

June 22nd - June 29th 2018

Thank you for the Word Mister/Madame President! Honourable Presidency, Venerable Committee Presidents, Distinguished Delegates, Esteemed Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The typical opening phrase of so many speeches all of us have heard in our MEP careers. In a few moments you will be in the same position as so many delegates before you – standing in front of the Model European Parliament, delivering your extraordinary speech, deciding about the life and death (of your resolution).

A moment to change politics, the world around us and our future – a moment to leave an ever lasting impact on our society – seize this unique opportunity!

If you look up and around us, you will see the stunning scenery of the Austrian Parliament – Actually not the "real" Parliament, as the building of our national Parliament is being renovated at the moment and all members of our actual parliament as well as we had to change location for our plenary session and find ourselves now in the beautiful rooms of the former castle of the Austrian Emperor.

At this point we want to express our deepest gratitude to the Austrian Parliament, hosting us for two days and fulfilling us every wish!

We truly honour and value the commitment of the Austrian Parliament and the high representatives of our country towards youth engagement in politics — we do not take it for granted that we had the passionate support of so many official authorities and we feel deeply honoured that even the President of the Republic of Austria Dr. Alexander Van der Bellen deemed our conference worth visiting.

This shows once again how important and essential youth engagement in politics has become to official government leaders – and we think it is highly motivating that even the leaders of our countries believe in our future and what we are able to do – So why shouldn't we believe in ourselves?

Hence we come back to the motto of our conference: Debate, Discuss, Decide – Now the time has come to raise final questions and put your ideas to a vote – And show the representatives of various European nations, our president and last but not least the other delegates what we have accomplished the past days and what we are capable of accomplishing in our future!

The floor is yours!





PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- I. Committees take their place in front of the plenary session
- 1. Reading out Textual Changes by the presidency
- 2. Reading out the Resolution (only OCs) by a member of the committee
- 3. Opening speech approximately 3 minutes; delivered by a member of the committee
- 4. Factual questions
- II. Amendments
 - 1. Presentation of the Amendment approximately 3 minutes, by the delegate who has submitted the amendment
 - 2. Questions concerning the amendment (by the GA and the committee)

 Answered by the delegate who has submitted the amendment
 - 3. Speech against the amendment approximately 2 minutes, by a member of the committee
 - 4. Vote by raising placards yes/no vote only conducted if needed
- III. Open Debate
 - 1. Questions by the GA

 Answered by the committee
 - 2. Speech against the resolution approximately 2 minutes, by a member of the GA
 - 3. Speech in favour of the resolution approximately 2-3 minutes, by a member of the committee
 - 4. Vote *yes / no / abstention*

RULES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Rules:

- All members of the Assembly are obliged to wear formal attire throughout the GA.
- When addressing the Assembly, delegates should stand and speak clearly.
- Delegates may **only** speak after raising their placards (cards with the names of their Delegations) and being permitted to speak by the President, who must then be thanked.
- Delegates are forbidden to interrupt a speaker or President.
- A delegate may not grant the word to another delegate.
- Delegates are asked to stick to maximum speaking times in order to prevent any interruption by the presidency.
- The President holds absolute authority over all proceedings. His decisions must be respected.

Point of Privilege

If a delegate does not understand or cannot hear what has been said, they may raise their yellow "Point of Privilege Card", even whilst a fellow delegate is speaking. If the Point of Privilege is acknowledged by the Presidency, the speaker must rephrase their statement.

When raising their Point of Privilege, the respective delegate is not granted the word.

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE):

The question of countering the growing threat of terrorism in the EU. Nearly all European nations have been threatened by terrorist attacks in recent years, which have been menacing core values of modern-day democracy - liberty and safety. Many of these attacks are inspired by religious fanaticism, causing arising skepticism, and xenophobia, which endanger the cultural diversity of the European society. Which measures can be the taken by the EU to ensure safety



for all its citizens and combat the growing threat of terrorism? So how can the EU communicate the importance of its cultural diversity and oppose the increase of xenophobia among its member states?

- A) Deeply concerned by the frequent occurrence of terrorist attacks resulting in a regretful loss of human lives and damaging the fundamental values of the EU¹,
- B) Aware of the high number of terrorist attacks committed by separatist groups in EU member states,
- C) Deeply concerned by threats posed by foreign terrorist fighters and radical religious groups,
- D) Alarmed by the lack of sufficient integration of non-EU migrants within the EU member states, which could ultimately result in:
 - i) Societal polarization,
 - ii) Radicalization,
 - iii) The formation of parallel societies,
- E) Disturbed by the anonymous funding of terrorist groups,
- F) Deeply regretting the lack of knowledge concerning foreign cultures, which often results in xenophobia leading to increased rates of racially motivated crimes,
- G) Noting with concern the misuse of social media as:
 - i) A medium of communication within terrorist groups,
 - ii) A means of recruiting by terrorist groups,
 - iii) An online platform for the spread of radical ideas,
- H) Taking into account the often inadequate cooperation between intelligence services of all EU nations,
- 1) Observing the insufficient control of the external border of the EU,

 $^{^{1}}$ As stated in the acquis communautaire of the EU.

- 1) Supports EU member states in taking security measures²;
- 2) Requesting the ECTC (European Counter Terrorism Centre) to focus more on separatist terrorism;
- 3) Suggests that member states temporarily restrict travel to and from Syria, Libya and Iraq to only allow people who both:
 - i) have undergone a background check;
 - ii) have an approved and verified reason for travel;
- 4) Calls upon the European Commission to fund language courses, which provide migrants with sufficient skills in the local language;
- 5) Endorses the implementation of short-term courses:
 - i) for migrants concerning the native culture;
 - ii) for the native population concerning foreign cultures;
- 6) Encourages the individual member states to create and implement an educational plan which draws more focus to foreign cultures with the help of the EU peer counselling scheme³;
- 7) Calls upon the European Commission to fund organizations which organize events concerning:
 - i) The native culture;
 - ii) The foreign culture;
- 8) Recommends that the European Commission provides extra funds to make the UCAREcurriculum⁴ available for all teachers within the EU;
- 9) Further recommends the implementation of training programmes for prison and probation staff of all member states regarding how to best deter offenders from being radicalised;
- 10) Encourages governments of all member states to launch a task force which will advise departments of correction in each respective member state about how to deal with specific threats ⁵when they are identified;
- 11) Proclaims the founding of O.S.A.M.A⁶. which will be tasked with investigating, identifying and taking inventory of possible financiers of terrorist groups;
- 12) Urges the committee on Security and Defense as well as Europol and Permanent Structured Cooperation to focus on the reduction of revenue-generating criminal activities;
- 13) Endorses the European Central Bank to abolish the 500 Euro banknote in order to obstruct criminal activities, such as but not limited to, terrorist attacks;

³ Peer counselling brings together experienced peers from a small number of national administrations to provide advice to a member state in designing or implementing a policy

² EU counter – terrorism strategy

⁴ UCARE is a civic and social competences curriculum for adolescents. It provides educational tools to foster citizenship and social skills in high school students, with the aim of preventing processes of radicalization

⁵ Prisoners influenced by radicalist ideas

⁶ Operational Surveillance of Acquisition of Money Agency

- 14) Urges member states to raise the penalty for racially motivated crimes;
- 15) Congratulates many social networks, such as but not limited to, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for their ban on hateful conduct and on promotion of terrorism;
- 16) Stresses the importance of prioritizing the removal of content which violates the aforementioned policies ⁷in a timelier manner⁸;
- 17) Proclaims the founding of the institution D.I.S.C.O.⁹ to gather cross border information on terrorist activities within the EU;
- 18) Considers moving the headquarters of the European Border and coast Agency to a more suitable location;
- 19) Encourages the appointment of 1000 Frontex staff members by 2020, of whom at least three quarters have a long term contract;
- 20) Requests gradually increasing the funding of the bodies within Frontex focused on counterterrorism, both in the form of capital and technical equipment sufficient to meet demand;
- 21) Emphasizes the importance of data exchange between national border protection agencies and national intelligence services through the member states included in the Schengen area;
- 22) Strongly supports the use of Passenger Name Record data in order to gain intelligence on potential terrorists and prevent terrorist attacks;
- 23) Recommends further negotiations with Turkey concerning border control;
- 24) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

 $^{^{7}}$ As mentioned in OC 15

⁸ Within an hour of the post being reported

⁹ The Data Intelligence Services for Critical Operations institution gathers data of national intelligence services and stimulates data exchange between EU member states. The judicial aspects and problems that arise with the founding of this institution are to be handled by legal experts. The institution only operates when there is a clear indication.

Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

The question of promoting democratic values outside of the EU. The European Union is devoted to supporting democracy and human rights in conformity with its founding principles of liberty, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. In times of political instability and grave human rights violations in many regions bordering the political and territorial sphere of the EU, its member states are confronted with the duty to help and aid them. How can the European Union



assist countries in Northern Africa in ensuring political stability based on its fundamental principles of liberty, peace, democracy, and human dignity?

- A) Deeply concerned about aggression and violence taking place within East Africa such as but not limited to violent riots, armed conflicts and crime,
- B) Disturbed by the existence of arbitrary law making in East Africa,
- C) Noting with regret that legitimate governments can lose power over:
 - i) Security organs such as the military resulting in dysfunctional security or paramilitary structures,
 - ii) Law enforcement in favour of other authorities undermining the rule of law,
- D) Alarmed by the high level of economic inequality in East Africa,
- E) Observing corruption such as but not limited to embezzlement and bribery in East Africa,
- F) Deeply concerned about the human rights abuses in East Africa such as but not limited to:
 - i) Violation of the right to freedom of speech,
 - ii) Illegal recruitment of child soldiers,
- G) Noticing that business-friendly and long-term policies are necessary to ensure sustainable GDP growth, attract more FDI and ensure stable currency exchange rates,
- H) Deeply concerned about mass migration in East Africa, both international and regional,
- 1) Requests that the EU give support to impactful peace organizations and programs in the East
 African region, such as PSOs (Peace Support Operations) of the AU (African Union) and IGAD
 (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) in order to alleviate both internal and inter-state
 unrest;
- 2) Calls upon full cooperation (such as, but not limited to, intel sharing) of European security forces such as Europol with the EASF to reduce outbreaks of violence;
- 3) Urges the AU to create set objectives to be pursued by its member states;

- 4) Recommends the introduction of an independent institution at EAC (East African Community) level to settle disputes, punish violations and apply and create bilateral treaties, such as but not limited to the field of border conflicts, by methods of arbitration;
- 5) Emphasises the necessity of sufficient legal training and technical support for state officials, including those operating in rural areas;
- 6) Calls upon a focus on capacity building within East African countries such as but not limited to the police force and judiciary;
- 7) Reminds the national governments of East Africa that governmental measures counteracting aggressors such as but not limited to terrorists and rebel groups must be in line with the human rights charter;
- 8) Highly urges the EU to send aid in the form of technology know-how and materials to create infrastructure such as but not limited to free online access to all legal regulations and e-governance;
- 9) Encourages the increased lending of microcredit by the EIB (European Investment Bank) as a means of stimulating bottom-up growth;
- 10) Strongly recommends funding grant competition schemes such as those provided by NGOs aiming at increasing support for innovative SMEs (Small and medium-sized enterprises) and thus promoting innovation from within;
- 11) Requests investment in sustainable, accessible education, such as:
 - i) Support for the E4E program;
 - ii) Family planning and birth control measures;
 - iii) Creation of e-courses;
- 12) Urges the creation of a system tasked with creating transparency of financial data called the African Union Development Transparency System (AUDTS);
- 13) Recommends empowering the free press by funding universities, training educators and helping to create a code of conduct and ethics for the media;
- 14) Encourages increased funding of and support for the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- 15) Reaffirms support for conditional distribution of benefits as established by Article 96 of the Cotonou agreement;
- 16) Condemns human rights violations and urges the African Union to advance the execution of corresponding universal laws;
- 17) Suggests cooperating in the creation of conformity assessment bodies harmonising standards for products and services within the EAC;

- 18) Encourages countries to consider the consultation of the IMF and the implementation of the proposed economic agenda;
- 19) Recommends implementing methods to prevent humanitarian crises and resulting mass migration caused by climate change that are to be addressed by the committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. These measures may include:
 - i) Support for drought-resistant sustainable farming in East Africa;
 - ii) Providing villages with sustainable water supplies by deepening water wells and supporting the purchase of seawater desalination devices villages near the sea;
- 20) Requires continued budget support for East African governments within the framework of the EDF, particularly focussed on public services and infrastructure;
- 21) Invites East African countries to discuss the problem of having insufficient, inaccessible or unsustainable public services directly with the United Nations Public Services Forum to work with nations all over the world to address this issue;
- 22) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

Committee on Industry, Research, Energy, Employment and Social Affairs (ITRE/EMPL)



The question of innovation, industrial automation, and digitalization. In times of increasing technological developments, the necessity of innovation has become an essential component of industrialized economic systems to increase international competitiveness and foster economic growth. Innovation offers numerous advantages to society; simultaneously, digitalization and automation pose a threat to the primary and secondary sector of our economy. Especially for the younger generation this has led to a substantial increase in unemployment figures. Which

measures can be taken by the European Union to expand its role in the global market of innovation and technological breakthrough and how can it encourage the young generation to become successful entrepreneurs and stimulate innovation on the European continent? How can this strive for technological development be adapted to contemporary economic systems and changing demands on the labor market?

The Model European Parliament X,

- A) Aware of the growing demand for re-integration of untrained workers in the digital labour market,
- B) Recognising the decrease of employment opportunities in multiple sectors¹⁰ due to automation, discouraging the youth to engage in aforementioned sectors,
- C) Alarmed by the variation in quality of educational courses focused on the IT-sector,
- D) Keeping in mind the lack of proper work experience, making the youth incompetent and uncompetitive in today's challenging labour market,
- E) Realising that the race for innovation within Europe requires a trade-off between workers' rights and innovation itself,
- F) Deeply concerned by the difference in digitalization and a lack of transparency between certain member states and their respective markets,
- G) Fully aware of the ineffective regulation of competitiveness for European industries, causing difficulties for SMEs¹¹ to succeed,
- H) Alarmed by the growing digital skill gap in society,
- I) Convinced that the automation and digitalisation of today's society is not intertwined enough in educational courses,

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¹⁰ The agricultural, manufacturing and service sector

¹¹ Small and Medium Enterprises

- 1) Strongly requests the creation of J.E.D.I.¹², which objectives will include:
 - i) Focus on and creation of easier access to lifelong learning and training;
 - ii) Encouraging enterprises to integrate automation and digitalization as assistance to workers rather than replacing them;
 - iii) Establishing a program to provide information regarding digitalization for European citizens;
 - iv) Assessing the quality of independent IT-programs across member-states;
- 2) Encourages the creation of an optional school reform plan made by a committee of experts in the educational field with the aim of:
 - i) Re-examining the ESG (see Appendix A) for IT related programs and program content;
 - ii) Revising the school curricula to include basic IT skills and giving them a supranational dimension;
 - iii) Re-teaching teachers with refresher programs to improve their preparation in the field of automation and digitalization;
- 3) Calls upon the creation of a program aimed at:
 - i) Re-integrating citizens who have recently lost their job;
 - ii) Providing necessary training to ease the transitioning towards occupations across aforementioned sectors;
- 4) Strongly suggests taking pre-emptive measures against the insufficient IT skills within the EU by:
 - i) Teaching basic IT skills;
 - ii) Providing more workshops;
 - iii) Bringing children in contact with/teaching them about technology;
- 5) Calls upon the improvement of, and increase in, policies that will boost investments in innovative SME's, particularly through European early-stage cross-border venture capital investing;
- 6) Reminds the European Union that it should strengthen the European research area to propel innovation in advanced technologies;
- 7) Calls upon member states to further increase public procurement¹³ of innovative enterprises;
- 8) Supports the creation of an EU-wide mission driven approach, promoting the direction and the focus of the union by means such as:
 - i) Presenting goals;

ii) Engaging in dialogue with citizens;

iii) Collaboration with countries and organizations;

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¹² Joyful Educational Department of IT

¹³ The process of finding, agreeing terms and acquiring goods, services or works from an external source

- 9) Calls upon the European member states to pay attention to the importance of innovation-friendly regulation, to allow regulation to keep up with technological development;
- 10) Further recommends the improvement of transparency concerning clearer guidelines regarding worker rights;
- 11) Expresses its hope that the Erasmus+ program expands its offer by setting up the B.E.E.R platform¹⁴ (see Appendix B);
- 12) Expresses its hope for the de-escalation of the importance of certain criteria within the labour market to offer accessibility for employers to hire young people;
- 13) Encourages both the support of local creative hubs and the creation of an EU-wide cluster portal, to support SMEs and facilitate business-academia collaboration;
- 14) Recommends member states to introduce internship offers similar to those already existing in some countries such as, but not limited to Norway (see Appendix C);
- 15) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

¹⁴ Backpacker European Enrichment Representative platform

Committee on Development, Culture and Education (DEVE/CULT)

The question of equal development throughout the European Union. Despite all attempts of ensuring equality among all European nations, the EU is continuously confronted with numerous social, economic, and cultural differences among its various nations and the gap between the latter seems to be increasingly dilating. The idea of a "European Union of multiple speeds" has gained popularity among politicians, menacing the European ideal of community. Especially equal



educational opportunities are often seen as key to equal development among European nations. Should the European Union incite the standardization of school systems and curricula of all member countries to enable similar opportunities for all students and hence harmonize development progress among its member states? Which other policies can the EU use to ensure equal development of all its member states and avoid substantial differences in economic and social opportunities?

- A) Noting with deep concern that equal socioeconomic development throughout the EU has not been achieved,
- B) Alarmed by the fact that vicious debt cycles restrict countries from developing,
- C) Recognizing that unemployment limits economic growth and contributes to increasing inequality,
- D) Observing the barriers that disadvantaged people face in order to get equal acceptance and opportunities in the labour market,
- E) Realizing the need to provide students with practical competences before they enter the labour market,
- F) Aware of the lack of internships offering relevant work experience,
- G) Deeply concerned about the unequal educational backgrounds¹⁵ throughout the EU member states,
- H) Alarmed by the number of people living near poverty in the EU,
- I) Bearing in mind that socioeconomic backgrounds of students play a huge role in the likelihood of pursuing higher education and getting qualifications,
- J) Noting with approval the Bologna process and its successful work in ensuring the compatibility of the standards and quality of higher education within the EU member states,
- K) Fully aware of the inequality fuelled by the taxation systems in EU countries and the huge loss of money connected to tax evasion and avoidance,

¹⁵ Level of education achieved through ways such as but not limited to primary and secondary education

- Recommends to increase coordinated use of European Structural and Investment funds to increment common territorial planning, setting clear objectives and measure results according to EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020;
- 2) Designates the REGI Committee to propose improvements regarding local infrastructures in member states who have to deal with lower economic activity;
- 3) Urges the creation of a body "Greece" which will do the following tasks:
 - i) Guide and supervise debts and loans;
 - ii) Encourage lowering interest on loans between EU member states, when a state is in risk of economic recession;
- 4) Ensure that the money is being used to achieve further socioeconomic development;
- 5) Promote the funding of the Youth Guarantee Programme and recommends to have a follow up session and more control of the benefits created by the Programme;
- 6) Calls upon the creation of a common framework of unemployment benefits systems in the EU, for unemployed people actively searching for work, constituting of:
 - i) Subsidies to support the period of unemployment;
 - ii) Advice;
 - iii) Informative and formative courses;
 - iv) The creation of Job Individual Action Plans tailored specifically upon individuals' needs and backgrounds, thus developing coherent and comprehensive activation approaches;
 - v) Supports the adoption of locally led and decentralized initiatives¹⁶;
- 7) Calls upon the improvement of PES¹⁷ approaches and unemployment profiling by:
 - i) Funding the PES programmes;
 - ii) Increasing the numbers of PES staff per unemployed and building up their capacities;
 - iii) Promoting and extending the usage of the internet in the PES through e-services, thus granting a specific approach, and e-learning, thus granting more time for follow-up and intensive-counselling;
 - iv) Promoting the creation of trusting relationships between job seekers and staff:
 - (a) The institution of a case manager for more disadvantaged groups;
 - (b) An equal representation of social groups;
 - (c) Vocational rehabilitation through occupational psychologists and doctors;
 - v) Building cooperation with private providers;

¹⁶ Work benefits, job creation programmes and guidance throughout the programme

¹⁷ Public Employment Services

- B) Calls upon the creation of a new organization EOFES¹⁸ with the following tasks:
 - i) Setting guidelines for a common certificate for internships;
 - ii) Promoting official recognition of practical skills gained through secondary education;
 - iii) Setting guidelines and standards to member states about the organization of the practical activities;
 - iv) Providing control over the efficiency of VET¹⁹ systems;
 - v) Aligning substantial institutional transformation in VET systems with industrial policies in order to meet the needs of industry and mitigating skills mismatch;
- C) Further requests enterprises to offer internships to students in order for them to gain relevant work experience:
 - i) The EU shall subsidize enterprises who provide internships in the workplace, making it beneficial for enterprises to have interns:
 - (1) enterprises should be selected based on standards and application provided by the EOFES;
- D) Requests the reform of Etwinning²⁰ so that the gap between different educational systems are minimized;
- E) Urges the EOFES to set minimum educational requirements, such as but not limited to, B1 Level in English language after secondary education;
- F) Recommends minimum standards in social security systems that are adjusted according to each country's living costs by the parameters identified by the Social Protection Committee and European Commission;
- G) Encourages the distribution of subsidies to EU students up to the end of secondary education according to the annual household income;
- H) Recommends the creation of an EU-wide recognition system of school certificates and study periods such as but not limited to expanding the adoption of DS²¹ and EUROPASS²²;
- I) Calls upon the revision and proposals of stricter legislations in order to make tax evasion more difficult, thus increasing socioeconomic development;
- J) Recommends taking normative measures that ensures better communication between EU member states in order to address and improve the issue of double taxation, such as but not

¹⁸ European Organization for Education Standards

¹⁹ Vocational and educational training

²⁰ Cluster system which will allow teachers to exchange knowledge, experience and best practices between the EU member states to decrease the educational inequality

²¹ Diplomas Supplement

²² Set of documents to help applicants present their skills and qualifications in a standard Europe-wide format

- limited to implementing a cross-member taxation database and calls upon the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs to propose further regulations on double taxation;
- K) Urges a cooperation amongst the member states in order to improve transparency in the EU in the effort to combat tax evasion and undeclared work;
- L) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender equality (FEMM)



The question of the social role and position of women. Even in times of great social prosperity and alleged equality, the question of the social role of women is still far from resolved. Social repression, gender roles, and stereotypes are still dominating wide parts of the European society and inhibit the actual social equality of both sexes. Which steps can be taken by the European Parliament to implement societal changes to guarantee the equal role of women in all EU member states? What can the European Union do to motivate EU citizens to lay aside obsolete gender stereotypes and adapt a more modern and adequate perception of the female role in our society?

- A) Fully aware of gender roles leading to women being associated with 'housekeeping' and men being associated with 'breadwinning',
- B) Deeply regretting the negative stigma surrounding feminism²³,
- C) Observing stereotypes surrounding both genders in media which lead to negative consequences such as, but not limited to, the maintenance of typical gender roles in society, bearing in mind that the youth is particularly affected by such stereotypes,
- D) Alarmed by the unfortunate continuity of the gender pay gap, despite efforts to stop its existence in society,
- E) Recognising the problem of financial dependence amongst women, which maintains unhealthy marriages²⁴,
- F) Emphasising the dominance of stereotypes in primary education and in future professions leading to an imbalance in secondary and tertiary education fields,
- G) Taking into consideration the gender imbalance in certain parts of the labour market²⁵,
- H) Deeply disturbed by the objectification of both sexes in our society resulting in sexual harassment, abuse and other such behaviours, bearing in mind the recent developments of the '#metoo' movement,
- Noting with regret the discrimination of women and men in the workplace²⁶, bearing in mind that women are far more often discriminated against,
- J) Aware of the continued existence of the 'glass ceiling' 27,

 $^{^{23}}$ Feminism: the doctrine advocating social, political, and other rights of women equal to those of men, and of men equal to those of women

²⁴ Unhealthy marriages being marriages which have negative implications on the partners' mental and physical health

²⁵ E.g.: secretarial jobs, educational jobs, engineering jobs and scientific jobs

²⁶ Such as, but not limited to, injustices due to pregnancy and motherhood regarding women and higher expectations and prejudices towards men

²⁷ 'Glass ceiling' being an invisible barrier for women seeking a job in higher levels (e.g. corporate board positions)

- 1) Encourages member states to instate an increase of paternity leave so that parents can decide for themselves who takes on which role;
- 2) Further recommends the development of home economics courses in order to encourage both genders to take on different roles²⁸, involving:
 - i) Courses incorporated into the secondary educational curriculum;
 - ii) Courses available to adults in form of online courses, evening courses, etc.;
- 3) Calls upon the committee of CULT to provide a multi-generational explanatory campaign²⁹ aimed at reducing the negative stigma surrounding the term "feminism";
- 4) Recommends that the EBU³⁰ requests its member TV networks who are located in EU member states to work together with the EIGE³¹ on monitoring gender equality and putting an end to current objectification of both genders in TV programming;
- 5) Calls upon the national parliaments of member states to (further) discuss implementation of gender equality laws such as:
 - i) Transparency in salary, relating to the function not the individual;
 - ii) Publishing data on the percentage of female and male employees;
- 6) Urges the founding of the FIWAI³² with the purpose of:
 - i) Supporting women in becoming financially independent;
 - ii) Offering mentoring programmes to advise women on how to negotiate secondary employment terms (e.g.: salary raises, extra-governmental maternity leave, reconciliation of maternity and work);
- 7) Recommends the ministries of education of member states to (further) implement gender equality and the removal of stereotypical depictions of gender roles into guidelines about the contents of teaching materials such as text books, etc.;
- 8) Endorses the committee of CULT to stimulate schools and their staff to be supportive of their students' subject and career paths no matter the gender stereotypes;
- 9) Suggests that the EU member states encourage (further) creation and promotion of courses to learn the special skills³³ that are needed to solve the gender imbalance in the labour market, so that both genders take on jobs that are not stereotypically theirs;

³¹ European Institute for Gender Equality

²⁸ E.g.: that men can also assume the stereotypical role of women and vice versa

²⁹ This campaign will consist of educational packages, informative videos, articles, seminars across the EU, and more

³⁰ European Broadcasting Union

³² FIWAI: Financially Independent Women Advisement Institute

³³ E.g.: women learning programming skills to work in IT

- 10) Further requests the founding of a special department in EUROPOL, which should focus on tackling crimes/offences regarding gender inequality involving amongst others:
 - i) An anonymous hotline where victims of sexual intimidation/abuse can share their story/gain advice;
 - ii) Testing whether job applications are free of gender-based discrimination;
- 11) Calls for an investigation by the aforementioned special department of EUROPOL into sexual abuse in European institutions (such as the European Parliament), so that more institutions will have an example to follow;
- 12) Requests the EIGE to offer guidelines³⁴ on how to enhance gender equality to national, provincial and local governments of member states and to EU-based corporations;
- 13) Advocates raising awareness and envisions breaking through the "glass ceiling" by:
 - i) Setting up a campaign³⁵ that puts forward the benefits of hiring women in higher levels;
 - ii) Encouraging the EIGE to hold seminars at companies on the "glass ceiling" problem and how it can be solved and the benefits of its solution for the companies themselves;
- 14) Urges the founding of a gender-based grading system (see Appendix D), which will give every company with more than a certain amount of employees, active in the EU, a grade published on a public database;
- 15) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

³⁴These regulations will be implemented in the EU-institutions to set an example

³⁵ This campaign should entail newsletters, social media and other media platforms

Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)



The question of the European community. Recently, the European ideology has been endangered - many governments within the European Union are drifting away from its initial idea and Euroscepticism is on the rise. Populist and politically extremist parties pose a growing threat to the European community by displaying a hostile attitude towards the collectively shared European values. How can the European Union counter these developments, which could be traced back to an inadequate representation of EU citizens by mainstream

parties and to the dissatisfaction with EU institutions? How should the EU be reformed to uphold the European spirit and community and face contemporary political and societal changes?

- A) Concerned about the lack of common understanding of what populism is in society, possibly resulting in its demonization, as well as the lack of understanding between so-called pro- and anti-Europeans,
- B) Fully alarmed by citizens being manipulated or misinformed about facts concerning the EU through factors such as but not limited to fake news, populists and anti-EU propaganda,
- C) Deeply concerned by the lack of awareness of the EU's benefits, programs and ongoings, as well as the deficient understanding of some actions taken by the EU among the population, especially in marginalised areas,
- D) Noting with regret the unnecessary and overwhelming bureaucracy within legislative processes and actions of the EU which, in turn, impedes its effectiveness,
- E) Fully aware of the lack of representation of the interests and values of smaller member states, resulting in inadequate unity throughout Europe,
- F) Deeply concerned by the perceived lack of legitimacy of EU institutions regarding issues such as the accountability of the President of the Commission and the perceived excessive financial power of the EU,
- G) Deploring the counterproductive effects of censorship in fighting Euroscepticism and upholding the right of free speech,
- H) Acknowledging the lack of consistency between rules, positions and actions concerning the European Union resulting in a degraded trust from its citizens,
- 1) Proclaims a common definition of populism as a representative claim willing to polarise "the people" identified with some substantive claims and "corrupt elites";
- 2) Recognizes the existence of 4 main political ideologies of Euroscepticism in order to increase the understanding between pro- and anti-European groups:

- i) Universal Eurosceptic arguments relate to "claims" that Europe threatens values of sovereignty and democracy at the cost of citizens;
- ii) Right-wing Eurosceptic arguments relate to "claims" that Europe drives globalisation and threatens national/individual freedom;
- iii) Left-wing Eurosceptic arguments relate to "claims" of Europe as the driver of capitalism and competition and the destroyer of solidarity;
- iv) The new Eurosceptics are against the means used by the EU such as austerity measures but support European foundational values;
- 3) Authorises ELVIS³⁶ envoys from the European Union to travel through member states and engage in dialogue with Eurosceptics, populist parties and other interested parties in order to:
 - i) discuss and answer questions parties might have;
 - ii) make a final report to be taken into consideration by European Institutions following the example of the Structured Dialogue Initiative;
 - iii) actively seek European citizens' opinions and beliefs;
 - iv) demonstrate transparency and accountability of the EU;
- 4) Encourages member states to foster the dialogue within each country between populist,

 Eurosceptic and mainstream parties in a way accessible to the public in order to diminish the
 sense of disenfranchisement perceived by some groups;
- 5) Supports easily accessible fact-checking websites, such as, but not limited to, FactCheck.org, the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) and Snopes.com;
- 6) Calls upon the committee on culture and education to urge the member states to educate their students at all levels of education by e.g.:
 - i) organising projects connected to the EU;
 - ii) introducing European Studies into the academic curricula;
 - iii) implementing means which the Committee on Culture and Education believes to be useful and effective;
- 7) Congratulates the European Commission's successful efforts with the #ThisTimeImVoting campaign, and further embraces projects of both national governments and the EU, which focus on active citizenship amongst EU citizens;
- 8) Recognizes the beneficial effects of projects increasing European mobility such as, but not limited to, the Interrail Ticket Project and the Free Roaming Zone, and further motivates the European Commission to enhance similar existing projects and create new ones;

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³⁶ Europeans Learning Valuable Information Service

- 9) Urges the implementation of a single seat of the European Parliament, given the symbolic value of such a move and the financial savings it would achieve;
- 10) Designates a committee of experts called "RED TAPE" to undertake further thorough analyses of structures and procedures of the EU as to make suggestions on how to reduce the bureaucratic inertia;
- 11) Reminds that, in order to fight the failure of governance owing to a continuous and systematic search for unanimity in the Council of the European Union, the Luxembourg Compromise cannot be considered as a mandatory rule and the procedure of qualified majority voting is granted by the founding treaties;
- 12) Encourages the inclusion of smaller member states into informal meetings preparing decisions of the Council of the European Union;
- 13) Further reminds the importance of output legitimacy and the framework of the Better Regulation Agenda put forth by EC President Juncker by stressing:
 - i) the principle of subsidiarity, which requires that public power be attributed to the level of government (local, regional, national) where it can most effectively be exercised
 - ii) the principle of proportionality, which implies that the content and form of Union action shall not exceed what is necessary to achieve the objectives of the Treaties;
- 14) Congratulates the agreement reached by EU leaders on the "Spitzenkandidaten³⁷" procedure during the 2014 elections and urges the amendment of the Lisbon Treaty to include this procedure as the legal basis for European Elections;
- 15) Appreciates the improved transparency of the European Union due to livestreams of plenary debates:
- 16) Emphasizes the need for creating simplified and summarized versions of existing European reports:
 - i) to be made available through online and offline channels;
 - ii) to be translated into the official languages of the EU;
 - iii) to be shared by member states by any means possible;
- 17) Draws the attention on Art 223(1)³⁸ of the Lisbon Treaty and expresses its hope that common procedures will soon be adopted to avoid that the appointment of MEPs is filtered by diverse election rules and national political issues;

