexandra Maria Bocşe (ROM); Melin Dökmeci (TUR); Oyinkan Johnson (UK); Andrew Byrne (IRL – Vice-President)

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

- A. Bearing in mind that the Treaty of Amsterdam condemns discrimination on the basis of nationality (Article 12) and on basis of race and ethnic origin (Article 13),
- B. Recognising the main causes of racism as follows:
  - i) Lack of knowledge,
  - ii) Historical events,
  - iii) Personal experiences,
  - iv) Influence of the media,
  - v) Job losses,
- C. Further noting that the main forms of racism are:
  - i) Violent,
  - ii) Institutional (eg segregation),
  - iii) Blatant,
  - iv) Unconscious,
  - v) Latent,
- D. Taking into account the power of media holds in shaping public opinion regarding this issue,
- E. Aware of the fact that extremism and inflexible adherence to culture can be an obstacle to the integration of immigrants,
- F. Believing that a lack of integration will present a threat to pluralist societies,
- G. Fully convinced that for successful integration both natives and ethnic minorities must engage in a process of interaction, and acceptance and adaptation to differing cultures,
- H. Deeply concerned that freedom of speech can be used to offend vulnerable groups and provoke people to act in a racist manner,
- I. Keeping in mind that freedom of opinion should not affect under any circumstances the rights of other people,
- J. Deeply convinced that integration must involve a reciprocal process of acceptance, tolerance and communication between different cultures,
- K. Noting with regret that a lack of communication exists between people of different religions, cultures and ethnic groups,
- L. Being aware of the fear that ethnic minorities have concerning the loss of their culture,
- M. Believing that in order for equal rights to be available to all, positive discrimination should not be implemented,
- N. Recognising that whilst religion is used as a pretext for racial and xenophobic conflict, the real roots of racism tend to be found in social, cultural, and economic differences,



0. Deeply regretting the consistent failure of EU member states to satisfy European anti-racist legislation;
1. Recommends the introduction of an educational system seeking to educate Europeans on both native and other cultures in order to promote diversity and combat racism;
2. Further recommends that this system operates through the following means:
  - i) Support or exchange programmes such as Erasmus or Socrates,
  - ii) Integration of culture lessons at a very early age,
  - iii) A review of existing school syllabuses with a view to removing biases,
  - iv) The introduction of an annual Euro Day' involving popular activities to encourage citizens to identify with Europe,
  - v) Reflection of European pluralist society in children's educational books;
3. Calls for the establishment of a media system including television and radio stations, press agencies, and websites which seek to provide objective information on cultural issues and news;
4. Strongly affirms that the benefits of freedom of speech outweigh its negative aspects;
5. Recommends that heavier sentences and penalties should be given for racially motivated crimes;
6. Recommends that in cases of racist crimes Member States should consider methods such as group therapy, anti-racism courses and community service as an alternative/addition to punishment to encourage rehabilitation;
7. Declares accordingly that when hiring, promoting, or dismissing workers employers must state and record the reasons for their decisions;
8. Calls upon every Member State to create a European Housing Centre to act as an independent monitoring body in the area of housing allocation practises;
9. Urges Member States to introduce a compulsory period of host language education;
10. Further proclaims that students will be awarded a certificate of language proficiency upon passing a test at the end of this period;
11. Recommends that in order to implement the requirements of EU anti-racist legislation national governments should work in greater cooperation with Non-Governmental organisations which specialize in combating racism, xenophobia and intolerance.

## **Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education**

***Voluntary work and mobility of young Europeans: How can European institutions contribute to support volunteer activities and mobility of young Europeans and what obstacles are to be attacked?***

**Submitted by:** Hristina Ivanova (BUL); Vladimir Novikov (BLR); Marisa Tanasoontrarat (CHE); Kypros Zenonos (CYP); Lisa Weiss (DEU); Regina Măe (EST); Sylvie Portal (FRA); Clare Cooney (IRL); Gëzime Hasani (KOS); Kornelia Misiura (POL); Cristian Camenita (ROM); Shantana Shahid (SWE); Carole Viaene (BEL – chairperson)

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

- A. Observing the need for better communication between European people,
  - B. Aware of the goals and methods of EURES (European Employment Services),
  - C. Concerned by the difficulties in obtaining visas to travel, study and carry out voluntary work,
  - D. Aware of the lack of information provided to students in relation to volunteer work, study programmes, scholarships, sponsorship of charity work etc.,
  - E. Taking into consideration that an individual's incapability to speak a language may lead to problems in finding voluntary work,
  - F. Deeply concerned by volunteer workers' lack of clear official status,
  - G. Bearing in mind the costs associated with volunteer work,
  - H. Deeply conscious of the role that private businesses play in sponsoring volunteer work,
  - I. Seeking to ensure co-operation between voluntary work organisations to regulate and guarantee a better quality of voluntary work/activity programmes and to regulate these programmes,
  - J. Defining the mobility of young Europeans as the ability to move within one's own country and to travel to other countries, particularly in this case the movement of individuals and groups of young people for educational exchanges, seminars, project work, etc.,
  - K. Realising the difficulties in mobility across Europe posed by differences in educational systems across Europe (e.g. non-recognition of qualifications etc.),
  - L. Deeply aware that mobility can contribute to the economic growth, social progress and sustainable development of Europe;
- 
- 1. Requests that all European countries join EURES;
  - 2. Calls for the introduction of common criteria for young people who apply for a visa particularly in relation to those young people from outside the European Union (EU);
  - 3. Supports the creation and consolidation of regional voluntary centres that offer the following services:
    - i) Language courses especially for less popular languages,
    - ii) Psychological tests to evaluate the mental fitness of volunteers,
    - iii) Information for volunteer workers about the law and culture of the host country;
  - 4. Strongly request the introduction of an "official volunteer" status:
    - i) Incorporating social security guarantees and legal protection,

- ii) Allowing the possibility to take time off work or college to volunteer, without fear of repercussions for future careers or education prospects,
  - iii) Declares accordingly that those with volunteer status can work part-time, with restrictions in place;
5. Declares that the necessary funds will be made available to aid all those who are restricted in their ability to carry out voluntary work due to financial circumstances;
  6. Endorses the introduction of a controlled labelling system for businesses in relation to donations for voluntary work and training of young people, similar to Fair Trade labels and eco-friendly labels;
  7. Requests that those who benefited from exchange programmes provide information to students in the form of lectures;
  8. Approves the introduction of one week of volunteer/charity work as part of the National Curriculum across Europe;
  9. Calls for information on voluntary work to be made available in regional volunteer centres, particularly in relation to grants available for volunteer work;
  10. Emphasises the need for the European Center for Volunteering (CEV) to:
    - i) Expand its network to include all European voluntary work programmes in order to regulate these under a common code of best practice,
    - ii) Expand and frequently update the website of the CEV including information on all aspects of volunteering,
    - iii) Disseminate information so that smaller organisations can become part of the scheme;
  11. Supports media campaigns to promote volunteer work, such as poster campaigns, leaflets and radio advertisements;
  12. Recommends that information on school exchange programmes and language courses be made available in all European secondary schools;
  13. Further recommends the introduction of common European standards regarding the recognition of qualifications and degrees received from schools and universities throughout Europe;
  14. Further supports cultural festivals to promote individual countries in order to increase international solidarity and combat discrimination;
  15. Calls for the reduction of travel costs and the introduction of short-term cheaper international cards for young Europeans opting to travel around the continent.

#### **FACT SHEET:**

The purpose of **EURES** is to provide services which benefit workers, employees and citizens wishing to benefit from the principle of the free movement of people. This involves 3 types of service provisions: information, advice and recruitment/placement.

## Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on International Trade

***WTO Summit in Hong Kong (December 2005): The European Union deceived those who waited for its support in the negotiations. What conclusions are to be taken and what attitude is to be adopted by the EU as regards its future international trade policy?***

**Submitted by:** Anton Gerunov (BUL); Andrei Dashkou (BLR); Orestis Aristides (CYP); Andreas Uhlstein (DEU); Mari-Liis Nummert (EST); Mélanie Barriol (FRA); James O'Connor (IRL); Arber Kuqi (KOS); Maite Karssenberg (NLD); Martyna Piechowicz (POL); Horia Mircea Botoş (ROM); Sophie Berner-Eyde (SWE); Kerim Nahum (TUR); Anna Shaporenko (UKR); Gustav Kalm (EST – chairperson)

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

- A. Recognizing that some parties were disappointed by the results achieved at the Hong Kong Summit, considering the European Union's (EU) global position and reputation,
  - B. Conscious of the slow, yet notable developments in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations,
  - C. Fully convinced that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is one of the most democratic and transparent international organizations,
  - D. Fully aware that international trade is an integral part of international affairs and vice versa,
  - E. Recognizing that trade is one of the core interests of the international community, and as such has the capacity to act as a "soft power",
  - F. Bearing in mind that the EU's approach towards international trade can be divided into short-, mid-, and long-term goals,
  - G. Aware of the existing Common Agricultural Policy's (CAP) large share of the EU budget, by its trade distorting subsidies and the fact that it is currently being reformed,
  - H. Concerned by the fact that bilateral trade agreements may hinder development prospects,
  - I. Guided by the principle "Pactum sunt servanda", which refers to the obligatory implementation of signed and ratified agreements;
1. Endorse intensified competition on an international level;
  2. Calls for a reciprocal and complementary approach to development-friendly trade policies on a global level;
  3. Further calls for the adoption of a "case-by-case" approach towards the issue of international trade policy;
  4. Reaffirms its commitment to assist the Least Developed Countries (LDC) by means of trade and investment;
  5. Requests that technical products be sold to LDCs at a fair price, along with instructions and training for their use;
  6. Recommends the reduction of non-financial trade barriers;
  7. Further recommends raising consumers' awareness by means of:
    - i) Transparency measures,
    - ii) Labelling,
    - iii) Education;
  8. Approves the further reduction of tariffs and the elimination of trade distorting subsidies on a sustainable and efficient basis;

9. Urges that quotas be gradually phased out in the same manner as subsidies;
10. Recommends the implementation of alternative agricultural programmes to compensate for the negative effects of liberalisation in the EU;
11. Calls for developed countries outside the EU to sign multilateral trade agreements so that their trade with LDCs is carried out under the same conditions as those proposed for the EU.