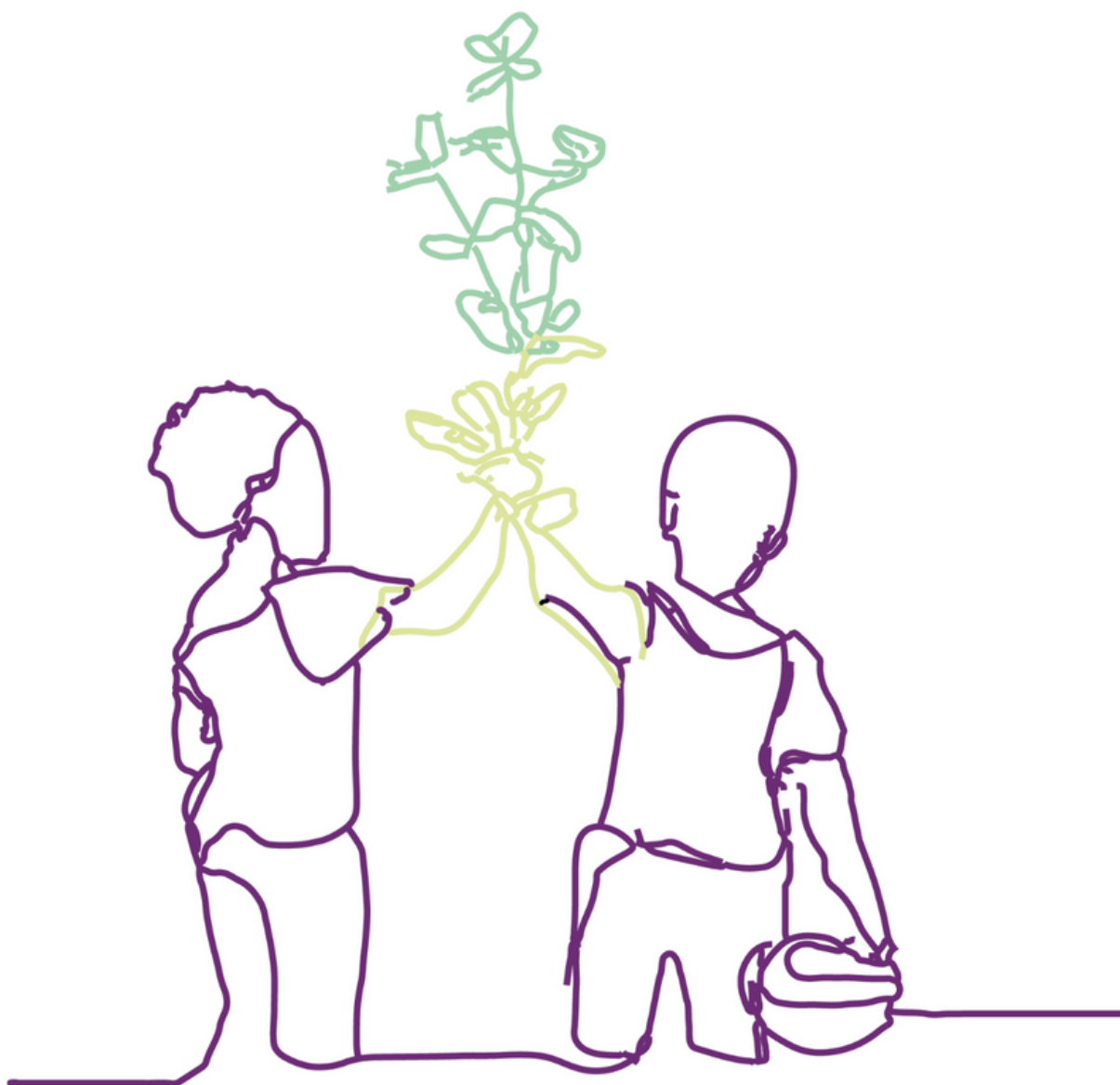




Thessaloniki '22

44th National Selection Conference

Resolution Booklet



European Youth Parliament Greece – EYP Greece

Thessaloniki '22 - 44th National Selection Conference of EYP Greece

Resolution Booklet of

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We would like to further acknowledge the people who have supported the coordination, the format and language checks, as well as the National Committee members who assisted with the organisational and the technological support of the resolution typing process.

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NSC Thessaloniki 2022 General Assembly Procedure

GENERAL RULES

- All delegates are encouraged to vote and refrain from abstaining unless faced with a genuine moral conflict.
- In order to pass, the Resolution needs to collect an **absolute majority**, i.e., **50%+1 of the votes**.
- Only the Chairperson may raise the different committee placards, as explained below.
- The authority of the Board is absolute.

OPENING OF THE GA

- **Reading of the topic by the Board** (*1 minute*)

During this stage, the Board announces the Committee of which the topic will be discussed and then proceeds to read the topic title.

- **Silent reading of the Resolution** (*1.5 minutes*)

All members of the General Assembly (GA) read the operative clauses for themselves.

SPEECHES

a. Defence Speech by the Proposing Committee (*2 minutes*)

During this time, one member of the proposing committee will deliver a speech presenting the resolution to the General Assembly, during which the rationale, approach and contents of the resolution are explained in an effort to convince the General Assembly as to why the solutions proposed are both feasible and necessary. As a result, the speech should focus primarily on explaining the reasoning and the context of its proposals, rather than simply defending it to the General Assembly.

b. Position Speeches by two Delegates (*2 x 1.5 minutes*)

The Position Speeches can be given by Delegates of any committee, except the one proposing the Resolution. The Position Speech is supposed to present a disagreement and a different approach to the Resolution or be in favour of the resolution. The Speech is meant to present a personal opinion that **thoroughly disagrees or supports the** proposed resolution, placing special emphasis on the **aims and reasoning** of the resolution and goal behind this critique. It **should not pick out any individual clauses**, except as examples of a more general rationale. Rather, it should be used when

a delegate **fundamentally disagrees with the aim, direction and content or chooses to support** the resolution. Additionally, it should be more **factual** than emotional. In particular, the Position Speech needs to **highlight** the approach of the committee and **outline an alternative direction** for solutions.