³⁷ A procedure whereby European political parties promote their lead candidates for the President of the European executive, elected by the European Parliament on a proposal by the European Council ³⁸ Article 223(1) grants the European Parliament the right to propose uniform electoral procedures or principles in all Member States necessary for the election of its members by direct universal suffrage.

- 18) Calls upon the introduction of EU-wide advisory referenda concerning both Regulations³⁹, Directives⁴⁰ and Delegated Acts⁴¹ following the demand:
 - i) from a European Citizens' Initiative
 - ii) From at least a minimum number of MEPs, specified by an independent team of experts, to represent a sufficient share of Member states and/or the European population;
- 19) Reaffirms that any act of censorship, undertaken by any member state of the EU and not justified by national constitutional provisions, should be considered as an infringement of fundamental European values and hence be judged by the European Court of Justice;
- 20) Further reminds civil society that within the EU there exist procedures such as, but not limited to, the Preliminary Reference Procedure and the European Citizens' Initiative as means to signal actions or provisions inconsistent with EU fundamental law,
- 21) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

³⁹ A Regulation addresses all member states and it is immediately applicable and binding.

⁴⁰ A Directive addresses all member states, allows them to decide how to achieve it and, after the enacting deadline, it becomes binding.

 $^{^{41}}$ A Delegated Act, or a Decision, addresses either all member states, a legal or a natural person. It is directly applicable and binding in its entirety.

Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)

The question of circular economy. The unsustainable nature of our contemporary economic system and all related short and long-term consequences have long been overlooked by European Politics. Which actions can be set by the European Union in order to stimulate Europe's transition towards a more sustainable and economically beneficial circular economy which would, in addition, improve global competitiveness, foster economic growth, and generate new jobs? How can European governments encourage individual citizens to contribute to the implementation of a circular economic system?



- A) Deeply concerned by the negative consequences of a linear economy in both the short- and longterm, such as but not limited to environmental issues and a shortage of natural resources,
- B) Alarmed by the high volume of discarded products on the consumer level because of:
 - i) The difficulties individuals willing to properly recycle are confronted by,
 - ii) The obstacles faced when repairing broken products,
 - iii) The lack of awareness regarding the consequences of a linear economy,
 - iv) Excessive consumerism within the EU,
- C) Alarmed by the problems associated with implementing a circular economy in relation to businesses such as:
 - i) The race to the bottom⁴²,
 - ii) Circular economy not being a priority,
 - iii) Goods being offered in a way that is inefficient for consumers⁴³,
- D) Concerned by products characterized by
 - i) The inclusion of unnecessary packaging,
 - ii) Designs that complicate extracting certain included materials to be re-used,
- E) Observing that, due to the lack of European cooperation,
 - i) Some member states lag behind regarding the transition towards a circular economy,
 - ii) The availability of recycling facilities varies regarding each member state,
 - iii) Existing recycling facilities are not shared effectively,
- F) Noting with deep concern that there is an insufficient amount of research on the subject of circular economy,

⁴² The race to the bottom means that companies constantly try to reduce their production costs so that they can keep up with competition which results in cheap, low-quality products

⁴³ "Inefficient" in this context means that products are bought and only scarcely used, such as but not limited to certain household devices and other tools

- 1) Promotes the implementation of a product return policy⁴⁴ through subsidies⁴⁵, motivating consumers to return used products to the company;
- 2) Further proposes the VAT percentage on repair services to be decreased;
- 3) Calls upon the creation of a media campaign promoting participation in a circular economy and warning about the damage caused by waste that stems from linear economy;
- 4) Urges the member states to implement or increase current environmental taxes on fast-moving consumer goods such as but not limited to plastic bags and to reduce taxes on green alternatives;
- 5) Requests Eurostat to, with help of the seller, assess the longevity and estimated yearly cost of products and to make said information publicly available both online and on the packaging of the product;
- 6) Calls upon member states to reward companies that make products with longer warranties by subsidising them;
- 7) Proposes the provision of subsidies to companies that are making progress towards adopting a circular production model⁴⁶;
- 8) Further requests companies to provide rental services rather than products to their customers in order to eliminate inefficient² use of goods;
- 9) Further recommends the introduction of a traffic light⁴⁷ quality label on the packaging of products, indicating the amount and recyclability of the packaging used;
- 10) Expresses its appreciation of the implementation of a cluster system, in which a country which is doing well regarding circular economy is linked to a country which is not doing well with regards to circular economy so that the latter can learn from the former;
- 11) Emphasises the need to create an online platform linking companies to trade secondary materials⁴⁸:
- 12) Encourages the founding of EU-based recycling facilities in close cooperation with existing recycling facilities, which will be distributed efficiently amongst member states and will extract resources from used products so that these materials can be reused in the manufacturing industry;
- 13) Reaffirms the need for funding of initiatives such as CEC4Europe (Circular Economy Coalition for Europe) and urges businesses to use the research available;

⁴⁴ A product return policy would include a repairing service where the consumer can have their product repaired by the company

⁴⁵ These subsidies will go to the company, enabling them to provide a service where the consumer can return their product and receive a partial refund

⁴⁶ Such as but not limited to making products with environmentally friendly packaging

⁴⁷ Green represents a positive rating, orange a medium rating and red a low rating. Exact criteria will be determined by experts in the field

 $^{^{48}}$ Manufactured material that has already been used at least once and is to be used again after recycling

14) Instructs the President to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European

Commission and the Council of Ministers.

