



Resolution Booklet

1st Economic Summit
of EYP Poland

Warsaw, 30 January – 2 February 2016

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PROGRAMME

- 09:00–09:45 Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs II
- 09:45–10:30 Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection I
- 10:30–11:15 Committee on Tax Rulings and Other Measures Similar in Nature or Effect
- 11:15–11:30 Coffee Break
- 11:30–12:15 Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
- 12:15–13:00 Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs III
- 13:15–14:00 Committee on International Trade
- 14:00–15:00 Lunch
- 15:00–15:45 Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
- 15:45–16:30 Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs I
- 16:30–17:15 Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection II
- 17:15–17:30 Coffee Break
- 17:30–18:15 Committee on Constitutional Affairs
- 18:15–19:00 Closing Ceremony

PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General rules

The wish to speak is indicated by raising the Committee placard. The authority of the Board is absolute.

Procedure and time settings

1. Presentation of the Motion for a Resolution (the Board reads out the topic, a member of the Proposing Committee reads out the Operative Clauses);
2. Defence Speech (maximum 3 minutes);
3. Attack Speech/es (maximum 3 minutes, in total);
4. Response to the Attack Speech/es (maximum 1.5 minutes);
5. Open Debate on the Motion for a Resolution (4 rounds of debate);
6. Summation Speech (maximum 3 minutes);
7. Voting procedure – the votes are collected by the Chairpersons;
8. Announcement of the voting results by the Board.

Point of Personal Privilege is a request to repeat a point that was inaudible.

Point of Order is used when the Board has not properly followed the parliamentary procedure.

Each committee may use the **Direct Response** placard twice per debate. Should a committee member raise the committee placard and the Direct Response sign, the Board recognises the committee immediately. The Direct Response sign is used to answer the point made directly beforehand.

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

Stimulating growth: how should the ECB leverage the tools at its disposal in order to speed the economic recovery of the Eurozone?

Submitted by: Patrycja Gliwka (PL), Dinara Kanopkina (PL), Michał Korkosz (PL), Ela Köksal (TR), Grzegorz Pielot (PL), Laura Reimoser (DE), Chiara Savarese (IT), Artyom Semianchuk (BY), Kamila Skóra (PL), Jonathan Wennerlund (SE), Oskar Wrona (PL), Lisa Latussek (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Emphasising the position of the European Central Bank (ECB) as a non-political actor with a limited operational mandate,
 - B. Taking into account the negative effect of economic stagnation on the business climate within the Eurozone since the Eurocrisis in 2008,
 - C. Considering the possible weakening of the effectiveness of monetary policy by an uncertain business climate within the Eurozone,
 - D. Conscious of the significant differences between Member States regarding their respective economic situation,
 - E. Aware of the risk of low interest rate causing an over-expansion of money supply and demand-pull inflation leading to the formation of asset bubbles,
 - F. Alarmed by the fact that Quantitative Easing (QE)¹ has been seen as an emergency measure to maintain price stability and economic growth,
 - G. Deeply concerned about the lack of historical statistical data on the implementation of QE within a social market economy;
1. Requests the ECB to intensify the collaboration between the EU institutions on the implementation process of monetary policy;

¹ Quantitative Easing means the purchase of financial assets from commercial banks as well as other financial institutions, which increases their prices and lowers their return on investment, and consequently interest rates.

2. Urges the ECB to develop a flexible approach towards the financial support of the Member States based on their respective economic situation;
3. Endorses the ECB to fully apply the securitization² and diversification of investment;
4. Calls upon the ECB to expand the supervision of financial institutions within the Eurozone through the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM)³ and Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM)⁴ to re-establish the trust of investors;
5. Proposes the Governing Council of the ECB⁵ to develop detailed strategies for the scenarios of:
 - i. exiting the strategy of QE,
 - ii. Expanding QE;
6. Recommends the ECB to take actions enhancing the amount of investment by:
 - i. requesting the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)⁶ to increase its risk capacity to be able to offer higher return rates,
 - ii. asking the EC for setting guidelines to direct investment in public funds funding sustainable growth;
7. Proposes the ECB to create an informational magazine following the concept of the ECB bulletin⁷ targeted at private investors and SMEs.

² Securitization describes the creation and issuance of tradable securities, such as bonds, that are backed by the income generated by an asset, a loan, a public works project or other revenue source

³ The Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) was created to ensure better oversight over banks within the Eurozone.

⁴ The Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) was set up to better manage failing banks.

⁵ The Governing Council is the main decision making body of the ECB and formulates monetary policy for the Eurozone. It includes the six members of the Executive Board, plus the governors of the National Central Banks of all 17 Eurozone countries.

⁶ The EFIS is a measure introduced by the Investment Plan for Europe in 2014, aimed at bridging the EU investment gap.

⁷ The Economic Bulletin presents the economic and monetary information which forms the basis for the Governing Council's policy decisions. It is released eight times a year, two weeks after each monetary policy meeting.

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

I

The new style of business: How can the EU effectively regulate the 'sharing economy' in order to maintain market stability and protect the rights of consumers?

Submitted by: Diego Serrano Cabrera (ES), Gabriela Dąbrowska (PL), Ebba Gustavsson (SE), Mateusz Komsta (PL), Mateusz Malinowski (PL), Łukasz Pieńkowski (PL), Elena Xinari (CY), Anna Zychowicz (PL), Tarik Lazouni (Chairperson, CH)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware of the exponentially growing market size of the 'sharing economy'⁸,
- B. Expressing its appreciation towards 'sharing economy' businesses which offer a great variety of choices, lower prices and higher quality standards for consumers,
- C. Noting with satisfaction that 'sharing economy' businesses contribute to innovation in the developing world,
- D. Concerned by the fact that neither consumers nor 'sharing economy' service providers have safety guarantees due to a lack of background-checks,
- E. Pointing out that traditional businesses suffer from unfair competition induced by tax inequality, as a consequence of a complete lack of regulation on the 'sharing economy',
- F. Fully alarmed by the decrease in performance of traditional businesses as a result of the rapid success of 'sharing economy' businesses in the market and the slow reaction of legislators towards this trend⁹,
- G. Firmly convinced of the capacity of 'sharing economy' companies to create new sources of income and entrepreneurial opportunities,
- H. Noting with deep regret the absence of legal assistance for 'sharing economy' providers,

⁸ In 2013, it generated 15 billion USD in global revenues and is predicted to generate 335 billion USD in 2025; Airbnb was created in 2008 and is currently the second largest provider of accommodation in the world (PricewaterhouseCoopers).

⁹ Taxi drivers can pay up to 240.000 EUR in European cities to get a valid license (The Telegraph).

- I. Appreciating the overall positive impact of the 'sharing economy' on the environment and particularly in the reduction of waste,
 - J. Emphasising the fact that 'sharing economy' providers are treated like employees by the companies, but considered as self-employed by law;
1. Calls for the immediate creation of a European counselling service for 'sharing economy' providers in order to assist them in potential problems with their activity;
 2. Urges the European Commission to include the 'sharing economy' in EU labour legislation;
 3. Urges Member States to implement legislation requiring operators of 'sharing economy' services to perform criminal and medical record checks of potential providers of their service;
 4. Emphasises the need to apply the 'Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work' for 'sharing economy' companies to ensure a safe working environment for sharing economy providers;
 5. Recommends Member States to legally recognise 'sharing economy providers' in their national law;
 6. Further recommends that Member States implement legislation that includes:
 - a) an obligation for 'sharing economy' operators to offer legal guidance and support to their service providers,
 - b) the recognition of the 'sharing economy provider' as a new category for the taxation of personal income,
 - c) define the rights and duties of 'sharing economy providers';
 7. Strongly recommends the European Commission to open an investigation on competition and monopoly for Uber and Airbnb;
 8. Requests the European Commission to extend the scope of its Digital Single Market Act so as to include the 'sharing economy' in their definition of the 'digital economy';
 9. Recommends the establishment of a EU-wide Chamber of Commerce with a mandate specific to EU legislation, to ensure that the aforementioned regulations for the 'sharing economy' are respected;
 10. Expresses its hope that 'sharing economy' providers explore unionisation on a regional or national level within Member States;

11. Expresses its appreciation towards the agreement on tax collection made between Airbnb and the City of Amsterdam¹⁰.

¹⁰ An agreement made between Airbnb and the City of Amsterdam to facilitate the collection of tax from Airbnb transactions and tackle illegally operated hotels.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON TAX RULINGS AND OTHER MEASURES SIMILAR IN NATURE OR EFFECT

Following the ‘LuxLeaks’ revelations of international companies receiving preferential tax rulings from Luxembourg, and similar cases of tax avoidance and evasion across the EU, should the EU act to ensure multinational companies pay a fair amount of tax?

