

****

**Model European Parliament**

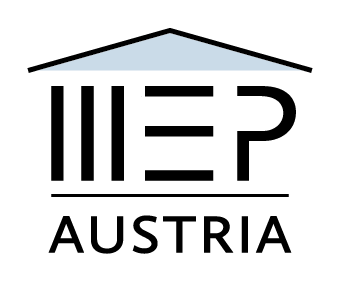
**40th International Session**

**29th March – 5th April**

**Vienna 2014**

**RESOLUTION BOOKLET**

This document reflects views only of the author(s), and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

****

**Table of Contents**

Resolution of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy..............................................4

Resolution of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (I).........................................6

Resolution of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (II).......................................8

Resolution of the Committee on Public Health and Food Safety ............................................11

Resolution of the Committee on Culture and Education..........................................................14

Resolution of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (I).......................18

Resolution of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (II)......................21

Resolution of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (III).....................24

Resolution of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality..................................26

Resolution of the Committee on Foreign Affairs......................................................................28

**Committee on Industry, Research and Energy -** *passed*

The question of energy efficiency and dependence:

As part of the European Commission´s 2030 roadmap towards a low-carbon economy, how realistic are low CO2 emission targets in the near future?  
Are green energy alternatives to gas and oil imports a successful way towards this goal? Or can nuclear power or/and shale-fuels increase energy efficiency and independence?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Realizing that not every country has the same possibilities to reach any energy goals set by the EU,
2. Having examined that some European countries are too inactive concerning the 2030 emission targets,
3. Taking into consideration the over-emission of greenhouse gas[[1]](#footnote-2) by different economic and industrial sectors,
4. Concerned by the overuse of energy and the lack of incentives for citizens to save energy and use it efficiently,
5. Realizing the fact that the EU is very dependent on foreign energy sources,
6. Considering that a part of the renewable energy sources are intermittent in their supply[[2]](#footnote-3),
7. Taking into account that many renewable energy sources[[3]](#footnote-4) are currently not cost efficient,
8. Emphasizing the tremendous potential of power plants located on the ocean,
9. Fully aware of the dangers involved in conventional nuclear fission and its waste disposal,
10. Requests that countries do not increase their amount of conventional fission power, expecting that future projects will be able to replace them;
11. Supports competition in the field of green energy, concerning efficiency, and that these proposals should be handed in to encourage the SET-Plan[[4]](#footnote-5);
12. Calls upon further research and development in the European SuperGrid[[5]](#footnote-6);
13. Recommends the reduction of bureaucratic barriers between the member states which are making the grid expansion more difficult;
14. Further recommends the installation of combined power stations[[6]](#footnote-7) on the Atlantic Oceans and European seas;
15. Encourages the EU member states to intensify research into the development of promising nuclear alternatives such as, but not limited to
    1. the fusion reactor[[7]](#footnote-8)
    2. the travelling wave reactor;
16. Further recommends the research and development into energy storage;
17. Further recommends countries to implement price differences on energy between day and night in order to use the green energy resources more efficiently;
18. Urges the government to install green energy plants, such as but not limited to; hydropower and wind power plants, where the necessary basic conditions[[8]](#footnote-9) are met;
19. Calls upon the EU to deploy these renewable energies, which are not yet competitive, strategically in those countries with the best conditions;
20. Authorizes all countries to construct or further develop gas storage tanks in order to avoid vulnerability in case of energy sanctions;
21. Urges the installation of CDR[[9]](#footnote-10) filters and CO2 scrubbers into factories which manufacture metals, chemicals, plastics and minerals, in order to perform carbon dioxide capture and storage;
22. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (I) -** *passed*

The question of growing unemployment among young people in the European Union:

Increasingly unemployment, specifically amongst the younger generation, is becoming a serious problem within the European Union. What measures can the EU take to stimulate the participation of young people in the labour market – or should fighting unemployment be considered a national responsibility?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Alarmed by the lack of communication between the labour market and the education providers in the member states,
2. Deeply concerned by the unwillingness of certain qualified youth to do certain jobs such as the lower paid ones resulting in mass brain gain,
3. Noting with deep concern that education providers in the member states are not offering enough experience-gaining opportunities, which has become a necessity in order to enter the labor market,
4. Disturbed by companies that are exploiting interns by treating them as cheap labor and often providing no real experience. (Especially as there is no written agreement covering working conditions, tasks, social security and salary.),
5. Deeply disturbed by the general preferences of employers regarding the age group of potential employees,
6. Fully alarmed by the fact that the youth are inadequately informed and supported regarding self-employment,
7. Concerned about the lack of emphasis on Europe-wide programs which enable access to foreign labor markets.
8. Recommends member states to take initiatives towards implementing coordinative strategies that are currently used in countries such as Germany and Austria which have proven to decrease youth unemployment;
9. Calls upon the European Commission to recommend to the governments of all member states to strongly encourage secondary schools to offer possibilities for all students to gain work experience;
10. Calls upon the Committee on Culture and Education to implement an EU-wide syllabus which supplements each member state’s existing syllabus (focusing on creating a stronger link between skills needed for work and skills provided by education);
11. Calls for the cooperation between educational facilities, youth organizations, such as AIESEC, and businesses by promoting internships, traineeships, etc.;
12. Emphasizes the need for a written contract between employers and interns/trainees which would define:
    1. working hours and tasks,
    2. equal rights and payment,
    3. medical care and social security;
13. Further invites the European Commission to encourage investments   
    in high growth areas such in order to create new jobs;
14. Suggests matching demand with adequate supply in state-specific areas and considering the need to re-evaluate certain austerity measures;
15. Draws the EU’s attention to the necessity to provide publicly funded jobs, in fields where a larger workforce is needed, for those who have completed higher education and are qualified to work within these fields, including but not limited to:
    1. healthcare,
    2. education and school;
16. Supports existing programs[[10]](#footnote-11) for cheaper credit, meaning low interest rates for aspiring entrepreneurs and their business ideas, as well as lowering the fees needed to start a business;
17. Calls upon the Committee on Culture and Education to encourage implementing entrepreneurship into academic curriculums in secondary schools;
18. Calls for the creation and promotion of an EU-wide online forum for aspiring entrepreneurs and possible investors to connect and interact with each other, in all member states;
19. Encourages further funding to member states by the European Structural Funds[[11]](#footnote-12) and the Cohesion Fund, to address the cost of employing young people in order to promote youth employment;
20. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (II)**

The question of an ageing society:

**How should Europe cope with a greying population and the consequent effects on the labour market, the pension and social welfare system. Which measures should the EU take to rejuvenate society and to keep the European workforce young on average and globally competitive?**

The Model European Parliament,

1. Observing the general economic burden inflicted upon member states by a graying population1,
2. Realizing the disadvantages of the first pillar within the three pillar system 2, such as:
   1. Sensitivity to demographic changes3,
   2. Lack of guarantee for the size of the pensions that the current working force will receive,
   3. Dependency of the pensions on the financial situation of the national government,
3. Alarmed by the decrease of the EU labor market’s competitiveness, which is caused to some degree by an ageing population,
4. Aware of the strain put on European states’ health care system by the greying population,
5. Contemplating the fact that the EU is facing a decrease in the birth rate resulting in a negative effect on the age dependency ratio4,
6. Recognizing the existence of age discrimination and the need for vocational education, which are resulting in a higher than average unemployment rate for people aged 55-64,
7. Bearing in mind the need for a greater capacity of social care caused by a greying population,
8. Having examined the complexity of the procedure for starting up new businesses in certain EU member states,
9. Fully aware that the rise of automation5 in the workplace will, in the near future, cause the loss of a great number of jobs,
10. Taking into consideration the lack of child care facilities in some member states,
11. Deplores the fact that some people (in EU member states) are made redundant solely for the reason that they have reached retirement age.
12. Suggests the Europe-wide introduction of tax relief, within EU member states, to encourage families to have more children. We recommend tax reliefs in the form of 2.5% less income tax for the first child with additional 0.5%6 per subsequent child;
13. Calls upon EU member states to adopt a selective immigration policy7 in order to:
14. Fulfil labour market requirements,
15. Keep the workforce young on average,
16. Keep the workforce globally competitive;
17. Emphasizes the need for vocational education programmes8 for all of the people within the EU entering or re-entering the workforce;
18. Recommends the implementation of a 2- tier pension system within all EU member states which do not currently operate in this way. The system would be structured with:
19. A basic pension, provided by the state, which would aim to keep pensioners above the poverty line;9
20. A supplementary pension consisting of money invested by the individual into pension funds;
21. Recommends a European platform which strongly supports the cooperation between different national employment agencies in order to improve communication and therefore maximize labor market saturation;
22. Recommends that national governments require employers to utilize the ‘double blind method’10 when hiring new people;
23. Suggests that member states put an immediate stop to the practice of automatically firing people when they reach the retirement age;
24. Emphasizes the importance of development and spread of preventative medicine in member states, as opposed to reactive treatment, alongside with current EU policies and initiatives12;
25. Further requests that each EU member state form their own group of legal experts in order to simplify the progress of starting a new business;
26. Recommends that EU member states enhance creative/critical thinking in their education programmes, in order to create a workforce which is more suitable for the service sector and therefore cannot be replaced by machinery;
27. Requests that EU member states improve existing or create new childcare facilities;
28. Encourages EU member states to legislate with the intention of guaranteeing every child a free place in a kindergarten, therefore allowing their parents to work;13
29. Encourages the implementation of free optional all-day schooling for children;14
30. Recommends the introduction of a scheme which would encourage unemployed people to volunteer to fill the gap in the social care workforce. The volunteers would be rewarded by being favored for new jobs within the member states.
31. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1Percentage of population over 65 years in EU 27 will rise from 17.5% in 2011 to 29.5% in 2060 (Eurostat: EUROPOP 2010)

2The three pillar system consists of three different methods for the establishment of one’s pension. (I) The first pillar is the use of the so-called “pay as you go”. This is the system where the working force of a state during their career accounts for the pension of the retired. (II) The second pillar is the use of a system where a percentage of a person’s salary obliged by the national government is put aside for the individual’s own pension. (III) The third pillar consists of individual savings. In this case, no obligation from the national government is present and the individual is completely dependent on his/her own ability to put money aside during his/her career.

3 For example in the case of an ageing society the ratio between the retired and the working force changes. The working force is then obliged to the support of retired.

4EU 27 dependency ratio: 2011:26.2%; 2060: 52.6% (EUROPOP)

5 Technological progress has always cost people their jobs. However in the long term technological progress will create new and better jobs, since a more productive society becomes richer and its wealthier inhabitants demand more goods and services. Like the first great era of industrialisation it should deliver enormous benefits- but not without a period of disorientation and uncomfortable change, (47% of today's jobs could be automated in the next 2 decades). It is therefore essential that this policy is drawn up to make the switch between technological progress and its benefits as short as possible.

6This deduction is a decrease in overall taxation, not to be directly deducted from the income tax. For example, if someone is taxed at 40% normally and has a child, their tax rate will be reduced to 39%, not 37.5%.

7Austria and Germany currently operate a suitable system.

8 including but not limited to exchange programmes between young and elderly people organised by employment agencies, which particularly cover new technologies.

9The poverty line is the minimum level of [income](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Income) deemed adequate in a particular country.

10The ‘double blind system’ of employment means that employers do not know the name, gender and age of the applicant, but they do know their education and work background.

11 We would recommend that people should retire at 87.5% of their life expectancy.

12European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIPAHA)

13A suitable system currently operates in Austria.

14An all-day schooling system currently operating in Denmark serves as a suitable example.

**Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety**

The question of juvenile health:

**Should the EU play a role in protecting juveniles from alcohol and drugs abuse, smoking and unhealthy eating habits? If so, how should EU regulation relate to national regulation in this field? How can the member states of the EU cooperate to safeguard the health of young people against mental stress, alcohol abuse, smoking and poor levels of nutrients? What role can schools and educational programmes play?**

The Model European Parliament,

1. Noting with deep concern the intense dearth of drug control,
2. Aware of the lack of regulation of nutrition in schools concerning the low quality and poor health implications of food served,
3. Alarmed by the dangers caused by passive smoking,
4. Recognizing the lack of support for mental illness and the stigma accompanying it,
5. Fully aware of the advertising of unhealthy products (e.g. tobacco, alcohol, animal fats, meat, added sugars, micronutrients deviancies),
6. Deeply concerned by the drastic increase of fast-food chains,
7. Bearing in mind the lack of education regarding awareness of the health implications of taking harmful substances particularly regarding young people, but also parents,
8. Emphasizing the lack of enforcement of regulations of distribution with regards to the accessibility of legal substances to minors,
9. Fully aware of the fact that healthy products (e.g. organic or unprocessed food) cannot compete pricewise with unhealthy food, posing a problem particularly for socially disadvantaged people to live a healthy lifestyle,
10. Requests enforcement of the EU-border control in order to protect EU-citizens from drugs coming from foreign countries;
11. Encourages all the member states to implement smoke free laws for public places[[12]](#footnote-13) and to create separated smoking areas for tobacco consumers;
12. Authorizes yearly psychological health check-ups to be implemented in schools for every child from the age of 10 until graduation from high school or university;
13. Recommends a minimum to be imposed regarding required proportions of fruit or vegetables in every schools meal, with:
14. at least two different types of fruit or vegetables in every meal constituting of at least one third of the total meal;
15. subsidies if school lack sufficient means to meet these criteria;
16. Calls upon media broadcasters of children’s television channels to exclude advertisements of unhealthy products (e.g. fast food, carbonated drinks, sweets, saltines) from their programmes;
17. Endorses the total ban of all advertisements of alcoholic beverages, regardless of content, on television and radio until after 11:00 pm and only permitting their transmission until 5:00 am;
18. Further requests that it be made compulsory for parents to attend educational meetings regarding juvenile health in a similar manner to their children; with particular emphasis on indications that their children may be engaging in behavior jeopardizing their health;
19. Demands a new legislation to only allow a certain number of subsequent junk food restaurants established in a certain area;
20. Encourages advertisements including:
21. vivid information on the health consequences caused by alcohol and tobacco;
22. positive messages on a healthy diet;
23. Recommends the implementation of health classes² obligatory for all students attending any kind of educational institution;
24. Urges all countries within the EU on a national level, supplemented by EU guidelines, to place the telephone number of a national addiction hotline on all packaging of tobacco products;
25. Calls for an addiction hotline number, regulated on a national basis, supported by EU legislature, to be placed upon alcoholic beverages, with differentiating policy regarding spirits and alcoholic beverages of a lower percentage by volume;
26. Expresses its hope for member states to reaffirm their commitment to enforcing heavy fines³ on shop assistants with the effect of putting a halt to the illegal distribution of alcohol and tobacco products to minors;
27. Encourages EU member states to establish specific tobacco stores as the only tobacco product selling points, the aim of which would be to limit their distribution and accessibility;
28. Further recommends that, within all EU countries, the only valid identification is either a passport, a national identity card or an EU-ID card:
29. an EU-ID card being a red card, which is distributed to EU citizens at the age of 16, and can be turned to a blue card at the age of 18;
30. Further asks that when renewing forms of identification, the expired identification cards must be handed back in and disposed of;
31. Endorses the subsidization of healthy products and organic products for supermarkets and farmers respectively, thus providing an incentive to stock/produce such foods and, by increasing the availability, lowering the price;
32. Further requests the taxation of unhealthy products and thus diminishing their appeal in terms of price;
33. Impose a minimum requirement for supermarkets to stock healthy produce, decided by a percentage value of the total supermarket capacity;
34. Further calls upon supermarkets to place and promote healthy products (e.g. organic and unprocessed food) in more central and accessible locations rather than isolated ones;
35. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**Committee on Culture and Education -** *passed*

The question relating to the modernisation of higher education:

The EU maintains a commitment to improving the education of young people and encouraging social mobility. What can the EU do to ensure that education and mobility of young people is indeed improved? Should there be an EU-wide education policy to ensure the same standards in education and skills for those wishing to work within the EU?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Deeply concerned about the fact that current teaching methods do not encourage creativity in students,
2. Alarmed by the general lack of language skills of students,
3. Aware of the fact that language barriers are a problem for students trying to study abroad,
4. Fully aware of the lack of:
   1. a wide understanding of different and specific national education systems
   2. putting the aforementioned understanding into action
   3. modern facilities and technology
   4. motivation of/for teachers and students,
5. Bearing in mind that the lack of comparability of the different standards in qualifications in the EU member states limits the graduates in furthering their way of education/career and expressing its appreciation towards the EQF[[13]](#footnote-14),
6. Alarmed by the unnecessarily negative image of vocational training qualifications and the paralyzing effect this has had on the European economy and labor market,
7. Unsatisfied with the quality of the content of lessons, and desiring a minimal level of such content,
8. Realizing that the amount of information and advice given about the different career possibilities is inadequate and leads to unsatisfying decisions made by the students regarding their future careers,
9. Deeply concerned about the problems concerning the IB[[14]](#footnote-15) diploma, such as:
   1. not accessible enough for many students
   2. not advertised enough and its advantages not being known to many,
10. Observing the immensely noticeable potential to increase the amount of people taking advantage of international mobility in Europe and furthermore conscious of high number of obstacles to this mobility,
11. Fully aware of the fact that students are limited in participating in exchange programmes in different ways such as:
    1. financial aspects
    2. organization
    3. not being acknowledged by some countries of the school year abroad,
12. Alarmed by the scarcity of transparency particularly about countries taking note of the deficits of communication and information about decisions regarding education between:
    1. European Union and National Governments of member States
    2. National Governments and people from the countries
    3. member States,
13. Having considered the growing need of funding intended for tuition, accommodation and travel expenses for students participating in exchange programmes,
14. Recommends that prospective and current teachers should attend seminars in which they would be taught alternative methods of developing students' creativity;
15. Emphasizes the need to improve language courses by
    1. introducing more active learning
    2. promoting and further financing exchange programs;
16. Approves the Europe 2020 Strategy Goals regarding education and calls upon the Member states to enforce them;
17. Urges schools to offer more foreign language courses;
18. Suggests combining the EHEA[[15]](#footnote-16) and national efforts to support language courses;
19. Requests member states to take part in improving educational programmes that will help reduce educational differences by:
    1. mixing artistic and compulsory subjects to simplify the learning of foreign cultures
    2. giving funds to schools that will introduce afore-stated project
    3. encouraging nations to increase teachers' salaries
    4. providing the facilities needed to study foreign cultures,
20. Encourages the use of EQF so as to make national qualifications understandable across Europe by supporting the appearance of references to an appropriate EQF level in issues by:
    1. improving the EQF
    2. installing a bonus fund for national institutions and employers taking part in the EQF actively,
21. Recommends making people aware of the positive impact of vocational training through promotion in order to contribute to a better image and subsequently to a higher number of apprentices;
22. Suggests the creation of a new minimum level of content of lessons defined by a group of experts that have previously analyzed the situation in each member State;
23. Emphasizes each member state to promote internships for students;
24. Authorizes counseling at schools from an early stage on being diffused so that:
    1. the students have a broader knowledge about the current needs of the workforce
    2. they can learn their own personal skills;
25. Proclaims building grids of information centers in all EU States, for example in schools, where students could seek advice about job prospects and complete forms regarding their interests to help them decide on a career path;
26. Calls upon schools to offer the national curriculum, to apply to offer the IB or both combined:
    1. requests more funding for schools in order to pay for IB textbooks, advanced courses for teachers and any other expenses concerning the IB
    2. further recommends to introduce more advanced training courses for teachers to make them easier to access
    3. proclaims that more advertising for the IB's advantages is required facing the memorable values listed in the Declarations of Sorbonne and Bologna and the Magna Charta Universitatum;
27. Supports advertising these programs and the advantages of the experience;
28. Encourages sponsoring by companies to help pay for the living costs;
29. Strongly recommends countries to give loans at low interest rates to students;
30. Approves further funding exchange programs for scholars studying abroad for tuition, accommodation and travel fees by the EU;
31. Recommends schools to help students in terms of organising the exchange;
32. Improve the promotion of information and decisions with the help of the European Network;
33. Calls upon stimulation for people to take part in lifelong learning;
34. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministe

**Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (I)**

The question of human trafficking:

**Every year great numbers of people are smuggled into the European Union by traffickers. A large percentage of them end up in prostitution, others fall victim to forced labour, organ trade and illegal adoption. What can be done to fight this modern-day slave trade?**

The Model European Parliament,

1. Deeply concerned that the European Union lacks a coherent and effective common policy to combat human trafficking;
2. Realizing that there is a lack of awareness about human trafficking among the people within the European Union;
3. Deeply disturbed by the fact that organs are sometimes obtained under unknown conditions which neither hospitals nor doctors or patients have exact information on;
4. Alarmed by the lack of organizations opposing human trafficking, which operate in every member state;
5. Recognizing the lack of knowledge about the consequences that follow the use of service provided by victims of human trafficking;
6. Aware of the lack of coherence in prostitution laws across European Union member state;
7. Fully aware that human trafficking occurs both within and into European Union territory and that less developed countries outside of Europe are often involved whether in transit, as origin of victims, or as origin of perpetrators;
8. Bearing in mind that the insufficient rehabilitation of victims can lead to re-trafficking;
9. Encourage all European Union countries to further develop a European Strategy against human trafficking,
10. Suggests that governments in the proximity of the European Union work together with existing NGOs[[16]](#footnote-17) in the field of human trafficking and also support them financially to create more awareness,
11. Further invites NGOs and governments to create advertisements in social media to raise general awareness of human trafficking and to support the victims through the publication of the European Hotline and other organizations,
12. Encourages NGOs and health services to create an advertisement campaign about how you can become an organ donor,
13. Requests the pan-European implementation of the UK’s Human Tissue Act[[17]](#footnote-18)
14. Calls upon the need to educate people against using the services of trafficked people or their traffickers,
15. Calls upon the publication of the punishments to be exacted if one is found to be participating in human trafficking – either in the transportation, use of victims’ services or of negligence to report the crime,
16. Encourages the instigation of the Swedish model of prosecution for prostitution,
17. Furthermore encourages more significant checks for signs of forced prostitution in

countries that did not ratify the Swedish model; further recommends to found a general organization[[18]](#footnote-19) specialized in fighting human trafficking, which would operate in all member states and would be independent from their governments; this organization would focus more on the member states with the highest rate of human trafficking,

1. Urges national police forces to improve and conduct check-ups more often regarding manual labor and prostitution, especially in countries with the highest rate of human trafficking i.e. factories, especially black market suppliers, brothels, roadside hideouts, construction sites , red-light districts,
2. Takes note of the pre-existing controls in the Schengenzone, as declared in the Schengen agreement and recommends to re-enforce these controls and controls on borders of transit countries, especially of cargo and suspicious vehicles in general,
3. Further requests that national rehabilitation centers improve the organization of rehabilitating victims by improving their cooperation with both clinics and the police and also requests the implementation of a pan-European model of rehabilitation for victims of human trafficking,
4. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**APPENDIX A:**

The main tasks of SHT in order to fight against human trafficking are:

* Editing guidelines, according to the new European Strategy (2014-2016) and the directive 2011/36/EU, about prosecution of offenders, victim’s support and supervision of all the activities concerning modern-day slavery.
* Sending periodically a delegation of controllers in each member state. This delegation has to write a report about what the state do for fighting human trafficking, and it has to control if the state respects the guidelines.
* Managing a European campaign of sensitization about human trafficking in order to inform people and make them aware of the problems.
* Cooperating with NGOs or with other organizations that fight human trafficking (Frontex, Interpol, etc) Supporting NGOs, that fight against human trafficking by financial means.

**Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (II)**

The question relating to immigration and achieving multi-ethnic societies:

What is the EU doing at a multinational level to take responsibility for integration within member states? How does the EU protect the rights of minority groups and how far should EU member states accept cultural diversity when it conflicts with national cultural practices?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Emphasizing still existing discrimination[[19]](#footnote-20) of religious, linguistic, ethnic and national minorities, even after the signature of the Lisbon Treaty[[20]](#footnote-21), inside the EU,
2. Fully aware of the lack of a general definition of the word *minority* in the treaties, policies and laws of the EU,
3. Emphasizing the need of a general policy regarding rights and integration of minorities in member states,
4. Taking into consideration existing language barriers[[21]](#footnote-22),
5. Observing the difficulties minorities face acquiring basic education[[22]](#footnote-23),
6. Observing the lack of knowledge among EU citizens concerning minorities,
7. Fully aware of the high unemployment rates in minority groups, the lack of integration, preparation and opportunities that leads to an increase in criminal activity,
8. Fully alarmed that people who have migrated to the EU at a young age[[23]](#footnote-24) face the possibility of being sent back to their country of origin, even though they have no connection to that country,
9. Aware of unequal opportunities for Western and non-Western immigrants,
10. Alarmed by the growth of settlements with poor living conditions populated by minorities and the segregation that occurs as a result,
11. Endorses the forthcoming motions to support fixing the issue of discrimination of different minorities in the EU;
12. Further recommends the implementation of a general definiton1 of the term *minority* in EU legislation;
13. Further calls upon a mandatory application of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as a non-mandatory guideline for national governments to address the issue of a general policy regarding rights and integration of minorities;
14. Supports the creation of a council on minority issues, which will:
15. consist of a European commission, comprised of one representative from every member state, elected by the national commission of minorities,
16. consist of national commissions affiliated with the European commission, comprised of one delegate per minority and an elected representative for the EU commission,
17. suggest the guidelines agreed upon,
18. require only a voluntary participation by each minority group,
19. discuss and further develop the subject of how much the EU should intervene in national politics focusing specifically on minority social and educational issues,
20. Designates national measures to enable minority language speakers to communicate with the speakers of the official national language;
21. Supports further assistance and surveillance in underprivileged schools whose Student body is comprised predominantly of members of a minority group
22. Further recommends the following measures to aid the development of poor settlements inhabited by minority groups:
23. ensuring that each member of a minority is provided with basic education,
24. encouraging the EIF2 to provide money in order to make sure fundamental human rights3 regarding living conditions and basic human needs are being fulfilled,
25. introducing projects5 which will increase living standards in communities in which they are not currently satisfied, and are populated by a minority group;
26. Supports the creation of awareness campaigns whose purpose would be to inform the citizens about relevant problems concerning minorities within the EU;
27. Calls upon individual member-states to ensure that western and non-Western immigrants have equal access to existing integration programs;
28. Strongly condemns EU member-states that deport fully integrated5 young people who have received temporary asylum;
29. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**APPENDIX A:**

1.A person belongs to a minority if they satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

a) belongs to a national or ethnic background different from the one of the majority

b) uses a language different from the one of the majority

c) has religious views different from those of the majority

d) is a permanent resident of the respective nation state

2. European Integration Fund

3. As established by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

4. Parks, public transportation, culture centers etc.

5. A person who has lived in the host country, speaks at least one of the official languages fluently and is receiving education in the host member state

**Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (III)**

The question of safe internet use:

How can the EU ensure a safer Internet for its youth? What measures can be taken to reduce the impact of cyber-bullying, internet grooming and unregulated social networking sites on the life of young people without violating the right to free speech and freedom of information?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Realizing that most citizens of the EU are not aware of the legislation surrounding and the risk posed by the usage of the internet,
2. Deeply disturbed by the fact that there are more than 4.2 million easily accessible websites that contain indecent images and videos on the internet,
3. Contemplating that more than half of all teenagers have given personal information to strangers on the internet,
4. Fully aware that one third of 9-19-year olds in the European Union who go online at least once a week report having received unwanted sexual (one third) or nasty (one third) comments,
5. Alarmed by the fact that almost 1 in 10 EU young people have been bullied online during the past 12 months and that the percentage is increasing,
6. Recognizing that racism and discrimination on the internet is still an ongoing problem,
7. Fully believing that already existing programmes to promote internet safety, such as the Daphne III programme, can have a positive impact on young people’s internet habits, if they were more widely known,
8. Alarmed by the fact that an average parent or guardian knows less about the internet, its risks and possibilities than their children,
9. Urges the governments to clarify the internet legislation and to distribute the clarified laws to their citizens;
10. Encourages further cooperation between nations of the EU developing filtering tools and certifying those that are run by third parties;
11. Further invites European citizens to check their privacy settings in all their social media;
12. Suggests that social media networks should provide easy ways to block users that send inappropriate and/or unwanted content;
13. Recommends that EU citizens only use the communication websites that offer the possibility to block people or report inappropriate activities to relevant authorities, such as the police, if evidence is provided;
14. Suggests that each member of the EU’s school system should provide the International Safer Internet Day, where qualified specialists or teachers will inform about the risks of harassment[[24]](#footnote-25) and posting personal data;
15. Considers mediation in peer groups or in schools as well as parental mediation to be paramount to minimize the negative impact cyber-bullying can have on mental health;
16. Encourages the further promotion and development of hotlines (e.g. “INHOPE”) that offer members of the public a way of anonymously reporting online content;
17. Expresses its hope that the “Young People Combating Hate Speech Online” project will be continued, further supported and promoted by the EU;
18. Recommends that existing programmes should be promoted among their demographics by more purposeful and impressive campaigns;
19. Supports open conferences organized and held by the national ministries of education, in order to improve the general knowledge of adults and parents or guardians of young people about using the internet;
20. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality -** *passed*

The question relating to gender equality in the EU:

Despite progress, women across Europe still hold very few senior management positions and earn significantly less on average than men. What can the EU do to ensure equality for women in terms of pay and opportunities? To what extent does this relate to the differing status of women within the cultures of member states?

The Model European Parliament,

1. Noting with regret that gender inequality at work may occur as a result of gender discrimination,
2. Concerned about the fact that the gender pay gap is reaching an alarming level in most EU countries and also leads to a pension gap,
3. Fully alarmed that the “glass ceiling” is still preventing women from reaching high profile positions,
4. Recognizing that a gender-diverse leadership contributes to an improved business performance,
5. Deeply concerned about society’s lack of knowledge concerning gender equality and feminism[[25]](#footnote-26),
6. Alarmed by the stereotypes as well as the image of women in society and the numerous negative consequences this provokes,
7. Noting with deep concern that women and men are underrepresented in certain public and/or private sectors on the labor market,
8. Emphasizing that parental leave is still generally taken in higher proportions by women and further alarmed that mothers have major problems with reintegration into the labor market,
9. Realising that employers perceive the possibility or the fact of having a family as an obstacle for a professional career,
10. Congratulates the European Parliament on the introduction of the “Strategy for Equality between women and men 2010-15” and further invites member states to implement and develop it;
11. Supports the “European Commission Recommendation of pay transparency and the gender pay gap“ and designates it to
    1. Observe legislation and programmes concerning the gender pay gap in all EU countries;
    2. Promote legislation and programmes which have been successful to member states with a gender pay gap issue while keeping in mind each country‘s situation;
    3. Further implement of pay transparency and regular pay audits
12. Notes that the improvement of gender pay gap will lead to an improvement of the pension gap;
13. Endorses the EU to introduce transparent criteria for promotion into high-level positions;
14. Calls upon establishing a specific EU certificate for companies which respect and maintain a fair wage policy between women and men which should be awarded by the “Advisory Committee on equal opportunities for women and men“, following the example of Switzerland;
15. Emphasizes the need for development of already existing projects which increase awareness of
    1. The benefits of having a gender balanced leadership;
    2. The existence of gender inequality and its consequences;
16. Urges to widely promote help lines and information centers for victims of gender discrimination;
17. Further recommends to raise awareness of organizations supplying legal aid to victims of gender discrimination in court, so that these victims need not fear negative consequences;
18. Encourages the support of existing programmes as well as the creation of new projects for schools in order to prevent stereotypes from emerging and manifesting themselves;
19. Recommends giving parental leave incentives to families in which the father stays home for a certain time;
20. Emphasizes that the government provides the complete coverage for paternal and maternal leave according to the specifications of each country;
21. Requests the governments to provide high-quality and flexible public day care and/or support private day care so women could start or get back to work according to the “Joint Employment Report” of 2013;
22. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**Committee on Foreign Affairs**

The question of the involvement of the EU in international conflicts:

Should the EU play an important role in international conflicts only after the cessation of hostilities, or should the EU assume a prominent role in situations whilst violence continues, not leaving that task to individual member states or other international players.

