

RESOLUTION BOOKLET

Valencia
February 15th





PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday, 15th of February 2015

10:00 – 11:00	GA Preparation
11:00 – 11:30	Opening of the General Assembly
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee Break
12:00 – 12:45	Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs I
12:45 – 13:30	Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
13:30 – 14:45	Lunch
14:45 – 15:30	Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs II
15:30 – 16:15	Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education
16:15 – 17 :00	Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Security and Defence
17:00 – 17:30	Coffee Break
17:30 – 18 :00	Closing Ceremony

* All times indicated are tentative.

PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Reading out the Operative Clauses of the proposed resolution
2. Defence speech by the proposing committee (Podium, max. 3 minutes)
3. Two attack speeches by members of the general assembly (Podium, max. 2 minutes each)
4. Response to the attack speeches (Floor, max. 1 minute)
5. Three to four rounds of open debate on the floor, returning to the proposing committee after each round to respond to the points raised
6. The last round of open debate will be summed up in a summation speech (Podium, max. 3 minutes).
The summation speech may be delivered by two delegates, where the microphone may be passed once.
7. Voting

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS I

With voter turnout having reached historical lows in the recent 2014 European elections, a debate on the decline in European democratic legitimacy has been omnipresent. How can the EU, together with its Member States, respond to the issue of an ever-decreasing electorate and its institutional democratic deficit?

Submitted by: Beatriz Pérez, Ana María Torres, Cristina García, María Pilar Galán, Isabel Fortea, Joaquín Olcina, Marta Rosique (Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Defining democratic legitimacy of the European Union (EU) based on the following features:
 - i) participation of the EU citizens in European Parliament (EP) elections,
 - ii) transparency of institutions and politicians,
 - iii) correct functioning of the institutions,
 - B. Further defining the institutional democratic deficit in the EU as the absence of some legitimacy features in the institutions of the EU, for example low voter turnout,
 - C. Concerned with the number of special legislative procedures in which the EP has comparatively less power than the other legislative bodies of the EU,
 - D. Believing that the European Citizen's Initiative¹ requirements are too difficult to fulfil,
 - E. Alarmed by governments of Member States attaching more importance to national interests than European ones,
 - F. Aware of the differences regarding voting procedures in the European elections across Member States,
 - G. Realising that the EU's institutional organisation is rarely understood by the general population, due to its complexity;
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- 1. Suggests that a proportion of the EP's plenary sessions are relocated from Brussels and Strasbourg to more Member States in the long-term as part of an effort to improve trust in and the presence of EU institutions;

¹ According to the Lisbon Treaty the EU should further enforce the use of direct democracy within its citizens. The European Citizens initiative allows one million EU citizens to call upon the European Commission to make a legislative proposal.



2. Encourages the EU to propose an amending treaty to yield more competences to the EP including:
 - a) an obligation for the European Commission and the European Council to accept the EP's advice during the consultation process,
 - b) granting the EP powers similar to the European Council when dealing with legislation, including all acts that fall under special legislative procedure;
3. Requests to reduce the requirements for a European Citizen's Initiative to 500,000 signatures from ten countries;
4. Calls upon the harmonisation of voting procedures in all Member States with regards to aspects such as:
 - a) banning compulsory voting,
 - b) a minimum age of 18,
 - c) E-voting with ballots open for three days;
5. Suggests the formation of a commission of experts to propose a syllabus on "European Studies" to be adopted by high schools in all Member States as a potential subject;
6. Calls for the financing of advertisement campaigns that promote European initiatives and a common European identity.

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

Security and transparency, two sides of the same coin: In light of the recent turmoil surrounding the leaking of NSA documents that revealed the magnitude of electronic surveillance, what further measures should the European Union assume in order to guarantee the privacy as well as security of citizens in the face of foreign surveillance?

Submitted by: Paola Biforcis, Olga Campos, Lorena Cerverón, Salvador de la Asunción, Eduardo González, Fernando Hernández, Ainhua Rocabert, Ignacio Sánchez (Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking into consideration Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights¹ of the European Union (EU) that contain the human right to privacy,
- B. Bearing in mind that terrorism is a major issue that needs to be tackled, as demonstrated by the 2012 ACE European Risk briefing survey, where 63% of respondents viewed terrorism as an increasingly worrying matter,
- C. Recognising that governments might withhold tackling terrorism as the main objective for mass surveillance and are therefore engaging in data collection to serve other purposes,
- D. Deeply concerned about the different tools and sites that the internet provides for criminal purposes through Deep Web sites such as TOR²,
- E. Fully alarmed by the unwillingness of Member States to take security measures unless these serve their common and own political and economic benefit, as seen in the 2012 European Commission proposal that aims to improve the regulating directives on processing personal data,
- F. Convinced that Member States laws that are being passed are often ambiguous and

¹ The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU brings together in a single document the fundamental rights protected in the EU. The Charter contains rights and freedoms under six titles: Dignity, Freedoms, Equality, Solidarity, Citizens' Rights, and Justice. Proclaimed in 2000, the Charter has become legally binding on the EU with the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, in December 2009.

