



RESOLUTION BOOKLET

**59th International Session
of the European Youth Parliament**

Rennes, October 2008

- English Version -



ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΙ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤ PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT EUROOPA PARLAMENT ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN PARLAIMINT NA ĦEORPA PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EIROPAS PARLAMENTS
EUROPOS PARLAMENTAS EURÓPAI PARLAMENT IL-PARLAMENT EWROPEW EUROPEES PARLEMENT
PARLAMENT EUROPEJSKI PARLAMENTO EUROPEU PARLAMENTUL EUROPEAN
EURÓPSKY PARLAMENT EVROPSKI PARLAMENT EUROOPAN PARLAMENTTI EUROPAPARLAMENTET

This project has been funded with support from the European Parliament. The publication reflects the views only of the author, and the European Parliament cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE 59TH INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

- INCLUDED IN THIS BOOKLET -

Resolution by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Resolution by the Committee on International Trade

Resolution by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety I

Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education I

Resolution by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety II

Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Resolution by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Resolution by the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Resolution by the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Resolution by the Committee on Foreign Affairs

Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education III

I

FAILED RESOLUTIONS AT THE 59TH INTERNATIONAL SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education II

Resolution by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence

Rennes, 2008

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

What measures does Europe need to take to address the effects of ageing populations on the labour market and social welfare systems?

Submitted by: Milena Aleksieva (BG), Kaspars Burka (LV), Monica Ileana Dobre (AT),
Anastasia Filippova (RU), Ganna Gradil (UA), Flora Kellerman (NL),
Marius Linten (DE), Jonathan Maerker (SE), Ciara McGrath (IE), Maria
Molvær Nesseth (NO), Jussara Nunes (PT), Clément Pit - - Claudel (FR),
Nicola Solomou (CY), Cristina Mont Castro (Chairperson, ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking into account the difficulties that Europe is facing regarding the consequences of an ageing population,
 - B. Realising that a decreased birth rate within Europe will contribute greatly to a shift in the ratio of workers to pensioners,
 - C. Fully aware that life-long learning and vocational training are essential to ensure the continuous employability of workers,
 - D. Noting with regret the difficulty for employees to acquire training while employed,
 - E. Deeply concerned that many people are forced to retire at a fixed age despite being both able and willing to continue working,
 - F. Observing the current differences and the lack of communication between EU Member States regarding the effects of the ageing population on our society,
 - G. Recognising the need for a change in attitudes towards work and the prejudices which exist between generations,
 - H. Taking into consideration the uneven distribution of the European labour force and the difficulties for non-european citizens to enter the labour market;
-
- 1. Encourages the EU to implement life-long learning educational programmes in order to enable a higher employability throughout all age groups through means such as:
 - a) monthly courses assisted and funded by EU,
 - b) young volunteers participating in programmes organised by the EU aiming at the education of older people in the usage of computer technology,
 - c) providing materials for self education;
 - 2. Requests the introduction of certificates for all completed trainings and modernisation courses that are recognised by all employers within the EU;
 - 3. Calls for the abolishment of mandatory retirement ages in all EU member states;
 - 4. Calls for the adoption of the following measures aiming to encourage the elderly to extend their working period by:
 - a) allowing a gradual and choice based retirement to the elderly,

Rennes, 2008

- b) providing benefits and subsidies for people both working and retired above the age of minimum retirement,
 - c) providing working senior citizens with special insurance and medical support to promote healthy ageing;
5. Urges the establishment of an Agency responsible for the Ageing Population (AAP) which:
- a) collects data on policies concerning the ageing population in different member states in a central database,
 - b) conducts research on new methods to reduce the effects of ageing population and their implementation,
 - c) designs public awareness campaigns and exchange programmes in order to promote a positive attitude towards the elderly as well as a more tolerant working environment;
6. Strongly encourages all EU Member States to ensure their 'family' policies provide:
- a) the support of mothers by offering paid maternity leaves,
 - b) childcare support offered both by the state and private companies,
 - c) incentives for families with two or more children such as subsidies and tax reductions;
7. Advises each Member State to consider its pension policy in accordance with the research conducted by the AAP;
8. Further encourages the introduction of incentives and subsidies for unemployed workforce successfully re-entering the labour market;
9. Calls for the implementation of the Blue Card system in the EU in order to ensure a constant flow of skilled workers into the EU in accordance with the demands of the European labour market;
10. Urges governments of EU Member States to financially support companies hiring elderly employees.

Rennes, 2008

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

After Geneva: WTO, the impossible agreement? How can the European Union contribute to conclude the Doha round in a more favourable direction to emerging countries without harming the interests of its member states?