Submitted by: Radosław Czado (PL), Koman Dzvenyslava (UA), Fivos Fieros (CY), Dominik Frej (PL), Bartłomiej Maciąg (PL), Sergiusz Mościński (PL), Karol Organiściak (PL), Roberts Remesis (LV), Niklas Schiffers (DE), Pietro Vantaggiato (IT), Veronika Zadontseva (UA), Joanna Stachera (Chairperson, PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Realising the limited competence of the EU regarding taxation legislation,
- B. Emphasising lack of a common taxation system across the EU, creating legal loopholes¹¹ which enable multinational companies to avoid tax,
- C. Taking into consideration the aim of multinational companies to maximise their profits by means of tax avoidance,
- D. Bearing in mind that multinational companies pay less taxation and therefore have a higher chance of outcompeting national companies,
- E. Noting with regret that countries offering lower taxation attract more multinational companies than countries with higher taxation,
- F. Keeping in mind that profit shifting¹² moves money from one state to another, without contributing to the state’s finances,
- G. Deeply concerned by the fact that there is no agreement assuring information sharing between the EU and third countries, despite existing commercial partnership agreements with them,

¹¹ Legal loopholes are technicalities that allow a person or business to avoid the scope of a law or restriction without directly violating the law.

¹² Transfer shifting is allocation of income and expenses between related corporations or branches of the same legal entity (e.g. by using transfer pricing) in order to reduce the overall tax liability of the group or corporation.

- H. Observing that current tax policies are not suitable for countering tax avoidance mechanisms such as inter-group loans and transfer pricing,
 - I. Affirming that there is no single definition of unfairness of taxation and that each Member State has different perceptions of it,
 - J. Recognising that the corruption and lobbying have a very strong influence on tax rulings,
 - K. Considering that Member States are being reluctant to publish explicit recent tax reports which causes an absence of tax transparency¹³,
 - L. Contemplating the measures already envisaged in the Tax Transparency Package adopted in March 2015¹⁴,
 - M. Noting with approval the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB) proposed by the European Commission in 2011 and the attempt to relaunch it in a mandatory mode in 2015;
- 1. Recommends the implementation of the CCCTB by the Member States in order to eliminate the existence of legal loopholes by:
 - a) reducing variations between national taxation systems,
 - b) avoiding the chance of using preferential systems for profit shifting;
 - 2. Calls for the implementation of the Tax Transparency Package by the European Commission in order to:
 - a) launch further cooperation between Member States on tax inspections by the inspectors from the tax authorities,
 - b) encourage tax authorities to exchange best practices between Member States by publishing the reports summarising the existing practices and including help for the tax authorities, being released every 3 months;
 - 3. Recommends the European Commission to request the Court of Justice to define fair taxation policy in order to guide future legislation aimed at the prevention of tax avoidance;

¹³ Tax transparency is a substantial exchange of the information concerning tax ruling and tax liability between taxation authorities

¹⁴ The Tax Transparency Package encourages the launch of a more open and uniform EU approach to non-cooperative tax jurisdictions (required automatic exchange of the tax information on the tax rulings);

4. Supports the European Commission's Guideline on Gifts and Hospitality published in 2012¹⁵;
5. Urges the European Commission to create a Code of Conduct on tax ruling in order to become stricter on preferential tax ruling;
6. Encourages Member States to alter their taxation policies so that the profit earned by a corporation or corporate group would be liable for taxation within the jurisdiction where the related business operation takes place;
7. Calls upon the European Commission to promise beneficial treatment, such as lack of tariffs on exports, to third countries in exchange for them sharing their taxation information.

¹⁵ The Guideline on Gifts and Hospitality advises its staff to refrain from accepting any gifts and further proposes the creation of a separate committee responsible for the oversight of lobbying and corruption in tax officials

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

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) takes up over a third of the EU's total budget, and the policies it encompasses have had drastic impacts on the agricultural industries of all Member States. How should the CAP be reformed in order to stimulate the economy of the EEA?

Submitted by: George Alexandrou (CY), Piotr Borg (PL), Zofia Broen (PL), Gustav Dahlquist (SE), Gytis Galvanauskas (LT), Julia Kret (PL), Anastasia Laznya (UA), Zofia Szewczuk (PL), Laura Uusitalo (Chairperson, FI)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Recognising the dependency of most of the farm households in the European Union (EU) on Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) subsidies since their average income is smaller than the income in other sectors,
- B. Fully aware that the agricultural subsidies are not well-targeted enough compared to the policy's aims which leads to funds going to unintended beneficiaries such as those whose income level is above average,
- C. Deeply conscious of the lack of efficiency of the subsidies in raising the income level of farmers compared to the amount of the funds invested,
- D. Alarmed by the lack of understanding by European citizens towards the CAP resulting from its complexity causing a lack of support towards the policy,
- E. Noting with deep concern both the EU and its trade partners imposing trade barriers to one another thus hindering the gains from international trade,
- F. Taking note of the population growth causing a pressure to have more productive agriculture to meet the increasing demand for food,
- G. Keeping in mind that the current state of productivity and cost-efficiency of organic farming is not enough to respond to the growing demand of food in the long run,
- H. Bearing in mind the unpredictable supply shocks causing revenue losses and possible bankruptcies due to natural catastrophes, political tensions and plant diseases,

- I. Noting with deep concern that the average age of farmers in Europe is high¹⁶ since enough young people are reluctant to enter the sector due to:
 - a. the need for a lot of starting capital,
 - b. the difficulty to receive a loan,
 - c. the lack of attractiveness of the sector in the eyes of the youth;

1. Recommends that direct payments for one hectare be based on the annual income level of the farm in comparison to the regional average income level by introducing a degressive payment per hectare;
2. Has resolved to establish a fund within the CAP to compensate farmers who suffer a large loss in their annual income due to natural disasters or political tensions;
3. Encourages the formation of cooperatives for smaller farms to increase their influence in the market leading to higher productivity and profitability;
4. Seeks for increased agricultural productivity by requesting more funds on research about the genetically modified organisms (GMO);
5. Recognises the biofuels and agricultural tourism as possible additional income for farmers;
6. Decides to increase the minimum supplement of 25 % to the direct aid that is allocated under the Young Farmers scheme to the minimum of 50 % for farmers under 40 years old for the time period of five years from the starting up the company;
7. Suggests an entrance grant if the farmer under 40 years passes an extensive test indicating their knowledge about managing agriculture in a productive way;
8. Requests the Member States to enhance the level of knowledge about agriculture by offering more information about agriculture and student counselling for agricultural studies in school curricula,
9. Hopes to increase the attractiveness of farming for the youth by:
 - i. farm internship programmes,
 - ii. Local Farm Open Days arranged by farms where the citizens could gain insight and experience about the sector;
10. Draws attention to the importance of the development and the attractiveness of the of the rural areas to farming businesses by targeting more funds to Pillar II of the CAP;

¹⁶ 75% of the farmers in the EU are over 45 years old as of 2010.

11. Expresses its appreciation towards the World Trade Organisation (WTO) international trade negotiations such as the Uruguay and Doha Round that have increased international trade in the agricultural sector;
12. Calls upon the WTO to organise trade negotiation conferences more frequently.

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

What stance should the EU adopt regarding the use of cryptocurrencies in order to prepare its economy and market for this new monetary model?

Submitted by: Piotr Bajgus (PL), Michal Barski (PL), Kamil Bujel (PL), Maria Germanovich (BY), Michal Karbownik (PL), Aleksander Larski (PL), Anton Nikolaev (RU), Ginte Petrulionyte (LT), Marcin Slys (PL), Gunes Uguz (TR), Ugur Yagmur Yavuz (TR), Ece Yildiz (TR), Mate Dvalishvili (Chairperson, GE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting the clear advantages of cryptocurrencies¹⁷ over fiat money¹⁸, which make them more appealing to society, such as:
 - i. the absence of third party while transferring,
 - ii. short transaction time,
 - iii. low transaction fees,
- B. Noting with regret that European Union does not have a unified legal definition for cryptocurrencies,
- C. Aware of the vulnerability of the cryptocurrency market which is subject to extreme fluctuation and volatility,
- D. Fully aware of cryptocurrency networks frequently being a target for hackers,
- E. Deeply disturbed by the insufficiency of compensation mechanisms in case of loss, theft or fraud of cryptocurrency,
- F. Alarmed by the fact that cryptocurrencies are often used as a convenient method of payment for illegal goods and services due to anonymity of transactions,
- G. Bearing in mind the multiplicity of cryptocurrency types caused by the availability of open source code and developing tools, eventually leading to harder control of cryptocurrencies,

¹⁷ Cryptocurrency: a digital currency in which encryption techniques are used to regulate the generation of units of currency and verify the transfer of funds, operating independently of a central bank.

¹⁸ Fiat money: a currency that a government has declared to be legal tender, but is not backed by a physical commodity.

- H. Noting with deep concern the reckless usage of cryptocurrencies by consumers, caused by:
- i. lack of adequate information for consumers,
 - ii. lack of fully comprehensible research of the new phenomenon of digital currency technologies;
1. Expresses its hope that cryptocurrency user safety can be improved by implementing educational programmes for citizens about the features of cryptocurrencies and minimising their usage for illegal purposes;
 2. Calls upon the European Commission (EC) to prepare a common European framework for the treatment and definition of cryptocurrencies, containing following specifications:
 - a) accepting cryptocurrencies as a decentralised, digital medium of exchange based on a peer-to-peer (P2P) network,
 - b) treating and defining cryptocurrencies as different from both currency and commodity,
 - c) exempting cryptocurrencies from Value Added Tax and custom tax;
 3. Invites the European Central Bank (ECB) to publish recommendations regarding the exchange rates of the most used cryptocurrencies;
 4. Desires the Directorate-General for Informatics to develop digital wallet software with double-token authentication and connection to real-life identity for cryptocurrencies;
 5. Recommends cryptocurrency users to adopt safe storage strategies, such as e.g. cold storage¹⁹;
 6. Calls for the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation to create a reliable online information base, containing information about cryptocurrencies and their features;
 7. Supports the establishment and development of insurance programmes by private companies, with a special regard to cryptocurrencies;
 8. Recommends the European Commission to apply regulations to certain cryptocurrencies only, fulfilling a criteria of currency circulation set by ECB;
 9. Encourages the Member States to include information about cryptocurrencies in the curricula of the economics classes at educational institutions.

¹⁹ Cold storage: the process of keeping private keys offline to make them unreachable to hackers via the internet.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

What should the TTIP deal between the EU and the US contain in order to maximise the economic benefit for Member States, whilst protecting European citizens and industry?

Submitted by: Rita Gimenez (ES), Noel Lessinger (LU), Hanna Sokolska (PL), Mikołaj Szpunar (PL), Beatrycze Niebieszczańska (PL), Gaelle Wavre (CH), Zeynep Coskun (TR), Kayra Isyar (TR), Mikołaj Pilecki (PL), Michał Krupiński (PL), Agata Meysner (Chairperson, PL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Fully aware that the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)²⁰ is a major and complex agreement still being discussed by the European Commission and the United States (US) government,
- B. Deeply concerned by the lack of transparency in the negotiations regarding the TTIP causing widespread public concern,
- C. Having considered the possibility of major international companies overusing the right to sue governments granted by investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS)²¹,
- D. Fully alarmed by the Transparency International revelation that 75% of negotiators are corporate companies' lobbyists, leading to Members of the European Parliament not playing a significant role in the negotiation process,
- E. Fully aware that due to lowering the tariffs between the European Union (EU) and the US, American companies might dominate in machinery and the meat industry,
- F. Noting with deep concern that the differences between the US and the EU privacy policies will endanger protection of personal data of the EU citizens,
- G. Having considered that US-based medical companies might contribute to a domination of private health services over public ones present within the EU,

²⁰ The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is an ambitious, comprehensive, and high-standard trade and investment agreement being negotiated between the United States and the European Union (EU) with the aim of promoting multilateral economic growth.

²¹ Investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) is an instrument of public international law, that grants an investor the right to use dispute settlement proceedings against a foreign government.

- H. Realising that domestic companies of the EU may struggle in price competition with multinational businesses, which have larger economies of scale²²,
- I. Disturbed by the access prioritisation to US fossil fuels instead of maximising the potential of renewable sources of energy and efficiency, despite having set target to reduce climate emissions by 2030;
 - 1. Encourages the EU and the US to reach a final agreement on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) by the end of 2016 by means of establishing scheduled meetings every month;
 - 2. Calls upon the European Commission to publish the updates on the full draft of the TTIP on the official website of the European Commission after each round of negotiations in order to:
 - a) avoid mistrust among EU citizens towards the main objective of the TTIP,
 - b) enable citizens to form their own opinions based on factual data;
 - 3. Urges the European Commission to avoid the implementation of investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) in the TTIP;
 - 4. Requests the European Commission to include more EU representatives in the negotiations to increase the influence of the citizens throughout the whole process;
 - 5. Encourages the European-based companies of leading sectors to invest and innovate in the United States market in order to counterbalance American companies entering the EU market;
 - 6. Insists on both sides of negotiations not to adjust the privacy policy of the EU to American standards as it violates the European Convention on Human Rights,²³ which is the most fundamental convention protecting European citizens;
 - 7. Emphasizes that TTIP should not affect National Health Systems, making sure that they are resolved according to national legislation;
 - 8. Endorses the inclusion of a specific chapter on Small-Medium Enterprises (SME) in the TTIP focused on regulations regarding their promotion and protection;

²² Economies of scale are the cost advantages that enterprises obtain due to size, output, or scale of operation.

²³ The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) is an international treaty to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in Europe.

9. Asks the negotiators to follow the 2030 Framework on energy and climate²⁴, especially with regards of the points focused on:
 - a. shale gas,
 - b. fossil fuels,
 - c. carbon emissions;
10. Draws attention to the fact that the free trade and the cooperation will allow renewable energy to become more profitable for both the US and the EU, enabling construction and production at a lowered cost.

²⁴ 2030 Framework for climate and energy includes EU-wide targets and policy objectives that aim to help the EU achieve a more competitive, secure and sustainable energy system and to meet its long-term 2050 greenhouse gas reductions target. The 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for the year 2030: at least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels), at least 27% share for renewable energy, at least 27% improvement in energy efficiency.