² TOR is a free software for enabling online anonymity and censorship resistance. Tor directs Internet traffic through a free, worldwide, volunteer network consisting of more than five thousand relays to conceal a user's location or usage from anyone conducting network surveillance or traffic analysis.

therefore inefficient, as the French Quadrature du Net Consumer³ group pointed out while criticising the 2013 European Data Protection legislation,

- G. Keeping in mind the difficulties of creating EU law respecting privacy, and the consequences for companies such as Google facing discrepant legislations between Member States;
1. Approves of the temporary violation of the right to privacy in the exceptional case that an individual is found suspicious of high-profile criminal activities;
 2. Urges that all data collected for prosecution purposes remains readily available for a period of time that may vary depending on judicial criteria before its complete deletion;
 3. Calls for a joint collaboration between the European Court of Justice (ECJ) and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) to provide local police stations with a fast and secure way of acquiring permission to initiate surveillance of individuals;
 4. Calls for the ECJ and the EDPS to monitor Member States' use of mass surveillance programmes rendering their use public and implementing economic sanctions in case these are used for reasons different from those stated publicly;
 5. Requests the creation of EU legislation to identify, prosecute and charge those responsible for illegal activities within Deep Web pages access through services such as TOR;
 6. Demands the implementation of a supranational regulation specifying:
 - a) basic security measures when processing personal data,
 - b) sanctions proportionally to the country economic capabilities in case of breaches;
 7. Considers the evaluation, enhancement and adaptation of all existing data protection legislation in Europe by a team of experts to be selected by the European Parliament;
 8. Emphasises the need for integration of legislation regarding data protection to facilitate the work of multinational companies operating in the EU.

³ La Quadrature du Net is an advocacy group defending the rights and freedoms of citizens on the Internet. It is established in France and acts in the European Union.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS II

With the rise of secessionist movements in Flanders as well as the referendums on the independence of Catalonia and Scotland, several territories within Member States have shown their desire for increased autonomy or independence. Viewing the absence of any legal framework on the matter, how should the EU act in respect of the possible secession of these territories?

Submitted by: Carmen Girona, Sandra Jareño, Carla Marín, Nuria Navarro, Francesc Olaso, Lucía Ramiret, Marco Valenzuela, Alicia Viñuales, Isabel Ezpeleta (Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with regret that the secession of a particular territory could deteriorate the economic and political relationships in this region and in the Member it seceded from,
- B. Expecting profound changes in the dispersion of the political power in countries that have been separated,
- C. Keeping in mind that violent¹ independence movements may emerge in case of insufficient dialogue between the government and the pro-independence fraction of the population,
- D. Fully aware of the fact that the process of gaining independence would inevitably entail high costs for the seceding territory,
- E. Bearing in mind that the uncertainty of a continued European Union (EU) membership for the seceded territory may initially create economic and cultural turmoil,
- F. Recognising the absence of a legal framework on the matter as the EU refrains from taking a clear stance,
- G. Acknowledging that referenda on independence are:
 - i. a way of expressing the feelings, opinions and decisions of the citizens,
 - ii. an example of a truly democratic process undertaken by a government that actively takes into account the views of its citizens,
 - iii. legal in most Member States on a national level whilst being unconstitutional in some States on a regional level;

¹Any type of organised terrorism with the political goal of independence, excluding individual violence and violence occasionally occurring during demonstrations.

1. Reaffirms that the EU will remain neutral towards secessionist movements;
2. Supports the EU to act as a mediator between seceding regions and central governments by organising meetings of representatives and ensuring peaceful;
3. Recommends the European Council to modify Article 49 of the Treaty of the European Union so as to accept a candidate country by simple majority instead of a unanimous agreement;
4. Calls upon Member States to legalise and implement state-driven referenda such as the one held in Scotland in 2014 as the best possible method to deal with secessionist movements;
5. Urges seceding regions to develop a long-term strategy when seeking independence in order to minimise economical and political problems which may arise in consequence;
6. Calls for the EU to grant seceded regions an interim arrangement before leaving the EU with benefits such as:
 - a) maintaining the Euro as their currency,
 - b) free travel,
 - c) free trade;
7. Proclaims that seceded regions should not benefit from the short-term interim arrangement benefits in case a long-term strategy is not pursued;
8. Declares that the EU should ensure an unbiased information exchange to supporting the process of informed decision-making in secessionist regions.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Despite our reliance on science and technology to generate solutions to the challenges of a modern information society, the number of young people choosing to study science and take up scientific careers is in freefall. How can the EU address this lack of interest and potential shortage of human resources in science-related industries on an educational level?