Submitted by: Magdalena Bieluk (PL), John Boström (FI), Emma Divers (GB), Jeremy Karp (FR), Lukáš Klíma (CZ), Lorenzo Losi (IT), Steliana Moraru (RO), Beril Tekelioglu (TR), Valeri Tritakov (BG), Spiros Zafiris (GR), Alexander Åström (SE), Klára Šebáková (Chairperson, CZ)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Conscious of the fact that the development of countries is directly linked to their trade agreements,
 - B. Taking into consideration the reduced agricultural capacity of many developing countries and thus the need for flexibility and the "Special and Differential Treatment (SDT)",
 - C. Recognising the importance of finding a middle ground between the development of world trade and protecting the environment,
 - D. Aware of the existence of anti-WTO organisations,
 - E. Noting that:
 - i) poor quality goods enter the market,
 - ii) concepts for products are often imitated by other manufacturers which remains a problem in the world-wide market,
 - F. Taking into account the existence of non-democratic countries and the importance of defining their place in the GTS (Global Trading System),
 - G. Emphasising the importance of improving the economies of developing countries focusing on the principle of equality,
 - H. Bearing in mind the importance of the support of the United States of America to the WTO,
 - I. Recognising the importance of the EU's help to developing countries in regard to the GTS,
 - J. Alarmed by the Doha Round's failure to address the issues of security concerns and of the absence of an effective control in the GTS,
 - K. Realising the importance of access to patented medicines;
-
- 1. Urges developed countries to provide less developed countries with key products for fair-trade prices;
 - 2. Recommends that the WTO cuts trade barriers in agriculture, services and manufacturers by 33% by the year 2015 in accordance with the Doha Development Agenda (DDA);



Rennes, 2008

3. Encourages the EU to set up an advisory body to help developing countries further their agricultural skills and improve their industry with the help of NGOs;
4. Calls for an introduction of a grading certificate for those companies that wish to trade with the EU granting those companies lower tariffs;
5. Invites the anti-WTO organisations to liaise with the WTO as consultative bodies;
6. Calls upon the WTO to employ "Market Access" including rules for special and sensitive products and a safe-guard mechanism to protect developing countries from dips and surges in the market;
7. Suggests that banks in Member States provide micro-loans to people in developing countries who wish to start their own business, hoping for an improved trade in return.

Rennes, 2008

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

From good intentions to action: saving biodiversity. How should the European Union act to accelerate the implementation of its action plan to halt the loss of biodiversity, in particular by better involving citizens and civil society?

Submitted by: Alexander Ackerl (AT), Mícheál Callaghan (IE), Valeriia Cherednichenko (UA), Karl Fredrick Hiemeyer (NO), Arad Hosseini (SE), Paul Klarenbeek (NL), Marleen Mathiowetz (DE), Rebecca McSheaffrey (GB), Kristaps Ozolins (LV), Laura Pssalti (CY), Rebecca Smith (FR), Joana Traykova (BG), Ricardo Vasconcelos (PT), Stamos Tahas (Chairperson, GR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Defining the Action Plan for biodiversity as a set of objectives to halt the loss of biodiversity based on an assessment of its loss in the EU and globally,
- B. Explaining that the four main policy areas of the Action Plan are:
 - i) biodiversity in the EU,
 - ii) the EU and global biodiversity,
 - iii) biodiversity and climate change,
 - iv) the knowledge base,
- C. Deeply concerned by the continuing loss of biodiversity across Europe,
- D. Acknowledging that the loss of biodiversity is caused by environmental threats involving but not limited to:
 - i) pollution,
 - ii) climate change,
 - iii) overharvesting of natural resources (i.e. overfishing),
 - iv) habitat degradation,
 - v) introduction of alien species,
- E. Noting that overexploitation of natural resources is resulting in Member States losing their cultural and national identity,
- F. Deeply disturbed by the lack of proper legislation in the following areas:
 - i) discrepancies between EU policy and the policy of its Member States,
 - ii) difficulties accessing information regarding EU policy,
 - iii) measures of practically implementing the law,
 - iv) sufficient incentives to create a more environmentally friendly economic policy,
- G. Recognising the need for transparency in the spreading of information about citizens' impact on biodiversity and their options for making more sustainable choices,

Rennes, 2008

- H. Aware of the fact that the different status of biodiversity in Member States means natural resources are exploited in varying ways affecting the following sectors:
 - i) economic,
 - ii) cultural,
 - iii) ecological,
 - iv) social,
 - I. Alarmed by the ignorance among the general public to the threats of the rapid loss of biodiversity,
 - J. Emphasising the central role of the environmentalist sector in the future economic development of the EU,
 - K. Taking into consideration the necessity of securing European wildlife reserves to protect endangered species and prevent their extinction,
 - L. Fully believing urban areas have a role to play in the protection of biodiversity through self-sufficient urban planning and sustainability in allotment schemes,
 - M. Affirming the importance of the involvement of NGOs in the implementation of such programmes as the Action Plan for the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010,
 - N. Welcoming the co-operation between the EU and the UN on protecting biodiversity and in particular the decision to prepare a post-2012 arrangement to fight climate change,
 - O. Viewing with appreciation the success following releases of movies underlining the importance of stable ecosystems,
 - P. Draws attention to the fact that donations from the public and private sector to save biodiversity are subject to tax breaks;
-
- 1. Urges the creation of an international advisory board within the European Environmental Agency (EEA) consisting of experts and representatives to help states establish appropriate programmes that will:
 - a) help resolve the issue of biodiversity loss in each specific country,
 - b) act as an intermediate between governments and the EU;
 - 2. Calls for accelerated implementation of NATURA 2000 in new EU Member States;
 - 3. Requests an evaluative report on the success of implementing NATURA 2000 in each Member State in order to improve quality, efficiency and feedback in existing protected areas;
 - 4. Further recommends the introduction of a common policy guidelines for all nature reserve areas in the EU;
 - 5. Endorses the further development of captive breeding programmes and the reintroduction of species;
 - 6. Demands a limitation on further introduction of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) until profound and extended research is carried out on the impact of such organisms on biodiversity and human health;
 - 7. Declares the need to find a compromise between the fishing industry and the preservation of the biological richness of the sea by:

Rennes, 2008

- a) emphasising the importance of small fishing communities in the Common Fisheries Policy,
 - b) taking into account the rate at which certain species are caught,
 - c) holding an urgent conference between Heads of State, representatives of the fishing industries and leading scientists on marine biology;
8. Encourages all businesses to become more environmentally friendly by establishing an international co-operation between them that will provide the following incentives:
 - a) tax cuts,
 - b) preferential trade conditions;
9. Endorses further transparency in the implementation of EU policies taken to stop the decline of biodiversity;
10. Calls upon governments to implement policies that will assist citizens in reducing their daily consumption of energy;
11. Invites the inclusion of governmental subsidies for projects that aim to halt the loss of biodiversity such as the Action Plan;
12. Asks for the promotion and establishment of common EU programs such as:
 - a) EU cleaning day, where the Member State is provided with supplies for citizens to clean their neighbourhood,
 - b) an EU Wide Forum held by independent environmental organisations to inform and provide the possibility of interaction between the public and policy makers,
 - c) civil sponsorship initiatives to preserve endangered species,
 - d) volunteering campaigns to protect the habitat of endangered species;
13. Declares the need for a new version of the Bali Roadmap directly tackling the issue of biodiversity;
14. Calls for campaigns to promote public awareness via the media, on preserving biodiversity through measures such as saving energy aiming at people from different backgrounds.



Rennes, 2008

Rennes, 2008

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

Concerns about press freedom: how can the EU ensure that this fundamental right of democracy is effectively guaranteed and respected throughout its borders?

Submitted by: Octavia Bors (RO), Aude Durand (FR), Lydia Flynn (IE), Daan Janssens (BE), Anna Katkevica (LV), Karin Kraglund (NO), Pedro Ros Reina (ES), Dariia Skidan (UA), Jennifer Stewart (GB), Alexander ten Cate (NL), John Tsihritzis (GR), Ingrid Vålk (EE), Manuel Weidmann (DE), Jamie Brown (Chairperson, IE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Convinced that freedom of speech and freedom of the press are fundamental rights and a necessity for successful democracies,
- B. Defining mass-media as a means of disseminating information to as many people as possible including, but not limited to:
 - i) printed media such as newspapers, journals, newsletters,
 - ii) websites and blogs,
 - iii) television and radio networks,
- C. Regretting that current legislation concerning press freedom is not always respected,
- D. Further regretting that the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) does not hold the final judgement in matters concerning press freedom and journalists' rights,
- E. Aware of the fact that the media is often influenced internally by those with vested interests seeking:
 - i) political, personal and ideological gain,
 - ii) financial and economic benefits,
- F. Alarmed by the use of violence and intimidation towards journalists in the EU and potential accession states as well as the occasional failure to protect these journalists,
- G. Strongly believing that media pluralism ensures press freedom and provides access to a variety of information sources, opinion and voices,
- H. Noting the lack of a common policy standard needed to create an environment in which a self-regulating media can function,
- I. Recognises the individual rights of Member States to have their own legislation concerning:
 - i) freedom of speech,
 - ii) hate speech and incitement to violence,
 - iii) racial or religious discrimination,
- J. Fully aware of the continual growth of the internet,
- K. Noting with satisfaction the European Commission's objective to keep the internet as an open and censorship free zone,

Rennes, 2008

- L. Appreciating the work of independent journalistic organisations such as the Association of European Journalists (AEJ) in protecting journalists' rights,
 - M. Emphasising the importance of education in public awareness of media pluralism and legislation concerning the press;
-
- 1. Calls for a common standard agreement on press freedom which must be adhered to by all Member States including:
 - a) a minimum number of independent media in relation to population in order to support a self-regulating media system,
 - b) the prevention of mass media monopolies in accordance with existing anti-trust laws,
 - c) the reduction of undue economic, legal and administrative pressure on journalists,
 - d) the protection of journalists from physical intimidation, violence and persecution;
 - 2. Calls for the instigation of a special commission or agency to:
 - a) define the common standard and advise on how to attain and maintain the standard,
 - b) apportion appropriate funding to growing news enterprises in order to encourage media pluralism,
 - c) assist states which fall behind the standards;
 - 3. Resolved to support approved independent media associations and watchdogs such as the AEJ and Reporters Without Borders (RSF), when requested and where possible;
 - 4. Urges Member States to continue allowing an international media presence and the continuation of uncensored internet access;
 - 5. Strongly recommends that Member States develop or encourage educational programmes where objective reasoning skills are taught alongside media studies in order to create an understanding of press freedom and pluralism;
 - 6. Authorises the ECHR to make the final judgement in matters concerning press freedom provided that the respective judicial processes have been exhausted;
 - 7. Accepts that journalists are only obliged to reveal their sources of information when they are ordered to do so by the ECHR.

Rennes, 2008

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

European environmental requirements and international trade: how can the European Union manage to defend a model of environmental excellence without harming the competitiveness of its companies or detracting from the openness of its economy?

Submitted by: Artemis Anastasiou (CY), Rebecca Anselmi (IT), Julia Bingler (DE), Marta Brzosko (PL), Mariana Catarino (PT), Emelie Fernström (SE), Niek Houterman (NL), Julia Hug (FR), Masouras Ilias (GR), Il'mir Khasanov (RU), Heta Salovaara (FI), Ivelina Slavova (BG), Lacina Koné (Chairperson, FR), Samuel Sieber (President, CH)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply convinced that the EU has to establish concrete measures in order to achieve its environmental goals without harming its competitiveness by:
 - i) taking into account existing measures aimed at the protection of the environment implemented by the EU such as the Kyoto Protocol or the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
 - ii) bearing in mind that these measures often are not effective enough,
 - B. Believing that only simultaneous development of the economy and the environment can assure the progress of humankind,
 - C. Noting with concern the existence of various economic practices that harm the environment,
 - D. Deeply disturbed by the lack of the attention given to environmental issues as a consequence of the economic crisis,
 - E. Recognising the need for a compromise between open markets and protectionism,
 - F. Realising that food crises both result from and influence environmental and economical factors,
 - G. Deeply concerned by the predicted temperature rise of 6°C by 2100 that will have a devastating effect on the economy, society and the environment,
 - H. Alarmed by the depletion of non-renewable energy reserves resulting in a constant rise in their prices,
 - I. Agreeing with the EU's proposal to increase the use of second-generation eco-fuels by 10% until 2020;
-
- 1. Calls upon the EU to develop and act as a role model in the field of sustainable development;
 - 2. Believes that investments in the environment made today are a substantial investment in the future economy;

Rennes, 2008

3. Affirms that balance between environmental protection and economical competitiveness can only be reached if a compromise is found between:
 - a) EU policies and international policies,
 - b) the responsibilities and actions of companies, governments and individuals,
 - c) short-term and long-term interests;
4. Suggests in accordance with the responsibility between companies and individuals:
 - a) the use of notes on products produced within the EU proving their environmentally friendly capacity,
 - b) the creation of a separate manual for all technical products containing comprehensive suggestions how to use the product in an environmentally friendly way;
5. Recommends the creation of a new environmental programme to directly follow the Kyoto Protocol;
6. Calls upon the EU to use its diplomatic influence in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and further international organisations in order to involve other countries in:
 - a) a coordinated and co-governed scheme to protect the environment,
 - b) the enforcement of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) through the EU and the WTO,
 - c) a global Emission Trade Scheme (ETS);
7. Calls for the EU to issue a special product label:
 - a) informing customers of its production in line with EU environmental guidelines,
 - b) lowering the price to both consumers and producers by offering a tax-cut on labelled products;
8. Urges the creation of a pan-European institution that is made up of democratically elected members which:
 - a) allocates the ETS credits to companies on an supranational scale,
 - b) ensures companies follow environmental guidelines,
 - c) promotes the use of the EU label in public using advertising means such as the media;
9. Supports the WTO in its demand for a decrease in subsidies on agriculture;
10. Approves, however, conditional agricultural subsidies in order to promote the implementation of environmentally friendly and efficient ways of production;
11. Authorises a period of transition for companies to implement new efficient and environmentally friendly production methods in accordance with the conditional subsidies;
12. Calls for subsidies for companies that research and develop new technologies increasing the means of efficient and non-pollutant production;
13. Urges for the creation of an independent EU forum opened to everyone:
 - a) enabling the sharing of ideas in the area of new technologies and new ways of transporting within the EU,
 - b) promoting cooperation, transparency and discussions amongst its members;



Rennes, 2008

14. Supports organisations investigating and evaluating the efficiency and the environmental friendliness of companies;
15. Supports initiatives such as the European Business Award for environmentally friendly enterprises in order to promote environmental excellence.



Rennes, 2008

Rennes, 2008

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

From the 'return' directive to the Cannes agreement on a European immigration and asylum pact: how can the European Union achieve the establishment of a common policy on these issues in consultation with all its stakeholders and without jeopardising its founding values?

Submitted by: Ioana Laura Alecsiu (RO), Mareike Bojer (DE), Meric Gurgen (TR), Amy Hendry (GB), Teona Lavrelashvili (GE), Jan Kaiser (CZ), Emma Murtonen (FI), Alex Nompilakis (GR), Katarzyna Paszkowska (PL), Claudia Resmini (IT), Angelica Richtner (SE), Ladina Schubert (CH), Hessam Mobasser (Chairperson, BE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Realising that 'The Return Directive' has controversial content including:
 - i) the possibility of detaining illegal immigrants for a period up to eighteen months which is widely regarded as an infringement on human rights,
 - ii) that the four week notice given for voluntary departure allows insufficient time for preparation,
 - iii) the refusal of the UK, Ireland and Denmark to opt into the directive,
- B. Regretting the current lack of a common EU policy regarding immigration,
- C. Fully aware that the 'Asylum Pact' stresses the need to consider individual Member State's circumstances,
- D. Alarmed by the increase of xenophobia in Member States due to the lack of integration of immigrants into civil society,
- E. Noting with great concern that the lack of partnership between host countries, countries of origin and NGOs,
- F. Believing that NGOs play an important role in ensuring the protection of rights of immigrants,
- G. Noting with regret that there is a considerable difference in the quality of life between those living in EU Member States and those living in the countries of origin,
- H. Bearing in mind the difficulty of monitoring illegal immigration,
- I. Concerned with the lack of information for prospective immigrants regarding legal routes of immigration,
- J. Fully believing that the possibility of unregistered work acts as a catalyst for illegal immigration,
- K. Recalling that the large number of skilled workers emigrating from developing countries creates a strain on the economies of these countries which in turn contributes to further economic migration,
- L. Noting with great concern that human trafficking:
 - i) leads to an increased illegal immigration into the EU,

Rennes, 2008

- ii) is detrimental to the human rights of those migrants,
- M. Affirming that FRONTEX has an important role in guarding the external borders of the EU, where Europe is at its most vulnerable;
1. Calls for the Member States to re-evaluate the detention period in cooperation with NGOs in order to:
 - a) lower the maximum period of detention,
 - b) improve the living conditions during detention;
 2. Requests that these illegal immigrants facing deportation receive longer than four weeks before forced removal;
 3. Recommends promoting integration of immigrants into the host country through providing free classes in language and culture;
 4. Encourages the creation of partnerships between the EU and NGOs in order to:
 - a) ensure the involvement of NGOs in the legislative process,
 - b) strengthen the NGOs' role as a mediator between immigrants and host countries;
 5. Calls upon the EU to recognise the importance of NGOs through increased funding on the condition that they:
 - a) work transparently,
 - b) follow a clear and exact mission statement;
 6. Encourages co-operation between the EU and the countries of origin in order to:
 - a) improve development aid and the control of its distribution,
 - b) ensure a safe return of deported immigrants,
 - c) inform potential immigrants of the legal methods of immigration;
 7. Recommends the establishment of a system of co-operation within the EU in order to balance the inflow of immigrants according to the needs and capacities of Member States;
 8. Calls for the Member States that have not opted into the 'Return Directive' to adopt the guaranteed minimum standards of Human Rights as provided by the directive;
 9. Supports the intensification of FRONTEX activities while attempting to avoid an image of an unwelcoming EU;
 10. Supports the implementation and improvement of a Blue Card system based on the USA's Green Card.

Rennes, 2008

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

The challenges for a European environmental industrial policy. While the technology market is booming, what actions should the European Union take to adopt an ambitious common policy to cement its status as an economic leader in this field?

Submitted by: Otar Berishvili (GE), Feyriele Chilot (FR), Francesca Donadoni (IT), Joël Friman (FI), Tihomir Nedev (BG), Jan Macháček (CZ), Alin Mihai (RO), Kirsty Morrison (GB), Roksana Piech (PL), Julia Rijssenbeek (CH), Alexandra Sidossis (GR), İrem Tümer (TR), Hadrien Segond (Vice President, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledging the need for future research into environmentally friendly technologies by the European Union in order to become a leader in the respective field of research,
- B. Recognising the valuable work being done by the existing European bodies such as the Strategic Energy Technologies Plan (SET Plan), the Research Executive Agency (REA) and the European Environment Agency (EEA),
- C. Believing that the aforementioned bodies of the EU must foster their cooperation in order to encourage the efficient exchange of information,
- D. Emphasising the need for further research in the fields of:
 - i) efficient and cheap environmentally friendly technologies,
 - ii) nuclear power,
- E. Recognising that there is a lack of knowledge in the progress of the aforementioned fields of research amongst European industries,
- F. Acknowledging that European industries outsource the production of resources to countries with no or lower taxes on pollution,
- G. Keeping in mind that pollution is a global problem no matter where the source of pollution is based,
- H. Taking into account the importance of sharing knowledge between the industries and the Member States' governments to enable progress in developing new technologies as it is currently practiced by the members of EUROFER,
- I. Recognising the need for a proportional taxation system for industrial pollution,
- J. Convinced by the necessity of finding alternatives to the use of fossil fuels in the industrial sector as these have high pollution rates,
- K. Believing that the reduction of the use of fossil fuel is an inevitable measure in order to protect the global climate,
- L. Fully believing the EU should strive to become a role-model in the fields of technological innovation on a global scale,
- M. Realising that the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012,

Rennes, 2008

- N. Alarmed by the dependency of EU's Member on energy resources provided by countries such as Russia, China and India,
 - O. Approving the existence of the Bologna Treaty as a basis for the sharing of knowledge and research facilities between European universities,
 - P. Recognising the lack of public awareness and transparency concerning:
 - i) renewable, sustainable and clean energy,
 - ii) research projects,
 - iii) progress in industrial processes;
-
- 1. Prioritises research focussed on efficient, affordable, environmentally friendly energy producing technologies;
 - 2. Suggests the expansion the REA so that it has a more active role in the formation of EU environmental industrial policies;
 - 3. Further suggests that the REA supports research through:
 - a) granting financial support to projects concerning the development of efficient, sustainable, affordable and environmentally friendly technologies and decreasing energy consumption,
 - b) offering technical support and research facilities;
 - 4. Calls upon the REA to facilitate knowledge sharing through an online database that will:
 - a) contain information about ongoing projects and technological improvements concerning the environment and industry,
 - b) be easily accessible for the public;
 - 5. Further calls upon the REA to act as an advisory body on environmentally friendly technologies by cooperating with governments and local authorities to develop country-specific policies and elaborate on national action plans;
 - 6. Asks the REA to supervise cooperation between EU agencies and initiatives through:
 - a) joint projects,
 - b) regular meetings,
 - c) exchange of reports concerning progress of common projects;
 - 7. Decides to launch a campaign that will:
 - a) aim to increase public awareness on energy technologies, recycling and industrial progresses,
 - b) obtain funds from the REA and donations from industrial companies,
 - c) be monitored by the REA,
 - d) work in collaboration with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs), local authorities, sectoral organisations and other EU agencies,
 - e) be comprised of educational and informative projects;