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

Amidst rising retirement ages, vanishing pension funds and the issue of youth unemployment, how can the EU act to ensure that pension policies are fair for workers and sustainable within the economy?

Submitted by: Aysun Akhundlu (AZ), Aleksandra Daniluk (PL), Marcin Grzeş (PL), Anna Halewska (PL), Laman Hanifayeva (AZ), Francesco Lucchesi (IT), Ludovic Maguire (SE), Zuzanna Nowak (PL), Hugon Oziewicz (PL), Kamil Rycharski (PL), Baptista Sivanzire (DE), Lucie Vitáková (CZ), Aritz Labrador (Chairperson, ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Pointing out the differences in pension plans between Member States such as:
 - i. Defined Benefit, in which the pensions depend on wage history and length of the service,
 - ii. Defined Contribution, in which pensions rely on lifetime pension accumulation,
- B. Aware of widespread tax avoidance in the European Union (EU) due to the Defined Benefits plan,
- C. Bearing in mind that the amount of workers per pensioner is expected to significantly decrease from 4 in 2015 to 2 in 2050²⁵,
- D. Deeply concerned by the fact that women have on average 28% lower pensions than men²⁶,
- E. Having examined that the aforementioned gender pension gap is caused by:
 - i. lower retirement ages for women,
 - ii. gender-based biased salaries,
 - iii. The Glass Ceiling Effect²⁷,
- F. Noting with deep regret the difficulties to find employment imposed on young people after the 2008 crisis due to their lack of professional experience and skills,

²⁵ Retrieved from: European Parliament Think Tank.

²⁶ Retrieved from: The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

²⁷ The Glass Ceiling Effect: effect caused by keeping women from rising to the upper rungs of the corporate ladder, regardless of their qualifications or achievements.

- G. Keeping in mind the differences between fixed retirement ages within the EU depending on national regulations and specific professions,
 - H. Emphasising the lack of accessible information about existing pension schemes,
 - I. Realising the high variation in demand for certain jobs within the labour market,
 - J. Observing the increase in life expectancy causing a decrease in National Pension Funds;
-
- 1. Urges Member States to implement a maximum retirement age in the public sector tied to the specific requirements of a profession;
 - 2. Asks Member States to encourage companies to provide workers with compulsory pension-schemes-related information such as the current estimated pension;
 - 3. Encourages Member States to allow early retirements in cases where the citizen has met the requirements for personal contribution to receive their state pension despite not being at retirement age;
 - 4. Suggests introducing tax reductions for low-income families with two or more children with the aim of increasing birth rates;
 - 5. Calls upon Member States to implement the Defined Contribution pension scheme in order to combat tax avoidance;
 - 6. Further suggests that Member States promote the 'Track and Trace your pension in Europe' (TTYPE)²⁸ system in order to enable citizens to count their accrued pensions if they have been employed in more than one Member State;
 - 7. Invites the European Mobility Portal (EURES²⁹) to organise job fairs at a local level to promote opportunities offered by companies within the EU;
 - 8. Recommends Member States to introduce national subsidies for student courses leading to jobs of high demand (such as STEM³⁰-related fields);
 - 9. Further recommends Member States to include compulsory internships into national curricula;

²⁸ TTYPE: The EU white paper on pensions underlined the importance of pension tracking across Europe. Since the autumn of 2013, TTYPE has been working towards a set of recommendations to the European Commission for establishing a EU-wide tracking system to help European citizens – especially those working cross border – to keep track of their pensions.

²⁹ EURES: It is a cooperation network designed to facilitate the free movement of workers within the EU 28 countries plus Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

³⁰ STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

10. Appeals to Member States and PensionEurope³¹ to run media campaigns consisting of posters and adverts on the subject;
11. Proposes the enhancement of mobility of workers through:
 - a) vocational trainings funded by the European Social Fund,
 - b) requalification schemes,
 - c) EURES;
12. Notes with appreciation the measures already taken by the EU on making salaries of men and women equal corresponding to the standards, as well as on the fixed retirement ages for both genders.

³¹ PensionsEurope: It ensures a regulatory framework for pension institutions financing workplace pensions or other retirement provisions, which allow them to deliver adequate, safe and affordable pensions and retirement provisions.

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

A new Euro: how should the procedures, governance and support mechanisms of the single currency be reformed in order to ensure economic stability across the EU, and the survival of the Euro project?