The Model European Parliament,

1. Having considered the different situations that can occur involving Foreign Affairs and the difficulties in deciding on action,
2. Alarmed by the time-consuming process of decision-making of planned action[[26]](#footnote-27) in the European Council and the Council of Foreign Affairs,
3. Deeply concerned by the lack of agreement between the Member States on the subject of the EU’s intervention in international conflicts,
4. Emphasizing the fact that political interests of the Member States often outweigh human rights[[27]](#footnote-28), and how this affects these Member States in making decisions about international conflicts,
5. Having considered international conflicts situated away from EU borders, the decision to play a role in the conflict only after the cessation of hostilities or to intervene during wartime should be agreed on,
6. Taking into account the financial consequences for the individual Member States when making decisions concerning possible interventions,
7. Noting with regret that individual interests of Member States are easily overlooked when deciding on actions1 regarding international conflicts[[28]](#footnote-29),
8. Noting with deep concern that the EU has not reacted to multiple severe violations of human rights[[29]](#footnote-30),
9. Referring to the confusion in the area of responsibility amongst international players, such as the EU and NATO, participating in international conflicts,
10. Endorses that each situation shall be evaluated and the actions referred to in the following clauses shall be decided upon;
11. Urges the Council of Foreign Affairs and the European Council to have a restriction regarding time for decision making to cut down bureaucracy;
12. Further urges certain Member States to take the initiative to put forward a resolution to solve the problem at hand, if the EU is unable to reach a conclusion immediately;
13. Calls upon improved coordination between the Member States by centralizing and establishing a new specific system within the Council of Foreign Affairs to make more clear and efficient decisions; which would mean that if a particular Member State feels strongly against participating in the agreement made by the EU, they have the freedom not to participate if such an argument can be made and is accepted;
14. Requests that the EU’s political and economic interests be set aside for international conflicts when human rights are being violated, in the cases of, for example:
    1. High death rates among civilians in proportion to a country’s population[[30]](#footnote-31).
    2. High emigration rates of the local population in proportion to a country’s population.
15. Declares accordingly that the EU should act by the following guidelines, in the following order, during a conflict, only if the previous had no effect:
16. Mediate by communicating with all parties.
17. Perform financial sanctions.
18. Send military peacekeeping forces as a last resort.
19. Invites the EU to support and cooperate with international NGOs, which have been proven to be safe, ethical and incorrupt charities, e.g. Amnesty International.; this would allow the EU to be involved in charitable projects which support the civilian population and help the nation involved in the international conflict; the EU can be involved directly in the international conflicts when it is seen right and politically correct to do so.
20. Encourages an improved coordination of the financial consequences before a possible intervention, especially in countries with low budgets; this could be through a centralised organization which allocates support for these nations. As part of this coordination, every Member State will have to provide, in relation to their role in the conflict, as well as to their size and economic situation;
21. Recommends that the EU provides support for specific member states who have lost out economically, for example through trade, due to economic sanctions the EU has placed on a foreign nation, as well as when the EU is directly involved in international conflicts;
22. Calls upon the Member States to participate in the formation of the new organization, MESSY[[31]](#footnote-32), thus putting forward a facilitative and interest-based[[32]](#footnote-33) mediation approach;
23. Urges the EU to implement tariffs on certain exports from countries the previously mentioned situation applies to and recommends that the EU subsidizes these exports with equivalent exports from countries where progress is being made within the aforementioned issue;
24. Recommends that NATO and the EU divide their role in any international conflict, while support can be requested if needed;
25. Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers

1. Especially CO2 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Intermittent: not alwaysavailable [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. such as: Photovoltaic solar thermal energy [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Strategic Energy Technology Plan; Research Plan tosupportefficientsustainableenergies [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. common European electricity grid and system [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. e.g: off-shore wind farms and tidal plants [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. electricity production process in which two atoms form a new one. Safer and more efficient than nuclear fission [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. geographical features, public consent, not endangering the current state of the biosphere [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Carbon Dioxide Removals [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Such as (EaSI) microfinance [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. European Social Fund; European Regional Fund [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. schools, restaurants, bars, public transport, sports centres, cafes, casinos, work places and places specifically designed for children

    ² information on healthy food, tobacco use, alcohol abuse and drug use

    ³ depending on national regulations [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. European Qualification Framework [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. International Baccalaureate [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. European Higher Education Area [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. Definition: Non–governmental organisation:“NGOs are non-profit, volunteer citizens’ groups, which are organized on a local, national or international level” (Source ngo.org) [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. Human Tissue Act – act of the parliament of the UK to regulate the removal storage, use and disposal of human bodies, organs and tissue [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. SHT: Solve Human Trafficking (Appendix A) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. Both institutionalized and non-institutionalized discrimination [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. Article 1.a of Lisbon Treaty [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. Interruption of communication because of differences in language [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. Language and job skills [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. At a preschool age [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. Cyber-bullying, grooming, sexual harassment, cyber-stalking, racism, discrimination [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. The movement that strives for gender equality [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. If any action is decided to be taken. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. As seen in Syria (as shown by the EU’s refusal to act on the violation of human rights by the Syrian army and some opposing forces) and Iraq (when EU Member States supported the Iraq war in order to ally with the USA). [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. E.g. Crimean crisis 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. E.g. Rwanda. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. Regarding larger populations the UN terms of intervention are implemented. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. Mediation Support System (currently existing in Switzerland [Model of Swisspeace] and Norway [UN Mediation Standby]). MESSY would provide assistance and advice through qualified staff and would ensure that the mediators get the needed logistical and financial resources for a more conflict-specific and context-sensitive strategy. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. In the interest of the countries in need of help. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)