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EURÓPSKES PARLAMENT   EUROOPA PARLAMENT   ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ   EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN   PARLAIMINT NA HEORPA   EUROPSKI PARLAMENT   PARLAMENTO EUROPEO  
EIROPAS PARLAMENTS   EUROPOS PARLAMENTAS   EURÓPAI PARLAMENT   IL-PARLAMENT EWROPEW  
EUROPEES PARLEMENT   PARLAMENT EUROPEJSKI   PARLAMENTO EUROPEU   PARLAMENTUL EUROPEAN  
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## **Model European Union 2017**

Strasbourg, France

In Brussels, February 2, 2017

Dear participants, dear volunteers,

I would like to express my support to all of you who make the Model European Union Strasbourg a great success every year.

It is the beginning of 2017 and the European Union is standing at the crossroads. We, the representatives of European citizens, need to steer our big European family through stormy waters. Although sometimes it can be a very challenging exercise, we know that we need to stay united as only unity makes us stronger.

For this reason I am very happy to know that you are going to work together on two topics which currently are of great importance to the Union, namely countering terrorism and third country national access to the Internal Market.

European citizens need Europe. Europe, on the other side, needs citizens who are not afraid of intercultural dialogue and reaching out to each other even during difficult times. Model European Union Strasbourg is a place where such bridges are built by energetic and enthusiastic young people every year. Thank you for that.

I firmly believe that this experience will help you understand how “the EU bubble” works and that it certainly is not as distant as it may seem. Moreover, I believe that learning to cooperate will form a valuable lesson for your future life as it is the key to success.

I wish you best of luck.

With kind regards,

**RNDr. Pavel Poc**

Member of the European Parliament

Vice-Chair of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety