**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 nutrition? What role can schools and educational programmes play?

Charles Ramsden

Luxembourg, February 2014

Dear delegates of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety for MEP Vienna,

Let me first of all congratulate you on your place in our committee. I will be your committee president and so look forward to guiding you through this international session.

We are proud to welcome you to the MEP-Family. From now on you are part of a huge network of great people. You will meet new people, discuss various topics in the committees and if you participate in an international MEP session you are able to visit foreign countries and meet even more people from all Europe.

In order to prepare you for the committee work, we wrote up some useful links for you. Please use these links to prepare your committee work and to gain insight into the topic. Of course you are free to use other sources of information, such as magazines, documentaries, articles etc. Since writing a good resolution is a lot of hard work, it is essential to be well prepared, highly motivated and to be willing to work together as a team.

Here are a few tasks that I would like you to work on before the session starts:

1. Prepare a brief presentation on the current situation in your country concerning our topic question.
2. Answer the question according to your own opinion. Then answer it according to your government’s position on the matter and compare the two.
3. Familiarize yourself with the relevant terminology.
4. Keep your research relevant. Keep the question in mind at all times when researching, this is very important.

We hope our links are useful for your preparation and we are looking forward to meet you in Vienna.

We don’t want to give you too many preparation links, but please read the few we wrote out for you very carefully.

Please stay objective with your approach to this topic. Personal preference on the consumption of said substances should not influence your arguments.

Preparation is key for a resolution. It will allow a thorough and interesting debate on the topic at hand.

**Firstly here are some links to get an overview of the topic:**

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/index_en.htm>

<http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/doc/whitepaper_en.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KrFLetj6CQ>

**Your main topics are going to be alcohol, tobacco and unhealthy food. Here are some links concerning these topics:**

 **Alcohol:**

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/disease-prevention/alcohol-use>

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/archive/ph_determinants/life_style/alcohol/documents/alcohol_europe_en.pdf>  Don’t be shocked by the number of sites this document contains, you only have to read the recommendations starting at page 415. They will be useful for your resolution

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/alcohol/policy/index_en.htm>

 **Tobacco:**

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/tobacco/introduction/index_en.htm>

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/disease-prevention/tobacco>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vti9cTZiuD4> (Watch from minute 30:30-43:20)

 **Nutrition & Physical Activity:**

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition_physical_activity/policy/index_en.htm>

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/disease-prevention/nutrition>

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/disease-prevention/nutrition>

 **Comparison of EU member states:**

<http://www.protection-of-minors.eu/index_en.html>  (compare youth protection laws of member states)

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries>