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## ***Programme***

### **Friday 15/03**

- 07:30 - 08:45 Breakfast
- 08:45 - 09:45 Transfer from Hotel to the GA
- 09:30 - 10:00 General Assembly Opening
- 10:00 - 11:30 Debates 1 and 2
- 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee Break
- 12:00 - 13:30 Debates 3 and 4
- 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 - 16:00 Debates 5 and 6
- 16:00 - 16:30 Coffee Break
- 16:30 - 18:00 Debates 7 and 8
- 19:00 - 21:00 Committee Dinner

### **Saturday 16/03**

- 07:30 - 08:45 Breakfast
- 08:45 - 09:45 Transfer from Hotel to the GA
- 09:30 - 11:00 Debates 9 and 10
- 11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break
- 11:30 - 13:00 Debates 11 and 12
- 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 - 15:30 Debates 13 and 14
- 15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:00 - 16:45 Debate 15
- 16:45 - 18:00 Debates 7 and 8
- 19:00 - 20:00 Dinner
- 20:00 - 23:00 Farewell Party



## ***Motion for a resolution by Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN)***

**Rampant tourism: following examples, such as the removal of the I Amsterdam sign and Dubrovnik's daily tourist quotas to limit the impact of tourism on cultural heritage sights, how can European countries, European Institutions, and UNESCO best mitigate the negative impacts of tourism, whilst ensuring continued accessibility?**

Submitted by: Tamara Babina (BY), Lisanne De Brabandere (BE), Shant Demirjian (UNHCR), Tara Edgerton (DE), Milo Fordham (NL), Marko Lapić (HR), William Nguyen (SE), Carina Maria Paliță (RO), Sanae Rais (FR), Tereza Skolková (CZ), Ali Vafadarrahimian (UNCHR), Marta-Anastasiya Yakovenko (UA), Xin Ye (FI), Tilen Zorman (SI), Gloria Maria Cavalieri (IT, Chairperson)

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

1. Contemplating that tourist overcrowding usually leads to anti-tourist movements since it affects the daily life of local residents, causing traffic jams and congested public transportation system, noise and visual pollution,
2. Alarmed by the impact of **sharing economies** such as Airbnb, that are reshaping the housing and accommodation market in cities dealing with **overtourism**, resulting in:
  - i. hotels losing their popularity and service workers losing their occupation,
  - ii. the rise of rentals and accommodation prices for locals causing suburbanisation of cities,
3. Realising that the increasing costs of living, caused by the flow of tourists, discourages locals from living in the city centre,
4. Emphasising that the rise of crime rates in tourist destinations pressures locals to avoid living in central and crowded areas,
5. Having examined that the means of transportation used by tourists such as cars, cruise ships, and planes, that account for 40% of the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the sector of tourism<sup>1,w</sup>
6. Deeply concerned by the environmental problems caused by touristic flows such as:
  - i. littering, being also responsible for the increase in plastic pollution,
  - ii. water pollution from ship engine oil leaks, for example, in Palma de Mallorca in May 2018 and Venice daily,

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<sup>1</sup> According to World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)



7. Deeply conscious that **mass tourism** often results in a large demand for recreational facilities which causes deforestation, **land clearing**, destruction of habitats, and loss of ecosystems and wildlife,
8. Taking into account the environmental impact of creating new accommodation facilities in areas that may develop a tourism industry;
9. Fully aware that the rise in local **anti-tourist movements** and the feeling of being outsiders is caused by inappropriate behaviour of tourists, such as:
  - i. the violation of privacy coming from the massive presence of tourists interfering with their daily life,
  - ii. the lack of mutual understanding, visible in the non-compliance of rules and habits by tourists, and in unawareness of the advantages of tourism,
  - iii. the superficial approach to local residents and expectations of **staged authenticity**,
10. Noting with deep concern that overcrowding leads to more instances of **cultural heritage** vandalism,
11. Convinced that the lack of locals in touristic cities, due to suburbanisation, leads to the disappearance of **traditional jobs**, decreasing the cultural identity being often replaced by **amenities familiar to tourists**,
12. Taking into consideration that the loss of culture and uniqueness of overcrowded cities turns them in artificial realities created for the tourists preventing them to experience and explore the folklore and lifestyle,
13. Observing that tour operators and governments are often promoting the already popular travel destinations through advertisement and media campaigns, causing further overcrowding,
14. Noting with regret that tourism-related jobs are often seasonal and unstable since they do not provide pensions, benefits, or sick leave,
15. Fully alarmed by the uneven distribution of tourists in Europe resulting in areas affected by mass tourism or overtourism, and a lack of visitors in other areas;

### **Facing problems and social issues caused by mass tourism**

1. Calls upon Member States to foster sustainable mobility solutions in crowded cities by:
  - a. increasing the amount of public transport,
  - b. implementing higher prices for parking in the city,
  - c. supporting metro construction in suitable cities,
1. Suggests the local municipalities to implement policies to safeguard the night peace of locals, such as:
  - a. imposing hotels to create night schedules that discourage tourists from coming back late at night,
  - b. enforcing local laws prohibiting loud behaviour at night by penalising;
2. Hopes Member States impose stricter regulations and protections on employee contracts for service workers in hotels in order to secure their sudden dismissal;



2. Calls upon Member States to further regulate the housing market in overcrowded cities by:
  - a. allocating a percentage of the tourist tax to **social housing** initiatives in the respective city and other programs that alleviate the local citizens' problems related to tourism,
  - b. imposing maximum and minimum prices for rents according to the regional economy;
3. Encourages the local municipalities to introduce a discount system for food, services, and recreational activities that apply to locals who will need to show an identification document to businesses involved in the project;
4. Asks Member States to increase the amount of police security in the streets and guards protecting monuments, especially in overcrowded areas;

### **Ensuring the environmental sustainability of tourism**

5. Calls Member States to promote more environmentally friendly and conscious transportation means by:
  - a. encouraging the use of biofuel, both for cars and for planes, through incentives,
  - b. encouraging people to use public transport rather than cars by subsidising the ticket price of the former,
  - c. raising prices on **short duration flights**;
6. Calls upon local administrations to enforce more diffused environmental policies on their territory by implementing:
  - a. higher fines for littering,
  - b. a higher number of trash bins around the city,
  - c. a higher number of civil service workers to clean up the streets early in the morning before working hours,
  - d. stricter regulations and environmental assessment for hotels and restaurants to reduce plastic pollution,
  - e. limits on the number of cruise ships in fragile environments;
7. Calls upon local municipalities to propose a **Masterplan** based on **zoning** to prevent deforestation caused by new constructions and the invasion of residential areas and historical city centres with tourism-related activities;
8. Calls upon regional administrations
  - a. to rearrange government-owned unused buildings into accommodations,
  - b. to open camping or glamping tourist centres which do not interfere with nature after having checked the **carrying capacity** of the closest city;



## **Preserving the culture and working towards a mutual understanding between tourists and local residents**

9. Calls upon local governments of overcrowded cities to create a city-based project that will take care of:
  - a. putting up signs that prohibit the taking of pictures in residential areas in order to raise the level of privacy of the locals,
  - b. organising informal trainings on respecting cultural norms delivered to tourists by workers in the tourism sector;
10. Calls upon legislative authorities of the Member States to develop municipal laws aiming to protect the city centre and fragile monuments by:
  - a. introducing entrance fees for high visited destinations that have been free until now,
  - b. regulating the number of tourists that are allowed inside museums and other attractions by analysing the monthly influx of tourists,
  - c. significantly increasing vandalism fines,
  - d. increasing security around cultural heritage sites and monuments by employing a higher amount of security guards and installing more efficient security cameras;
11. Calls upon the Cultural Ministers of Member States to fund strategic plans for cities in the national territory that will enhance traditional jobs considering them as cultural activities by supporting local businesses with subsidies;
12. Calls upon local governments to use the funds coming from the national minister of culture to finance locals organise activities that promote the regional or national culture such as food tastings, dance classes, and cultural evenings;

## **Balancing the distribution of tourists**

13. Calls upon European Destinations of Excellence<sup>2</sup> to:
  - a. promote less known locations by organising competitions occurring every two years,
  - b. reward destinations of excellence for sustainable tourism in each Member State;
13. Calls upon national and local governments to stop advertising popular destinations by interrupting all media campaign connected with the specific localities;
14. Calls upon municipal administrations of cities affected by very strong seasonal tourism to incentivise tourism-related businesses to lower the prices of the services that they provide;
15. Calls upon Member States to create a new tourist distribution system based on:

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<sup>2</sup> European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN) is an initiative promoting sustainable tourism development models across the European Union.



- a. increasing the visitor tax in overcrowded locations;
- b. incentivising tour operators to advertise unpopular locations;
- c. filming TV-series and shows in unknown locations.





## ***FACT SHEET***

### **Anti-tourism movements**

A group of people, usually majorly consisting of locals, opposing the practice of tourism. They are growing frustrated by large groups of tourists taking over town centres, disrupting the lives of locals and putting a strain on resources

### **Carrying capacity**

A quantitative concept that assumes the limit of the ability of a natural ecosystem to support the continued growth of population within the limit of the abundance of resource and within the tolerance of environmental degradation.

### **Cultural heritage**

An expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values.

### **Familiar amenities**

A desirable or useful feature or facility of a building or accommodation which are of a similar nature to the residing tourists' home country.

### **Land clearing**

The process of removing trees, stumps, brush, stones and other obstacles from an area as required to increase the size of the crop producing land base of an existing farm or to provide land for a new farm operation.

### **Mass tourism**

The act of visiting a leisure destination with large amounts of people at one time. The development of mass tourism is parallel to the development and improvements in technology.

### **Masterplan**

A zoning plan for an entire governmental subdivision, (e.g., a city). A comprehensive plan to allow a city to grow in an orderly manner, both economically and ecologically.

### **Overtourism**

Describes destinations where hosts or guests, locals or visitors, feel that there are too many visitors and that the quality of life in the area or the quality of the experience has deteriorated unacceptably.

**Sharing economy**

An economic model often defined as a peer-to-peer (P2P) based activity of acquiring, providing or sharing access to goods and services that are facilitated by a community based online platform.

**Short flight**

It defines a short-haul flight as an absolute flight distance under 3,200 km and that generally has departure airport and arrival airport in the same country

**Social housing**

Houses and flats that are owned by local government or by other organizations that do not make a profit and that is rented to people who have low incomes

**Staged authenticity**

A recreated representation of traditional cultural aspects, for example, people wearing kilts in Scotland. This is staged for the benefit of tourists, often by tour operators to create the idea of experiencing the culture.

**Traditional jobs**

Occupations which involve the use of minimal machinery often passed down from generation to generation and considered worth preserving.

**Zoning**

The process of dividing the land in a municipality into zones (e.g. residential, industrial) in which certain land uses are permitted or prohibited.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence I***

**European defence: following recent EU defence initiatives such as permanent structured cooperation on security and defence (PESCO), as well as the joint declaration on EU-NATO cooperation, what should European defence look like in 2030?**

Sumbitted by: Nanor Apelian (AM), Sesili Bajelidze (GE), Noah Celander (SE), Constantinos Charalambous (CY), Margarida Pereira (PT), Andrea Petri (IT), Victoria Rackwitz (DE), Matej Svetina (SI), Alyona Sychova (RU), Maria Szuster (PL), Thijs Verdam (NL), Elias Westeren (FI), Soha Ziadeh (CH), Eveliina Hannikainen (FI, Chairperson)

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

- A. Keeping in mind that the European Union (EU) was founded on pillars of peace and cooperation,
- B. Realising that the lack of cooperation between Member States in the field of defence and security has been estimated to cost annually between 25 and 100 billion €<sup>1</sup>,
- C. Taking into consideration that investing in the European defence industry generates on average a return of 160%<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Fully aware that nearly 70% of the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization's** (NATO's) budget comes from the United States, creating an imbalance of power between the NATO member countries<sup>3</sup>,
- E. Noting with regret that only Greece, Latvia, Estonia and the United Kingdom currently meet the NATO guideline to spend a minimum of 2% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence,
- F. Aware of the fact that some US and NATO officials are sceptical about further European defence integration, arguing that European defence integration undermines the role of NATO,
- G. Reminding that threats have become more complex, with for example of the Ukrainian crisis and terrorism demonstrating the risks of hybrid warfare,

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<sup>1</sup> *Defending Europe: The European Defence Fund*; factsheet published by the European Commission.

<sup>2</sup> *Towards a European Defence Union: Permanent Structured Cooperation and the European Defence Fund*; factsheet published by the European Commission.

<sup>3</sup> *Defence Expenditure of NATO Countries (2011-2018)*; press release of NATO.



- H. Conscious about differences between Member States when it comes to their threat perceptions, defence industrial interests, and overall defence priorities,
- I. Pointing out that European defence and security does not only involve EU Member States but also other European countries;

### **Stimulating European defence industry**

- 1. Calls upon the European Commission to increase funding for **European Defence Agency** in order to further collective defence research and development within the EU;
- 2. Supports rebalancing the funding of **PESCO** projects, with the **European Defence Fund** taking on 30% of the funding instead of 20%;
- 3. Encourages Member States to subsidise defence industry companies in order to increase the competitiveness of European defence equipment in the market;

### **Strengthening the role and commitment of European states in NATO**

- 4. Strongly advises the Member States that are also members of NATO to meet the 2% spending guideline of organization in order to strengthen the role and commitment of European Member States in NATO;
- 5. Proposes the creation of an observer seat for the EU in the **North Atlantic Council**;

### **Furthering European defence integration within PESCO**

- 6. Encourages Denmark, Malta and the UK to join PESCO;
- 7. Instructs EU Member States to follow the example of Italy and Greece by joining the PESCO project **European Training Certification Centre for European Armies** in order to standardise procedures among European armed forces;
- 8. Recommends the implementation of a PESCO project for more regular and more integrated joint military exercises between the armed forces of the Member States;
- 9. Invites European countries that are not members of the EU to join PESCO projects, especially the two aforementioned ones.



## ***FACT SHEET***

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):** is a military alliance of 29 countries. The members include among others 22 EU Member States, the US, Canada, and Turkey. Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty says that an armed attack against one NATO member shall be considered an attack against them all.

**European Defence Agency (EDA):** is an agency of the Council of the European Union. It supports the development of defence capabilities and military cooperation among Member States, as well as stimulates defence Research and Technology and the strengthening of the European defence industry.

**The Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)** in the area of security and defence policy: PESCO is an EU framework that was established in December 2017 by the Council with 25 EU Member States participating voluntarily. PESCO allows Member States to jointly invest, plan, develop and operate defence capabilities, and enhance the operational readiness and contribution of their armed forces. In addition to binding common commitments, there are currently 34 projects developed and carried out under PESCO. Each project includes different member states.

**European Defence Fund (EDF):** is a recently launched fund that creates incentives for Member States to cooperate on joint development of defence equipment and technology. It is estimated that the fund could generate a total investment of €5.5 billion per year after 2020 in both defence research as well as capability development.

**North Atlantic Council:** is the principal political decision-making body within NATO. It brings together representatives of each member country to discuss policy or operational questions requiring collective decisions.

**European Training Certification Centre for European Armies:** is a PESCO project coordinated by Italy. It aims to promote the standardisation of procedures among European Armies and enable the staff to practice command and control functions.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Regional Development***

***Housing: a right or a privilege? Urban areas across Europe are becoming overcrowded, rampant increases in house prices, and a growing demand, leaving many urban inhabitants behind. Should European countries and institutions ensure affordable access to housing, and if so how?***

Submitted by: Shoukat Aminzi (UNHCR), Derin Bakal (TR), Katie Breeds (UK), Caroline Dalheimer (CH), Valeriya Ermilova (RU), Rares Iancu (RO), Aria Jadidi (NO), Emma Körnerová (CZ), Argam Movsisyan (AM), Chrysanthos Mpouroutzoglou (GR), Reetamari Pesonen (FI), Leonie Tatzberger (AT), Emily Wu (IT), Riccardo Pagnan (IT, Chairperson)

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

- A. Bearing in mind **Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights, Article 25 of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 2.1 and Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR),**
- B. Recognising the presence of 11 million vacant houses around Europe caused by<sup>1</sup>:
  - i. origin investments which lead to increasing housing prices in certain areas,
  - ii. **second houses** having a negative impact on the limited living space,
- C. Noting with deep concern that overcrowding rates in the European Union have reached 16,6% and therefore overstressing infrastructure<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Bearing in mind that high demand for real estate results in increases in housing prices and income inequality,
- E. Alarmed by the fact that vulnerable groups such as young people and migrants are often uninformed about their **right to adequate housing** and the intricacies of the housing market,
- F. Deeply regretting that vulnerable groups such as local families cannot afford housing due to the high competitiveness of the housing market and are therefore deprived of their right to adequate housing,
- G. Alarmed by the excessive use of electricity and heating, reaching a percentage of 41%<sup>3</sup> of the world's energy due to inadequate building regulations, consequently having a negative impact on the environment,

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<sup>1</sup> According to Housing Europe.

<sup>2</sup> According to Eurostat.

<sup>3</sup> According to the International Energy Agency.



- H. Considering that the construction industry is a major source of environmental pollution, responsible for around 4% of particulate emissions<sup>4</sup>,
- I. Observing that substandard construction leads to fuel poverty, particularly reaching its highest in Bulgaria at 39.2%<sup>5</sup>,
- J. Deeply concerned that combination of outdated construction methods with high levels of construction standards lead to city planning to last between 15 and 20 years;

### **Increase the attractiveness of rural areas**

1. Recommends Member States to implement a policy for short-term rental schemes by subsidising secondary house owners that lease their property;
2. Suggests Member States to introduce a priority system that gives the **right of pre-emption** to local citizens above non-locals;
3. Draws attention to private firms such as **WYG** to reinforce projects like the **Infrastructure projects facilities program** in Europe;
4. Urges Member States to invest in public transport systems, with special attention to rural areas;
5. Requests **The European Committee of the Regions** to endorse the use of underground spaces for storage and other facilities;

### **Improve cooperation between states, local authorities, private contractors and citizens**

6. Solemnly affirms the need for state-provided subsidies, allocation programmes, and educational curricula in order to:
  - a. incentivise homeowners to provide housing for vulnerable groups such as young people and immigrants,
  - b. ensure that citizens are informed about their rights and the means to obtain adequate housing;
7. Endorses the use of incremental tax duties on second homes in order to combat the purchase of second homes with speculation purposes and decrease the number of vacant houses in the EU;
8. Congratulates the use of the '**home sharing**' model to solve the housing crisis and its negative effects on vulnerable groups such as students and young families;
9. Calls upon Member States to support construction programmes for housing and infrastructure to stimulate the economy and provide more affordable housing;
10. Urges Member States to secure citizens' right to housing by supporting **social rental agencies (SRAs)** in ensuring that vulnerable groups are able to maintain their housing;

### **Improve the technological infrastructure**

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<sup>4</sup> According to Sustainable Build

<sup>5</sup> According to the Intelligent Energy Europe Program of the European Union.



11. Strongly urges the **European Environment Agency** to contribute towards setting ecological standards for the construction of housing;
12. Suggests Member States to implement the standards set in the **Handbook for the introduction of Building information modelling** by the European public sector;
13. Calls upon the European Commission to create a common framework in partnership with state authorities, local communities, and non-governmental organisations, following the example of the **Finnish national programme aimed at reducing long-term homelessness**;
14. Recommends Member States to further implement **off-site constructions** in order to increase the efficiency of the construction process and ensure secure working conditions.





## **FACT SHEET**

### **Art. 8 European Convention of Human Rights:**

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

### **Article 25 of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:**

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

### **Art. 11 ICESCR:**

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions. The States Parties will take appropriate steps to ensure the realization of this right, recognizing to this effect the essential importance of international cooperation based on free consent.

### **Art. 2.1 ICESCR:**

Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the rights recognized in the present Covenant by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures.

A **second house** is a house that someone owns but lives in only for short periods like holidays.

The **right to adequate housing** is the economic, social and cultural right to adequate housing and shelter. The elements of the right to adequate housing are: legal security of tenure,



affordability, habitability, availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure, accessibility, location, cultural adequacy,

The **right of pre-emption** is a contractual right under which a party has the first opportunity to buy an asset before it is offered to a third party.

**WYG** is a management consulting company operating from more than 50 locations across the UK, Europe, Africa and Asia that also provides solutions to transportation and planning.

The **Infrastructure Projects Facilities program** is WYG's largest technical assistance programme in infrastructure in the world, with the programme fee value from 2008-2014 of around €105m and aims at improving infrastructure in the Western Balkans.

The **European Committee of the Regions** represents local and regional authorities across the European Union and advises on new laws that have an impact on regions and cities (70% of all EU legislation).

**Home sharing** is an arrangement by which two or more unrelated people share a dwelling within which each retains a private space.

A **social rental agency** is a non-profit intermediary that negotiates between property owners and households in need of housing.

The **European Environment Agency** is the agency of the EU which provides independent information on the environment. Its goal is to help those involved in developing, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and to inform the general public.

The **Handbook for the introduction of Building information modelling** provides a central reference point for the introduction of Building Information Modelling by the European public sector and aims to equip Government and public sector construction clients with the knowledge to provide the necessary leadership to its industrial supply chain.

The **Finnish national programme aimed at reducing long-term homelessness** is a program launched by the Finnish government. It aims to convert all traditional short-term shelters into supported housing units that facilitate independent living and to provide housing for vulnerable groups.

**Off-site construction** is the planning, design, fabrication, and assembly of building elements at a location other than their final installed location to support the rapid and efficient construction of a permanent structure.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection***

**The rise of the shared economy: following the October 2018 high-level conference on a collaborative economy, if so and how should European countries regulate or accommodate collaborative business models, such as Airbnb and UberX?**

Submitted by: Adam Chudomel (CZ), Ajdeli Hysenaj (AL), Ana Kurtanidze (GE), AndreasTavros (CY), Anton Korneev (DE), Diliya Nurgatina (RUS), Julius Lajtha (AT), Julius Parkkinen (FI) , Miriam Maťašovská (SK), Ojeni Bosnoyan (AM), Øyun Marie Aabø Baklid (NO), Ştefan Aramă (RO) , Tina Eler (CH), Zeynep Baştaş (TR), Mike Dalmiras (CY, Chairperson)

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

- A. Convinced that the absence of a unanimous definition for ‘sharing economy’ causes confusion,
- B. Noting with appreciation that the **October 2018 High-level conference**, organised by the European Commission, tackled short-term accommodation rental services and employment issues,
- C. Deeply concerned that the lack of a unified regulatory framework between Member States leads gaps in regulation of collaborative businesses,
- D. Conscious that transport companies operating in the sharing economy market are evading taxes by being recognised as internet platforms,
- E. Emphasising that the lacking parameters as to what distinguishes a professional and a non-professional service provider can lead the state not being able to collect the appropriate taxes,
- F. Noting with concern that the absence of a regulatory tax framework disrupts **‘fair competition’** between market’s incumbents and sharing economy operators,
- G. Aware that the differing views on the workers’ classification of sharing economy operators leads to reduction of worker benefits and standard employee rights, such as healthcare and minimum wages,<sup>1</sup>
- H. Concerned that the findings of **indirect discrimination** incidents<sup>2</sup> negatively impact users’ trust in online marketplaces,<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> According to Racial Discrimination in the Sharing Economy: Evidence from a Field Experiment



- I. Alarmed by the fact that small-scale providers don't have the resources to invest in **Information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure** that will ensure the protection of online transaction data and prevent the loss of money in the case of a hack,
- J. Noting with satisfaction the potential for the sharing economy to have a positive impact on the environment<sup>4</sup>,
- K. Fully aware that the nature of collaborative business models has become increasingly monopolistic;

### **Combating regulatory and taxation issues**

1. Instructs the European Commission and Member States to reach a unanimous definition, by looking at the following characteristics: **peer-to-peer, business-to-business, business-to consumers**, internet based transactions, and the shared use of privately owned property;
2. Urges Member States to provide further guidelines for information exchange between sharing economy companies and national taxation authorities;
3. Proposes to the European Commission the recurrence of the High-level conference of 2018, which will emphasise mostly the implementation of a **unifying taxation and regulatory regime** for all Member States;
4. Directs the European Commission to implement the three key criteria listed by the revised guidance on **the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive**, which include but are not limited to: the frequency of the services, profit-seeking motive, and level of turnover;
5. Invites the European Commission, together with the Member States, to simplify the bureaucratic administrative, and financial procedures for traditional market operators as well as ensure that companies of the sharing economy comply with the minimal licensing checks required;

### **Ensuring workers' and consumers' rights**

6. Calls upon the European Commission to protect workers engaging in the shared economy as providers of services by, amongst others:

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<sup>2</sup> According to Key findings about problems consumers face in the collaborative economy, by European Commission (2017)

<sup>3</sup> According to the Directorate general for Internal Policies (2016)

<sup>4</sup> According to Damien Demailly and Anne-Sophie Novel (2014)



- a. establishing differentiated treatment between providers of services with a weekly work time of up to 20 hours, and obliging those who exceed this limit to sign up to health, pension, and unemployment insurances respectively,
  - b. obliging any service provider to have a public liability insurance to make up for potential damage and waive liability from the worker,
  - c. ensuring that the average hourly net wage of workers is no less than the respective minimum wage or nationally determined 'bare minimum', after all expenses for the insurances referred to clause 6 b) are deducted;
7. Encourage sharing economy platforms to adopt clear and transparent rules against any form of discrimination, by setting up:
- a. a review system, designed in an unbiased way, enabling users reveal fake reviews and stress their true preferences and judgments,
  - b. appropriate training and inspection processes for service providers that together with national governments ensuring the fulfilment of the qualifications needed to provide their services in a safe way,
  - c. clear liability and service rules for involved parties to be properly notified about the standard and the quality of the service provided;

### **Making the notion of 'sharing economy' viable**

8. Demands Member States to strictly monitor the compliance of sharing economy companies with existing regulations regarding online payments' security;
9. Further instructs public authorities to support environmentally sustainable sharing economy initiatives by:
  - a. increasing funding for innovative, sharing economy related projects,
  - b. supporting the implementation of best practices,
  - c. providing entrepreneurs with a better understanding of the necessary conditions that must be fulfilled for their models to achieve sustainability;
10. Endorses the European Commission to incentivise newly emerged innovative collaborative business models and reduce the barriers to entry.



## **FACT SHEET**

**High-level Conference 2018** was a conference organised by the European Commission with an aim to assess the regulatory, policy, and market developments adopted since 2016. Those developments specifically tackle, for example, short-term accommodation rental services and potential employment issues that might arise.

**Fair Competition** refers to a free market in which all the players operate on a level playing field. Businesses base their competitive practices on price, quality, and customer service.

**Indirect Discrimination** is when there's a practice, policy, or rule which applies to everyone in the same way, but it has a worse effect on some people than others. The Equality Act of 2010 states that indirect discrimination puts you at a particular disadvantage.

**ICT infrastructure** encompasses all the devices, networks, protocols and procedures that are employed in the telecommunications or information technology fields to foster interaction amongst different stakeholders.

**Peer-to-peer (P2P) economy** is a decentralised model whereby two individuals interact to buy or sell goods and services directly with each other, without an intermediary third-party, or without the use of a company of business.

**Business-to-business (B2B) sharing economy** is when businesses share services and assets among each other.

**Business-to-consumers (B2C) economy** refers to the transactions conducted directly between a company and consumers who are the end-users of its products or services.

**Regulatory regimes** steer and control mechanisms that profoundly influence the operation of a particular business sector such as collaborative business models.

**Unfair Commercial Practices Directive 2005/29/EC** regulates unfair business practices in EU law, as part of European consumer law. It requires corresponding laws to be passed that incorporate it into each member state's legal system.

**Barriers to entry** is the economic term describing the existence of high start-up costs or other obstacles that prevent new competitors from easily entering an industry or area of business.



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

**Equality for the ill: with over 30 million European citizens suffering from rare diseases, should European countries ensure quality diagnosis, treatment, and psychological support to the those who suffer from rare diseases, and if so how?**

Submitted by: Olga Aguilar (ES), Vladyslava Dral (UA), Inga Grigorian (AM), Daria Maria Havriliuc (RO), Tonia Mambyk (UA), Izra Mesfun (SE), Aya Obeid (LT), Sophie Schut (NL), Egnis Sejfullai (AL), Urban Sirca (SI), Jana Součková (CZ), Audrey Steinmyller (FR), Katerina Tsaklidou (GR), Antonina Zaleska (PL), Laura Teixeira (PT, Chairperson)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Aware of the impact the diagnosis, disease, and treatment options have in the lives of the patients suffering from **rare diseases** and their families,
- B. Taking into account that the physical, mental, emotional, and social quality of life for patients with a rare disease is estimated to be about half of what it would be compared to if the patients were healthy<sup>1</sup>,
- C. Deeply alarmed that patients with rare diseases are more prone to mental health issues with 69% reporting depression and 82% experiencing anxiety and stress<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Endorsing the Member States that have developed legislation to facilitate the working rights of rare disease patients and their families,
- E. Pointing out that 80% of rare diseases have identified genetic origins<sup>3</sup>,
- F. Expressing its concern that, on average, it takes 4-5 years and 3 misdiagnosis to reach the correct diagnosis of a rare disease,
- G. Bearing in mind the inequality in treatment costs for rare diseases,
- H. Recognising that the existence of multiple patient **databases** leads to dispersed information that makes it more difficult to produce statistics on rare diseases,
- I. Pointing out the lack of standardised guidelines for the creation and use of uniform databases,

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<sup>1</sup> Rare Disease Impact Report, by Shire (2013)

<sup>2</sup> "It's not all in my head!" - The complex relationship between rare diseases and mental health problems, by Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases (2017)

<sup>3</sup> What is a Rare Disease? by EURORDIS (2019)



- J. Stressing the lack of guidelines for doctors referencing **patient registers**, contributing to misdiagnosis and mistreatment of rare diseases,
- K. Welcoming the initiative of 24 European countries that have adopted a national plan or strategy for rare diseases,
- L. Appreciating the **Horizon 2020** funding of €900 Million for more than 160 projects related to rare diseases
- M. Conscious that 75% of medical professionals believe not to be adequately prepared to support patients suffering from rare diseases<sup>4</sup>,
- N. Concerned that less than 10% of patients receive disease-specific treatment, and an adapted treatment exists only for less than 300 diseases<sup>5</sup>,
- O. Realising that incentives given to pharmaceutical companies for research on rare diseases are being abused, causing delays and overpricing in the creation of **orphan drugs** and **precision medicine**;

### **Improving life quality and raising awareness**

- 1. Calls upon the European Commission to adopt and extend a European Rare Disease Strategy based on the “**European Disability Strategy 2010-2020**” in order to empower people with rare diseases, so that they can enjoy their rights regarding psychological support, housing, insurance, work, and participate fully in the society;
- 2. Requests the European Commission to initiate an online network in which patients with rare diseases can share their experiences;
- 3. Invites all Member States to adopt the framework that allows caregivers of patients with rare diseases to have modified working hours based on their needs;
- 4. Suggests Member States to include the rare-diseased patients under the umbrella of tax exemptions eligibility;
- 5. Asks Member States to coordinate with **EURORDIS-Rare Diseases Europe** to:
  - a. organise programs in Member States which allow patients to connect to volunteers helping patients to integrate into society and fight stereotypes,
  - b. incorporate the educational materials and resources into educational systems to be used at least annually such as on Rare Diseases Day;
- 6. Encourages all Member States to release a media campaign in public places and schools in order to inform and engage citizens, concerning the aspects of rare diseases;

### **Facilitating diagnosis**

- 7. Recommends the **World Health Organisation (WHO)** to create and promote one unified medical database on rare diseases;

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<sup>4</sup> Juggling care and daily life by Rare Barometer (2017)

<sup>5</sup> Review of 11 national policies for rare diseases in the context of key patient needs. by Orphanet journal of rare diseases (2017)





8. Further recommends the WHO to develop an algorithm to aid medical practitioners on efficient diagnosis and evaluation of rare diseases;
9. Calls upon the Member States to collaborate with private medical companies and public institutions to create standardised, complete and accessible patient registries;
10. Invites Member States to adapt the curriculum of medicine faculties to create an optional course on rare diseases that would be recognised as **European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)** credits;
11. Requires Member States to make medical practise licenses dependant on updated certification in order to ensure that medical practitioners are up to date on the latest diagnoses;
12. Strongly recommends National Health Institutions to promote trainings for doctors, such as workshops, conferences and seminars to help them identify and diagnose rare diseases;

### **Development of research and treatment accessibility**

13. Strongly encourages Member States to implement an interest free loan system for rare-diseased patients so that they can pay for treatment gradually;
14. Advises the European Commission to further support the **EURODIS Multi-Stakeholder Symposium on Improving patients' Access to Rare Diseases Therapies**;
15. Rethink broadening the criteria for participants in medical research trials with orphan drugs;
16. Encourages the further development of the successful initiative **HIT-CF Europe** that uses **organoids** in order to prove the therapeutic benefit a given treatment;
17. Urges the European Commission to promote, and invest in the development of:
  - a. **genetic treatments** and modifications of defective genes,
  - b. precision medicine,
  - c. **biomarker tests**.
18. Calls upon the European Commission to establish an agency that will conduct inspections on the pharmaceutical companies working with orphan drugs, and submit reports to ensure that the economic incentives provided are not being abused;



## ***FACT SHEET***

**Rare disease:** a disease or disorder is defined as rare in Europe when it affects fewer than 1 in 2000. Some examples could be Huntington's disease, Cystic Fibrosis, or muscular dystrophies.

**Databases:** a database is a structured collection of data. In the case of this topic it refers in particular to medical information.

**Patient Registries:** Records information about the health status of a patient and the health care they receive over varying periods of time. They typically focus on patients who share a common reason for needing health care.

**Horizon 2020:** is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness.

**Precision medicine:** medical care designed to optimise efficiency or therapeutic benefit for particular groups of patients, especially by using genetic or molecular characteristics.

**World Health Organization (WHO):** WHO's primary role is to direct international health within the United Nations' system and to lead partners in global health responses.

**European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)** - measures and compares learning achievements and helps university students easily transfer credit from one institution to another.

**EURORDIS-Rare Diseases Europe:** is a unique, non-profit alliance of 837 rare disease patient organisations from 70 countries that work together to improve the lives of people living with rare diseases.

**EURORDIS Multi-Stakeholder Symposium on Improving Patients' Access to Rare Disease Therapies:** is the annual conference, during which patient advocates, policy makers, payers, clinicians, healthcare industry executives and investors offer practical and implementable solutions and set out the commitment of all players, working towards the goal of accelerating the development of, and guaranteeing timely and universal access to, rare disease therapies.

**Orphan drug:** is a pharmaceutical agent developed to treat medical conditions which, because they are so rare, would not be profitable to produce without government assistance.



**HIT-CF Europe:** is a research project which aims to provide better treatment and better lives for people with cystic fibrosis and rare mutations.

**Organoids:** tiny, self-organised tissue cultures, derived from stem cells, that can be used to screen directly for drugs enabling the formation of a specialised cell type.

**Genetic Treatments:** uses genes to treat or prevent diseases. This technique may allow doctors to treat a disorder by deleting or inserting a gene into a patient's cells instead of using drugs or surgery.

**Biomarker tests:** Biomarker testing is at the centre of personalised medicine. Biomarker refers to any of the body's molecules that can be measured to assess health. Molecules can be obtained from blood, body fluids, or tissue. Biomarker testing is a group of tests that looks for these molecular signs of health.



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

**Delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights: with the EU committing to 20 principles and rights essential for a fair and well-functioning labour market and welfare system, how can the implementation of these social rights and sustainable economic growth be balanced?**

Submitted by: Gintarė Čemerkaitė (LT), Maria Gladysheva (RU), Ilja Gritsaenko (CZ), Andrei Isachanka (BY), Lotta Pauline Jäkel (DE), Job Cees Will Kemperman (NL), Anna Kuyumjian (AM), Filip Lutecki (SE), Karen Mnatsakanyan (AM), Androula Neophytou (CY), Sabina Maria Stafie (RO), Nana Tsurtsumia (GE), Nia Chigogidze (GE, Chairperson).

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

- A. Bearing in mind that job insecurity across the EU increases, with 20% of workers employed in poor-quality jobs<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Acknowledging that the divergence of social regulation between Member States affects the free movement of workers within the Union,
- C. Believing that the expected ageing of the European population will put additional strain on social security systems<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Aware of the fact that social policies are a shared competence which limits the EU's ability to regulate in this field,
- E. Recognising that the **European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)** is not legally binding,
- F. Realising that the vagueness of the principles set out in the EPSR allows for wide interpretation<sup>3</sup>,
- G. Further noting the lack of social adequate and suitable indicators within the **Social Scoreboard** that impedes the effective implementation of the EPSR principles<sup>4</sup>,
- H. Guided by the fact that **SOLIDAR** has proposed priority areas of focus for the EPSR<sup>5</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions. Working conditions, 2019, page 6.

<sup>2</sup> The European Commission. Reflection Paper on the Social Dimension of Europe, 2017, page 14.

<sup>3</sup> WSI Institute of Economic and Social Research. The European Pillar of Social Rights: An Analysis, 2017, page 6.

<sup>4</sup> Caritas Europa. Gabriele Bischoff. What's next for the EPSR?, 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Solidar. The European Pillar of Social Rights – a basis for upward social convergence?, 2016, page 7.



- I. Concerned by the fact that the **Written Statement Directive** is not fully inclusive across the EU and lacks clarity in the definition of workers' categories,
- J. Noting with regret that although 15.5% of workers in the EU are self-employed their legal status and social rights remain largely undetermined<sup>6</sup>,
- K. Fully aware that the implementation of the principles set out in the EPSR is affected by differing economic and political realities in Member States,
- L. Bearing in mind the asymmetrical nature of the labour markets among Member States, which leads to difficulties in:
  - i. implementing of the four-month re-employment standard set out in the EPSR by Member States,
  - ii. implementing a higher standard for a minimum wage set out in the EPSR for Member States dependent on low-cost production and labour.
- M. Having considered that the additional financial resources, necessary for the implementation of the EPSR, might result in increased taxes and affect real wages and the price of goods,
- N. Lamenting on Member States' anxiety that immigrants and nationals from other states may abuse social benefits systems<sup>7</sup>.

### **Gradual and prioritised implementation of the EPSR principles**

1. Calls upon the European Commission to analyse the possible impact of the EPSR on Member States and divide the principles set out in the EPSR into long and short term objectives based on the priority areas set by SOLIDAR;
2. Invites the European Commission to collaborate closely with **The European Expert Network on Economics of Education** to further develop a strategy to improve general education curricula in order to adapt to the changes in the labour market and technological advancements;
3. Urges the European Commission to implement the **European Economic and Social Committee's** proposal<sup>8</sup> to develop national strategies for the implementation of EPSR through a tripartite social dialogue with Member States;
4. Requests Member States to further oblige all employers to regularly provide their employees with comprehensive information regarding their social rights;

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<sup>6</sup> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Self-employment rate. 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Standard Eurobarometer 90, First Results, Public opinion in the EU, Autumn 2018, Page 18.

<sup>8</sup> European Economic and Social Committee. Study: Implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights. 2018.



5. Requests civil society organisations to conduct conferences to increase awareness of the EPSR benefits,

### **A centralised approach to social policy**

6. Appeals to the **European Union Agency for Network and Information Security** and the Security and Defence Committee of the European Parliament to collaborate in order to create a blockchain based system for a **European Social Security Number**;
7. Endorses the European Commission's **recommendation on social protection for people working on non-standard contracts and as self-employed**;
8. Suggest the European Commission to hold periodic summits for concerned parties with national strategies for the implementation of the EPSR;

### **Further developing existing legal instruments**

9. Appeals to the **Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council** of the Council of European Union to further expand and specify the indicators of the Social Scoreboard bearing in mind the recommendations of the EESC<sup>9</sup>;
10. Requests the European Commission to further specify the principles of the EPSR, namely:
  - a. defining the criteria of what constitutes a fair minimum wage,
  - b. setting minimum standards for social policy objectives;
11. Directs Member States to obtain funding for the implementation of the EPSR through:
  - a. support from specialised EU instruments, such as the **European Social Fund**,
  - b. increased public investment within Member States,
  - c. combating tax fraud and tax avoidance within Member States;
12. Supports the implementation of the **Directive on Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions**.

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<sup>9</sup> European Economic and Social Committee. Study: Implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights. 2018.



## ***FACT SHEET***

**The European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR):** is a legally non-binding joint proclamation by EU institutions, creating a framework of rights and principles. It is comprised of 20 principles and rights that are grouped into three themes: 1. Equal opportunities and access to the labour market; 2. Fair working conditions; 3. Social protection and inclusion.

The principles are meant to serve as a guide for legislation when adopting both national and EU level regulations. It does not impose any new requirements on EU Member States, rather it seeks to harmonize social policy across the Union.

**The Social Scoreboard of the European Pillar of Social Rights:** is a report on the employment and social situation across EU that highlights the reforms carried out in social policy by Member States in the period of one year. Its aim is to monitor Member States' performance in relation to the European Pillar of Social Rights on the bases of twelve indicators.

**SOLIDAR:** is a European network of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working to advance social justice in Europe OPERATING IN 25 Member States. Based on extensive consultation with SOLIDAR members and partners it has identified the following priorities for the EPSR: Fighting unemployment; Improve the employment in and access to quality healthcare and social services; Lifelong-learning, focusing on non-formal and informal learning; Stimulate active citizenship and volunteering for social cohesion; Fighting discrimination and social exclusion; Strengthen social economy.

**Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council:** part of the Council of the European Union is made up of employment, social affairs, health, and consumer policy ministers from all EU Member States. It is the body responsible for administering the Social Scoreboard.

**Written Statement Directive and the Directive on the Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions:** Written Statement Directive went into force in 1991 and gives employees starting a new job the right to be notified in writing of the essential aspects of their employment relationship. As an accompanying legislative proposal to the EPSR the Commission is working on a revision of Written Statement Directive and adoption of the Directive on the Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions. The proposed revised Directive aims to establish new rights for all EU workers and broaden the scope of its application to cover all workers in all forms of work, including those in the most flexible non-standard and new forms of work such as zero-hour contracts, casual work, domestic work etc.



**The European Expert Network on Economics of Education:** is an EU Think Tank Network of leading European centres and experts on the economics of education sponsored by the European Commission. Its aim is to contribute to the improvement of decision-making and policy development in education and training in Europe by advising and supporting the European Commission in the analysis of economic aspects of educational policies and reforms.

**European Economic and Social Committee (EESC):** is an advisory body of the EU which enables the institutions of the Union to evaluate and take into account the interests of various economic and social groups during the development of common policies.

**European Union Agency for Network and Information Security:** is a centre of expertise for cyber security in Europe with the objective of improve network and information security in the Union.

**European Social Security Number:** is an proposed regulation of the European Commission to create a new multi-purpose EU wide Social Security Number, which would to facilitate the identification of persons across borders for the purposes of social security coordination and ensure the quick and accurate verification of theirs social security coverage status.

**European Social Fund (ESF):** is the European Union's main financial instrument for supporting employment in the member states of the European Union as well as promoting economic and social cohesion. ESF spending amounts to around 10% of the EU's total budget

**Recommendation on social protection for people working on non-standard contracts and as self-employed:** A proposal by the European Commission and EPSCO Council which would allow such persons to adhere to social security schemes of unemployment, sickness and healthcare, maternity or paternity, accidents at work, and occupational diseases.





## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs***

**Banking integration: in 2012 the European institutions started on a path 'Towards a genuine Economic and Monetary Union' with recommendations to establish a real Banking Union. With the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) and the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) in place and the European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS) under discussions, should the European Union continue towards a real Banking Union, and if so, what should it look like?**

Submitted by: Florian Bochert (DE), Silvia Ciacci (IT), Nino Merabishvili (GE), Hein Posthumus (NL), Aoife Ryan (CH), Elsa Saario (FI), Yelyzaveta Shaban (UA), Rima Shahbazyan (AM), Filip Tintor (RS), Alex Torres (ES), Jeroen Van Canneyt (BE), Yuliia Koba (UA, Chairperson)

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

- A. Concerned by the fact that in only 11 out of 28 Member States its common practice for banks publish partial Financial Statement data<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Noting that, in the recent Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development survey, only 56% of adults achieved the minimum target score on financial knowledge,
- C. Aware of the high ratio of 7.5% of a **non performing loans (NPL)** to total loans and considering that NPLs are a major source of instability for banks<sup>2</sup>,
- D. Emphasising the divergences between national insolvency procedures posing a serious threat to the swift crisis management of banks across the Eurozone,
- E. Alarmed by the risks that deposit holders face in the case of a general economic crisis due to the fact that the **European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS)** has not been fully implemented,
- F. Anxious about London being the financial capital of Europe, and the subsequent financial instability that Brexit may bring to the **European Banking Union**,

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<sup>1</sup> According to "Supervisory transparency in the European banking union" research paper, Gandrud Christopher, 2014

<sup>2</sup> According to "Banking in Europe: EBF. Facts & figures 2018" publication, European Banking Federation, 2018



- G. Observing the Eurozone banks seem to have made the same mistakes that led to the 2008 financial crisis by selling more than 100 billion high-risk sub-debt bonds to investors in 2017<sup>3</sup>,
- H. Considering the increasing concentration of systemic banks' market share in the Eurozone banking sector, accumulating an ever-growing percentage of assets and decimating competition,
- I. Noting further the moral hazard caused by the extensive and unreasonable bailouts of too-big-to-fail banks,
- J. Pointing out that the implementation of **a backstop** for the **Single Resolution Fund (SRF)** was agreed upon in 2013 but is still non-operational,

### **Ensuring financial transparency**

- 1. Urges the **National Central Banks** supervisors to publish data quarterly and update detailed bank balance sheets within a week, following the USA Banking Data Supervision Policies & Requirements example;
- 2. Invites the European Banking Union Members to further increase the promotion of financial education programmes, such as the **Cure Runners**;

### **Fostering cooperation and unifying regulations**

- 3. Urges the **European Central Bank (ECB)** to work with policy makers of the European Banking Union members in order to synchronise financial regulations and meet the **Basel III** requirements;
- 4. Requests the **Single Resolution Board (SRB)** to cooperate with national authorities to harmonise national **insolvency laws**

### **Enhancing integration towards financial stability**

- 5. Calls the European Commission to protect bank deposits through full implementation of EDIS among Member States;

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<sup>3</sup> According to "High-risk euro bank bonds find buyers as crisis memories fade" article, Abhinav Ramnarayan and Alice Gledhill, 2018



6. Suggests all banks affected by the Brexit to move headquarters to a member the European Banking Union in order to protect and stabilise financial regulations;
7. Encourages the SRB to further sustain early interventions in banks' activities regarding high-risk assets;
8. Trusts the European Commission to decrease barriers to entry for smaller banks by limiting mergers and acquisitions and their monopoly effect;
9. Strongly recommends the SRB to prioritise the adoption of resolution tools such as restructuring and **bail-in** over **bail-outs**;
10. Calls upon the European Commission to create a European backstop for the resolution fund, as well as increasing its size.



## **FACT SHEET**

**Non-Performing Loans (NPL):** a sum of borrowed money upon which the debtor has not made the scheduled payments for a specified period.

**"Too big to fail"** bank, also referred as "systemic", is a bank, whose failure might trigger a financial crisis.

**European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS):** the third pillar of the European Banking Union. The Deposit insurance is a measure implemented in many countries to protect bank depositors, in full or in part, from losses caused by a bank's inability to pay its debts when due. Deposit insurance systems are one component of a financial system safety net that promotes financial stability

**European Banking Union:** is the transfer of responsibility for banking policy from the national to the EU level in several countries of the European Union, initiated in 2012 as a response to the Eurozone crisis.

**Backstop:** a type of insurance. Underwriters for a stock or bond issue have a backstop in place to make sure that the security issue will be purchased. A backstop also refers to a government agency or loan guarantee program that will insure a company's debt or its credit line.

**Single Resolution Fund (SRF):** an essential element of the Single Resolution Mechanism which manages resolution of credit institutions and certain investment firms within the 19 participating Member States.

**National Central Bank (NCB):** a central bank, reserve bank, or monetary authority is the institution that manages the currency, money supply, and interest rates of a state or formal monetary union and oversees their commercial banking system.

**The Cure Runners:** the financial education game developed by the Austrian NGO Three Coins, that puts players into realistic financial situations.

**European Central Bank (ECB):** the central bank for the Eurozone Member States and administers monetary policy of the Eurozone.

**Basel III:** a global, voluntary regulatory framework on bank capital adequacy, stress testing, and market liquidity risk developed in response to the deficiencies in financial regulation revealed by the financial crisis of 2007–08. It is intended to strengthen bank capital requirements by increasing bank liquidity and decreasing bank leverage.

**Single Resolution Board (SRB):** the new European Banking Union resolution authority, a key element of the Banking Union and its Single Resolution Mechanism with the mission to ensure



the orderly resolution of failing banks, with as little impact as possible on the real economy and public finances of the participating EU countries and others.

**Insolvency law** is the legislation and statutory guidelines by which an insolvency professional shall act.

**Bail-in** and **bail-out** are two alternative ways of giving another chance to an institution suffering from poor financial health and survival challenge, maybe due to mounting liabilities and lack of resources to continue operations.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by The Committee on Human Rights***

**Populist politicians and their battle-cry of "Fake News" and allegations of a structurally biased media: what is the role of media in increasingly polarised democracies and the age of social media? To what extent, if any, should Europe re-consider its constitutional approach to political influence over media?**

Submitted by: Dmitry Abrosimov (RU), Lavinia Cavavlet (IT), Embla Vreim Elde (NO), Meena Haitham (GE), Kasper Kankkunen (FI), Emma Malfait (BG), Sonia Sitea (RO), Rachael Smith (UK), Lisa Soll (SZ), Marketà Stuchliková (CZ), Anastasia Tikhonova (CY), Katerina Voutsas (GR), Arda Yurtcu (TR), Maria Skorokhod (BY, Chairperson)

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

- A. Aware of the complications among readers regarding identifying reliable media sources,
- B. Stressing the importance of addressing the disinformation in the light of upcoming European Parliament elections,
- C. Acknowledging that 80% of the EU citizens have encountered fake news, with 85% of them believing that it threatens democracy,<sup>1</sup>
- D. Concerned by the fact that the level of media literacy varies among Member States,<sup>2</sup>
- E. Realising that the income of many online media platforms and individual influencers is heavily dependent on advertising revenue, creating a strong incentive for **clickbait and sensationalist article headlines**,
- F. Bearing in mind the limited competences of the European Commission to tackle fake news and hate speech due to **the principle of subsidiarity**,
- G. Noting with regret the insufficiency of online platforms' self-regulation regarding disinformation,
- H. Alarmed by the fact that consumers struggle to critically evaluate information associated with the lack of clear identification of sponsored content, product placement, and advertisements,
- I. Observing the discrepancies between legal definitions of freedom of speech and hate speech among Member States leading to non-penalised abuses in certain Member States,

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<sup>1</sup>According to the results of the Eurobarometer on fake news and online disinformation from March 2018.

<sup>2</sup>According to Policy Brief 52 from October 2017 by Open Society Institute - Sofia.



- J. Noting further the lack of transparency regarding the stakeholders behind media outlets,
- K. Recognising the different legal statuses of mass media and individual social media influencers despite the similarities in the impact they have on shaping public opinion,
- L. Acknowledges the harmful effect disinformation campaigns carried out by external actors have on the EU;

### **Developing the necessary skills to perceive information critically**

- 1. Invites Member States to introduce classes aimed at increasing media literacy and developing critical thinking in the school curriculum;
- 2. Encourages Member States to follow the example of **UNICEF's mission in Montenegro** to tackle media literacy,
- 3. Supports the European Commission's intention to implement **the Media literacy week initiative** in 2019;
- 4. Calls upon the European Commission to urge the implementation of **the Audio-Visual Media Service Directive (AVMSD)**;

### **Empowering citizens with the tools to help them analyse the media sources they read**

- 5. Suggests the European Commission to further develop **the Union online media literacy library** to fight fake news and promote critical thinking by:
  - a) targeting adult recipients,
  - b) encouraging educational institutions to use the aforementioned platform;
- 6. Recommends the European Commission to further promote the European Parliament official website in order to provide citizens with factual information on the upcoming elections;
- 7. Calls upon **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)** to ensure funding for the **Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom**;
- 8. Encourages the European Commission to introduce regulation obliging all media outlets to showcase their bias rating as reported by **International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN)**;
- 9. Appreciates the European Commission's initiative to create a European Network of Fact checkers;
- 10. Invites Member States to create media platforms that publish factual information on current affairs following the successful example of Norway;
- 11. Invites the European Commission to develop a clear definition of a media outlet and classify individual influencers as media in accordance with it;



## **Protecting the freedom of expression and diminishing human rights abuses**

12. Proposes the European Commission to introduce targeted diplomatic and financial sanctions against governments which infringe upon fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of speech and freedom of expression;
13. Calls upon the European Commission to strengthen the **Strategic Communication Task Forces** of the **European External Action Service** through additional specialised staff and tools necessary to detect, analyse, and expose disinformation activities.





## **FACT SHEET**

**Clickbait and sensationalist article headlines:** Headlines designed to make a reader click on a link to check the linked piece of content, often exaggerating or misinterpreting information.

**The principle of Subsidiarity:** The principle that was laid down in the Treaty on European Union defines the circumstances in which it is preferable for action to be taken by the Union, rather than the Member States when the European Union does not have exclusive competence.

**UNICEF mission in Montenegro:** The campaign aiming at promoting media literacy among parents and children, to improve the quality of media reporting on child rights issues, and to raise the quality of media programs for young people in Montenegro.

**The Media literacy week initiative:** A campaign of the European Union to promote media literacy and its importance that is to take place in March 2019.

**The Audio-Visual Media Service Directive (AVMSD):** The Directive that governs coordination of media legislation in the EU Member States.

**The Union online media literacy library:** An activity implemented by the European Commission to empower citizens to better identify misinformation.

**Connecting Europe Facility (CEF):** A funding instrument in the EU that, among others, supports the development of efficient digital networks.

**Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom:** A research and training centre that conducts research on media freedom and pluralism.

**International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN):** A unit of the Poynter Institute dedicated to bringing together fact-checkers worldwide launched in September 2015 to support fact-checking initiatives.

**Strategic Communication Task Forces:** An EU division that works to promote key EU policies and core values, including respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and human rights globally and at home.

**European External Action Service:** The European Union's diplomatic service that helps the EU's foreign affairs chief carry out the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy.



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

**Regional and minority languages: how can European countries leverage digital transformations, such as mobile language learning applications, voice assistants, and real-time translation to protect and foster linguistic diversity in Europe's regions?**

Submitted by: José María Asencor Juaristi (ES), Victoria Dotsenko (BY), Peter Franke (DE), Daryna Hoch (UA), Dana Kijl (NL), Susanna Lehtonen (FI), Irine Lejava (GE), Bernardo Amaral Pimentel Lourenço (PT), Nguyen Quynh Anh (CZ), Sofi Rafayelyan (AM), Kristelle Schepens (SE), Kerstin Reisinger (AT, Chairperson)

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

- A. Taking into consideration the differences in access to digital infrastructure across European countries<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Realising the lack of awareness **Regional or Minority Languages (RMLs)** and their speakers face by the public and technological companies<sup>2</sup>,
- C. Aware of the limitation of the EU's ability to interfere due to the topic falling under a supporting competence area<sup>3</sup>,
- D. Noting with deep regret the lack of differentiation within the term Regional or Minority Languages as defined in the **European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML)**<sup>4</sup>,
- E. Bearing in mind the different cultural and political structures of European countries and RML communities which hinders the ratification of universal treaties such as the ECRML<sup>5</sup>,
- F. Deeply concerned by the fact that RMLs are not consistently represented in institutional services and documents<sup>6</sup>,
- G. Highly alarmed by the decline of RML speakers, causing both the loss of specific cultural identities as well as their languages<sup>7</sup>,
- H. Taking into account the lack of high quality teaching materials available for RMLs<sup>8</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> As stated in WebIndex data from 2014.

<sup>2</sup> As stated in Solutions Journal: "Saving Endangered Languages Before They Disappear".

<sup>3</sup> As established in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and The Treaty on European Union.

<sup>4</sup> As stated in the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

<sup>5</sup> As analyzed in European Parliament in September 2016.

<sup>6</sup> As stated in EPRS Briefing on regional and minority languages in the European Union, 2016.

<sup>7</sup> According to the Language Loss and the Ethnic Identity of Minorities Report.

<sup>8</sup> Research for CULT Committee - Minority languages and education: best practices and pitfalls, 2017.



1. Highly appreciating the effectiveness of the **Welsh Language Technology Action Plan**<sup>9</sup>

### **Taking Measures Regarding the Differentiation and Institutional use of RMLs**

1. Invites the European Commission to propose the **Council of Europe** to
  - a. Establish a clear differentiation between regional languages (RLs) and minority languages (MLs),
  - b. Establish a specific number of speakers as a threshold for a language to be recognised as a regional language;
2. Directs the **Publication Office** to instruct European States to provide information related to MLs and their culture on their governmental websites following the example of The Netherlands;
3. Calls upon the European Commission to instruct European countries to provide governmental documents in RMLs both in digital and physical format;

### **Challenging Cultural and Political Differences**

4. Calls upon the European Commission to suggest to the Council of Europe to:
  - a. Further encourage European countries to ratify the ECRML,
  - b. Establish specific and measurable goals for the ratification of the ECRML following the example of the Welsh language technology action plan,
  - c. Develop a system in which states report their progress made in the process of ratifying the ECRML to the Council of Europe;
5. Recommends Member States to amend laws that prevent them from ratifying the ECRML, following the example of France's proposed constitutional amendment;
6. Further requests the European Commission to encourage European countries to continue the research on the number of the RMLs speakers, and make this data publicly available;

### **Increasing representation of RMLs on the technological market**

7. Requests the European Commission to create and promote a **whitelist** of technological companies which support RMLs;
8. Invites the **Directorate-General for Research and Innovation** to establish a European forum for government representatives, Non-Governmental Organisations, RML speakers' representatives and governments where ideas, experiences, technologies, etc. regarding the preservation of RMLs are shared;

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<sup>9</sup> As stated in StatsWales.



9. Calls upon the European Commission to provide an awareness campaign template centering further usage of RMLs, raising awareness of the culture of RML speaking communities as well as the problems they experience;
10. Suggests the **Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology** to instruct developers within the technology sector to
  - a. include MLs in their products, such as WattPad, Duolingo, Facebook, and Google Translator, in collaboration with volunteer native speakers,
  - b. to improve the services provided in these languages;
11. Encourages the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation to request companies within the technology sector to follow the example of the **Welsh Technology Action Plan** when introducing MLs to Artificial Intelligence applications such as Siri and Alexa;



## ***FACT SHEET***

**Regional and Minority Languages (RMLs):** Languages that are traditionally used within a given territory of a State by nationals of the State who form a group numerically smaller than the rest of the State's population or different from the official language(s) of that State (it does not include either dialects of the official language(s) of the State or the languages of migrants).

**European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages (ECRML):** The European convention for the protection and promotion of languages used by traditional minorities. Together with the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, it constitutes the Council of Europe's commitment to the protection of national minorities.

**Welsh Language Technology Action Plan:** Aims to plan technological developments to ensure that the Welsh language can be used in a wide variety of contexts, be that by using voice, keyboard or other means of human-computer interaction.

**Whitelist:** List of people or things that are considered by a particular authority or group to be acceptable and that should be trusted (in opposition to a blacklist).

**Council of Europe:** The continent's leading human rights organisation. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union.

**Directorate-General for Research and Innovation:** Commission responsible for EU policy on research, science and innovation, with a view to help create jobs and tackle largest societal challenges.

**Publication Office of the EU:** Tasked with publishing the publications of the institutions of the EU. The main activities revolve around dissemination of legal and general publications in paper and electronic format among others.

**Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology:** Commission responsible for developing a digital single market to generate smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in Europe.



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

**The costs of higher education: with students from disadvantaged backgrounds half as likely to attend university, what can European countries do to increase the accessibility of tertiary education, whilst fairly sharing the costs across society?**

Submitted by: Abdelaourete Bennamar (BE), Sara Cardoso (PT), Erik Ehrnst (SE), Julie Heroldova (CZ), Marta Keglevic (HR), Jan Magielski (PL), Lidewij Mes (NL), Sofia Domaratska (UA), Asta Gerjevec Debevec (SI), Maria LEMONIA Papadopoulou (GR), Ruben Sahakyan (AM), Spiro Skrami (AL), Tuukka Tauru (FI), Frank Üksvärav (EE, Chairperson)

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

- A. Taking into account the significant diversity that exists between Member States in areas such as sources of funding for higher education, cultural norms, available economic instruments, and tuition fees;
- B. Noting with regret the lack of housing and academic space in many universities, leading to inflated prices,
- C. Deeply disturbed by the rising costs of higher education that act as a barrier of entry to students, including tuition fees and housing costs;
- D. Bearing in mind the potential for student loans to be financially crippling for those from disadvantaged backgrounds,
- E. Recognising the significant influence of the level of parents' education can have on the academic choices and achievement of their children,
- F. Deeply concerned by the lack of competitive higher education programs available online,
- G. Alarmed by the rising costs associated with providing higher education
- H. Deploring the tendency of national education budgets to be sacrificed in times of economic difficulty,
- I. Noting with regret the prevailing lack of information among youth from **disadvantaged backgrounds** on various educational opportunities and programs, such as scholarships, financial aid, and study opportunities abroad;



- J. Keeping in mind that the proportion of high-skilled jobs that require tertiary education has risen by more than 8% in the last 20 years at the expense of low-skilled jobs<sup>1</sup>;

### **Lowering the costs of higher education**

1. Suggests the European Commission to create an online platform exclusively for students to find affordable housing or host families;
2. Asks the European Commission to allocate a financial instrument from where **higher education providers (HEPs)** can draw funding for constructing affordable student housing;
3. Supports HEPs to increase their offering of interactive online courses and degree programs;

### **Combating the informational gap**

4. Invites universities, non-governmental organisations, and national governments to collaborate and promote educational and financial opportunities through:
  - a. open days/fairs in areas with a high concentration of people from disadvantaged backgrounds,
  - b. the mandatory presence of an academic counsellor in every secondary school,
  - c. the development of online information to enable future students to easily navigate academic opportunities and financial support for higher education;
5. Encourages HEPs to pay closer attention to the **socioeconomic status (SES)** of their applicants in order to ensure a fairer selection process;

### **Financial measures**

6. Calls for collaboration between HEPs and the private sector in connecting enterprises and students through a bilateral exchange that directly rewards high academic performance with job opportunities
7. Urges the European banking sector to provide loans that are partially forgiven for students who finish their degree on time and further compensate further for high academic performance;

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<sup>1</sup> According to the OECD Employment Outlook 2017



8. Recommends Member States to adopt a taxation policy that offers benefits and tax reliefs to families with children in higher education.





## ***FACT SHEET***

**Disadvantaged background:** Students who come from low-income households and/or have received poor-quality secondary education that inhibited their academic capability.

**Higher Education Providers (HEPs):** Institutions that provide an optional, final stage of education beyond high school, such as universities, colleges, technical institutes, professional schools etc.

**Socioeconomic status (SES):** An economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, and occupation.



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

**Hidden resources in the Arctic: with ice melting uncovering oil and gas reserves creating tensions in the Arctic circle, what role can and should European countries and international institutions play in ensuring a safe, stable, sustainable and prosperous future of the Arctic region?**

Submitted by: Endi Cenolli (AL), Alen Galukyan (AM), Zoi Maria Kamopoulou (GR), Daryna Lebid (UA), Cristian Moldovan (RO), Tim Ohnmacht (CH), Hart Pärnapuu (EE), Sara Schumacher Vicente (ES), Marius Strøm-Fladstad (NO), Jaša Levstik (SI, Chairperson)

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

- A. Noting with regret that the environmental impact of oil spillage are not sufficiently taken into account when focusing on economic growth,
- B. Realising the lack of communication among researchers and surveillance offices as well as the need for updated mapping of the Arctic region,
- C. Noting with deep concern that the increasing participation of observer states of the Arctic region has reduced the political power of indigenous communities,
- D. Alarmed by the lack of legislation concerning the division of the Arctic region that leads to conflicts over the acquisition of territories,
- E. Noting with concern the tensions and potential conflicts that are caused by territorial disputes in the Arctic region,
- F. Pointing out the fact that Arctic shipping routes are largely under the control of individual nations, thus hindering international transportation to and from the region,
- G. Concerned by the increase in the polarisation of Arctic politics leading to an ineffective dialogue within the region,
- H. Conscious by the inability of the **Arctic Council** to be involved in important issues such as militarisation,
- I. Fully alarmed by the ever-increasing military presence in the Arctic Circle,
- J. Deeply concerned by the relocation of indigenous people due to increasing military presence in the Arctic region,



- K. Aware of the safety issues faced by ships on Arctic shipping routes, and the lack of first response teams in the case of an emergency,

### Addressing environmental issues

1. Calls Arctic Council Member States to comply with the **2017 Agreement in Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Research**;
2. Urges Member States that are a part of the Arctic Council to follow:
  - a. the objectives of The Paris Agreement,
  - b. the Arctic Council regulations regarding the environmental protection of the Arctic region;
3. Encourages the promotion of eco-innovation for the protection of the environment and the limitation of damage done during oil drilling activities by further supporting the **EcoAP**;
4. Seeks further reinforcement of the **Arctic Offshore Regulators Forum (AORF)** for the exchange of technical and operational information among Arctic offshore petroleum regulators on safety regulation and oil spill prevention,
5. Endorses the Arctic Council's working groups:
  - a. on Emergency, Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) to manage environmental and other emergencies, and accidents,
  - b. on Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) to conduct research, and share information on biodiversity and ecosystem health to facilitate more knowledgeable decision-making;
6. Requests further support for environmental programs, such as **CleanSeaNet**, which monitors oil spills;

### Combatting dangers for the indigenous people

7. Calls upon Member States to establish effective means of communication with indigenous communities;
8. Strongly requests Member States that are a part of the Arctic Council to advocate for the establishment of the right to vote for the **6 Permanent Participants** presenting the indigenous communities in the Arctic Council;



9. Seeks the participation of indigenous communities in international environmental institutions;
10. Invites the United Nations (UN) and Member States to create educational programmes for indigenous communities with the aim of informing them about the geopolitical, environmental, and economic aspects of the Arctic region;

### **Insufficient legislation and rise of security threats**

11. Invites the United States of America to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
12. Urges the UN, in collaboration with the Arctic Council, to review and update the UNCLOS, so that it can clarify the establishment of the national marine borders of the Arctic States in the Arctic region and the resolution of conflicts arising from the overlapping territorial claims on, **the Lomonosov ridge**, the Arctic Ocean's central basin's continental shelf, the Northwest Sea Route, and the Northeast Sea Route;
13. Strongly suggests Arctic states to reach bilateral and multilateral agreements concerning the delimitation of their national borders and territories in the Arctic region;
14. Proposes the UN to establish specific restrictions concerning the number and size of military equipment and facilities in the Arctic, so that they will be proportional to states' territories in the Arctic region;
15. Asks the Arctic Council to include important matters such as security, concerning the management of the Arctic region in their discussions;
16. Promotes further and more active cooperation within the **Arctic Stakeholder Forum (ASF)** between the EU institutions, Arctic Council Member States, and indigenous communities with the aim of more effective decision-making in areas such as digital infrastructure, transportation, energy, tourism, and the environment;
17. Affirms further support for the **Arctic Coast Guard Forum (ACGF)** to ensure safe, secure, and environmentally responsible maritime activity in the Arctic;
18. Promotes the regular review and update of the **International Maritime Organisation (IMO)** Polar Code so that's in line with the new arctic conditions and needs for ship safety.



## **FACT SHEET**

**Arctic Council:** The leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic.

**Observer states** of the Arctic Council: Countries with the status of an observer in the Arctic Council can join any meeting upon invitation, pass on recommendations to the Arctic Council, but cannot vote.

**Permanent participants** of the Arctic Council: Organisations representing the interests of the indigenous communities of the Arctic region who can join any meetings of their choice, pass on recommendations to the Arctic Council, but cannot vote.

**2017 Agreement in Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Research:** An international agreement that provides concrete support for Arctic scientific activities by, for example, facilitating access to research areas for marine and airborne data collection, supporting full and open access to scientific data, and promoting education and career development for students and early career scientists.

**Paris Agreement:** An international document aimed at combating climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future.

**Eco-innovation Action Plan (EcoAp):** An innovation that makes progress towards the goal of sustainable development by reducing impacts on the environment, increasing resilience to environmental pressures or using natural resources more efficiently and responsibly.

**Arctic Offshore Regulators Forum (AORF):** A forum of technical and operational offshore petroleum safety regulators whose members are dedicated to the common cause of continually improving offshore safety outcomes. Its primary scope is the exchange of information, best practices and relevant experiences learned from regulatory efforts related to developing petroleum resources in the Arctic regions of the globe.

**CleanSeaNet:** A European satellite-based oil spill and vessel detection service which offers assistance to participating States for the following activities:

- Identifying and tracing oil pollution on the sea surface;
- Monitoring accidental pollution during emergencies;
- Contributing to the identification of polluters.



**The Lomonosov Ridge:** An underwater mass consisting of most of the resources within the Arctic circle. It stretches from Russia on one side, to Canada and Greenland on the other side of the Arctic circle.

**Arctic Stakeholder Forum (ASF):** A temporary forum which identifies investments and research priorities for the coming years and enhances collaboration and coordination between different EU funding programmes.

**Arctic Coast Guard Forum (ACGF):** An independent, informal, operationally-driven organization, not bound by treaty, to foster safe, secure, and environmentally responsible maritime activity in the Arctic.

**International Maritime Organisation (IMO):** The UN specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine and atmospheric pollution by ships.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence II***

### **Cybersecurity: how and to what extent should the European countries arrange robust and resilient cyber defence capabilities at an international level?**

Submitted by: Lízia Branco (PT), Artūrs Danga (LV), Erine Delvoye (FR), Stella Ferrazzo (IT), Maksim Fritsak (UA), Aziz-Ur-Rahman Gill (SE), Maren Aurora Gude (NO), Gurgen Gulabyan (AM), Kamilė Jakštaitė (LT), Konstantinos Karathanos (GR), Barbara Łabędzka (PL), Nikica Stijepić (HR), Štěpán Venclík (CZ), Sezen Deniz Tokadam (TR, Chairperson)

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

- A. Aware of Member States' increasing reliance on technology due to the digitalisation of infrastructure such as traffic lights and public transportation,
- B. Observing the divergence of financial and technical resources, criminal legislation, and privacy culture among Member States,
- C. Bearing in mind the approaching deadline of **Horizon 2020** which makes up the majority of the current European cybersecurity research budget,
- D. Conscious of the increasing influence of foreign actors in Member States, both private and public, especially those based in the United States and Asia,
- E. Noting with deep regret the immense damage cybercrime is causing each year to the European Companies,
- F. Welcoming the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization's** (NATO) and the European Union's (EU) cooperation for combating **cyber warfare** in forms of sharing information, planning crisis management, and capacity building,
- G. Concerned by the lack of education regarding cybersecurity, cybercrime, and data security among the EU citizens with 51% feeling uninformed on cyber threats,<sup>1</sup>
- H. Alarmed by the increase of **hacktivism** and cybercrime in the past decade,
- I. Guided by the **Articles 6, 7, and 8 of Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFR)**,
- J. Congratulating the efforts to increase cooperation among **Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT)** by non-governmental organizations such as **Trusted Introducer**,

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<sup>1</sup>According to European Council's data from the year 2017.



K. Alarmed by the fact that 95% of cybersecurity breaches are caused by human error,<sup>2</sup>

### **Raising awareness about cyber threats and cybersecurity education**

1. Invites the European Commission to create a “cyber security label” for devices with internet connection to inform consumers about cyber threats;
2. Asks the European Commission to fund trainings for entrepreneurs, business owners and managers on cybersecurity and data protection in Member States;
3. Further requests **The European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)** to expand its partnership with Member States in order to:
  - a. organise, promote, and enhance quality of public events aiming to raise awareness, such as **European Cyber Security Month (ECSM)**,
  - b. develop initiatives to train experts;
4. Encourages Member States to organise activities in educational institutions regarding the importance of software security and personal data protection, following the example of Finland;

### **Supporting the digital single market development**

5. Believes that the European Commission should play a supportive role in ensuring European digital companies remain competitive on the global market;
6. Further encourages the European Commission to make all cyber security software developed with the EU research budget available to European businesses for free;
7. Asks the European Commission to dedicate a stable budget for cybersecurity research on defensive capacities;

### **Strengthening European cyber defence**

8. Further asks European Commission to help Member States strengthen national cyber resilience capabilities by increasing expertise on security and defence in key areas such as energy, finance, transport, health, etc.
9. Instructs Member States to regularly test the vulnerability of data processing systems by running simulated cyber-attacks;
10. Calls upon the Member States to adopt joint strategy and cooperation programmes with international partners such as **European Neighbourhood Countries** and the United Nations, following the example of **NATO**, in order to provide an efficient response to specific cyber threats through coherent and highly prepared **CERT**.

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<sup>2</sup> According to the data of American security firm Kroll from year 2017.





## ***FACT SHEET***

**Horizon 2020:** is the "Framework Programme for Research and Innovation" of the European Commission funding research, technological development, and innovation.

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):** is a military alliance of 29 countries. The members include among others 22 EU Member States, the US, Canada, and Turkey. Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty says that an armed attack against one NATO member shall be considered an attack against them all.

**Cyber warfare:** is the use or targeting of computers, online control systems, and networks with both offensive and defensive operations pertaining to the threat of cyber-attacks, espionage, and sabotage.

**Hacktivism:** is the use of technology to promote a political agenda or a social change.

**Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFR):** is a document stating the political, social, and economic rights that EU institutions must respect when exercising their powers.

**CFR Article 6:** Right to liberty and security. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person.

**CFR Article 7:** Respect for private and family life. Everyone has the right to respect for his or her private and family life, home and communications.

**CFR Article 8:** Protection of personal data 1. Everyone has the right to the protection of personal data concerning him or her. 2. Such data must be processed fairly for specified purposes and on the basis of the consent of the person concerned or some other legitimate basis laid down by law. Everyone has the right of access to data which has been collected concerning him or her, and the right to have it rectified. 3. Compliance with these rules shall be subject to control by an independent authority.

**Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT):** is an expert group that handles computer security incidents.

**Trusted Introducer:** provides accreditation and certification for European Computer Emergency Response Teams.



**The European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA):** is a centre of expertise for cyber security in Europe. The Agency is located in Greece with its seat in Athens and a branch office in Heraklion, Crete.

**European Cyber Security Month (ECSM):** The European Cyber Security Month is a European awareness campaign for raising awareness about Cyber Security

**Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs):** Businesses defined by the number of staff headcount and either turnover or balance sheet total, which represent 99% of all businesses in the EU.

**European Neighbourhood Countries:** Countries covered by European Neighbourhood Policy: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine.



## ***Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Legal Affairs***

**Unrecognised families: with widely varying national laws on marriage and adoption across the EU Member States, the cross-border recognition of families with same-sex parents is complex. Should the EU ensure family rights, such as family reunification, for all families, and if so how?**

Submitted by: Polyna Antoniou (CY), Margarida Conceição (PT), Gagach Derkhorenian (AM), Isabelle Frisinger (SE), Leah Gurowski (DE), Hanna Karwowska (PL), Oraz Myradov (BY), Šimon Pavlas (CZ), Giulia Pipolo (NL), Lilit Sarajyan (AM), Lazar Tripinović (RS), Jenna Tuominen (FI), Julia Uka (BE), Kostiantyn Varvaryk (UA), Matthias Masini (CH, Chairperson)

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

- A. Alarmed by the fact that the non-recognition of marriages, civil unions, and adoptions make the enjoyment of EU rights inconsistent across the EU, therefore discouraging families with same-sex parents to exercise their freedom of movement,
- B. Deeply alarmed by the fact that children could be taken away from their parent(s) due to the non-recognition of adoptions performed domestically in another Member State,
- C. Deeply conscious that even when Member States have similar legal status for partners, the responsibilities and rights issued these statuses vary,
- D. Concerned about the choice of same-sex parents to only have one parent as adopter in order to avoid national restrictions on joint adoption from same-sex couples,
- E. Profoundly concerned by the difference in the implementation and interpretation of international family laws stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, **European Convention of Human Rights** (ECHR), and the **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU** (CFR),
- F. Noting with regret that the **European Convention on the Adoption for Children** does not bindingly respond to joint adoptions from same-sex couples,
- G. Noting with concern that the European Convention on the Adoption of Children is only in force in 16 states in Europe,
- H. Recognising that, according to the **Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption**, in order to perform intercountry



adoptions, the parents need to fulfil the criteria of both the receiving state and the state of origin, therefore preventing same-sex couples from adopting children from countries not allowing same-sex joint adoptions,

- I. Keeping in mind that adoptions performed under Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption are not recognised by the other states contracting to the convention,
- J. Noting with deep concern that by the lack of EU-wide laws on adoption, the **European Court of Justice** (ECJ) cannot rule on cases regarding the recognition of adoptions,
- K. Welcoming the decision of the ECJ in the case *Coman and others v Romania* granting EU wide rights, such as freedom of movement, to the non-EU spouses of EU citizens whether Member States legally recognise same-sex couples or not,<sup>1</sup>
- L. Recalling the ruling *Pajić v Croatia* from the **European Court on Human Rights** (ECtHR) allowing the family reunification for long-term same-sex partners in the 47 countries members of the **Council of Europe** (CoE),<sup>2</sup>
- M. Expressing its appreciation for the ruling of the ECtHR on the case *Oliari and others v Italy*, which led to the legal recognition of same-sex couples,<sup>3</sup>
- N. Aware that some Member States have bias when deciding if same-sex partners meet the requirements to be recognised as long-term partners;

### **Improving the legal framework of adoptions for same-sex couples**

1. Calls upon the European Commission to propose a directive aimed at making adoptions performed domestically in a Member State and valid in the rest of the EU;
2. Reaffirms that Member States should respect the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU and the interpretation made by the ECJ in regards to the recognition of same-sex spouses;
3. Proposes an amendment to the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption making adoptions performed under the convention valid in all contracting states;
4. Invites all Member States to legalise joint adoption from same-sex couples;
5. Reminds Member States the importance of legalising both same-sex spouses as parents, regardless of their gender, for the child's best interests;

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<sup>1</sup> ECtHR - *Coman and others v Romania*

<sup>2</sup> ECtHR - *Pajić v Croatia*

<sup>3</sup> ECtHR - *Oliari and others v Italy*



6. Urges Member States to make the adoption selection processes anonymous and gender neutral, therefore ensuring equality between all future parents for both domestic and intercountry adoptions;
7. Calls upon the ECtHR to further research cases of discrimination in the adoption selection process;

### **Harmonising legal status of same-sex partners**

8. Asks the ECJ to provide Member States with a legal definition of marriage and its scope;
9. Suggests that Member States not allowing same-sex marriage to provide a legal alternative, in order to ensure minimum legal protection for same-sex couples;
10. Urges Member States that refuse any domestic legal recognition of same-sex couples to recognise same-sex marriages performed in another jurisdiction, following the example of Armenia;
11. Requests Member States to ensure that the **Cohabitation Contract** is implemented as well as used for the identification of **de facto relationships**;

### **Ensuring the implementation and respect of international family rights**

12. Instructs Member States to respect the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, as well as the jurisprudence of the ECJ;
13. Draws attention to the legally binding ruling of the ECtHR in the case of *Pajić v Croatia* granting family reunification for long-term same-sex partners in all 47 countries of the Council of Europe;
14. Asks the European Commission to further adopt legislations on family reunification, enabling the ECJ to take actions in case of violation from Member States;
15. Urges the European Commission to establish a framework providing minimum rights and responsibilities to de facto relationships;
16. Asks the ECJ to interpret and define criteria for family reunification, ensuring a respect and consistent implementation among Member States.



## **FACT SHEET**

**European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR):** international convention to protect human and political rights in Europe. It was drafted by the Council of Europe and should be signed by all Members of the Council of Europe.

**Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU (CFR):** enshrines certain political, social and economic rights for the EU citizens and residents into EU law.

**European Convention on the Adoption of Children:** was introduced by the Council of Europe in an attempt to provide a modern framework for the adoption of children. The convention is in force in 16 states.

**Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption:** protects children and their families against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad. The convention seeks to ensure that intercountry adoptions are made in the best interests of the child and with respect for fundamental rights.

**European Court of Justice (ECJ):** the role of the ECJ is to ensure that the EU laws are interpreted the same way in all the Member States. It ensures that EU Member States and institutions are respecting fundamental rights, as well as EU laws.

**European Court on Human Rights (ECtHR):** international court ruling on individual or State applications alleging violations of the civil and political rights set out in the ECHR. Its contracting states are all European countries, except Belarus. The ECtHR is not an EU institution, but an intergovernmental organisation.

**Council of Europe (CoE):** international organisation whose stated aim is to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe. It is not an institution from the EU and has 47 Member States across Europe.

**Cohabitation Contract:** optional contract between unmarried partners in order to settle practical and legal aspects of the cohabitations.

**De facto relationships:** refers to partners who are in a stable, continuous relationship, but are not married or registered to any authority, whether it is a heterosexual or homosexual relationship. The EU guarantees some EU-wide rights to those couples, such as property, inheritance. Those rights are very important when it comes to same-sex couples who cannot



marry or register in their country. There are no strict elements that define long-term relationships and on how to prove their existence.

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

**Towards a sustainable future: from molten-salt technology to renewable energy block-chains, should European countries implement policies to drive innovations in the sustainable energy sector, and if so, what areas of technological progress should be prioritised?**

Submitted by: Georgios Axarlis (GR), Kateryna Borysova (UA), Sofia Coss (CH), Lucía Ferrer (ES), Charlotte Geiregat (BE), Vlad Florin Ghinoiu (RO), Marte Elisabeth Lynne (NO), Alessandro Michelazzi (IT), Morgane Rüdiger (EE), Arturo Shaw Barragan (LU), Johanna Tikkala (FI), Felix Udier (AT), Matas Žutautas (LT), Martin Neumann (DE, Chairperson)

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

- A. Noting with regret that 72% of the EU's energy comes from fossil fuels while only 13% come from renewable sources<sup>1</sup>,
- B. Affirming the fact that **greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)** caused by human activities are the driving factor of the climate change,
- C. Realising that fossil fuels are relatively inexpensive, habitative in our everyday lives, and profit from widespread infrastructure,
- D. Regretting the high initial investments needed when pursuing renewable energy, preventing their wider spread adoption,
- E. Further regretting that research into ineffective technology is hindering progress in the field,
- F. Concerned by the fact, that not all European countries participate in the research on sustainable energy,
- G. Aware of current efforts such as carbon taxes and **the EU Emission Trading System** to reduce the dependency on fossil fuels,
- H. Contemplating that according to the **European Environmental Agency (EEA)**, more than 80% of GHG emissions are caused by energy production, energy use, and transportation,
- I. Desiring to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in the energy sector;

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<sup>1</sup> According to Eurostat



1. Requests Member States to keep prioritising the use of energy efficiency and transition to a low carbon economy as funding criteria in its **structural and investment funds**;
2. Strongly urges European countries to lower the tax rate for energy from renewable sources;
3. Calls upon European countries to support both public and privately funded research institutes researching renewable energy through project-based research grants and research challenges on the priorities named above;
4. Further calls upon European countries to create an organisation to facilitate discussion and cooperation in the research and development of renewable energy solutions;
5. Asks the European Parliament and European Council to amend **the effort sharing decision** to include binding fossil fuel reduction targets scaling with GDP per capita;
6. Recommends European countries to incentivise the use of renewable energies in the transport sector through measures such as:
  - a. parking priority and free charging for electric cars,
  - b. lower tax rates for privately owned electric vehicles,
  - c. subsidies for privately owned electric vehicles,
  - d. prioritising electric vehicles in contracts with public transportation providers;
7. Further recommends European countries to incentivise the construction of renewable energy plants by:
  - a. reducing the price for publicly owned land in such projects,
  - b. providing tax breaks when such land is privately owned.





## ***FACT SHEET***

**Sustainability:** focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The concept of sustainability is composed of three pillars: economic, environmental and social - also known informally as profits, planet and people.

**Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG):** the emission into the earth's atmosphere of any of various gases, esp. carbon dioxide

**EU Emission Trading System:** In this mechanism, the emissions allowed in power and heat generation are capped and permits can be traded, with total the total permit volume decreasing over time.

**European Environmental Agency (EEA):** is an EU agency tasked with providing sound, independent information on the environment. It operates as major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and also the general public.

**European structural and investment funds (ESIF):** These five funds funnel over half of the EU budget according to their funding criteria. In the 2014-2020 period, these included the transition to a low carbon economy for the European Development Fund and energy or transport improving in terms of energy efficiency or use of renewable energy for the European Cohesion Fund.

**Effort sharing decision:** This decision adopted in 2009 set out national targets for reducing GHG emissions from all sources not covered by the EU Emission Trading System.



***Motion for a Resolution by  
The Committee on Environment, Public Health,  
and Food Safety I***

***Livestock production: a leading contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and a leading cause of deforestation and water pollution. Should European countries take steps to reduce the environmental impact of the livestock industry, and if so, how can the potential economic implications for farmers be offset?***

Submitted by: Rahmah Abbas (GE), Emely Pauline Bleibohm-Neubert(DE), Dominykas Bružas(LT), Robin Jakobsen (NO), Anna Karas (UA), Mary Kekhyan (AM), Przemysław Kocioruba(PL), Elena Lavaggi (IT), Leonid Lashkov (RU), Ana Olujić (RS), Anne-Marlen Riemensperger (RS), Stefan Stankovic (CY), Sara Trănescu (RO), Joel Juntunen (FI/UA, Chairperson)

**The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Aware of the constantly transforming state of the field of agriculture,
- B. Emphasising that artificial fertilisers used for food crops often cause water pollution through overuse and runoff of chemicals such as nitrogen due to rainfall,
- C. Pointing out that only 29 %<sup>1</sup> of EU citizens are aware of the major impact that the livestock industry has on global warming,
- D. Stressing that there is a need of increased funding for research towards sustainable technology on farming practices,
- E. Regretting that large scale farms with a vast amount of livestock create a quantity of manure that is too high to be absorbed by nearby fields and therefore cause the leaking of harmful substances into nearby water sources,
- F. Taking into consideration that worldwide 13 billion hectares of forest area are lost annually due to land conversion for agricultural uses for pastures or cropland, both for food and livestock feed crop production,
- G. Alarmed by the greenhouse gas emissions caused by livestock production such as following:

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<sup>1</sup> According to “Raising EU Citizen's Awareness of Their Role in Development Issues: Livestock and Climate Change”; capacity4dev logo



- i. methane produced by **ruminants**<sup>2</sup> that are fed with roughly-digestible food filled with cellulose,
  - ii. carbon-dioxide, carbon-monoxide, and sulphuric oxides that comes from transportation and poor energy management,
- H. Noting with deep regret that some public institutions do not offer vegetarian or vegan options in their cafeterias and restaurants,
- I. Observing that meat consumption has increased in the past 50 years<sup>3</sup> leading to an increased demand and supply,
- J. Aware of the fact that eco-friendly livestock are 30%<sup>4</sup> more expensive on average,
- K. Concerned by the destabilising effect of lack of regulations when it comes to supporting small farms, hence leading to difficulties in these farms:
- i. competing with larger, more established producers,
  - ii. introducing new products to the market, such as plant-based meat,
  - iii. diversifying their assemblage of products in an affordable manner,
- L. Keeping in mind that citizens are not aware of the practices within the livestock industry, such as its impact on the environment and the impact of hormones and antibiotics on human health,
- M. Fully alarmed that large-scale, well established producers increase profit at the expense of the small-scale farmers since products of lower quality are introduced to the market at lower prices, putting small farmers at a disadvantage;

### **Combating environmental issues**

1. Endorses the proposal of the European Commission on the amendment of the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)** for 2020;
2. Congratulates the European Commission on the draft of the **New European Fertiliser Regulation**;
3. Suggests Member States to incentivise farmers to adopt **precision farming practices** in order to reduce the strain on the soil;
4. Encourages Member States to introduce a limit of CO<sub>2</sub> transportation emissions per Kg of meat following the example of Norway;

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<sup>2</sup> Mammals such as cattle, sheep, goats, that digest food in multiple stomachs in a long process.

<sup>3</sup> According to Meat consumption in Europe: issues, trends and debates by Minna Kanerva 2013

<sup>4</sup> According to "Can eating meat be eco-friendly?" Dr Michael Mosley; BBC Horizon



5. Invites the European Parliament to introduce additional subsidies to the Common Agricultural Policy for the eco-friendly farms which:
  - a. use seaweed-based feed for **ruminants** in order to reduce their methane emissions,
  - b. implement sustainable technological solutions such as **anaerobic digesters** to reuse the produced manure;

### **Addressing consumer habits**

6. Hopes that the environmental agencies of Member States spread awareness of the harmful impact of livestock on global warming through expert talks in schools;
7. Encourages the health departments of Member States to push for public institutions to provide at least one vegetarian option in their cafeterias;
8. Urges the **Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency** to create a system of eco-friendly labelling for restaurants to show the standard of meat and availability of non-meat dishes;
9. Requests the **Directorate General on Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs** to conduct an investigation on ensuring the availability and affordability of non-meat food sources in stores;
10. Suggests Member States to adopt policies similar to the ones in France on forbidding supermarkets from throwing food away;
11. Encourage the heads of supermarkets to introduce sections in their stores where non-meat, high-protein products are sold;
12. Congratulates the efforts of Non-Governmental organisations on the success of awareness campaigns;

### **Increasing the competitiveness of European farmers**

13. Calls upon the European Commission to allocate funds from the **Horizon 2030 programme** towards the research on affordable environmental farming technologies;
14. Directs the European Commission to increase the subsidisation of investments towards sustainable technology, such as waste management on small farms, in the new CAP of 2020;
15. Appeals the Council of the European Union to draft a reform of the **Directive 2003/74/EC on hormones** and the **Regulation 1831/2003/EC on antibiotics** in order to reduce the competitive advantage of unsustainable growing practices used by factory farms;



## FACT SHEET

**Common Agricultural Policy:** One of the main policies of the EU, covering a huge part of the budget and setting standards for food production and the income level of farmers. Furthermore, it aims to provide food security and maintain the landscape.

**New European Fertiliser Regulation:** The legislation that build on the old fertiliser restrictions in a broader sense by including ones that are not in wide use yet.

**Precision farming practices:** Farming techniques that utilises modern technology to track the condition of crops and animals in real time.

**Anaerobic digesters:** Systems that filter manure, for example, and separate it's ingredients producing less harmful fertiliser, and biogas which can be burned for energy while releasing less harmful substances than the manure would have.

**Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency:** Is an executive agency of the European Commission that manages EU programmes on consumer rights, health, agriculture, and safe food.

**Directorate General on Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs:** Is responsible for EU policy on the single market, industry, entrepreneurship, and small businesses.

**Horizon 2030:** is the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation of the European Commission funding research, technological development, and innovation.

**Directive 2003/74/EC:** Directive which aims to regulate the use of hormones in livestock production.

**Regulation 1831/2003/EC:** Regulates what kind of antibiotics farmers can use on their animals. Bans the usage of antibiotics used by humans and focuses on avoiding the forming of drug resistant bacteria.