



**MODEL EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
Central and South East European Region**

# **RESOLUTION BOOKLET**

Sunday, September 27 to Friday, October 2, 2015



## Committee on Culture and Education

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*The question of how can the EU foster the integration of religious groups in a diverse European society and promote interfaith dialogue in the light of tensions between various religious groups and current events highlighting violence and discrimination against certain religions.*



**The Model European Parliament, 14/24/5 → rejected**

- A) Emphasizing the still prevalent discrimination of religious, ethnic and national minorities, even after the signature of the Lisbon-Treaty within the European Union,
  - B) Alarmed by the need of general minority policy regarding right and integration of minorities within members states,
  - C) Noting with deep regret the misleading image of certain religious groups portrayed through media,
  - D) Considering the importance of places of worship and lack thereof, for religious minorities,
  - E) Deeply concerned about religious discrimination in the labour market leading to social frustration and further to an increased tendency towards criminality among members of minority groups,
  - F) Recognizing the insufficient education in the field of religions and traditions belonging to minority groups, leading to:
    - i) Wide-reaching misinformation about their religions,
    - ii) Physical and/or psychological violence within and exclusion from society,
  - G) Having in mind the widespread violence towards migrants upon entering and inhabiting a foreign country,
  - H) Aware of the fact that Western immigrants are often more privileged in most of the member states than non-Western ones,
  - I) Noting with regret the fact that religious and ethnic minorities, such as but not limited to Muslims are often pushed into certain parts of a city, thus leading to the development of 'ghettoization' caused by:
    - i) Financial problems emerging from discrimination in the labour market
    - ii) Lack of language skills and thus inability to communicate with anyone except fellow members of the same minority group,
- 1) Endorses the forthcoming motions to tackle the issue of discrimination of different minorities in the EU;
  - 2) Requests the shortening of the citizenship-obtaining programs' timeframe via the process of naturalization for people who have worked and studied in the respective country;

- 3) Urges the immediate application of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights as well as non-mandatory guidelines for national governments to address the issue of a general policy regarding rights and integration of minorities;
- 4) Encourages foundations and campaigns that advocate for religious tolerance to cooperate with the media<sup>1</sup> in order to disseminate accurate information based on cultural and historical backgrounds;
- 5) Recommends the EU member states to facilitate the establishment of places of worship corresponding to the need<sup>2</sup> and further declares the willingness to provide partial funding<sup>3</sup> upon application;
- 6) Emphasizes the importance of equal rights in the labour market and the need of more job opportunities for minority groups within member states, encouraged by financial benefits for companies fulfilling a certain quota of minority group members;
- 7) Request introducing obligatory programs about racism and discrimination in business and educational facilities and suggesting stricter penalties for the people in positions of responsibility that promote ideas of racism and discrimination<sup>4</sup>;
- 8) Supports and promotes the enhancement of immigrant security and encourages discipline of people who perform violent acts on immigrants in ways, such as but not limited to counselling sessions;
- 9) Calls upon individual member states to ensure that both Western and non-Western immigrants have equal access to existing integration organizations such as but not limited to the EPIM<sup>5</sup>;
- 10) Requests the creation of new and fostering of already existing language training programs for migrants and the introduction of informative campaigns;
- 11) Further recommends the following measures to aid positive development within poor settlements inhabited by minority groups:
  - i) Ensuring that each member of a minority is provided with basic education;
  - ii) Encourages the EIF<sup>6</sup> to further provide money to ensure the Fundamental Human Rights regarding basic living conditions and the fulfilment of human rights needs;
  - iii) Introducing projects which increase living standards in communities that are not satisfied and populated by minority groups;
- 12) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

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<sup>1</sup> Cooperating media would get a monetary benefit

<sup>2</sup> Determined on the basis of a quota system grounded upon regularly revised polls counting members of each significant religious group

<sup>3</sup> On the basis of the IDHR-funds

<sup>4</sup> Based on Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Article 10 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

<sup>5</sup> European Programme for Integration and Migration - an initiative aiming at strengthening civil societies by advocating for constructive approaches to migration in Europe

<sup>6</sup> EIF - European Integration Fund

## Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

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*The question of the slow progress in achieving gender parity across Europe in both political positions and the private sector, the role of women in perpetuating inequality in the workplace and to what extent the EU and Member States should take more radical action in order to unlock the full potential of Europe's female labour force.*



The Model European Parliament, **27/11/7** → **passed**

- A) Deeply concerned by the growing gender pay gap relating to unequal payment in the labour market,
  - B) Alarmed by the differences in the gender equality standards in the different member states of the EU,
  - C) Noting with deep regret the lack of public awareness about the rising problems related to the inadequate payment of women,
  - D) Deeply conscious that the EU has dropped maternity leave proposals,
  - E) Fully alarmed by the lack of women in positions of responsibility and members of the board,
  - F) Deeply regretting the persisting depiction of women as the weaker gender and unable to tackle tasks as well as men, being more emotional and unfit for certain professions considered predominantly male,
  - G) Fully aware of the lack of accessibility and existence of data on the current situation of gender differences at companies within all member states,
  - H) Recognizing the drawbacks related to fatherhood, upbringing of children and the unfair share of family responsibilities.
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- 1) Supports the subsidies given to companies by the government that succeed in closing the gender pay gap;
  - 2) Encourages the implementation of a multimedia awareness campaign with the subject of gender equality in all member states and candidate countries;
  - 3) Reminds the EU about already existing organizations<sup>7</sup> and events<sup>8</sup> that strive to make the public more aware of problems related to the GPG and further supports them;
  - 4) Proclaims that a special committee be made from members of different states to make a new maternity leave plan;
    - i) Further recommends once the plan is finalised be put to use immediately

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<sup>7</sup> Such as Skool, EIGE, PWN, Finland Women's Enterprise Agency

<sup>8</sup> Such as the Equal Pay Day

- 5) Requests the improvement of maternity/paternity benefits, balancing out work and family life and making flexible working arrangements giving all genders the same chance to contribute equally in their workplace;
- 6) Recommends cooperation with social partners, government businesses that encourage, design and implement gender balance tactics;
- 7) Further invites companies to apply the practice of anonymous<sup>9</sup> CVs and job interviews led by a third, independent party<sup>10</sup> in order to ensure equality among employees of all genders;
- 8) Notes the existence of laws in some EU countries<sup>11</sup> that aim for continuous benchmarking and monitoring of equal payment for all workers
  - i) Urges other EU member states and candidate countries to introduce similar laws;
- 9) Endorses shared parental leave and aims to make fatherhood more recognized by the public;
- 10) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

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<sup>9</sup> The CV must not include external factors that aren't in any way related to the skills or abilities of an employee.

<sup>10</sup> Independent organisations are aware of the company's needs, but not paid by the companies which limits the influence on choosing the right applicant and

<sup>11</sup> Such as the National Action Plan for Gender Equality in the labour market, the Gender Equality Act and the Equal Pay Programme

## Committee on Energy, Industry and Research

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*The question of improving the hardware and software towards a single European energy market. Which further steps should the EU take to ensure all Member States have access to energy that is affordable, competitively priced, secure and environmentally sustainable?*



The Model European Parliament, 15/23/8 —> **passed**

- A) Alarmed by the overdependence on energy from traditional strategic suppliers, such as Russia, which tend to be less secure,
  - B) Realizing the scarcity of modernized factories,
  - C) Deeply conscious of the problem of different and constantly changing legislations in terms of import and export of energy, further preventing the unification of the energy market in EU member states,
  - D) Noting with deep concern the pollution caused by major emission of greenhouse gases,
  - E) Aware of the large amount of energy consumed by households,
  - F) Deeply concerned by the lack of transparency and sharing of ideas concerned with the improvement of the use of energy sources,
  - G) Taking into consideration the importance of producing competitively priced energy,
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- 1) Strongly recommends the usage of alternative renewable energy sources such as biofuels, biomass, solar energy for the purpose of diversifying the energy sources and decreasing the dependence on strategic traditional suppliers;
  - 2) Approves the supporting action of the EERE<sup>12</sup> fund and directs in modernizing the old energy stations;
  - 3) Calls upon further research and development revolving the European Super Grid<sup>13</sup>;
  - 4) Recommends a EU-wide conference of all energy ministers and presidents to initiate a EU-wide law about energy safety for the EU;
  - 5) Recommends further research concerning combined power stations;
  - 6) Recommends tax reliefs for factories who reduce their carbon emissions for at least 20%;
  - 7) Further recommends building CSP<sup>14</sup> stations using systems such as Desertec and Magrid
  - 8) Requests the establishment of a European Stock Exchange, regulating energy prices in a single European market;
  - 9) Strongly recommends the usage of energy-efficient lighting such as LED-lights;

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<sup>12</sup> Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

<sup>13</sup> Wide area transmission network that makes it possible to trade high volumes of electricity across great distances

<sup>14</sup> Concentrated Solar Power

- 10) Encourages international conferences regarding energy and enabling MS representatives to share their country's progress in terms of innovation;
- 11) Emphasizes the importance of the actions of the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020, supporting the research on renewable and more efficient energy technologies
- 12) Calls upon full market liberalization of all EU member states through market administrated production and supply of energy and regulated government supervised energy transmission
  - i) The strong regulation body monitoring the government will follow the guidelines of ACER<sup>15</sup>
- 13) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

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<sup>15</sup> Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulation

## Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

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*The fear of rising 'benefit tourism' seems to be a result of unequal access to social benefits within the Union. How should basic EU liberties, be safeguarded whilst considering the socio-economic pressures placed upon the welfare systems of Member States.*



The Model European Parliament, **22/11/14** —> **passed**

- A) Noting with deep concern the different amount of child support available among the EU countries,
  - B) Deeply disturbed by the high rates of unemployment recently occurring in the EU,
  - C) Realizing the different minimum wages in the EU,
  - D) Concerned about the lack of efficiency in the integration process resulting in increased unemployment rates,
  - E) Alarmed by the unsettling number of young people leaving their homeland, seeking better education and employment opportunities, resulting in the reduction of the nation's economic outlook,
  - F) Aware of the fact that the amount of taxes is different within the EU member states, such as, but not limited, to the income tax,
  - G) Deeply concerned about the fact that unemployment and child support benefits are being given to citizens without citizenship in the residing country,
  - H) Observing the different criteria which each member states have when it comes to applying for welfare,
  - I) Deeply concerned about the different healthcare systems leading to benefit tourism,
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- 1) Recommends the adaption of the child support of all EU member states to one specific percentage, which depends on the GDP per capita;
  - 2) Further invites member states to provide reeducation for its unemployed citizens in order to facilitate them to find work and not abuse unemployment benefits;
  - 3) Supports the regional cooperation between member states in terms of establishing EU bodies and organizations that would promote the reduction of income taxes inside the region, thus promoting the local economy and reducing unemployment rates of its countries;
  - 4) Endorse all sources of motivation employers would provide for citizens who would be employed for the first time or after a long period;
  - 5) Suggests the harmonization of all taxes in the EU with the purpose of unifying and equalizing all nations by;
    - I. Attending regular international meetings with the purpose of discussing all types of taxes and coming to an agreement regarding the value of these, keeping in mind that;

- i. Each nation has different needs at different times that must be taken into consideration;
  - ii. Other issues such as minimum wages and standard benefits might need to be standardized in order to achieve the goal;
  - iii. All nations are encouraged to act as one and help each other rather than develop individually;
- II. Strengthening relationships among member states by encouraging the trade of various goods;
- 6) Requests for the European Court of Justice to reconsider and reform the current migration laws;
- 7) Invites member states to establish a common ground on policies considering each and every member state welfare system;
- 8) Instructs member states to further tackle the issue of social integration, regarding the process of obtaining citizenship in certain countries;
- 9) Supports the activities of organizations dealing with discrimination, in order to promote the citizen's integration into the society;
- 10) 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

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*The question of growing unemployment among young people in the European Union: Increasingly unemployment, especially amongst the young generation is becoming a serious problem in the European Union. Which 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, **23/12/9** → **passed**

- A) Fully alarmed by the lack of moral encouragement and enthusiasm of young individuals to participate in the labour market,
  - B) Deeply concerned by the “brain drain” of the young labour force within the EU,
  - C) Taking into account that the labour market is in transition to low-paid or temporary jobs, and that firms exploit youths by providing them with insecure contracts,
  - D) Fully alarmed by the lack of work and social experience of young graduates,
  - E) Realising the existing major differences between education standards within the EU,
  - F) Alarmed by the refugee crisis boosting the increase of the rate of youth unemployment,
  - G) Deeply concerned by the slow implementation of youth specialized funds from national governments,
  - H) Aware of the fact that Dual Education is not available in a lot of EU member states although it has been successful,
- 1) Recommends the implementation of Dual Education Systems in order to provide work experience and practical skills for the youth before entering the labour market;
  - 2) Further recommends juveniles to acquire work experience through apprenticeships or EU programs such as, but not limited to “Youth on the Move”;
  - 3) Urges the implementation of primary education regarding different cultures and beliefs within the society;
  - 4) Further proclaims establishing educational programs, such as but not limited to MEP and other NGO’s where young individuals would nurture their debating, critical thinking and practical skills that will later be useful in the labour market;
  - 5) Emphasizes the establishment of measures in order to achieve economic equity;
  - 6) Declares accordingly that brain-drain within the EU can be converted into wisdom-gain if national governments stimulate the youth to return by guaranteeing various job opportunities and superior facilities;
  - 7) Emphasizes the importance of creating people’s unions in order to defend their interests and to avoid being exploited because of insecure contracts;
  - 8) Request stricter deadlines, more supervised documentation and a more solid organization to ensure the efficiency of existing programs;

- 9) Draws the attention of the public schools to adapt the subjects to the needs and possibilities of the EU member countries;
- 10) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

## Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

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*The question of juvenile health: Should the EU play a role in protecting juveniles from alcohol and drug 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, **17/23/5** —> **passed**

- A) Noting with deep concern that juveniles have full and easy access to tobacco products and alcoholic beverages,
  - B) Deeply concerned by the juveniles who are subjected to second-hand smoke in crowded public spaces such as bus/train stations and public buildings,
  - C) Alarmed by the number of children exposed to toys<sup>16</sup> and beverages promoting a positive image of cigarettes and alcohol,
  - D) Having devoted attention to the fact that juveniles do not possess enough knowledge about illicit substances,
  - E) Deeply disturbed by the lack of awareness amongst juveniles concerning a healthy lifestyle
  - F) Alarmed by the fact that most schools do not offer enough healthy food in reasonable amounts or of good quality, nor at reasonable prices,
  - G) Noting with deep concern the amount of pressure<sup>17</sup> juveniles have to face,
  - H) Realizing that certain products do not state/label all ingredients used,
  - I) Declaring that food industries advertise their products in a false manner,
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- 1) Supports the idea of having national tobacco shops, which have the privilege of selling tobacco (fully equipped with cameras, requiring customers to present an ID card, and not permitting individuals to enter the shop below the stated legal age);
  - 2) Urges an EU-wide law on the legal age of alcoholic beverages, which should be 16 for drinks up to 15% and 18 for any alcoholic beverages over 15%;
  - 3) Requests the separation of smokers and non-smokers with the creation of specified smoking areas that can be accessed only by citizens who have reached the legal age of smoking;
  - 4) Supports the complete ban of toys for children aimed at creating a positive image of alcoholic beverages and tobacco;

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<sup>16</sup> such as, but not limited to cigarette chewing gum, fake childrens' cigarettes, Champagne for children

<sup>17</sup> Family, social/peer, school

- 5) Encourages banning the advertisement of alcohol and tobacco on all social media;
- 6) Calls upon a new advisory subject to be implemented in students' schedules that would have the purpose of teaching the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, drug consumption and an unhealthy life style (advisory would be held twice a week and students would be held in designated classrooms);
- 7) Further invites multimedia education campaigns about the effects of using alcohol, tobacco and illicit substances;
- 8) Calls upon the banning of all commercials of alcohol and tobacco;
- 9) Proclaims the mandatory supply of healthy foods<sup>18</sup> in school cafeterias;
- 10) Recommends free distribution of seasonal fruits in schools;
- 11) Requests every school to have a psychologist with whom students can talk to, if they have a personal problem, and/or problems with regard to social pressure to use tobacco, alcohol or illicit substances;
- 12) Urges the creation of a law similar to the French law based on the employment of models considered to be anorexic;
- 13) Calls upon stronger measures, and consequences, for companies who mislead buyers by neglecting/omitting certain products' ingredients on labels;
- 14) Urges the placing of lists<sup>19</sup> and QR codes explaining the ingredients used in a given product in an understandable manner;
- 15) Encourages various multimedia campaigns about healthy food;
- 16) Considers customer care in the form of reviews on the viability of a product based on its advertisement;
- 17) Calls for the inspection of poorly rated restaurants;
  - i) Authorizes imposing of fines and removing of restaurant licenses for those who, for example, do not meet minimum health standards;
- 18) Further recommends designated special bracelets to indicate the ages of juveniles in alcohol-serving bars and clubs;
- 19) Instructs the president to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

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<sup>18</sup> Except for: Fat (vegetable, animal, saturated), added sugar, sweeteners, colorants.

<sup>19</sup> In food stores