Submitted by: Maddalena Conte (IT), Guldana Dadashova (AZ), Sara Fukushima (PL), Natalia Kochmańska (PL), Kamil Kopała (PL), Bohdan Kostiv (UA), Sandra Koziółkiewicz (PL), Patryk Maliszewski (PL), Ania Owczarek (PL), Przemysław Wojs (PL), Stella Celine Kim (Chairperson, DE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the risk of a sovereign debt crisis of the Member States,
- B. Deeply concerned by various national governments such as Greece being unable to resolve their economic issues self-sufficiently in time,
- C. Observing that bailouts have a negative financial consequence for the financing Member States and are primarily a temporary solution,
- D. Fully alarmed that despite the European Union's efforts to reform the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP)³² through the Six-pack, the Two-pack and the European Fiscal Compact (EFC)³³, several Member States are still breaching it,
- E. Viewing with appreciation that the European Commission is currently working towards the creation of a Capital Market³⁴,

³² Stability and Growth Pact (SGP): The SGP is a set of rules designed to ensure that countries in the European Union pursue sound public finances and coordinate their fiscal policies. The SGP has three arms: preventive, corrective and enforcement which are utilised to prevent fiscal policies from heading in potentially problematic directions and to correct excessive budget deficits or excessive public debt burdens. Excessive budget deficit is defined as a Member State's budget greater than 3% of an average Member State's GDP.

³³ Six-pack, Two-pack, European Fiscal Compact (EFC): further implementation of the SGP; is the stricter version of the SGP.

³⁴ Capital Market: Markets which facilitate the buying and selling of financial instruments like bonds, stocks, etc. The buying/selling is undertaken by participants such as individuals and institutions. Capital markets

- F. Alarmed by tax evasion in Member States where tax pressure is high or the working regulation is weak,
 - G. Recognising that the debt of the banking sector is significantly higher than the sovereign debt³⁵,
 - H. Realising that Member States are subject to a common monetary policy as they are part of a monetary union which may be incompatible due to macroeconomic imbalances,
 - I. Taking into account that despite EU incentives, many Member States have failed to make productive investments, resulting in large budget deficits and low growth rates,
 - J. Fully aware that investors are disincentivized from buying government bonds by the lack of growth across the EU and unsustainable debt levels;
1. Calls for further usage of Eurobonds³⁶ within the Eurozone to reduce investors' uncertainty in a government's debt sustainability;
 2. Encourages Member States to comply with the SGP criteria stating that:
 - a. up to 60% of a Member State's debt to GDP can be sold as Eurobonds,
 - b. the surplus can only be used as national bonds;
 3. Requests further support for Member States in their fight against tax evasion;
 4. Calls for further monetary assistance of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM)³⁷ to stabilise the economy of Member States in recession;
 5. Recommends reforming the punishment measures for not complying with the SGP;
 6. Encourages the further development of a Capital Market's Union to ensure economic growth;
 7. Suggests to eliminate Collective Action Clauses³⁸ in the ESM in order to reduce risks of sovereign debt crisis.

help channelise surplus funds from savers to institutions which then invest them into productive use. Generally, this market trades mostly in long-term securities.

³⁵ In 2008 the banking sector's debt was 250% and the overall sovereign debt was 80%.

³⁶ Eurobonds: debt investments given to the entire eurozone. They are considered as a way to tackle the European sovereign debt crisis as the indebted states are being additionally supported by the other Eurozone countries and do not have to carry the debt themselves.

³⁷ European Stability Mechanism (ESM): is the solution for financial crisis of the countries in the Eurozone created to stabilise the European economies by providing financial guidance and assistance to the Eurozone Member States which are either experiencing or threatened by financial problems. It is an emergency fund with a maximum lending capacity of 500 billion EUR.

³⁸ Collective Action Clauses: legally binding debt restructuring.

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

Towards the Digital Single Market: how can the EU and its Member States support online commerce and overcome the barriers faced by citizens, small businesses and governments buying and selling across digital borders?

Submitted by: Glenn Oliver Anderson (LV), Filippo Bertolini (IT), Charalambos Eftychiou (CY), Sonia Jakubiak (PL), Maria Kadłuczko (PL), Mehwisch Khan (UK), Samanta Šlapikaitė (LT), Maria Tymańska (PL), Marko Zivonjovic (CY), Elena Petridou (Chairperson, CY)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned by the price inequality for consumers caused by the practice of geo-blocking³⁹,
- B. Deploring the absence of legislative harmonisation among Member States concerning the Digital Market,
- C. Alarmed by the lack of transparency concerning the calculation models used by online retailers to determine their shipping fees,
- D. Bearing in mind that 19%⁴⁰ of the European Union's population cannot regularly access the Internet,
- E. Having examined the difference in marketing budget of major digital companies compared to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) which leads to larger companies dominating the market,
- F. Fully alarmed by the lack of information about possible ways of founding, maintaining and extending the online presence of SMEs such as:
 - i. indirect funding in the form of government support,

³⁹ Geo-blocking: the act of restricting an individual's access to a page on the Internet based on their geographic location.