Submitted by: José Luis Almunia, Mariam Armiñana, Paula Fort, Elena Ieva Lapinskaite, Leyre Martínez, Cristina Nogués, Javier Perpiñán, Pepe Bono (Chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Guided by the fact that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects are generally perceived as more demanding of and challenging for students in comparison to those in the field of humanities and social sciences,
- B. Fully aware of how the recent economic and financial crisis has triggered budgetary cutbacks in STEM related studies,
- C. Noting with regret the increased knowledge gap between students and the needs of the labour market,
- D. Recognising the high demand for skilled labour in STEM industries in order to keep up with the rapid advance of technology,
- E. Noting with deep concern the small proportion of women deciding to pursue a career in STEM,
- F. Further noting that women are not equally represented in fields concerned with technological innovation,
- G. Taking into account initiatives such as the European Schoolnet Academy¹ and SCIENTIX², promoting an EU-wide collaboration amongst STEM teachers and researchers;

¹European Schoolnet Academy is a platform where you can learn about innovation in the school and classroom through online professional development courses for teachers in primary and secondary schools www.europeanschoolnetacademy.eu

²SCIENTIX promotes and supports a European-wide collaboration amongst STEM teachers, education researchers, policymakers and other STEM education professionals. <http://www.scientix.eu/web/guest;jsessionid=B18CE9D4D5D48DC522100E516C62B3B3>



1. Recommends Member States to adapt their educational systems by prioritising practical lectures in STEM subjects in order to improve the student's experience and capabilities;
2. Recognises the need for a better promotion and explanation of STEM careers in education emphasising the importance of:
 - a) independent academic institutions,
 - b) the quality of human and physical resources available;
3. Encourages Member States to offer tax reductions to private enterprises which invest in research related to science and education;
4. Draws attention to the importance of promoting internships as an integral part of the curricula of STEM university degrees in order to bridge the gap between higher education and the needs of the labour market;
5. Further recommends Member States to promote women in STEM related areas by means such as:
 - a) advocating the importance of female scientists as role models in educational media,
 - b) endorsing science-related talks led by inspiring female scientists;
6. Invites Member States to promote the use and development of initiatives such as SCIENTIX and the European Schoolnet Academy.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

The recent uprisings in the Central African Republic and France's subsequent unilateral response revamped the debate on defence integration and led to the first European Defence Summit in five years. With the summit being declared a moderate success, how can the EU put into action an intention for deeper cooperation in the field of security whilst taking into account concerns of sovereignty and budgetary constraints?

Submitted by: Paz Aguirre, Joan Boscà, Claudia González, Fernando García, Marta Garrigós, Andrés Soler, Alejandro de Rosa, Oriol Roche (chairperson).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Observing a lack of unity of thought and identity regarding matters of Security and Defence within the European Union (EU),
- B. Affirming that different levels of EU involvement desired by Member States in defence matters makes cooperation difficult to achieve,
- C. Noting with deep concern the dependence of the EU and its Member States on:
 - i) the Big Three¹ in Security and Defence matters due to their importance and influence,
 - ii) Security and Defence assistance by the United States of America (USA) due to the limited budget of the EU and its Member States,
- D. Further noting the unanimity requirement in the Berlin Plus Agreement² for the EU to be provided with the possibility of using North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) assets for peacekeeping purposes and crisis management,
- E. Alarmed that Member States do not have enough skilled personnel or technical capacity in the field of Security and Defence,
- F. Keeping in mind that the support by USA policymakers for developing EU security policies depends on the condition that they do not weaken the position of NATO³,

¹The United Kingdom, France and Germany. Called so because of their importance and influence within the European Union, these countries have strongly shaped the development of the Common Security and Defence Policy throughout the years. Their disagreement as to the future of the CSDP is an important factor in the merely moderate success of the European Defence Summit of December 2013.

² The Berlin Plus Agreement was made in December 2002. It gives the EU the possibility of using NATO assets for peacekeeping purposes and crisis management. However, all NATO members must agree with the use of these assets, NATO can refuse the use of assets.

- G. Perturbed by the EU's dependency on NATO's military capacity and consequently on the USA's willingness and ability to collaborate;
1. Calls for the European Commission to initiate an advertising campaign using both Member States' mass media channels and social media in order to:
 - a) raise awareness on current security and defence topics,
 - b) promote research-oriented careers within these fields;
 2. Encourages the Political and Security Committee (PSC) to establish a set of guidelines improving the procedures of settling partial agreements between Member States in the field of security and defence;
 3. Recommends the European Commission to propose legislation limiting the dominance of the Big Three regarding EU Security and Defence Policy;
 4. Suggests the Big Three to intensify cooperation with other EU Member States to help them succeed in their military objectives;
 5. Further suggests to strengthen the availability of NATO assets as specified in the Berlin Plus Agreement by changing the requirement of unanimity to a simple majority vote;
 6. Approves of the Pooling and Sharing initiative by the European Defence Agency (EDA) as a method to release synergy effects between national security and defence policies.

³ North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, its aim is to "safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means"