Committee on Foreign Affairs – subcommittee on Security and Defense (AFET/SEDE)



The question of nuclear disarmament. In times of rising nuclear armament, menacing to destabilize global peace, the role of the EU as a leading peace negotiator has become increasingly integral in ensuring peaceful cooperation between states. How can the EU encourage nuclear disarmament of both international superpowers and its member states while also supporting global initiatives to restrict the production,

possession, and utilisation of nuclear weapons? How can the EU assert its global significance as a pioneer of a more peaceful future while also inspiring other nations to follow in its lead?

- A) Alarmed by the start of a new nuclear arms race due to the ineffective NPT Treaty which has resulted in:
 - i) Recent declarations by nuclear powers with the aim to enlarge their nuclear arsenal,
 - ii) The recent introduction of new means of delivery for nuclear weapons,
 - iii) The modernization and development of nuclear weapons,
- B) Concerned by the lack of support for initiatives dedicated to the issue of nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,
- C) Concerned by the lack of support for initiatives dedicated to the issue of nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,
- D) Concerned by the fact that the nuclear agenda of the European Union is increasingly influenced by nuclear superpowers as a result of a large imbalance of nuclear arsenals,
- E) Noting with deep concern that the lasting passive stance of the European Union in the nuclear debate heavily obstructs the negotiations towards the intended disarmament,
- F) Fully aware of the lack of participation in nuclear disarmament discussions from countries outside the EU,
- G) Deeply concerned about the lack of transparency between States, governments, agencies and citizens regarding the nuclear programmes of different countries,
- 1) Calls upon the formulation of the Vienna Denuclearization Treaty, whose aims will be:
 - i) To halt the ongoing nuclear arms race;
 - ii) To gradually reduce the number of existing nuclear weapons worldwide via a percentage reduction scheme (see Appendix E);
 - iii) To introduce an arms development treaty, which will set limits on the destructive power, range and means of delivery developed and used by nuclear states;

- 2) Encourages the member states to fund initiatives dedicated to the cause of nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons such as, but not limited to ICAN, Abolition 2000, IPPNW and Global Zero;
- 3) Calls upon the organisation of a multilateral conference on nuclear disarmament that will serve as both a condition and a forum on which the Vienna Denuclearisation Treaty can be established and amended⁴⁹;
- 4) Encourages the publication of a revised and more transparent agenda concerning nuclear disarmament, which strives for a less externally influenced and more Eurocentric approach;
- 5) Urges nuclear weapon states to engage without delay in a comprehensive reporting exercise of their nuclear stockpile, its status and its administration, which should be reported to the IAEA⁵⁰;
- 6) Further requests the EU to take a more active stance in the nuclear debate, particularly through active diplomatic encouragement of all parties concerned to engage constructively in the negotiations;
- 7) Urges all the parties to the JCPOA to maintain their obligations under the agreement and to adhere to its principles;
- 8) Strongly condemns the international attitude towards the use of nuclear weapons, including the deployment of nuclear-capable missile systems to border regions indicating an increased readiness to use nuclear weapons;
- 9) Urges the remaining states listed in Annex II to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to sign and ratify the treaty as their ratification is required for its enforcement;
- 10) Calls upon the restriction of tritium⁵¹ production, which will impede the rate of modernization of nuclear weapons;
- 11) Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

Appendices

⁴⁹ Said conference will, by default, be held at least once every five years

⁵⁰ International Atomic Energy Agency

⁵¹ Tritium is the main element used in hydrogen bombs

Appendix A:

The ESG (Standards and guidelines for quality in the European higher education area) are guidelines created by the ENQA (European association for quality assurance in higher education) in consultation with key stakeholder organisations and ministries.

Appendix B:

This online platform will make it possible for the youth to get work experience in other EU member states. The platform will lend the participant money for the participant to be able to carry out the program and in exchange the participant will work at companies that are registered at the platform. The youth can combine the work with travelling and exploring the country which makes the program more attractive for them. This benefits both the individual and the country itself. By using this program there will be more transparency and exchange of information between EU member states. The program will allow new forms of labour on the international labour market, additionally offering international internships to allow youth to get work experience.

Appendix C:

In Norway, students partaking in vocational programs have the right to intern at whatever job they are interested in; the schools collaborate with businesses to provide these. In return the businesses are allowed to pay the students less and they get to shape the worker. The internships programs act as a gateway into the labour market.

Appendix D:

This grading system is based on the level of gender equality in a particular company, taking into account things such as the number of women in boards of directors and the size of the gender pay gap, bearing in mind the nature of said company, its annual income and net worth. Whether or not a company is graded is decided upon by experts responsible for the grading system.

Appendix E:

The scheme's goal will be for the annual reduction of a certain percentage of each nation's nuclear arsenal, based on the number of warheads they possess upon signing the treaty. Said percentage will be proportionately the same for all participating nuclear states except for France, who will take a leading role in making the European Union both the frontrunner in global disarmament as well a neutral mediator. The tailor-made goals will be pre-determined by a newly-established, impartial organization, comprised of both nuclear and non-nuclear states. These percentages will be revised, and if needed, amended at least once every five years, in order to better adapt to future geopolitical circumstances.