

Resolutions of the Extraordinary International Session of the European Youth Parliament

Under the Patronage of
**Mr Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament
and Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council
of Europe**

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

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ECON Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

In reaction to the final presentations of President Von Rompuy's taskforce at the EU Council Meeting in October 2010, how should Europe move forward to ensure future secure economic governance?

AFET II Committee on Foreign Affairs II

On the matter of NATO's continuing role in Afghanistan: When, or subject to which criteria being fulfilled, would ending Europe's military engagement be desirable? What approach should European states take in shaping the country's future?

ADOPTED

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

Europe's own carbon bank: What measures should be taken to prevent deforestation of Europe's Boreal forest with due consideration to affected livelihoods?

Submitted by: Eliza Spilnere (LV), Max Bouwhuis (NL), Kjetil Pettersen (NO), Ana Silva (PT),
Fanny Schönenberg (SE), Miranda Buckland (UK), Selene Gnadenteich (EE), Elisa
Wirsching (DE), Zélie Verger (FR), Anton Rumyantsev (RU), Vivek Gathani
(Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully aware of the importance of the Boreal forest regarding:
 - i) its cultural value,
 - ii) sustaining a balanced and healthy eco-system and vast biodiversity,
 - iii) the fact that it provides the richest carbon storage per unit area in the world,
 - iv) its preventative role in relation to global warming and melting of permafrost,
- B. Deeply concerned by the alarming rate of deforestation with only 5% of Europe's Boreal forest remaining,
- C. Noting with regret the environmental issues involved with the current reforestation process such as:
 - i) the occurrence of mono-cultures and resulting absence of genetic diversity,
 - ii) the limited variety of uses of its soil due to its acidity and lack of nutrients,
 - iii) its susceptibility to disease,
 - iv) its relatively inefficient rate of growth and capacity of carbon storage,
- D. Alarmed by the excessive volume of waste timber created from "clear-cutting",
- E. Noting with satisfaction the work done by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in creating a labelling process to identify well-sustained and well-sourced timber,
- F. Recognising, given the aforementioned reasons, the necessity to urgently protect Europe's Boreal forest whilst also understanding the socio-economic benefits of forestry,
- G. Understanding that the majority of trees in the Boreal forest are at least 300 years old whereas those used in paper production only require approximately 10 years to grow sufficiently hence making their production less profitable,
- H. Applauding the efforts made by the European Commission in creating the European Forestry Strategy (1998) and the EU's Forest Focus in harmonising long-term monitoring and research from 2003 to 2006,
- I. Noting with regret the lack of progress following the Habitats Directive (1992) with regards to the reviews carried out in 2000 and 2003,

- J. Applauding the work done by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as the Foundation for Ecological Research in the North-East (FERN) in researching and campaigning for forestry and wildlife,
 - K. Taking into account that the majority of the Boreal forest is outside the EU and that the rate of deforestation is also a pressing concern in those areas,
 - L. Recognising the existence of the Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) but is alarmed that approximately 20% of timber from the Boreal forest that is imported into the EU is still illegally sourced;
1. Requests the creation of an EU Eco-Police under the jurisdiction of the European Parliament in order to:
 - a) monitor reforestation within the EU,
 - b) implement sanctions on those who have wasted timber by employing methods such as “clear-cutting”,
 - c) create and monitor a system of labelling, similar to that of the FSC, in order to identify the origin of wood and its sustainability;
 2. Emphasises the importance of raising the awareness of deforestation, recycling and paper consumption by:
 - a) encouraging lecturing at Universities,
 - b) informing the public of the EU labelling system,
 - c) internet, television and other media advertising,
 - d) encouraging a common “European environmental day” in schools;
 3. Calls for European legislation to immediately forbid the deforestation of at least 60% of all Boreal forest in the EU, compensating the owners of this land for income lost due to this protection until 2050;
 4. Urges the EU to subsidise the plantation of new, fast growing wooded areas in the remaining 40% of previous Boreal forest until 2050;
 5. Recommends that foresters consider the possible employment opportunities available in reforestation, tourism and paper production industries;
 6. Urges the European Commission to modify and update the European Forestry Strategy with more specific and legally binding regulations in order to implement their policies;
 7. Further requests the review of the Habitats Directive to make the list of special areas for conservation more targeted;
 8. Encourages the reformation of the EU Forest Focus initiative to carry out further research;
 9. Requests further facilitation of information exchange and discussion between NGOs and governmental advisory bodies such as the UK's joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), together with the EU Commission;
 10. Calls for a tax to be implemented on all timber or timber-based products imported into the EU unless it is certified by a FSC label;
 11. Recommends that the EU plays an advisory role in United Nations (UN) discussions in order to convince other countries outside the EU with Boreal forests to implement similar strategies in preventing deforestation by:
 - a) furthering the EU-US Action Plan,
 - b) working together with the UN Commission on Sustainable Development,
 - c) following the proposals of the UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD).

ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

In response to recent outbreaks of divisive violence and racism at European sporting venues, how should the energies of stakeholders in sport be shaped to promote a unifying Olympic spirit on the continent?

Submitted by: Johanna Fürst (AT), Zita Praskova (CZ), Alex Frigola Bevan (ES), Gianmarco Battistini (IT), Julie van der Post (NL), Christopher Marques (PT), Ruxandra Stroe (RO), Maksym Nikolaichuk (UA), Antonia Kerridge (UK), Karoline Follo (NO), Agathe Rabouin (FR), Edward O'Carroll (IE), Jonathan Ainley (Chairperson, UK)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking into account that despite the success of anti-discrimination groups, such as Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE), the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) and the Stand Up Speak Up campaign, their work is still relatively unknown,
 - B. Alarmed by the fact that due to a lack of relevant education both in and out of schools, young European citizens are not learning enough about how to combat racism in sports and respect fair play,
 - C. Noting with regret that due to inefficient promotional campaigns, there is a lack of awareness of the problems related to violence and racism and sporting events in European society,
 - D. Deeply concerned that the media of European Countries do not provide efforts to combat violence and racism in sporting events with sufficient,
 - E. Recognising that public behaviour in group situations can easily lead to acts of violence and racism,
 - F. Recognising that stadium regulations vary by club, resulting in a lack of understanding of them by the fans and the absence of clear legislation which defines sanctions for unacceptable behaviour,
 - G. Observing that alcohol abuse and use of drugs can be causes of violent and racist behaviour at sporting events,
 - H. Alarmed by the re-occurrence of violent and racist outbreaks because:
 - i) it is difficult to identify troublemakers,
 - ii) punishment measures are not taken seriously;
1. Calls upon the Council of Europe to amend and update the Council of Europe Resolution¹ and to make it easily understandable and accessible to the population;
 2. Encourages the expansion of anti-discrimination campaigns within all sports, while requesting the support of the recently created Association of European Team Sports (2009);

¹ Recommendation Rec(2001)6 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the prevention of racism, xenophobia and racial intolerance in sport (Adopted by the Committee of Ministers, 18th July 2001 at the 761st meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

3. Strongly encourages local sports teams to visit schools, instilling the importance of a positive sport ethic, anti-racism and fair play in collaboration with both local and national media;
4. Expresses its hope that members of the Council of Europe include anti-racism and anti-violence education in their respective national curricula;
5. Urges national sports federations to require all affiliated clubs to include anti-discrimination and non-violent behaviour in their codes of conduct and to ensure the implementation of these values;
6. Suggests the creation of an international sport event that will take place annually, promoting intercultural dialogue and encouraging tolerance between European athletes;
7. Urges NGOs, national and international Sports Governing Bodies to collaborate in order to implement one unified European sports anti-racism and anti-violence campaign;
8. Encourages European mass media to increase and improve their reporting on racism and violence in sport by:
 - a) covering the issue in greater depth,
 - b) focusing on finding solutions towards the problems racism and violence,
 - c) making a continuous effort to keep the information in the public eye;
9. Calls for the relevant local authorities to further invest on security at sports events, in particular on the following aspects:
 - a) cameras monitoring crowd activity,
 - b) increase the number of stewards present in stadia,
 - c) distribution of leaflets with security information and stadia codes of conduct;
10. Recommends that European governments work together to develop a unified legislation which defines stricter sanctions including fines, bans and other relevant forms of punishment to deter racism and violent behaviour;
11. Requests that the terms and conditions when purchasing a ticket require the purchaser to agree not to engage in racist or violent acts;
12. Further recommends the introduction a limit to be placed on the amount of alcohol purchased per person at European sporting events.

ADOPTED

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

Now is the autumn of industrial discontent: In reaction to unrest and strikes in Belgium and France over pension reform, how should Europe seek to assess employment relations legislation to find the best balance for workers, employers and society?

Submitted by: Benedicte Elisabeth Bjercknes (NO), Benjamin Warberg (SE), Darya Kholodova (RU), Elisa Martinelli (IT), Erman Hakan Sener (TR), Gráinne Nora Mary Hawkes (IE), Ines Wöckl (AT), Josh Edwards (UK), Laurens Kraima (NL), Lisa Kraak (EE), Madalena Pena (PT), Manon Marchand (FR), Lacina Koné (President, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware of the current demographic changes in Europe that result from a declining fertility rate and an increasing average life expectancy,
- B. Alarmed by the discontent of European citizens as a result of the adaptation of the retirement age to reflect an ageing population and the consequential increase in the 'Dependency Ratio',
- C. Deeply conscious about the potential imbalance between the rights afforded to workers in the public sector in relation to those employed in the private sector,
- D. Bearing in mind that potential increases in taxation to accommodate Europe's ageing population may lead to a growth in activity in the informal labour market as a means to avoid additional personal social security contributions,
- E. Fully aware that industrial action is often result of a failure in bilateral relations between employers and employees,
- F. Deeply concerned by the current informal organisation of meetings arranged by European economic institutions pertaining to Europe's macroeconomic dialogue,
- G. Alarmed by European workers difficulties in obtaining visas to work in Member States,
- H. Taking into account the fact that university degrees of Europe are not equally recognised outside the country of origin, despite the existence of the Bologna Declaration,
- I. Recognising the current failure to implement the Bologna Declaration, leading to pre-employment discrimination which has a detrimental effect on European employment relations,
- J. Fully aware of the existing disparity between the provision of social services to employees in EU member states, candidate states and other European countries,
- K. Acknowledging the role of Mutual Information System on Social Protection (MISSOC) in supporting newly arrived workers from one Member State to another through the provision of social welfare,
- L. Supports the work of governmental bodies such as Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Services (ACAS) in the UK, whose aims are to improve organisations and working life through the promotion and facilitation of strong industrial relations practice,
- M. Notes that industrial action that is not conducted in an appropriate manner results in the loss of public support and a reduction in the likelihood of employees achieving a satisfactory outcome,

- N. Viewing with appreciation the effectiveness of the European Court of Justice's (ECJ) ability to rule against Member States that are in breach of EU employment policy exemplified in the Laval and Viking cases;
1. Suggests that all European countries adjust their retirement age in accordance with the state's own unique demographic situation;
 2. Demands that EU Member States adopt a flat level of Corporation Tax to pay for the current shortfall in pension contributions;
 3. Calls upon the European Commission to review and amend Directive 2000/78/EC with the aim to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of nationality;
 4. Calls for further implementation of the Commission reviewed EU workplace discrimination directive 2000/78/EC;
 5. Recommends the enforcement of:
 - a) Directive 2002/14/EC and Directive 94/45/EC which is on the establishment of European Works Council (EWC), in order to reach a better level of information and consultation of employees,
 - b) Directive 98/59/EC in order to improve the level of workers' protection in case of collective redundancy;
 6. Urges that the biannual 'Cologne Process' conference of the European Employment Pact on macroeconomic dialogue to be:
 - a) held on a quarterly basis,
 - b) actively encourage policy makers across Europe to create a macroeconomic European strategy;
 7. Insists that the European Commission consults with European Trade Union Conference (ETUC) and European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and initiates the drafting of legislation to provide:
 - a) a framework for employees and employers to meet and discuss issues within an industry to prevent them resulting in industrial action,
 - b) a Code of Conduct comprehensively stating the manner in which industrial action may occur, incorporating the behavioural expectations of both the employee and the employer;
 8. Encourages the EU Member States to import the model a public body similar to that of ACAS in order to sustain a healthy dialogue between employers and employees to provide facilities for post-industrial negotiations;
 9. Affirms that the EU should continue to negotiate access to labour markets on a bilateral basis with non-EU states in order to:
 - a) reward and encourage a reciprocal arrangement with non-EU states who remove the necessity for EU citizens to have Visas to visit, for example Ukraine,
 - b) facilitate transition into the EU labour market for candidate countries about to accede to the Union, for example Croatia,
 - c) ensure that non-EU states which fail to support the employment of EU workers do not receive the same benefits of countries which do;
 10. Urges the establishment through the European Neighbourhood Policy of a minimum social welfare level at least equal to the lowest EU Member State standard for employees from the EU to have access to when they are legally entitled to working in a European country outside of the EU;
 11. Insists that candidate countries implement current employment legislation of the EU in order continue to undertake the accession process;
 12. Calls for neighbouring European economies to replicate closely the legislation aforementioned in Clause 10 if they for wish the EU to raise its level of cooperation as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy;

13. Urges national governments to verify the skills of the workforce as per Directive 2005/36/EC by introducing profession specific standardised test for those trained outside the country of employment;
14. Strongly recommends the improvement of dialogue between universities and prospective employers so that graduates from academic institutions are best prepared to understand the demands placed on them by future employers;
15. Encourages the introduction of a compulsory Careers Module in European schools so that leavers may enter the workplace with the skills necessary to succeed in a constantly changing labour market;
16. Suggests that all European countries adjust their retirement age in accordance with the state's own unique demographic situation.

NOT ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

Intergovernmental conferences, the European Parliament, the European Commission or the Convention on the Future of Europe: How should the European Union seek to approach the subject of constitutional development after the Lisbon Treaty?

Submitted by: Julian Kuçi (AL), Anaïs Franck (CH), Paris Makris (CY), Laia Silva (ES), Alexander Proctor (FI), Elena Tripaldi (IT), Arnolds Eizenšmits (LV), Filip Winkowski (PL), Carina Nicu (RO), Osman Arda Sezer (TR), Chloe Olivia Birch (UK), Konstantinos Galanos-Demiris (EL), John von Caprivi de Como (SE), Adriana Díaz Martín-Zamorano (Chairperson, ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking note of current differing opinions of Member States regarding the future development of the EU,
 - B. Observing a need for enhanced ‘Spill-over’ effect after the ratification of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU/LISBON, 2009),
 - C. Fully aware of the growing competences of the EU institutions after the approval of the Lisbon Treaty,
 - D. Drawing attention to the failure of the Convention on the Future of Europe which implies that there is current impossibility of adapting an EU constitution in the near future,
 - E. Bearing in mind the direction given by the Lisbon Treaty in order to further address the ‘Democratic Deficit’,
 - F. Taking into account an absence of clear distribution of roles between the President of the European Council, the President of European Parliament (EP) and the President of the European Commission,
 - G. Fully believing that there is a lack of neutral expertise during policy-making in the European Commission,
 - H. Noting with regret the lack of economic transparency between Member States and EU institutions;
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- 1. Urges Normal Legislature Procedure to be expanded into all areas to seek equal decision-making competence between the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union;
 - 2. Requests the EU political parties to publish their manifestos three months prior to the European elections, including, but not limited to, their position on Foreign and Security Policy;
 - 3. Resolves to replace the current informal rotational Presidency of the European Parliament by 2020 with a new official system wherein the position of President is granted to the European political party leader that:
 - a) has a majority of votes in a minimum of a 30% of all Member States,
 - b) has the majority of votes in the Council of the EU by the Penrose method;

4. Calls for changing the nomenclature of the representatives of the EU institutions in order to allow for better understanding of the distribution of roles, without degrading their competences:
 - a) President of the European Council to Chief Councillor,
 - b) President of the European Parliament to Speaker of the EP,
 - c) President of the European Commission to High Commissioner;
5. Further requests the aforementioned Chief Councillor to attend at least ten out of the twelve parliamentary sessions held in Strasbourg as well as meetings of high importance at the European Commission;
6. Endorses the European Commission to be composed of experts unaffiliated with Member States and thus free of accountability, not to be chosen based on nationality but only on experience and knowledge, who will act in the general interest of the EU as a whole;
7. Requires every political party of the EP to announce their candidate for the newly appointed High Commissioner at least 3 months prior to the European elections, who will then put forward their proposals for other Commissioners;
8. Recommends the expansion of the competences of the Court of Auditors to include the scrutiny of revenue collection and budgetary reports of Member States to EU institutions.

NOT ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS I

In the spirit of the Nobel Peace Prize? With China as the EU's second largest two-way trading partner, how should Europe seek to negotiate future agreements with China whilst seeking to promote and respect human rights?