C. Response to Position Speeches by the Proposing Committee (2 minutes)

In this speech, a Delegate from the proposing committee responds to the two Position Speeches outlined above. It is important to address the concerns of the Position Speech, explaining why the Resolution is still valid and useful, despite any attacks.

d. Points of Open Debate (3.5 minutes total per round, for 3-4 points; 3 rounds of open debate, the 4th round may be allowed by the Board depending on the time)

During the Open Debate, any delegate from a committee -aside from the proposing one- may ask their Chairperson to raise their committee placard and make a comment on the Resolution. The Open Debate aims to facilitate a discussion on the Resolution, so Delegates are encouraged to **propose additional solutions** and enrich the debate, rather than simply asking for clarifications or details.

In order to contribute meaningfully to the discussion of the Resolution, a point of debate needs to have the following three characteristics:

- **Relevant:** the point needs to be connected to a specific idea of the Resolution, rather than multiple. In particular, a point of Debate should **only cover one idea at a time**.
- **Constructive:** the point needs to aim to improve the discussion around the Resolution, as well as the Resolution itself. Instead of simply asking a question that the Proposing Committee may not have considered, try to **suggest an answer** to this question, or an alternative solution that can be considered.
- **Reasoned:** you need to explain your reasoning when offering a point of Open Debate. After agreeing or disagreeing with something, try to explain **why**.

e. Response to Points of Open Debate (1.5 minutes per round)

In this speech, a Delegate from the proposing committee responds to the points raised by the General Assembly during the round of Debate. It is strongly suggested to respond to all the points raised, as this will present the preparation and knowledge of the committee in a more positive light. Often, it is useful to **take notes of the points raised** during the Open Debate, in order to accurately answer all of them without forgetting any. Please do note that the response to the last round of open

debate will be replied from the podium, and its timing will be counted within the Summation Speech time.

f. Summation of Debates and Summation Speech (3 minutes)

The summation speech will consist of two main parts delivered by one or two members of the proposing committee, ideally divided in 1.5 and 1.5 minutes, although the Board will not stop the speech, but it will be delegates' responsibility to divide between themselves the time. The first part of this speech will answer the questions of the last round of open debates and **summarise the debate**. Afterwards, the delegate(s) will use the rest of their time as their last opportunity of the committee to use all their rhetorical energy and skill to **convince the General Assembly to vote for their resolution**; thus, this speech can be more emotional than rational, primarily aiming to convince other delegates to vote in favour.

VOTING PROCEDURE

- After the conclusion of all the speeches on a Resolution, the Chairpersons will collect the votes of their Delegates on their committee channel.
- The Chairpersons will submit the vote of their committee on GA Statistics.
- **Announcing The Votes:** After the voting procedure is concluded, the Board announces whether the resolution has passed or failed. In order to pass, the Resolution needs to collect an **absolute majority**, i.e., **50%+1 of the votes**.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLACARDS

a. Committee Placard:

Each Committee has a Placard with its Committee name, which must be raised at any point that the Committee wishes to be recognised to speak during the General Assembly. The delegates together with the Chairperson must decide beforehand who will be delivering speeches and making points, as well as their order, in case there are multiple Delegates wishing to make a point.

b. Direct Response (2x per debate)

Twice per debate, each committee (including the one proposing) has the ability to immediately reply to the point that was made directly before, especially in terms of the content of the point. Therefore, if a Chairperson raises the Direct Response placard, the Board will immediately recognise the Direct Response of their committee. If two or more committees request a Direct Response, the Board will decide which committee to recognise at its discretion.

Keep in mind, being relevant is not enough here; we need a point that directly replies to the previous one. For example, we have:

Point: *'How will you fund this programme?'*

Direct Response (Wrong): *'Yes, also, how will you make sure the programme will be effective?'*

This Direct Response is **not successful** because, although it is related to the previous point, it **does not answer** the point. Instead, you could try the following:

Point: *'How will you fund this programme?'*

Direct Response (Correct!): *'This programme could actually be funded using the XYZ programme!'*

c. Point of Personal Privilege

This placard may be raised by a Chairperson if one of their delegates requests to repeat a point that was inaudible.

Please note that the Point of Personal Privilege may not be used to ask clarifications on a point, only to ask the repetition of a point that was not fully heard.

d. Point of Order

This placard may be raised by a Chairperson, if at any instance a committee feels that the Board has not followed appropriate parliamentary procedure. Ultimately, the authority of the Board is absolute.

TIMES AND PROCEDURES

- **Reading of the topic by the Board** (1 minute)
- **Silent reading of the Resolution** (1.5 minutes)
- **Defence Speech by the Proposing Committee** (2 minutes)
- **Position Speeches by Delegates** (3 minutes = 2x1.5 minutes)
- **Response to Position Speeches by the Proposing Committee** (2 minutes)
- **Three Rounds (or four) of Open Debate with responses by the Proposing Committee** (13.5 minutes = 3x3.5 minutes + 2x1.5 minutes for Response)
- **Response to the last round of debate and Summation Speech by the Proposing Committee** (3 minutes)
- **Voting Procedure** (5 minutes)

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY I (ITRE I)

Turn it up or turn it down?: *The current conflict puts Europe in a rough energy spot, demanding it decreases its energy consumption and looks for alternatives to the Russian-imported gas. How should the EU and its Member States coordinate their energy policies and targets, keeping in mind the international developments as well as the commitment to green transition?*

Submitted by: Michalis Archipov (GR), Ioannis Dimitropoulos (GR), Eleni-Louiza Kapetanidou (GR), Panagiwta Karagewrgiou (GR), Kleopatra Mermigki (GR), Athanasia Mpalasi (GR), Theodwra Polychroniadou (GR), Eleni Stavrou (GR), Louiza Todi (GR), Stergianni Topaloudi (GR), Aleksandros Tsoutsas (GR), Marek Jankovský (CZ, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to secure a smooth transition to renewable sources of energy to meet its environmental targets and ensure that such changes are upheld in the future. The EU shall ensure energy security by achieving energy autonomy, diversifying its energy mix, and reducing energy waste. The EU shall prioritise the basic needs of its citizens during this process,

because

- The lack of cooperation and interconnectedness of the EU's energy infrastructure results in the waste of already produced energy, increasing the necessary amount,
- Fossil fuels, such as coal, natural gas, or oil have a largely [negative impact](#) on the environment and are [less efficient](#) than other energy sources, including nuclear energy, biomass, hydrogen, and biomethane,
- There are already existing efforts to ensure a green transition and energy security, such as the [European Climate Law](#), the [Fit for 55 package](#), the [REPowerEU plan](#), and the goal to end dependency on Russian gas by 2027,

- There is a lack of suitable gas and liquified natural gas infrastructure necessary to transport the EU's necessary gas and oil supplies,
- The EU has imported [83%](#) of its natural gas consumption in the last year, resulting in uncertainty regarding energy supplies and loss of autonomy for the Union,
- There has been an increase in energy poverty amongst EU citizens, raising the [risk](#) of respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses, poor mental health, and unintentional injury,
- The EU [lacks available energy storage](#), limiting the potential of many renewable sources of energy and increase of energy waste,
- The re-opening of fossil-fuel-fired power plants poses a [threat](#) to the EU's environmental targets;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve these aims,

1. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) to improve energy efficiency and minimise the loss of energy by:
 - a) Further developing [joint infrastructure projects](#),
 - b) Implementing further ways to use the EU's power grid without substantial energy loss;
2. Recommends the Council of the European Union caps gas prices, following the [proposal](#) of the European Commission;
3. Urges the DG ENER to improve the energy infrastructure of the EU by facilitating energy transportation and building new necessary pipelines;
4. Proposes the DG ENER to increase its energy storage capacity up to 20% of its yearly energy consumption by 2035;
5. Further asks the DG ENER to increase its energy storage capacity by funding research and development of energy storage technologies, including batteries, hydrogen, molten salt energy storage, and pumped-storage hydropower;

6. Suggest the EU diversifies its natural gas sources and stabilise natural gas prices by:
 - a) establishing and improving infrastructure with potential and already existing partner countries, such as Norway, Egypt, Qatar, Morocco, Algeria, USA, and Canada,
 - b) fixing gas prices through mid-term agreements with the aforementioned partners;
7. Calls upon the DG ENER to establish the Energy Efficiency Fund, which will be subsidising energy efficiency transformation of households and businesses;
8. Asks the European Commission to delegate funds from Horizon Europe to further subsidise renewable energy sources for households and Small and Medium Enterprises;
9. Proposes Member States ensure sufficient power supply by restarting already existing nuclear reactors, following the example of [France](#);
10. Requests Member States actively subsidise the renovation of buildings, following the example of [Greece](#);
11. Invites Member States to enact energy efficiency requirements for new buildings, following the example of [Australia](#);
12. Urges Member States to provide financial support in the form of subsidies and decrease the taxes of households struggling due to the energy crisis;
13. Calls upon the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM) to fund media campaigns on renewable energy subsidising programmes, energy efficiency programmes under the Energy Efficiency Fund, and the safety and benefits of nuclear power.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CLIM)

Too Hot To Handle: *According to Copernicus, the European Union's Earth observation programme, the cumulative number of wildfires in Europe since the start of 2022 is four times over the 15-year average for the same time period. Considering that recent heat waves, which have been marked as starters or contributors to the wildfires, bear the imprint of human-caused climate change, how can the EU use its aid initiatives to lessen the impact of the climate crisis on its citizens?*

Submitted by: Vassiliki Aggelopoulou (GR), Argyro Asteriou (GR), Christina Gaitanidou (GR), Sofia Gavriilidou (GR), Eleni Katsinou (GR), Sofoklis Kazis (GR), Maria Eleni Kontogeorgou (GR), Maria Rapti (GR), Konstantina Sarafeidi (GR), Christina Maria Sarioglou (GR), Krystallia Nteli (GR), Yizhen Wang (GR), Jordi Bravo (ES/FI, Chairperson), Ioanna Efthymia Syrta (GR, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to spread awareness on the consequences that both humans and the environment are facing as a result of climate change. The EU shall aim to reduce, prevent, and control wildfires by increasing the amount of resources designated to wildfires management, whilst also motivating Member States to review and adapt the already existing legislative measures that will further contribute to wildfire prevention,

because

- The number of burnt hectares in the time span of 15 years [tripled](#) within the last year,
- Wildfires release GHGs, like carbon dioxide and methane, which contribute to the pollution of the atmosphere,
- The smoke emissions are negatively [affecting human health](#), when inhaled,
- Many people's lives and properties are lost yearly due to the wildfires, like in [Mati](#) where 103 people died due to a devastating wildfire,
- High temperatures caused by scorching heat waves can not only [increase](#) the risk of wildfires, but also lead to other natural disasters such as droughts,
- Drought-induced dry plains are [high risk areas](#) due to the ability of the wildfires to spread more quickly,

- The occurrence of wildfires results in [increased flood risk](#),
- There is a [lack of wildfire supervision](#) in high risk areas, such as forests, especially during summer time,
- The risk of flames and sweltering heat waves was present across [64% of Europe](#) in July 2022,
- Wildfires reduce the productivity of the soil, raising the cost of basic goods such as wheat, barley, and vegetables,
- Citizens lack [proper education](#) on wildfire prevention,
- Wildfires can constitute the main reason for fauna's relocation due to [habitat loss](#) and extinction,
- Wildfires are the cause of the [rapid destruction and extinction](#) of flora;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Recommends Greenpeace to develop volunteer programmes that emphasise on tree plantation, to restore the amount of burned trees;
2. Requests the European Commission to provide wildfire victims with special medical attention in emergency to lessen the harm that wildfires have on people's health;
3. Encourages the [Directorate-General on Climate Action](#) (DG CLIMA) to provide financial aid to first responders so that they can act quickly to put out fires and prevent the release of GHG emissions, by providing them with modern wildfire detection mechanisms and the necessary equipment, such as firefighting vehicles or workforce;
4. Asks Greenpeace to limit the quick expansion of wildfires by creating a programme to remove dried flora from dehydrated forests;
5. Asks the European Commission to provide the necessary resources such as the workforce and volunteers with financial assistance during emergencies by improving cooperation between national governments in Europe;
6. Invites the European Commission to reduce the frequency of heat waves and minimise the risk of wildfires and floods by following eco-friendly methods and reinforcing the already [existing legislation](#);

7. Encourages the European Commission to tackle the shortage of basic goods caused by the wildfires by improving the supplier collaboration amongst Member States and ensuring innovative approaches regarding agriculture and fertility of the soil;
8. Calls upon Member States to protect high-risk areas from wildfires by appointing people responsible for surveillance, such as but not limited to firefighters and forest guards;
9. Invites the European Environmental Agency to raise awareness of the general public by informing them about the climate change crisis, especially wildfires, through educational campaigns;
10. Encourages DG CLIMA to assist animals in need of medical attention in the midst of relocation due to wildfires by assisting NGOs, such as Greenpeace, World Wide Fund, or the Forest Defenders Alliance, in building and maintaining animal shelters;
11. Encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to preserve endangered plant species by creating and promoting scientific research on the topic.

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

#SayNoToProgress: *Despite the commitment of Member States to construct renewable energy sites and sustainable infrastructures, such as wind turbines and high-speed trains, the implementation of such projects is often hampered by the protests of local communities that would be affected by it. How should the EU and its Member States ensure the construction of the necessary infrastructures while at the same time protecting local citizens' interests?*

Submitted by: Krystallia Argyropoulou (GR), Maria Georgiadou (GR), Antonis Giannakos (GR), Magdalini Grigoriadou (GR), Eleni Gkesouli (GR), Georgia Gkiourou (GR), Daphne Liakou (GR), Panagiota Maggira (GR), Anastasia Maliousi (GR), Athanasia Petseta (GR), Pashalina Tsitsiou (GR), Athina Drousioti (CY, Chairperson), Pavle Vučković (RS, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to contribute to the construction of sustainable infrastructures without neglecting local communities' interests, while simultaneously protecting the environment,

because

- The lack of [openness and transparency](#) concerning sustainable infrastructure projects results in opposing attitudes of the general public,
- Programmes tackling green energy and infrastructure are [poorly implemented](#) in academic curricula of educational institutions,
- [Insufficient information](#) about the socio-economic benefits of sustainable infrastructure causes confusion and a lack of trust among the public,
- [Greenwashing](#) contributes to the rise of doubt and suspicion surrounding sustainable energy and infrastructure projects among the general public,
- Solar panels, wind turbines, and the surrounding infrastructure [take over large amounts of space](#), taking over agricultural and livestock grazing grounds,
- Mini-hydropower plants can cause [environmental damage](#) to the surrounding environment, threatening nature and wildlife,

- The incorporation of [green infrastructure in legislation](#) is inadequate, resulting in disagreement between institutions and difficulties in projects' realisation,
- [Lack of knowledge](#) towards environmental and socio-economical aspects of green infrastructure and [lack of competency among investors](#) can cause poor project executions,
- Profits of renewable energy sites are [usually funnelled to investors](#) while [landowners'](#) rights are neglected, and their main source of income could be lost;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Encourages Member States' to enhance openness and transparency in the investors for sustainable public projects, by providing assessments about the socioeconomic effects of green infrastructure;
2. Invites Member States to integrate proper educational programmes, specifically adjusted for each age group, by bringing experts who can raise environmental consciousness;
3. Suggests Member States to highlight the importance of sustainable infrastructure for local decision-makers and the general public by organising educational activities in form of seminars and workshops;
4. Calls upon [Interreg Europe](#) to fund research programmes for designing less space-taking infrastructure;
5. Encourages Member States to prohibit the construction in areas that are fertile, profitable, or inhabited;
6. Calls upon the European Commission to protect locals' rights by:
 - a. reinforcing and adding construction standards on respecting local landowners' rights,
 - b. imposing restrictions to Member States that do not comply with such standards;
7. Invites the [European Climate Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency \(CINEA\)](#) to guide investors into building hydropower plants out of [Natura 2000](#) areas, by identifying locations where they minimise disturbance of natural habitats;

8. Requests the [Directorate-General for the Environment](#) (DG ENVI) to review the [already existing legislation](#) to limit the construction of local energy subunits in areas where socioeconomic or environmental damage is likely to occur;
9. Suggests Member States to require companies to provide more detailed reports about their green engagement;
10. Further invites Interreg Europe to fund training programmes that optimise the work skills of the staff working in green energy fields, and the knowledge of the investors;
11. Calls upon Member States to improve existing legislation supporting the rights of landowners by providing financial compensation equivalent to the value of lost land.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND ENERGY (ITRE II)

Hip Housin: *Many European cities lack both vacant space and affordable housing, with 37% of Greeks spending over 40% of their disposable income on housing, according to Eurostat. Bearing in mind current efforts in creating eco- and alternative housing, how can the EU and its Member States address the current housing crisis and ensure housing is made affordable and sustainable?*

Submitted by: Ari Athanasiou (GR), Sergios Chatziavradimidis (GR), Argyro Evangelidi (GR), Evaggelia Giortsou (GR), Korina Kallantzi (GR), Evaggelia Koursoviti (GR), Athina Simeonidou (GR), Maria Spanou (GR), Evaggelia Tranou (GR), Anita Broshka (IT, Chairperson), Dorian Morgenroth (FR, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to address the current housing crisis by ensuring that all EU citizens exercise their right to accessible, affordable and humane housing. The EU shall prioritise investment in sustainable and cost-effective housing, through the resources of the Next Generation EU. The end goal of this process lies in moving towards green housing as part of the European Green Deal,

because

- The internationally recognised right to [adequate standard of housing](#) is stifled by large amounts of unexploited and ageing infrastructures in need of renovation,
- There has been a [320%](#) rise in Airbnb rental listings, which has limited the supply of long-term housing, as well as increasing their prices by 38%,
- The [17.6%](#) increase in rent prices the EU results in average income levels being unable to cover basic housing needs for many Europeans,
- In 2050, the number of European citizens who live in urban areas is expected to reach [80%](#), resulting in more carbon emissions and a lack of space,

- The increasing construction of new houses is lowering the amount of renovations to existing buildings, which often remain unused,
- The decrease in sharing of social housing in Member States has contributed to a [70% rise](#) in homelessness in the last ten years,
- [75%](#) of the buildings in the EU are not energy-efficient, obliging European citizens to consume [80%](#) of their energy supply towards heating, cooling and domestic water
- [40%](#) of EU's energy consumption comes from the building sector,
- [18.9%](#) of an EU citizen's disposable income is dedicated to housing, rising to [37.7%](#) to those earning below the median wage,
- [90%](#) of a human life is spent in buildings, making their improvement a top priority,
- [10.4%](#) of individuals living in urban areas in the EU are overburdened by the housing costs;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve these aims,

1. Urges the European Commission to further regulate the Airbnb industry through:
 - a) requiring a licence by ministries of tourism,
 - b) establishing mandatory safety standards, applying to traditional short term rentals;
2. Calls upon Member States to enforce a common taxation policy of Airbnb revenue that matches the national tax rate of long term rentals;
3. Encourages Member States to increase public investment in the eradication of homelessness and house deprivation, using the Next Generation EU Recovery and Resilience plan;
4. Suggests the European Commission to improve sustainability of homes by:
 - a) funding the installation of energy-efficient power sources,
 - b) implementing energy efficiency assessments on all new buildings;
5. Directs the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to support the slowing of urbanisation by increasing the growth of local businesses in rural areas;
6. Invites the European Investment Bank (EIB) to fund in the renovation of old infrastructure in the Member States, rendering them habitable and utilised;



7. Encourages Member States to utilise prefabrication¹ and off-site construction in order to reduce the building cost and on site delays;
8. Directs Member States to set a limit on the purchasing and rent price of homes that align with their objective value² stated on property tax returns.

¹ **Prefabrication** is the practice of assembling components of a structure in a factory or other manufacturing site, and transporting complete assemblies or sub-assemblies to the construction site where the structure is to be located.

² A property's **objective value** is defined on a national scale with parameters such as but not limited to: size (m²), Area, Floor, Type, etc.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM (TRAN)

See you somewhere in Europe: *Prior to the pandemic several tourism protests swept across many European travel destinations, such as Barcelona, Venice, and Mykonos, with locals voicing concerns over habitat destruction, pollution, and overcrowding. With COVID-19 restrictions easing up and Europe set to face a record number of visitors, how should the EU ensure tourism is sustainable?*

Submitted by: Angeliki Polyzou, Anastasios Ioannidis, Andreas Kalathas, Foteini Apostolika, Ioanna-Christina Lanara, Kwstantina Tsaroucha, Paraskevi Mpaveli, Stefania Tsavdaridou, Stella Chatzipetrou, Vasiliki Iosifidou, Carlos Saraiva (PT, Chairperson), Eleni Anayiotou (CY, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to encourage the coordination of governments, businesses, and individuals in the promotion of viable tourism and in the restoration of its COVID-affected industry. Furthermore, it aims at encouraging sustainable tourism through its environmental, economic, and socio-cultural facets,

because

- Small local hospitality enterprises find it more difficult than transnational hospitality enterprises to meet hygienic standards due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic,
- New transnational investments lead to [increased land prices](#) in historic city centres,
- Citizens and communities are [severely affected](#) by the drawbacks of seasonal unemployment,
- Tourists [consume more](#) natural resources than local residents,
- The hospitality industry is financially unstable, as showcased by the skyrocketed [unemployment rate](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic,
- Local citizens in touristic locations are [alienated](#) from engaging in cultural phenomena,
- Mass tourism could lead to [culturally insensitive behaviours](#) towards locals,
- The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of several Member States relies heavily on tourism, making up [10%](#) of the EU's overall GDP,

- Long-haul means of transport, such as those through [air](#) and [sea](#), cause much higher emissions than other eco-friendly alternatives;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Encourages the European Commission to create a EU hygiene certification standard to be awarded to compliant hospitality businesses;
2. Calls upon the European Commission to establish financial benefits for small and local businesses on the basis of their financial situation and their tourism density;
3. Further invites the European Commission to support seasonal workers through financial allowances, the allocation of which shall be regulated by the [EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme \(EMAS\)](#);
4. Invites Member States to incorporate ecotourism education in school curricula, focussing on environmental, economic, and social sustainability;
5. Encourages Member States to promote and facilitate habitat preservation following [Natura 2000 guidelines](#);
6. Recommends that Member States implement a policy of energy-regulating machines in touristic destinations;
7. Recommends the European Commission to sustain traditional local products through the [European Destinations of Excellence](#) initiative;
8. Invites the European Travel Commission to create public campaigns promoting sustainable tourism practices;
9. Calls upon the European Commission to support the usage of eco-friendly energy resources in touristic areas;
10. Invites Member States to encourage the usage of eco-friendly means of transportation, by rendering them more financially accessible.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION (CULT)

Far from Home: *The colonial past continues to hang over modern Europe and cause division amongst Member States, with countless artefacts that were removed from occupied or colonised territories being stored in Western museums. Considering the context of how said artefacts were acquired and noting the UN position favouring repatriation, what role should the EU and Member States play in regard to the restitution of foreign cultural property?*

Submitted by: Maria Boutziou (GR), Natalia Chatzikonstantinou (GR), Elisavet Kareli (GR), Konstantina Kioulpekidou (GR), Athanasia Lykostrati (GR), Panagiota-Christina Papanastasiou (GR), Maria Psaragkathou (GR), Konstantina Soulioti (GR), Foteini Stefanidou (GR), Sofia Tsitsirikou (GR), Giulia Franchi (IT, Chairperson), Chrysalina Gouli (GR, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to favour and facilitate the restitution and equitable access to looted cultural artefacts. Along with fostering restitution efforts, the EU shall prioritise the safety and integrity of the pieces at any stage of the process. Furthermore, we emphasise the importance of raising awareness and sensitising EU's citizens on the matter. Our main pursuit is to enable repatriations to take place while maintaining peaceful relations among the parties involved and the respective Members States,

because

- The lack of cooperation among countries during restitution efforts can lead to friction in international relations, including sparking legal disputes or recalling past conflicts,
- Displaying artefacts in their countries of origin allows for [greater contextualisation](#) of the piece into its geopolitical and historical context,
- A lack of access to one's own cultural objects deprives its citizens of the [opportunity to embrace their heritage](#) to its full extent,
- Many countries lack the economic and political means to effectively campaign for restitution for their cultural property,
- Several countries cannot afford facilities and expertise needed to showcase and preserve historical artefacts,

- Many cultural artefacts are stored in warehouses due to a lack of facilities, and are not exhibited in museums,
- There is a lack of reliable information on the definition of repatriation and its consequences,
- Looting of cultural property is a violation of principles of the Union, including the principle of sincere cooperation,
- It is often difficult to prove that cultural objects were illegally obtained, making it harder for the affected countries to demand repatriation of said items,
- The current distribution of cultural resources is both a product and a reflection of Europe's colonial past,
- Objects often have to go through expensive and hazardous [transportation to be repatriated](#),
- Private collectors of cultural artefacts are often [untransparent](#) of the contents and origins of their collections,
- Many artefacts in Western museums were obtained during times of war or armed conflicts, meaning that displaying them could exasperate historical tensions,
- Several cultural artefacts in Western museum collections remain off display stored in warehouses due to lack of space and funding for maintaining museum buildings;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Calls upon the European Commission to amend [Regulation 2019/880](#) to require further documentation when selling of cultural artefacts to private collections;
2. Encourages the Directorate General for Informatics (DG DIGIT) to create an online database with records of past and current sales of cultural artefacts to private collections;
3. Suggests Interpol launch investigations into the illegal trade and possession of artefacts of Outstanding Universal Value³ to ensure the piece's safety and the operations' legality;

³[Outstanding Universal Value](#) “means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.”



4. Proposes closer cooperation with institutions, such as the European Competence Centre for the preservation and conservation of Monuments and Sites⁴ to establish a set of detailed and shared guidelines to outline the conditions for the conservation and exhibition of artefacts;
5. Encourages the European Commission to collect relevant information on artefacts such as their location, their preservation state, and repatriation attempts, and to lay the foundation for a comprehensive frameworks and guidelines on the topic of repatriation by establishing partnerships with cultural institutions;
6. Supports the amendment of already existing legislation on the restitution of cultural goods, to ensure its proper and effective functioning;
7. Suggests the United Nations to promote awareness on the topic of repatriation internationally by:
 - a) establishing media campaigns including articles, television advertisements, websites, brochures across the EU to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the value of cultural artefacts within the Union,
 - b) promoting educational programmes, including calling for the inclusion of the topic in national curricula and international exchange programmes;
8. Appreciates the establishment of a Council composed of the Ministers of Culture of all Member States, who shall meet every 4 years in order to discuss repatriation processes and any related issues;
9. Intends to dedicate funds to the transport and the creation of appropriate facilities for the proper repatriation of cultural artefacts to countries who cannot afford such a procedure;
10. Encourages the creation of a specific EU fund to promote efforts in the field of repatriation;
11. Invites Member States to expand opportunities of displaying less represented countries' cultural artefacts to the broader public by establishing a prompt collection sharing with some of their cultural goods that are not being currently displayed in museums or other exhibitions;
12. Urges Member States to allocate funds that will help build new facilities for the display of cultural artefacts that are currently stored due to lack of space and enhance the old ones.

⁴ **European Competence Centre for the preservation and conservation of Monuments and Site:** "[it] should map past and ongoing research, collect, analyse and promote best practices from Europe and beyond, and become a major point of European reference for transnational and interdisciplinary networking in the preservation of Cultural Heritage."

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

Gone for Good: *Recent research from Horizon Europe indicates that the rate of mass extinction of Earth's insects, vertebrates, and plant species is accelerating, predicting that more than 500 species of terrestrial animals could go extinct in the next 20 years. What actions and measures should the EU and its Member States take to combat the mass extinction process?*

Submitted by: Eleni Chyta (GR), Lydia Douvleti (GR), Maria Drakou (GR), Zoi Gkermepesiotti (GR), Eleni Kouroutzou (GR), Dimitra Panagiotidou (GR), Maria Piperopoulou (GR), Alkistis Samara (GR), Efthalia Tsakanika (GR), Eirini Tsantzali (GR), Christos Tsikos (GR), Vaios Vaitopoulos (GR), Luka Zukanovic (RS, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to raise awareness about the mass extinction of animals and plants. It further aims to promote the expansion of already existing programmes and policies concerning species that are on the edge of extinction, with the ultimate goal of ensuring the protection and restoration of wildlife habitats,

because

- Environmental changes induced by climate change endanger the natural habitats of the [majority](#) of European species,
- Ecosystems in Europe that once functioned as a single unit are now divided due to habitat fragmentation, which has a [negative impact](#) on animal activity,
- Invasive alien species (IAS) are indirectly forced to interfere in foreign ecosystems and [disrupt](#) their proper functioning, resulting in the loss of certain species unable to adapt to the new conditions,
- The interconnected phenomena of overfishing and overhunting create an imbalance that can harm the current [food chain](#) and cause habitat loss,

- Overexploitation of products deriving from animal poaching can [eventually lead](#) to the extinction of numerous endangered species,
- There is a [lack of public](#) awareness on how human activities threaten endangered species and biodiversity conservation,
- The current EU and national legislation on terrestrial species and their habitats falls short of achieving its objectives,

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve these aims,

1. Suggests the [Emergency Response Coordination Centre](#) to upgrade the local governments' technology to monitor forest fire-prone areas and examine the habitats of endangered animals;
2. Calls upon the Member States to support the [Natura 2000](#) network by identifying the areas that should be protected by promoting increasing their public promotion;
3. Asks Member States to contribute to the restoration of natural habitats destroyed by fragmentation, through endorsing the [Nature Restoration Law](#) proposal;
4. Calls on national governments to form expert teams to monitor and report environmental trends in high-risk areas to prevent the spread of IAS, as well as to treat native species for diseases;
5. Urges NGOs such as [Oceana](#) to protect sea life predators, ensuring the balance of marine ecosystems;
6. Invites Member States to improve the enforcement of punishments for overhunting and using animal products for profit;
7. Asks Member States to update the waste management procedures in order to improve the habitats' environmental conditions, especially those that are home to endangered species;
8. Urges the [EU Ecolabel](#) to promote the expansion of eco-friendly materials' usage by consumers;
9. Endorses the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) funding of employed veterinarians and environmental experts to help injured animals and restore their natural habitats by assisting in tree planting and plant regrowth;

10. Calls upon The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to fund yearly environmental events organised by Member States aiming to inform citizens on how their lifestyle impacts mass extinction;
11. Invites the [European Education and Culture Executive Agency](#) (EECEA) to help incorporate on a voluntary basis Environmental Science classes into school curricula by:
 - a. informing students adequately on the concept of biodiversity and the current state of mass extinction,
 - b. encouraging students to individually undertake behaviours to mitigate the situation,
 - c. raising awareness on general environmental topics.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY (ITRE III)

Mission Zero Emission: *According to Bloomberg, the European Union moved closer to forcing automakers to cease selling new gasoline-powered cars as lawmakers upheld plans to ban combustion engines from 2035 to help protect the climate. However, for countries like Greece that had only 561 battery-electric vehicles (BEV) in 2020 this European goal might be deemed unreachable. How can the EU support its Member States in their transition from gasoline-powered cars to electric cars while safeguarding the EU will reach its preferred emissions goal by 2035?*

Submitted by: Christos Amoiridis (GR), Dimitrios Deliakidis (GR), Georgios Ioannidis (GR), Elisavet Kaltsou (GR), Sofia Katsimperi (GR), Magdalini Mouka (GR), Christos Moustakas (GR), Maria-Panagiota Moutaftsi (GR), Goergios Papadopoulos (GR), Paris Stathis (GR), Ioanna Theodorou (GR), Evaggelia Trigoni (GR), Eleftheria Arkadopoulou (GR, Chairperson), Leonardo Mantovani (IT, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to minimise carbon emissions caused by circulating vehicles, ensuring a smooth and fair transition from Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles (ICEVs) to Electric Vehicles (EVs). The EU's main objective should be the cooperation between Member States and the automotive sector, the establishment of proper infrastructure in accordance with the goals that have already been set, while encouraging scientific and technological research and development. The end goal of this process is the complete decarbonisation of transport,

because

- There is an absence of official service centres for EVs in the EU, which are not easily affordable by all Member States,

- The EU lacks a widespread infrastructure of charging stations preventing EVs drivers from covering long distance trips, with Germany, France, and the Netherlands together accounting for [69%](#) of all EU27 charging points,
- There is a [lack of](#) facilities and technologies to effectively support the recycling of Battery-Electric Vehicles' (BEVs) batteries,
- The EU must reduce emissions of [55%](#) by 2030 as a legally binding climate targets, enshrined in the 2015 Paris Agreement and the [Fit for 55 package](#),
- High CO2 emissions are generated both by the [circulation of ICEVs](#) and the [extracting and processing](#) of materials to create EV's batteries,
- The potential of vast renewable energy sources, such as solar power and hydropower is underexploited,
- Households face difficulties in coping with the [high prices of electric vehicles](#), due to both the post-pandemic economic crisis and the ongoing war in Ukraine,
- There is a lack of public awareness and the cases of misinformation that provoke scepticism regarding EVs,
- Automotive industry workers that are unqualified in the EV field [risk unemployment](#) due to the transformation of their working environment,
- [Low mileage](#) may work as a deterrent for potential drivers to invest in electric vehicles,
- The complete transition from ICEs to EVs requires major technological advances regarding the mass production of EVs,
- There is a [scarcity](#) of both consistent and proper European-wide legal framework concerning the implementation of measures to enhance both the production of electric vehicles and the transition from ICEs to EVs;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Asks the European Commission to strengthen the charging infrastructure for EVs by:
 - a. funding Member States that are lacking those infrastructures and are not financially able to build them on their own,
 - b. appointing companies that produce EVs to take care of appropriate service centres in the countries they are operating;
2. Urges each Member State to establish an independent observer entity to:
 - a. ensure transparency between Member States about transportation related funds,
 - b. report back directly to European Commission's Directorate General for Energy (DG ENER) on how dedicated funds for EVs are spent;
3. Invites vehicles merchants to reuse or recycle old vehicle's components by offering the option of trading the customers' former vehicle in exchange for a discount;
4. Urges the European Commission to implement an awarding system for car industries to:
 - a. guarantee that they are actively trying to minimise their overall carbon emissions,
 - b. impose sanctions in case they exceed the existing target;
5. Asks Member States to minimise emissions of vehicles performing necessary daily routes by replacing all public transport and utility vehicles with electric ones, powered by renewable energy sources only;
6. Calls upon Member States to implement direct incentives, such as but not limited to, tax incentives and bonuses for citizens that buy an EV in accordance with their annual income;
7. Advises Member State to apply low to zero taxation rates for the import of EV's, and increase the taxation rates of CO2 emission vehicles;
8. Calls upon the DG ENER to raise awareness about EVs by organising campaigns on their functional details and the positive impact they have on the environment targeted to according age groups;
9. Asks the European Commission to establish an independent pan-European centre responsible for regulating the prices of EVs in the market, by setting a fixed price gap for each Member State, according to their GDP;



10. Urges the European Commission to reskill and upskill Europe's workforce by funding both already the existing educational programmes, such as the European Skills Agenda⁵, and establishing new initiatives;
11. Encourages the European Investment Bank (EIB) to further improve technologies related to the production and the use of EV's by funding scientific research.

⁵ The **European Skills Agenda** is a five-year strategy to support people and businesses in acquiring and using more and better skills through enhancing sustainable competitiveness in line with the European Green Deal.

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

You're Recognised: *In light of recent significant attempts to repress free media in numerous European nations, including Slovakia, Poland, and Hungary, the significance of media freedom in promoting and enabling democracy has been disputed. The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union recognises the right to information and the right to public participation as fundamental rights, both of which are undermined by such political interference. What steps should the EU take to ensure the safety and empowerment of journalists and media professionals, and protect the existence of media pluralism?*

Submitted by: Magdalini Bithykouki (GR), Maria Dianellaki (GR), Eleni Konstantia Karavelaki (GR), Valentina Polatidou (GR), Kiriaki Malasidi (GR), Fedra Eleni Maliasa (GR), Christos Maragos (GR), Maria-Magdalini Migka (GR), Sonia Moraiti (GR), Anastasia Ververidou (GR), Jason Kazazis (GR, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to prioritise the physical, mental, political, and legal protection of journalists and ensure diversity in the media industry. Additionally, the EU shall minimise political meddling and ownership concentration whilst maximising transparency in the media industry by increasing the regulations of the market,

because

- Some EU countries, including Greece and Hungary, have recently been [accused of employing spyware](#) on journalists,
- Press freedom in national law is subject to limitations regarding national security, public safety and health, protection of morals, and prevention of crime, which could lead to censorship,
- Due to the increasingly consolidated ownership of outlets, there is a shortage of perspectives from multiple angles in media,