Rennes, 2008

8. Urges the EU to include a gradual decrease in the use of fossil fuels in its energy policy;
9. Further calls upon the EU to increase the use of renewable energy in compliance with the Agenda 2020;
10. Requests further research on nuclear energy regarding efficiency, safety and recycling of by-products;
11. Invites the EU Member States to give taxation advantage and government subsidies to industrial companies that use innovative technologies and integrate research results in their production;
12. Further invites EU Member States to cooperate with EU bodies such as the REA to develop and implement national action plans;
13. Asks the EU to supervise the dialogue between the private sector, governments, think-tanks, NGOs and IGOs in order to improve EU environmental industrial policy;
14. Urges the European Commission to take into consideration differences in economic and social needs within the Member States when working on environmental quotas and taxation;
15. Supports the implementation of the Bologna Treaty in order to improve research and knowledge exchange between European universities;
16. Suggests the formation of a taxation scheme for products imported from countries that do not have pollution taxes with the aim of protecting European industries;
17. Emphasises that energy dependency can only be decreased through further research and an increase in the share of energy produced inside the EU;
18. Resolves that the EU should take an active role as a pioneer in environmental industry policies through:
 - a) leading the drafting of a new international treaty after the expiration of the Kyoto Protocol,
 - b) taking part in bilateral and multilateral partnerships,
 - c) supporting the development and application of environmentally friendly technologies outside the EU and especially in developing countries;
19. Supports the European Commission's proposal allowing trade in renewable energies through the use of Guarantees of Origin (GOs) if the following conditions are accomplished:
 - a) the countries that sell GOs have already reached the Agenda 2020 targets,
 - b) projects on the application of environmental technologies are carried out simultaneously;
20. Regards the aforementioned trade as a temporary solution.



Rennes, 2008

Rennes, 2008

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

Detrimental to our economies and dangerous for the people who are illegally employed, unregistered work is constantly increasing: what response should be taken to address this complex reality?

Submitted by: Helen Broman (SE), Veronika Drzkova (CZ), Patricia Garcia (ES), Aspa Georgakopoulou (GR), Beatrice Ioannilli (IT), Dana Florentina Ion (RO), Edith Julia (FR), Mihail Krepchev (BG), Elin Lundsten (FI), Magnus Maharg (GB), Irem Ozyilmaz (TR), Magdalena Pietras (PL), Ance Kaleja (Vice President, LV)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Having studied the various reasons for illegal employment such as:
 - i) economic reasons,
 - ii) discriminatory practices,
 - iii) lack of awareness of workers' rights,
 - iv) illegal immigration,
 - B. Observing that the majority of unregistered work takes place in smaller businesses requiring unskilled labour,
 - C. Recognising the lack of a common EU policy on the issue of unregistered work,
 - D. Confident that the legal immigrants' work is a benefit to Member States' economies and societies,
 - E. Noting that legal immigration is not always complemented by legal work,
 - F. Acknowledging the inextricable link between a country's economy and the issue of unregistered work,
 - G. Concerned by the loss of tax revenue by states as a consequence of undeclared work,
 - H. Aware of current gaps in legislation existing in EU law concerning temporary employment,
 - I. Further commending the success of 'Cheque Emploi Service' in legalising work of this nature,
 - J. Noting the increase in contracts that do not accurately reflect the initial agreement between the employer and employee,
 - K. Deeply concerned that illegal workers' rights are often not respected by the employer,
 - L. Supporting FRONTEX in its actions in decreasing illegal immigration,
 - M. Aware of the lack of a scheme similar to the Blue Card System which addresses the needs of unskilled workers;
1. Calls for high school curricula to be updated with subjects that tackle the dangers and consequences of illegal employment;

Rennes, 2008

2. Strongly encourages Member States to simplify the establishment procedure for small businesses;
3. Further advises the creation of an EU wide website clarifying the above mentioned procedure specific for each Member State;
4. Encourages Member States to review rates of employment taxes aiming to decrease them, thus simplifying the process of establishing small businesses;
5. Requires governments to introduce the 'Service Voucher System' as a mean to declare casual work;
6. Further invites Member States to reduce income tax for employers who use the 'Service Voucher System';
7. Urges Member States to adopt a system whereby illegal workers can report anonymously on their employers without the threat of punishment;
8. Endorses harsher punishments for employers who employ illegal workers such as raising of financial fines and banning them from participation in public projects;
9. Calls upon employers to annually check their non nationalised employee's immigration status reporting it to the local employment authorities;
10. Encourages the European Employment Observatory (EEO) to closely monitor the local employment authorities;
11. Proposes the creation of a programme along the lines of the Blue Card System addressed to the unskilled workforce;
12. Recommends an public awareness campaigns such as billboard and television advertising to raise the awareness of the consequences of illegal and unregistered work targeting the most vulnerable groups.

Rennes, 2008

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

The stakes of a comprehensive reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP): how could recent reforms ensure food security for all, combat North/South inequalities and contribute to the establishment of a more responsible and sustainable European agriculture?

Submitted by: Severin Bischof (DE), Lea Brückmann (CH), José Joaquín Domínguez del Castillo (ES), Yannick Engelmann (BE), László Gulácsi (RO), Valeriia Konstantynova (UA), Vjaceslavs Losevs (LV), Paulina Lushaku (AL), George Nikolaidis (GR), Orla O'Regan (IE), Matthew Pollock (GB), Claire Saragosti-Chausy (FR), Inger Brunvatne Thommessen (NO), Ruben Wagenaar (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware that the CAP budget amounts to approximately €55 billion per year, representing 40% of the EU's budget and 0.5% of the EU's GDP,
- B. Noting with satisfaction the CAP 'Health Check' that is currently being conducted, designed to further streamline, modernise and simplify the CAP,
- C. Deeply concerned that the CAP contributes to the distortion and lessened accessibility of world food markets,
- D. Viewing with appreciation that the Doha Development Agenda aims at liberalising trade whilst enhancing development,
- E. Bearing in mind the negative effects the Doha Development Agenda may have on the competitiveness of European agriculture abroad,
- F. Aware of the negative and positive effects globalisation may have on:
 - i) the competitiveness of European agricultural products abroad,
 - ii) the quality of agricultural products on the European food market,
 - iii) the enhancement of development in the third world,
 - iv) the stability of the EU's food market because of global fluctuations,
- G. Realising that sufficient food availability and high food standards form an integral part of the EU's food security and that these may be affected by:
 - i) disease,
 - ii) climate change,
 - iii) price levels,
 - iv) genetically modified foods,
- H. Taking note of the role of agriculture in contributing to climate change and its consequential effects on the sustainability of the sector,
- I. Noting with deep concern that in certain EU countries accessibility to information concerning the CAP is relatively poor resulting in low awareness of its existence,

Rennes, 2008

- J. Having studied regional differences concerning land use, acreage and other environmental conditions across the EU,
 - K. Aware of the dramatic increase of food prices since 2007 resulting in a world food crisis,
 - L. Bearing in mind that the Set Aside policy currently amounts to 0% land set aside and may be abolished in the near future;
-
- 1. Demands the abolition of export subsidies in order to increase accessibility of markets for lower economically developed countries and to decrease the percentage of CAP in the EU budget;
 - 2. Expresses its confidence that the high quality of European agricultural products will counter-balance the decrease of competitiveness that the abolition of export subsidies will bring about;
 - 3. Supports the momentum towards establishing a more responsible and sustainable European agricultural sector;
 - 4. Promotes the 'Cross-Compliance' policy in order to aid rural development as well as environmental and animal welfare protection;
 - 5. Recommends extra emphasis be put on environmental protection measures in order to protect European agriculture from adverse effects;
 - 6. Further requests European food security be ensured by maintaining high European food quality standards and ensuring sufficient food supplies;
 - 7. Encourages further research be conducted in the fields of sustainable agriculture and environmental protection measures;
 - 8. Draws attention to the need for improved accessibility to information about CAP;
 - 9. Reiterates that the abolishment of the Set Aside policy will ensure that European agriculture is ready for the growth of global food demands.

Rennes, 2008

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Stability in Eastern Europe: a test for European diplomacy. Given the increasing tensions in its Eastern neighbourhood, how should the EU redefine its strategy vis-à-vis these countries without harming the quality of its relations with Russia?

Submitted by: Lorenzo Bacchi (IT), Alice Däppen (CH), Mary Golden (IE), Maria Kristine Göthner (NO), Arno Janssens (BE), André Koeth (DE), Oksana Korchak (UA), Emma Lammela (FI), Marina Lazeri (AL), George-Mihael Manea (RO), Kaarel Roostar (EE), Jorge Luis Simelio Jurado (ES), Bartosz Stós (PL), Niamh Webster (GB), Ceyda Erten (Chairperson, TR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with regret that EU strategies have failed to prevent an increase in the tensions between Russia and its neighbours, for example in the case of the conflict in Georgia,
- B. Emphasising that current EU policies regarding Russia are not unified, specific, or sustainable enough for effective implementation,
- C. Alarmed by the Russian invasion of the sovereign state of Georgia and their disregard for International Law by distributing Russian passports to Georgian citizens,
- D. Regretting that Russia recognises the independence of the breakaway regions South Ossetia and Abkhazia,
- E. Taking into consideration that the EU suspended scheduled meetings with Russia in response to the Russian occupation of Georgian territory,
- F. Noting with satisfaction the EU's humanitarian and monetary support for Georgia,
- G. Approving the withdrawal of Russian troops from Georgia,
- H. Convinced that the quality of relations between the EU and Russia needs to be improved,
- I. Expressing its appreciation for enlarged cooperation between Russia and the EU with special emphasis on the Four Common Spaces:
 - i) common Economic Space,
 - ii) common Space on Freedom, Security and Justice,
 - iii) common Space on External Security,
 - iv) common Space on Research, Education and Culture,
- J. Fully aware of the economic interdependence between the EU and Russia,
- K. Noting that Russia is an important supplier of energy to the EU,
- L. Further realising that Russia is using its energy resources as a means of increasing its influence over its neighbours,
- M. Noting with satisfaction the existence of the Baku – Tblisi – Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline as an important supplier of fuel to Europe,
- N. Welcoming the dialogue between Russia and the EU to strengthen cooperation regarding trade especially in light of the Partnership Cooperation Agreement (PCA),

Rennes, 2008

- O. Realising that not all Eastern European countries are fully developed and therefore are dependent on other countries, especially on Russia,
 - P. Keeping in mind that Ukraine and Georgia are both committed to European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and already have established relations with the EU,
 - Q. Bearing in mind Georgia and Ukraine seek to join NATO despite the reservations of Russia,
 - R. Viewing with appreciation the improved relations with Ukraine through means such as the New Enhanced Agreement (NEA),
 - S. Deeply concerned by the influence of the media, especially by the state-controlled media in Russia;
-
- 1. Urges the EU to create a unified, specific, and coherent strategy which leads to faster and more effective actions;
 - 2. Supports the EU's decision to not recognise the independence of the two breakaway regions in Georgia;
 - 3. Recommends that those regions should be recognised as autonomous regions in the Georgian state;
 - 4. Calls for the immediate resumption of the talks between Russia and the EU;
 - 5. Requests the continued provision of monetary and humanitarian aid from the EU to Georgia until Georgia reaches stability;
 - 6. Calls for the EU and Russia to increase cooperation through the Four Common Spaces policy in the areas including but not limited to:
 - a) investment and trade,
 - b) visa restrictions,
 - c) crisis management,
 - d) civil protection;
 - 7. Requests the inclusion of economic and political sanctions in new and existing agreements to ensure both Russia and the EU abide by them;
 - 8. Encourages meetings between the Foreign Affairs Ministers of all EU Member States, Russia, Georgia, and Ukraine in order to improve communication;
 - 9. Urges the EU to support its ENP partners in the Eastern region by providing the citizens of those countries with affordable and easily accessible visas promoting movement between the Eastern European countries and the EU Member States;
 - 10. Further urges the EU to consider accepting those countries in the Schengen Zone in the future;
 - 11. Encourages the EU to develop renewable energy sources in order to be less dependent on Russian energy sources;
 - 12. Further recommends that the EU supports the construction of new pipelines such as the BTC;
 - 13. Approves the continuation of bilateral relations between the EU and Russia through trade incentives including but not limited to tax reductions;

Rennes, 2008

14. Calls upon the Member States to support Georgia economically and politically by:
 - a) encouraging the development of their infrastructure,
 - b) providing financial support,
 - c) recognising and supporting the autonomous regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia;
15. Encourages the Member States to support Ukraine by:
 - a) engaging in further trade relations,
 - b) assisting in the development of modern technologies,
 - c) initiating EU membership accession negotiations,
 - d) encouraging Ukraine to benefit from the accession process;
16. Recommends the EU to support the development of Ukraine and Georgia with the aim of then meeting the NATO and the EU accession criteria in future;
17. Recommends the promotion of exchange programmes with the hope of creating a better understanding of European values in Russia and Eastern European countries.



Rennes, 2008

Rennes, 2008

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION III

Learning beyond the classroom in the 21st century: How can non formal education and volunteering of young people be recognised and given value in Europe?

Submitted by: Kateryna Baskanova (UA), Wim van Doorn (NL), Cátia Ferreira (PT), Miroslav Havela (CZ), Mikaela Kantor (CY), Maximilian Karpf (DE), Evgenia Kodyakova (RU), Patrizia Lehner (AT), Raphaëlle Mahieu (FR), Kyle Meyr (NO), Nina Neumann (SE), Jevgenijs Ohrimenko (LV), Oisín O'Kelly (IE), Arseni Timofejev (EE), Alexander Van Laer (BE), Andris Šuvajevs (Chairperson, LV)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledges that due to a lack of information a large number of Europeans are not aware of the existence or have a restricted understanding of non formal education,
- B. Observing that the stereotypical image of volunteering is commonly perceived as unappealing,
- C. Recognising that non formal education is not equally available in different geographical areas,
- D. Aware of the fact that non formal education and formal education clash over certain priorities such as:
 - i) time,
 - ii) money,
 - iii) personal preferences,
- E. Deeply concerned by the lack of governmental support for volunteering and non formal education,
- F. Noting with regret that there is rarely sufficient institutional funding for non formal education,
- G. Taking note of the fact that volunteer executive staff often have to pay for their own expenses,
- H. Fully aware of the confusion created among volunteers by the multitude of choices available when considering non formal education providers,
- I. Emphasising that the merits obtained through non formal education and volunteering are not held in high enough regard,
- J. Noting with deep concern that parents and authorities in formal education do not encourage non formal education and volunteering,
- K. Taking into account that EU programs and funds such as Youthpass, Europass, European Portfolio and Youth in Action are not efficient enough,
- L. Bearing in mind different social, economical and political situations in European countries;

Rennes, 2008

1. Encourages the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to supervise the cooperation of NGOs seeking to promote the benefits of voluntary work and non formal education through the means of public awareness;
2. Supports the proposal made by European Volunteer Centre (EVC) of declaring the 5th of December as a 'Volunteer Day';
3. Recommends non formal education providers spread their activity and information in different geographical areas;
4. Calls for the decision makers upon educational issues to implement a school-wide "rally" in order to spread information from NGOs and volunteers among schools;
5. Requests schools increase their extra-curricular activities;
6. Urges governments to support non formal education and volunteering by:
 - a) supporting and spreading their ideas,
 - b) sponsoring the respective organisations,
 - c) attending their events;
7. Expresses its hope that NGOs will cover the expenses of the volunteering executive staff;
8. Requires the Central Volunteer Service (CVS) upgrades its existing website in order to facilitate better access to information about NGOs and to help volunteers with their choice;
9. Suggests the EU to create a common form filled by volunteering and non formal organisations in order to clarify the gains and experiences acquired through their activities;
10. Further requests schools to contact legal guardians by mail in order to inform them about non formal education and volunteering;
11. Calls for schools to include information about non formal education in the already existing workshops for teachers;
12. Calls upon the European Commission to simplify Europass in order to make it more appropriate for people without work experience or formal education;
13. Requests the recognition of Youthpass and Europass as an official form for university and company applications.