Submitted by: Aida Grishaj (AL), Julian Cooke (CH), Zlata Tosic (RS), Petr Procházka (CZ), Julia Solervicens (ES), Tero Pikkarainen (FI), Vanessa Vergallo (IT), Isabelle Aimee Gabarro (NO), Szymon Bondaruk (PL), Patricia Mardale (RO), Genevieve Shorthouse (UK), Mersina Mellidou (EL), Jingcheng Zhao (SE), Stamatis Tahas (Vice-President, EL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Acknowledging the ratification of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) by both the People's Republic of China and European countries,
 - B. Recognising the pan-European ambition to promote and respect human rights,
 - C. Fully aware of the significance of the Sino-European partnership with regards to its economic aspect,
 - D. Deeply concerned by the People's Republic of China's violation of human rights, in particular the imprisonment of the 2010 Nobel Prize Winner Liu Xiaobo,
 - E. Realising the importance of a common European approach for a mutually beneficial Sino-European relationship,
 - F. Respecting every nation's sovereignty and thus the need for the People's Republic of China to lead its own domestic reforms,
 - G. Fully aware that the lack of intercultural awareness is a source of many problems;
1. Calls upon the EU to form a European common foreign policy in cooperation with the Council of Europe towards the People's Republic of China on the matter of human rights through adopting bilateral treaties between the EU and non-EU countries within Europe;
 2. Defines that the European common foreign policy incorporates the clauses hereafter;
 3. Affirms that any decision taken regarding the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China must be enacted in cooperation with the People's Republic of China's government and should not be construed as the imposition of a democratic system;
 4. Supports the People's Republic of China in its fight against corruption and its efforts to secure stability and ensure the government's authority, by strengthening human rights' protection concerning freedom of speech, freedom of religion, labour conditions and the rule of law;
 5. Calls upon EU and non-EU countries to initiate a Sino-European Youth Parliament;
 6. Declares accordingly that Europe and the People's Republic of China should further invest in the student exchange programmes between them;



7. Endorses an increase in trade between the EU and the People's Republic China in order to strengthen the Sino-European partnership;
8. Requires the recognition of the Chinese Nationalist Mentality.

ADOPTED

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

In order to achieve its ambitious goals in the field of future energy production; what strategy should Europe adopt when developing its future energy grid?

Submitted by: Delia Berner (CH), Liene Krastiņa (LV), Olav Eken (NO), Jovan Mitrovic (RS), Antonis Stylianou (CY), Jaana Tuominen (FI), Michał Ludwik (PL), Francisco Santos (PT), Ekin Arslan (TR), Sophie Duffield (UK), Leonhard Kaindl (DE), Maxence Linker (FR), Bruce Willis (EL), Anna Cremin (IE), Michela Candi (Chairperson, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the need for a competitive energy market with a wide range of options for consumers,
- B. Realising the potential of the wide range of renewable energy sources provided by the environmental difference within Europe,
- C. Bearing in mind that energy policies affect relations within and between states,
- D. Further recalling the necessity to have a more efficient energy grid in order to achieve the EU targets for sustainable growth (EU2020),
- E. Deeply concerned by the negative impact on the environment caused by the current methods of energy production,
- F. Recognising the crucial importance of energy in today's Europe,
- G. Emphasising the need for investment in innovative energy technology,
- H. Endorsing the innovative research in the field of energy production already taking place,
- I. Confident that a shift to a greener economy will not result in diminished living standards perceived by many European citizens,
- J. Affirming that the short term economic consequences of investments in renewable energy resources will be followed by positive long term results,
- K. Alarmed by the lack of binding legislative measures reinforcing sustainable energy production after the 2012 expiration of the Kyoto protocol (1997),
- L. Fully aware of the fact that the lack of concrete measures in the energy sector will lead to serious consequences during our lifetime,
- M. Observing that fossil fuel resources are limited,
- N. Noting with deep concern that the limited supply of fossil fuels requires immediate action;



1. Encourages the European Commission to further invest in the usage of renewable energy resources by providing capital to small scale energy producers;
2. Recommends that European governments increase the taxation of the procurement of fossil fuels for energy production whilst reducing taxation on companies who exploit renewable energy resources;
3. Calls on European governments to use the example of energy efficient public buildings as a means to prove that the implementation of renewable energy sources will not adversely affect the living standards;
4. Has resolved to provide consumers with the choice of available energy supplies and sources to ensure a competitive market;
5. Notes the importance of energy storage during times of low demand as an integral part of the Smart Grid in order to ensure security of supply peak times;
6. Strongly endorses the need for a European Smart Grid as it is the only viable option to incorporate renewables in the energy grid;
7. Demands European governments and private companies for further investments in implementing research in energy production, especially in the area of energy efficiency;
8. Supports the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) in the creation of European regulations which facilitate the markets coordination by ensuring universal standards across Member States.

NOT ADOPTED

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

Europe's double jeopardy: How should the European Union, the Council of Europe and independent stakeholders work together to help increase opportunities for women from minority communities?

Submitted by: Emanuella Constantinou (CY), Laura Niemi (FI), Miks Strazdiš (LV), Aleksandra Mnich (PL), Marta Mourão (PT), Fredrik Strömberg (SE), Ceren Hazar (TR), Monika Ghosh (UK), Celine Göbel (DE), Pauline Gueguen (FR), David Briscoe (IE), Ekaterina Vorobyeva (RU), Monika Seidel (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Observing that society often overlooks or accepts certain types of discrimination towards women of minority communities,
- B. Regretting that these women usually do not express themselves and also accept the norms applied within their communities and the continuation of the situation due to their shame or fear,
- C. Further recalling the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, in particular Articles 20, 21 and 23,
- D. Deeply disturbed by the apathy of the wider community towards the plight of women from minority communities,
- E. Regretting the lack of political representation and social participation of women from minority communities in all Member States of the Council of Europe (CoE),
- F. Realising that information about human rights and current campaigns is not always freely or easily available to the public,
- G. Observing that existing campaigns are not sufficiently effective at increasing opportunities for women from minority communities,
- H. Deeply concerned that society and the media are promoting incorrect assumptions and unfounded stereotypes about minority communities,
- I. Recognising that the integration of second and subsequent generation immigrants is threatened by indirect discrimination although it is prohibited in Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
- J. Noting with deep concern that women from minority communities are often financially dependent on their husbands,
- K. Alarmed by the fact that women from minority communities like the Roma still face obstacles such as poor housing, and access to healthcare, child care and education,
- L. Defining the two large obstacles faced by women from minority communities in the work place as:
 - i) the possibility of maternity leave lessening their potential career prospects in terms of employability and resuming work,
 - ii) the general perception that they are more likely to have larger families and could be forced to choose between family life and a career,

- M. Taking note of a wide range of instruments and policies available to the European Commission which are mostly suitable for the integration of women belonging to ethnic minority groups, but deeply regretting the implementation gap at the national level,
- N. Noting with deep concern that young women from minority communities do not necessarily receive an opportunity to learn about other cultures, religions, values and ways of life and are restricted by these limitations;
1. Expresses its hope that the EU will enable the complete and free virtual downloading of informative materials and support the infrastructure of local campaigning;
 2. Calls on the EU, together with relevant independent stakeholders, i.e. the media, student unions and community leaders, to endorse a Europe-wide campaign that publicises exemplary cases of successful integration by second or later generation immigrants;
 3. Urges the EU to encourage smaller Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and movements to promote targeted local level campaigns towards spreading awareness throughout the wider community about specific minority communities;
 4. Encourages the CoE to promote anti-discrimination campaigns such as "Speak Out Against Discrimination" and emphasises the need for independent journalists to raise awareness and opportunities for women from minority communities by:
 - a) training media professionals on how to report news relating to discrimination and intercultural dialogue,
 - b) helping people with a minority background to make their voices heard by facilitating their access to media professions,
 - c) informing public opinion about policies that combat discrimination;
 5. Urges the EU, the CoE and community leaders to encourage women from minority communities to actively participate in socio-political events;
 6. Requests the EU and the CoE to promote existing anonymous helplines through relevant NGOs and create further means of assistance for women from minority communities who have suffered or are suffering discrimination or abuse;
 7. Endorses an increased proportion of the EU-budget to go towards the European Integration Fund and financial programmes such as "Progress";
 8. Invites the EU to propose a guideline that makes it compulsory for all employers to offer both paid maternity and paternity leave and encourages fellow Council of Europe member states to do likewise;
 9. Calls upon the Council of Europe to recommend that Public Limited Companies implement positive discrimination as a mean to achieve gender equality;
 10. Strongly recommends the newly strengthened Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) to create an office in each country with regional representatives to will investigate violations of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights and report to national representatives and encourages the CoE to adopt a similar structure;
 11. Requests the EU ensure the effectiveness of women's rights policies and instruments by:
 - a) monitoring all ongoing actions,
 - b) reforming the current ineffective measures,
 - c) supporting the implementation of the satisfying measures at national level;
 12. Calls for the CoE Member States to support the implementation of educational programmes about the core beliefs and practices of world religions in an unbiased manner as part of their national curricula;
 13. Encourages the EU to urge workers and trade unions to uphold the aforementioned guidelines.

ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The EU-Russia cooperation on four common spaces: How should an agreement be reached with due consideration to the interests of all Member States and Russia?

Submitted by: Felix Kurer (CH), Christine Shahbenderian (CY), Sini Hyytiäinen (FI), Elina Mihejeva (LV), Joanna Banys (PL), António Conduto Oliveira (PT), Johanna Lingaas Türk (SE), Irmak Anteplioglu (TR), Georgina Hellier (UK), Stefan Nippes (DE), Victor Balland (FR), Stuart Chisholm (IE), Tim Keegstra (NL), Anatoly Potashov (RU), Anne-Charlotte Oriol (Chairperson, FR)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the need to streamline the future cooperation between the EU and the Federation of Russia since the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) which came to an end in 2007 was not followed by a new agreement,
 - B. Emphasising the importance of constructive EU-Russia relations to secure mutual stable governance,
 - C. Alarmed by the prevalence of corruption and lack of transparency in the economic, social and judiciary sectors of the Russian administration,
 - D. Underlying the fact that Russia is the EU's third biggest economic partner and that the EU is Russia's most important investor, accounting for more than 80% of cumulative foreign investment,
 - E. Considering that both EU and Russia's current migration policies hold back economic and cultural interactions,
 - F. Fully aware that the cooperation in the field of research, technology and intelligence represents an essential part of the 'Partnership for Modernisation',
 - G. Bearing in mind that Russia holds the world's largest natural gas reserves (1,680 trillion cubic feet) and is the main supplier of gas to EU,
 - H. Recognising the European Commissions's Trainings and Twinning programmes contained in the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) instrument are a major tool for improving the quality of the rule of law in neighbouring countries as exemplified in the last two enlargements of the EU,
 - I. Taking into account the need for cooperation between the EU and Russia in order to tackle terrorism on a global scale,
 - J. Referring to human rights as a value principle of the EU which has to be taken into account in foreign policy,
 - K. Considering environmental issues a major constituent of the future partnership between the EU and Russia;
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- 1. Fully supports Russia's accession into the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and approves the EU's major role in the recent progress of Russia's accession talks;
 - 2. Calls upon Russia to accept EU funded regional anti-corruption offices as a decisive part of the 'Partnership for Modernisation';

3. Calls for confronting corruption through offering Trainings and Twinings on law enforcement methods to Russian administrators and officials in order to increase Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) through ensuring the respect of the rule of law;
4. Supports the further expansion of the Nabucco and Southstream grids in order to create a more competitive energy market;
5. Urges Russia to protect Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) so as to enable the transfer of European green technology;
6. Recommends the creation of a free online environment which would provide information on business customs and investments possibilities in Russia for European investors;
7. Emphasises the need for the European Commission to support Russia's efforts to comply with Schengen requirements in return for gradual trade tariffs reduction;
8. Endorses that until Russia complies with Schengen standards, students' visas costs are removed and the process for their acquisition be simplified;
9. Affirms the need for reducing fees for Russian students studying in the EU outside of the Erasmus framework;
10. Calls for the sharing of intelligence regarding terrorism and international criminality between Interpol, Europol and the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB);
11. Calls for an increased cooperation between the European Commission and Russian authorities in the fields of Higher Education and Research;
12. Further invites Russia to increase funding for existing Russian cultural centres in EU territory in order to promote Russian culture and society;
13. Encourages the intensification of human rights' dialogue between Member States and Russian authorities through the Council of Europe;
14. Expresses its hope to strengthen the partnerships between Member States' and Russian Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the field of the environment.

ADOPTED

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

In response to the UN Cancun Climate Conference, should European countries now look beyond traditional inter-governmental conferences and seek alternative means to move forward in the aftermath of the discussions 29th November – 10th December 2010?

Submitted by: Thomas Avender (AT), Maria Vittoria Bachi (IT), Florentine Oberman (NL), Hanna Melhus (NO), Guilherme Sapinho (PT), Ellinor Lyngfelt (SE), Gina Allchorn (UK), Enno Hermann (DE), Julianne Baumgartener (FR), Svetlana Galkovskaya (RU), Erke Can Tellal (TR), Federico Fasol (Vice-President, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by Parties' inability to deliver a new global legally binding document at intergovernmental climate change conferences due to:
 - i) the power of veto,
 - ii) the refusal of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the United States of America (USA) to adhere to an extension of the Kyoto protocol,
 - iii) the consequent refusals of Russia, Japan and Canada to accept an extension of the Kyoto protocol until the PRC and the USA maintain the current position,
- B. Noting the unclear and imprecise agreements made at the December 2010 Cancun Climate Conference, promoted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), illustrated by ambiguous and non-binding emission cuts, and the contentious issue of funding for developing countries to adapt and mitigate against climate change,
- C. Having examined the difficulty of reaching a consensus on a global scale on how to combat climate change,
- D. Observing the relative success of bilateral agreements, such as green technology transfer arrangements between India and the USA in 2009,
- E. Taking into consideration the results of the independent Bolivian Climate Conference in May 2009 which attracted several developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs),
- F. Taking into consideration the current lack of political influence from individual European countries at inter-governmental climate change conferences,
- G. Fully alarmed by the recent Stern Report stating that between the years 2009 and 2010, the investments necessary to combat climate change rose by \$1 trillion due to global inaction,
- H. Having studied the disparity in greenhouse gas (GHG) emission measurement methods among countries,
- I. Recognising the current carbon offset trading system is ineffective due to the volatility of carbon prices and the absence of standardised measures of carbon emissions,
- J. Taking into account the inability to verify China's carbon dioxide emissions data,
- K. Keeping in mind that at the Cancun Climate Conference; China, the USA and other large emitters agreed to greater transparency on their climate data,

- L. Recognising the importance of encouraging sustainable and green personal consumption, and the effectiveness of regional, in comparison to national, governance on environmental issues,
 - M. Deeply conscious of the need for the current population, especially the youth, to combat climate change;
1. Calls for the introduction of smaller, continental conferences on the matter of climate change with the objective to agree on a common position and on legally binding objectives for the respective continents;
 2. Urges the United Nations (UN) to abolish the veto right at UNFCCC climate conferences;
 3. Urges the publication of reports on the potentially disastrous effects of climate change at international climate conferences, so as to make governments aware of their responsibilities and thus push them to take immediate action;
 4. Endorses the implementation of a larger number of bilateral and multilateral agreements as these have proven to be more effective than global agreements;
 5. Emphasises the importance of conferences among transnational corporations as means to develop strategies for joint economic investments to assist the fight against climate change;
 6. Calls upon the EU to demand for concessions from its counterparts when signing the agreement;
 7. Stresses the importance for the EU to achieve a common environmental policy and to speak with a common voice at international level so as to strengthen its political power;
 8. Encourages Member States to fully develop a sustainable and green economy and thus set an example for other countries;
 9. Recommending that laws and taxes should be harmonised globally in the short term in order to:
 - a) limit the use of fossil fuels,
 - b) encourage the development of green technologies,
 - c) promote the usage of alternative renewable energy resources;
 10. Condemns all further discussions which deny that climate change is a result of human actions;
 11. Supports a greater governmental promotion of the use of renewable energy, by means of:
 - a) subsidising private households,
 - b) lowering taxes for companies using green technologies,
 - c) setting the minimum standard amount of energy consumption deriving from renewable sources for households;
 12. Recommends the imposition of a tax based on a proportional scaling system on households' consumption of energy deriving from non-renewable sources and GHG emissions, should this exceed the standardised maximum consumption that is to be defined globally and imposed nation-wide, but controlled by regional authorities;
 13. Encourages the creation of a global emission trading schemes for GHG which would substitute the existing carbon offset trading system;
 14. Calls upon the UN to create two task forces of independent inspectors with legitimate power so as to:
 - a) control the data on the amount of GHG emissions produced by each country,
 - b) ensure the adherence of national governments to GHG emission treaties at bilateral, multilateral and global levels;
 15. Requests increased transparency at international climate conferences through wider media coverage and by publishing the results in an accessible format;
 16. Further requests states adopt national educational curricula to include courses on the causes and the consequences of global warming throughout compulsory education;



17. Encouraging social awareness to be promoted through the introduction of:
 - a) an international day on global warming,
 - b) world capitals of climate,
 - c) awarding green certificates to leading companies for their environmental progress;
18. Encourages the establishment of youth conferences dealing with environmental issues, so as to raise younger generations' awareness on these subjects.

ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

‘Another future for fisheries’: Learning the lessons of the 16th November Fisheries Conference, how should Europe react to the Common Fisheries Policy?

Submitted by: Philip Aiolfi (CH), Nemanja Drljaca (RS), Maria-Nectaria Antoniou (CY), Anni Savolainen (FI), Elina Jaunozola (LV), Jakub Brzosko (PL), Viorel Dumitru Gavril (RO), Cem Ergin (TR), Francesca Ritchie (UK), Victorien Babel (FR), Dimos Papadimitriou (EL), Catherine Vercruyssen (Chairperson, BE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the uneven enforcement of Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) regulations within the EU due to:
 - i) different approaches on its implementation by Member States,
 - ii) weakness of infrastructure,
 - iii) mismanagement,
 - iv) lack of disciplinary measures,
- B. Noting with regret that the defence of national interests by Member States undermines EU policies which attempt to be beneficial for the whole of the European Union,
- C. Recognising that EU policies can only be legally binding in Member States,
- D. Believing that non-EU countries will also be inclined to follow the policies undertaken if proven to be successful,
- E. Deeply disturbed by the depletion of European marine life due to:
 - i) natural and man-made changes to the environment, including the dumping or accidental loss of fishing nets,
 - ii) over subsidisation of the fishing industry by the EU,
 - iii) the over capacity of fleet, with estimates indicating that there are 40% too many vessels in EU fleets, causing 88% of fish stocks to be over exploited,
 - iv) overfishing,
 - v) the discarding of fish,
- F. Recognising that poaching worsens European marine life depletion,
- G. Acknowledging the over dependency of certain regions in Europe on fishing industry,
- H. Aware that varying characteristics of different seas may require specific treatments,
- I. Observing that fishermen on a local scale are not always sufficiently informed about the latest legislation and scientific research;

1. Supports the establishment of rigorous systematic control which incorporates:
 - a) increasing the frequency of the Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA) meetings to four times a year,
 - b) increasing the use of satellite tracking,
 - c) creating tight legislation valid not only on EU waters but also for each vessel registered in a Member State;
2. Urges the enhancement of scientific research by:
 - a) improving the cooperation between fishermen, coast guards and scientists in the research process,
 - b) requiring the involvement of all relevant stakeholders through reporting feedback of personal observation,
 - c) extending the role of local European universities in marine biology research,
 - d) the total implementation of surveillance systems on vessels exceeding 24 meters in length,
 - e) increasing the funding of marine research;
3. Supports the principle that Total Allowable Catches (TAC) should be based on best possible scientific research and directly adaptable to changing circumstances, thereby additionally exempting political influences;
4. Further encourages the increased use of individual transferable quotas (ITQ) which would be limited to licensed fishermen and set prior to each fishing season;
5. Urges the update of Fisheries Partnership Agreements (FPA) with third party states regarding the reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy;
6. Calls for the reduction of the EU subsidies that encourage fleet overcapacity;
7. Strongly recommends that discarding fish is banned and that the amount of fish caught unintentionally and in contravention to EU regulations be forfeited to the state in exchange for 20% of its market price;
8. Promotes the use of selective fishing equipment for different fishing types;
9. Calls for the establishment of pan-European standardised requirements for the obtaining and renewal of fishing licenses, thereby additionally preventing illegal fisheries;
10. Strongly endorses the recruitment of fishermen into the marine research industry for employment within:
 - a) the border control system,
 - b) other jobs related to their current field of expertise;
11. Proposes the inclusion of non-EU countries in multilateral conferences and the regulation of regional advisory councils in order to increase their efficiency;
12. Strongly recommends strengthening the work of the CFCA and sea patrol systems through:
 - a) increasing the regularity of license and catch checking in European waters,
 - b) searching for abandoned fishing nets.

ADOPTED

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

In reaction to the final presentations of President Von Rompuy's taskforce at the EU Council Meeting in October 2010, how should Europe move forward to ensure future secure economic governance?

Submitted by: Thomas Krenn (AT), Tereza Krůčková (CZ), Alessandro Fabio delle Cese (IT), Titus Alexander Laeven (NL), Julie Brundtland Løvseth (NO), João Rocha (PT), Dragos Hagi (RO), Emily Godby (UK), Pauline Schmitlin (FR), Eoin O'Driscoll (IE), Klavs Galeniks (LV), Benjamin Eisert (DE), Anar Kučera (Chairperson, CZ)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Having considered the recent proposals of the Taskforce on Economic Governance,
 - B. Bearing in mind that national economies of Member States are strongly interconnected,
 - C. Taking note of the absence of a surveillance mechanism on macroeconomic processes in the EU,
 - D. Recalling that the European Central Bank (ECB) decides monetary policies in the Eurozone,
 - E. Aware of the fact that the regulation of the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) is in the hands of ministers of finance of the Member States,
 - F. Noting with deep regret that there is a lack of budgetary control and transparency of economic governance,
 - G. Acknowledges that the high public debt level was a major cause of the escalation of the financial crisis in the Eurozone,
 - H. Realising that the conservation of national sovereignty limits European cooperation among Member States,
 - I. Further noting that Member States' governments decide upon their national fiscal policies independently,
 - J. Deeply convinced of the positive aspects of reinforcement of cooperation and coordination of EU Member States in the formulation of fiscal policies,
 - K. Deeply disturbed that the SGP's criteria of budget deficit and public debt are not properly enforced,
 - L. Recognising that the proposed measures might require amendments to existing European treaties;
-
- 1. Supports the continued implementation of the European Semester, which encourages much needed transparency and also credibility of political decisions;
 - 2. Strongly emphasises the importance of enforcement and respect of EU regulations, including the SGP;
 - 3. Further requests the elevation of Eurostat's audit powers;
 - 4. Endorses the adoption of the following financial sanctions of individual Member States that fail to fulfil the SGP requirements:



- a) relay 0.3% GDP to the European Investment Bank into an interest bearing deposit,
 - b) writing off this interest if a proactive approach lacks and fiscal improvement is not implemented,
 - c) deposit is only reimbursed when the Member State meets the original SGP requirements;
5. Calls for political rather than economic sanctions in case of severe depression;
 6. Requests the adoption of an escalating scale of political sanctions depending on the severity of the failure to meet the SGP requirements within the Council of Ministers from the loss of the right to veto the qualified majority vote, to the loss of general voting right in the qualified majority votes;
 7. Further recommends the immediate ending of these sanctions upon renewed compliance with the SGP;
 8. Recommends the implementation of the proposed sanctions on a reverse majority rule in the Council of Ministers;
- Suggests the permanence of the EU framework for crisis management incorporating the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF).

FACTSHEET

European Semester - Program that aims 'to strengthen the functioning of the Stability and Growth Pact and extend surveillance to macro-economic imbalances', proposing that a 'European Semester' be established for economic policy coordination, with the aim of aligning national budget and policy planning. The proposals are not legally binding for the involved Member States.

SGP - The Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) is an agreement among the 17 members of the European Union (EU) that take part in the Eurozone, to facilitate and maintain the stability of the Economic and Monetary Union. The SGP sets requirements for countries to be able to adopt Euro as well as permanent conditions to be followed (maximum annual deficit 3% of GDP, maximal national debt 60% of GDP).

EFSF - The European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) is a special purpose vehicle agreed by the 27 Member States of the European Union on 9th May 2010, aiming at preserving financial stability in Europe by providing financial assistance to Eurozone states in difficulty.

European Investment Bank - The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the European Union's long-term lending institution established in 1958 under the Treaty of Rome. A policy-driven bank, the EIB supports the EU's priority objectives, especially European integration and the development of economically weak regions. Recently, the Bank has also been actively supporting European research and development projects as part of EU's objective of building the world's leading knowledge-based economy.

Reverse majority - When a proposal is voted under reverse majority rule, the proposal is automatically adopted unless the majority clearly votes against the proposal.

ADOPTED

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS II

On the matter of NATO's continuing role in Afghanistan: When, or subject to which criteria being fulfilled, would ending Europe's military engagement be desirable? What approach should European states take in shaping the country's future?

Submitted by: Sabine Hain (AT), Viktorija Mladenovic (RS), Jan Kotek (CZ), Albert Reverendo Mascort (ES), Raffaello Stefani (IT), Elisabeth Berntsen (NO), Michal Kmiecik (PL), Alexei Leon (RO), Malika Bouazzaoui (UK), Anne-Sophie Rialland (FR), Despina Dimitrakopoulou (EL), Beatrice Reichel (SE), Leonie Goettsch (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising that foreign interference in Afghanistan is a source of civil unrest, as well as having a tendency to cause increased Taliban violence,
- B. Noting with deep concern that Afghanistan does not have a functional state,
- C. Further noting that the lack of a functional state in Afghanistan can be considered a threat to international security,
- D. Deeply regretting Afghanistan's problems currently include, but are not limited to: human rights issues, drug trafficking, arms trading, radicalism and corruption,
- E. Convinced of the Afghan people's right to self determination,
- F. Further recalling the efforts of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) whose mandate is to ensure security and assist the reconstruction process in the area,
- G. Observing that the American initiative Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) aims to topple the Taliban regime in Afghanistan,
- H. Realising that the varied activities of military forces and other organisations may be counterproductive despite working towards a common goal,
- I. Noting with regret that the war in Afghanistan is detrimental to each Member State both economically and in terms of human cost,
- J. Recalling that there has been growing pressure from the United States to increase the number of the European North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) forces,
- K. Bearing in mind that the attempts to improve factors such as security and stability of the Afghan state have fallen short of the desired results;

1. Supports gradual demilitarisation of Afghanistan and the simultaneous restriction of European Union (EU) military forces to a protective role;
2. Authorises European NATO members to impose further national caveats in fulfilling their goal of taking on a more protective role such as but not limited to:
 - a) imposing a regulation upon solely firing in defence,
 - b) limiting the territory in which EU forces operate;
3. Urges European states to pursue diplomatic relations with representatives of the Afghan people, such as the Afghan government, the Taliban and other political party or representative group;
4. Calls upon all European NATO forces under ISAF command to focus on training the Afghan security forces in working towards national security;
5. Has resolved to change the process of power transition from foreign troops to the Afghan military and security forces by:
 - a) ceasing the region-by-region training of the Afghan security forces,
 - b) beginning to solidify the strength of the security forces in major cities like Kabul;
6. Encourages the Afghan people to take responsibility for further training of security forces outside of Kabul and other major cities;
7. Solemnly confirms that once there are a sufficient number of competent security forces in Kabul, all European ISAF forces will withdraw from the capital;
8. Further proclaims that once strong Afghan security forces are in place in Kabul and other major cities that European ISAF troops will begin to decrease proportionally;
9. Further recommends that well-qualified members of the Afghan Diaspora in Europe return to Afghanistan with European support to work in public administration, helping to rebuild the country once a more stable situation is established;
10. Endorses direct European investment in the communications sector in Afghanistan, particularly to promote access to information;
11. Further invites European investors to develop entrepreneurship in Afghanistan;
12. Recommends the establishment of a communications network between both local and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to facilitate coordination and cooperation as part of the Science for Peace and Security development program.