⁴⁰ Eurostat: Information Society Statistics – households and individuals, data extracted in June 2015

- ii. direct funding available from the European Investment Bank and programs such as European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI),
- G. Taking into account the insufficiency of records and accounts which businesses are required to make public,
- H. Noting with regret the data on the perception of European online privacy⁴¹ which notes that:
 - i. 72% of the Internet users are worried about the need of excessive personal data for navigation,
 - ii. only 22% of Europeans fully trust online companies,
 - iii. 62% of Europeans do not know how to properly protect their personal data;
- 1. Considers necessary the abolishment of unjustified geo-blocking through the creation of a common European policy regarding the issue;
- 2. Urges Member States to follow the guidelines issued by the European Commission in the Digital Single Market agenda;
- 3. Calls for the sponsorship of web servers by Member States which will be offered for use by some SMEs, depending on their annual turnover;
- 4. Emphasises the requirement for every company to showcase its economical calculation model for shipping fees and pricing in order to promote further transparency for European citizens;
- 5. Encourages Member States to organise public events such as campaigns, seminars, advertisements and lectures, to inform the public of available start-up sponsorship from direct and indirect sources;
- 6. Endorses the funding of the Connecting Europe Facility in order to provide wider Internet access through its Digital Services Infrastructure;
- 7. Invites online retailers to publish more detailed records of their operations and make these available through an EU-wide register;
- 8. Recommends that Member States update their Information Technology (IT) educational programmes to support the needs of the Digital Single Market;
- 9. Calls upon Member States to allocate specific funds to be given as subsidies to SMEs to be used for marketing and advertising, with eligibility determined by annual turnover.

⁴¹ European Commission: Digital Single Market factsheet, data extracted in 2014

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

With euro zone countries now forming a voting majority over those Member States continuing to use a national currency, what safeguards should be considered to ensure that the future direction of EU policy does not unfairly disadvantage or disregard the rights and interests of EU members who are outside the single currency?

Submitted by: Meri Asatryan (AR), Marcel Bielówka (PL), Edon Boletini (AL), Robin Delhomme (FR), Klea Hysenbelli (AL), Berfin Karaman (TR), Sara Pavlova (MD), Michal Szczotka (PL), Zosia Sznajder (PL), Julia Wodzińska (PL), João Costa Cardoso (Chairperson, PT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Convinced that the fear of instability of the Eurozone deters non-Eurozone members from entering the Eurozone,
- B. Fully aware that joining the Eurozone increases the attractiveness of non-Eurozone Member States' markets,
- C. Alarmed by the variety of monetary and currency policies within European Union and its negative impact on economic cooperation and investment,
- D. Expressing its appreciation towards aims set in Article 3⁴² of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU),
- E. Having considered the voting system described in Articles 231 and 238⁴³ of the Treaty on Functioning of European Union (TFEU),

⁴² Article clarifying the European Union's goal towards the accomplishment of a single currency union.

⁴³ Articles defining the voting procedures of the European Parliament and the European Council which consists on the majority voting system.

- F. Taking note that permanent opt-outs⁴⁴ and the voluntary nature of Exchange Rate Mechanism II (ERM II)⁴⁵ are inconsistent with Article 3 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU),
- G. Noting with deep concern the lack of cooperation between the European Central Bank and non-Eurozone Member States;
 - 1. Reaffirms the goal of European Union to implement single currency among its Member States;
 - 2. Urges the Eurozone countries to take actions aiming towards stabilising their currency, stressing the importance of previous agreements, such as the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance⁴⁶;
 - 3. Further reminds that the protocol of opt-out granted to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Kingdom of Denmark does not pose a threat to Eurozone policy;
 - 4. Accepts the possibility of delay in entrance of non-Eurozone countries into Eurozone;
 - 5. Calls upon the non-Eurozone countries to join the ERM II;
 - 6. Further requests an amendment of the TFEU requirements concerning blocking minorities, as highlighted in Article 238, from 35% to 29% of EU citizens;
 - 7. Declare the aforementioned safeguards to be considered as an incentive for non-Eurozone countries not holding a permanent opt-out to strengthen their efforts leading to adopting the Euro.

⁴⁴ Meaning that the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Denmark were not required to participate in the third stage of economic and monetary union (EMU) and consequently introduce the euro as their national currency.

⁴⁵ Mechanism set up to ensure that exchange rate fluctuations between the euro and other EU currencies do not disrupt economic stability within the single market, and to help non euro-area countries prepare themselves for the participation in the Euro area.

⁴⁶ Treaty establishing the fiscal rules Euro-zone Member States must apply to in order to stabilize the currency such as the maximum level of budget deficit.



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