- In 24 out of 27 EU member states, existing legislation [does not outline](#) fair rules on the transparent distribution of state advertising to media outlets,
- Several European journalists, including Daphne [Galizia](#) and Thanasis [Koukakis](#), have recently been harassed and silenced through [abusive legal proceedings](#),
- Transparency about the major shareholders of media outlets is not a legal necessity in the majority of EU countries,
- In Hungary, up to [80% of media outlets](#) were found to be financially supported by the government or associated organisations,
- Since January 2021, [6 journalists were killed](#) in Europe, with 95 still being imprisoned,
- Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, enshrining freedom of expression, was violated in [44 European countries](#),
- [73% of female journalists](#) worldwide have been harassed online, with 20% of them having received threats of sexual abuse;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Encourages Member States to combat the concentration of media influence by placing limitations on the ownership of multiple media outlets by a single entity;
2. Requests that Member States ensure the politically independent and equitable distribution of state funding to media outlets through the creation of a National Supervisory Board on funding;
3. Urges National Regulatory Authorities to increase transparency in media ownership through the creation of publicly free available databases containing information about major media outlet shareholders;
4. Proposes that National Intelligence Services strengthen their political independence and integrity by:
 - a) ensuring that stronger background checks for its employees as part of a revised hiring process,
 - b) further educating the existing workforce,
 - c) strengthening the requirements before any restrictions can be imposed on the freedom of the press by the public authorities;

5. Asks the European Commission to increase transparency in national limitations on freedom of speech and privacy by publishing common definitions for legal terms that could be misinterpreted, following judgements of the Court of Justice of the European Union;
6. Calls upon Member States to raise awareness about the recent attacks on journalists and the necessity of media pluralism by organising advertising campaigns and accessible seminars in educational institutions;
7. Calls upon Member States to protect media professionals by creating Special Divisions in their police forces, composed of agents trained on the protection of journalists;
8. Calls upon Member States to ensure the protection of female and minority journalists by accelerating the resolution of cases involving violations of their rights;
9. Suggests Member States to offer additional online protection to media professionals through the creation of comprehensive cybersecurity legislation in accordance to the European Commission's 2021 [Cybersecurity Strategy](#);
10. Requests that the European Center for Press and Media Freedom further protect journalists' safety by:
 - a) offering self-defence training to journalists,
 - b) establishing protection hotlines and shelters for those facing threats of violence;
11. Strongly encourages EU Heads of State and government officials to openly and explicitly recognise that violence against journalists constitutes a threat to democracy;
12. Calls upon the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services to provide affordable legal representation and support to journalists facing Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation by creating national help centres;
13. Suggests that educational institutions offering journalism programmes promote safety by adapting their curricula to cover the threats of suppressive lawsuits and political attacks.

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

Topic title: *You can't work! - While the EU average of people from the age of 15 to 29 that are neither in education nor in training (NEETs) is 13.1%, such percentage differs widely across countries, ranging from the Netherlands with 5.5% to Italy with 23.1% (according to Eurostat, 2021). How should the EU and its Member States implement policies to integrate the unemployed youth in the labour market and fill the gap between the different Member States?*

Submitted by: Anastasia Aslanidou, Androniki Polychronidou, Angeliki Papamali, Antonia Koukouridi, Argyro Symeonidou, Kwnstantina Spanou, Kwstantinos Anastasoudis, Kyriaki-Alexia Sekstou, Panagiota Kyratlidou, Styliani Bouroutzoglou, Francesco Bertoli (IT, Chairperson), Pol Sanmartí Vigo (ES, Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament aims to reduce the rate of NEETs in EU Member States by expanding existing policies and enhancing the youth's ability to join the workforce. Furthermore, it intends to assist individuals affected by the COVID-19 crisis, whilst destigmatising and promoting the minority groups' contribution to the labour market. Ultimately, it aims to ensure equitable labour access conditions, with respect to citizens' educational attainment,

because

- The [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) (UDHR) ensures the right to a fair wage regardless of the individual's educational background,
- The ongoing financial crisis led to increased job losses and shut-down of businesses, leading to [high levels of career insecurity](#) among the youth,
- The overall unemployment rate for those between the ages of 15 and 29 has increased to [15.1%](#) in 2022, with Member States such as Spain having the highest rate of youth unemployment at [32.3%](#),



- Lack of education results in a potential employees' [inability](#) to obtain the competences necessary for employment, especially in the case of public institutions,
- The COVID-19 pandemic brought the recent increase in youth unemployment by [13.7%](#), while diminishing young workers' physical and mental wellbeing,
- Unemployment [increases](#) the risk of poverty, social exclusion, and mental distress, especially within [vulnerable groups](#), such as disabled people,
- People with disabilities, making up [9.5%](#) of all NEETs in the EU, face a heightened difficulty in finding employment,
- There is a [3.2%](#) discrepancy between genders in the workplace, which further discourages women from entering the workforce,
- There are proportionately [higher levels](#) of trust in the EU than in national governments among young people in addressing unemployment;

The European Youth Parliament, to achieve this aim,

1. Recommends Member States to reduce taxes on businesses that aim to hire NEETs, leading to increasing job openings;
2. Encourages all Member States to provide NEETs with adequate unemployment benefits, improving their living circumstances and strengthening their capacity to find employment;
3. Asks the European Commission to expand the [Erasmus+ Person Project](#) in regions such as the Western Balkans or Eastern Neighbourhood countries;
4. Suggests Member States to decrease their national retirement age in attempt to enhance employment opportunities for the youth;
5. Invites the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion (DG EMPL) to develop a remote EU-based platform that allows flexible teleworking, expanding the employees' access to the labour market beyond national borders;
6. Calls upon the European Commission to set up educational programs open to ages 15-29, offered in schools and external institutions on a voluntary basis, providing free support groups and career counselling through seminars on soft and preparatory skills, as well as digital skills;

7. Urges the [European Alliance for Apprenticeships](#) (EaA) to provide short-term apprenticeships or traineeships consisting of 3-6 months of paid employment;
8. Calls upon the European Commission to promote funding of each Member State's national health system by lowering the insurance costs for NEETs and extending access to healthcare;
9. Encourages public and private employment institutions to implement facilities in work environments, funded by Member States, easing the access to people with disabilities by:
 - a) integrating accommodations in the workplaces,
 - b) providing sensitisation training seminars by professionals to employees and employers;
10. Asks the European Commission to establish a minimum quota of female employees in each workplace in accordance with the number of women involved in that specific field in all public and private sectors;
11. Strongly encourages Member States to implement a policy for more frequent parental leaves during the year.



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