

THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN UNION
THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN UNION - THE DESIRE OF YOUNG EUROPEANS

Wrocław

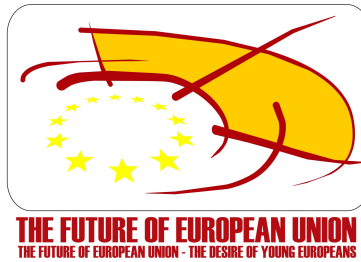
Poland

1-8.08.2010

report

Youth Parliamentary Session "The Future of European Union"





Wrocław Poland, 1-8.08.2010

Conclusions of Youth Parliamentary Session “The Future of European Union”

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WE, YOUNG PEOPLE OF EUROPEAN UNION,

DRAWING INSPIRATION from the cultural, religious and humanist heritage of Europe, from which have developed the universal values of the inviolable and inalienable rights of the human being, freedom, democracy, equality and the rule of law,

RECALLING the historic importance of the ending of the division of the European continent and the need to create firm bases for the construction of the future Europe,

CONFIRMING their attachment to the principles of liberty, democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the rule of law,

DESIRING to deepen the solidarity between our peoples while respecting our history, our culture and our traditions

IN VIEW of further steps to be taken in order to advance European integration,

HAVE DECIDED to make the below conclusions.



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Final report of The Committee of Culture and Education

As representatives of the Committee of Culture and Education we are mainly responsible for promoting creative and innovative approaches in cultural and educational field. During our meetings we have discussed some issues concerning conservation and safeguarding of cultural and linguistic diversity; the Union's educational policy including higher education area; audiovisual policy (computer based system in school and university administration); development of sports policy; information and media policy; cooperation with third countries in the areas of culture and education; relations with the relevant international organizations and institutions. We hope we will contribute to better equipping the European Union for the challenges ahead in a globalised world. We hope that our suggestions are going to be approved by the Parliament and we will be able to get the funding for implementing our proposals and projects. We strongly believe that they are worthy and they are going to contribute to the development of culture and education.

Our committee has worked on three priorities:

Culture and innovation

First and foremost we highlight the potential of culture and innovation as part of the EU 2020 strategy. Our main goal is to protect the cultural heritage of every country in the European Union and preserve linguistic diversity on the continent. We want to encourage all European nations to take part in a yearly Cultural Festival, each year hosted by a different country. This event will consist in cultural exchange in different areas (music, art, gastronomy, basic language workshops, etc). We were led by the motto of Maastricht Treaty: "Unity in diversity".

Educational system

The second priority of our Committee relates to the importance of improving European educational system from "pre-school to universities" because Lisbon Strategy was wrong in taking into account only the higher education. We want to invest more money in school facilities, audiovisual policy, organizing teachers' seminars, courses and exchanges among the European Union member states. Additionally, we would like to establish an equal starting school age (7 years-old) and a pre-school year.



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Physical education policy

As a third priority we would like to undertake some actions to promote physical and sporting activities among young people at schools and universities. We all think that the only way we can solve the increasing overweight problem is to motivate youngsters to participate more in schools and universities championships. There is no doubt this can improve their health condition. As a part of this problem we must invest more money in bicycle lanes so that a bicycle could become the main means of transport in cities in 10 years period. Also it is advisable to provide people free fitness facilities in open areas and improve schools' sport facilities.



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Final report of The Committee of Employment and Social Affairs

Employment Development Programme

Immigration policy

Many European countries are continuously neglecting the problem of ageing population. The acceptance of new immigrants, not only from the countries within the Union but also from third countries, is essential for the competitiveness of our economy. The influx of workforce from third countries is not just a chance to develop but it might be an opportunity for overcoming the difficulties which the EU faces. We should develop a common immigration policy which would attract the attention of skilled workers because they would contribute to the society's well-being.

We can develop a unified EU register for job-seekers from third countries. The applicants would pass entrance exams showing their skills and abilities. Afterwards, the national employment agencies would be responsible for the communication with business partners so that they could find the most suitable and skilled worker for their business.

That register can also be applied to the illegal immigrants in the member states. Instead of deporting them to their country of origin, the authorities could offer them to be transferred to another country of the Union, which needs that kind of workers. A place on the register will be granted only to those who do not have a criminal record of any serious crime (murder, etc.) and who are not a potential threat to the society. Moreover, they will be bound to have the needed language skills. The illegal immigrants and the third country residents would have to report themselves regularly to the employment agencies so that their residence in the country is controlled. The employers should help the immigrants and the third country residents they are willing to employ with finding a proper accommodation.

Specialized Education

We believe that the European Union can be a world trend-setter. Since it tries to become the most competitive and knowledge-based economy, it has to invest in information and communication technologies. The Union should attract the attention of transnational investors from the hi-tech branches of the economy. The problem is that the EU does not have many skilled specialists in that specific field. Our immigration policy could not be a



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solution to this problem. Therefore, we have to promote vocational training programmes and invest in professional schools. Nevertheless, investment in schools' infrastructure will not suffice.

The nation-states and their citizens should understand that those kinds of specialists are pivotal in an information society. We should start a campaign concerning those issues. Advertisements, as well as direct communication between teachers and students will promote the product the professional schools offer. The children of the modern age should understand that engineers' work is difficult, but prestigious. The advertisements will not only promote professional education but will also inform the society of the challenges the EU faces. The understanding of the real problems could make the European citizens more aware of what is happening in the society. They are our main capital and we should give them a chance to understand what we have to do to become more integrated, more competitive and knowledge-based economy. What is more, that kind of measures can restore the support of the society for the EU common ideas and goals.

“Entrepreneur yourself” programme

“Entrepreneur yourself” is a programme which is going to stimulate young entrepreneurs to invest in their own business. By doing so they are going to support the economy of the EU as well as open lots of new work places in different sectors – agriculture, hi-tech, e-trading, etc. The main priority of the programme is that the entrepreneurs who are going to be supported should hire people who have already finished the specialised professional courses. This way, we are going to decrease the unemployment rate and stimulate the EU economy in the time of crisis.

Social Development Programme

Asylum-seekers policy

The legal system of the Community stipulates that when a person receiving political shelter has the right to move freely within the borders of the Community. We suggest that those people be granted the right to work wherever they want within the borders of the Union. Thus, we will continue to promote the main civic rights and liberties which are so important for the development of democracy in our society.



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Disabled People

We suggest certain legislation amendments which will help the disabled people feel more comfortable and provide them with better living conditions and work opportunities. By these measures we will go further in our efforts to make the disabled an integral part of the society we live in.

Firstly, we propose a law amendment concerning the construction of new buildings all over the territory of the member states. All the newly build constructions have to be accessible for disabled people. Secondly, we have to change the way the teachers work with disabled children. Many of the tutors are not prepared to work with kids with specific needs, so we think it would be important to introduce special courses for primary and secondary school teachers. These courses will enhance tutors' abilities to work with those children on a European scale. Thirdly, we encourage the EU to suggest its member states a possibility of lowering tax rates for companies which are willing to hire disabled people and which invest in specialized equipment for their needs.

Ondrej Mocek's Programme

All of the committee members agreed on a programme concerning the exchange of good practices among public administrative bodies of the member states. We came to the conclusion that it is not possible at the moment to focus on the private sector because of the differences in the social systems and the standard of living within the member-states.

We decided to propose a new exchange programme in which civil service employees could go to another EU member state and see how the system there is working. If the workers have the necessary language skills, they could even start working there after the end of the exchange programme. The exchange within the programme would last from two weeks to six months.



Final report of The Committee of The Committee of Economic and Monetary Affairs

The economic issues affect all of us. Because of the economic crisis they have become of great importance to all European citizens. The European Union is based on the economic integration, so it is essential that the economic problems are solved. The Committee of Economy and Monetary Affairs debated on topical problems and tried to offer new solutions to them. Presented below are the conclusions.

Our committee has worked on the below issues:

Euro-zone and Euro adoption process

It is advisable to develop communications between EU institutions and EU citizens, spreading information about issues that are unclear and which create “fears” concerning the EURO adoption and its results.

The countries should only enter the Euro-zone when the problem of the currency and the crisis is solved, after showing good economic results in the long term (that is, 5-10 years). The Euro adoption process should be continued. However, premature Euro adoption should not be forced. Countries have to be left to make their own choice.

We also propose to send out experts to countries where the Euro is to be adopted. Their task would be to examine and point out the crucial points of the country's economy - meaning problems that cannot be solved by the country itself on national level, and therefore require external support. On other matters of national economy the country should manage itself, thus showing that it has the will and drive to become a Euro-zone member.

EU budget

The increase of budget is not needed. We propose to only change its structure. Up to now the figures were: 44% of expenditures on competitiveness, 43% on agriculture, etc.

Our suggestion is to cut down the money spent on agriculture to 35% until 2023. In the first year we propose a reduction by 2%, and in the following years by 0,5%. To reduce the social pressure, several programmes will be created to help the unemployed to re-qualify and



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protect their opportunities for future development. Farmers in each country will have the opportunity to select one of the options from “REQF” programme, to choose the way of changing their life.

In the following years, money saved thanks to the above solution is going to be allocated to the business sector to enhance competitiveness. Some money could be allocated to education, so that citizens could be more informed about the EU.

Lack of Public information

Identified problem: People are not into EU issues and matters. They consider the EU as “something far away”. There is a noticeable lack of information about the EU.

Solution: Invest money in schools to teach about EU matters. Implement information about EU into everyday life of all Europeans, so as to make people more concerned about what is happening within the EU.

Financial sector and banking

Discussion about: The extent of banks’ financial security with relation to the amount of credits granted.

Identified issue: The system is not working. What will happen when things become more regulated? How will the rules affect the banking system? Nowadays banks left alone went bankrupt, and economy plummeted. Banking sector is not working properly.

Solution: we suggest that there should be more regulations and supervision of financial services (audits, reports, corporate governance).

Identified issue: Banks are afraid to lend the money to the people. This slows down the economy.

Solution: European guaranty fund for banks to give out more loans simultaneously paying attention to all procedures and safety issues. Just for companies. Guarantees ¼ of granted loans.



Unified fiscal policy

We propose creating a committee which gathers representatives (Ministers of finance and economy) of all EU countries. Experts should be consulting each and every country about its budget. Such consultations are a step ahead towards a unified fiscal policy and balance between different economies in the future. The EU should have a saying in tax issues in the member states, but it is not our recommendation that the tax policy should be unified for the whole EU.

Final conclusions

Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee concludes that the European economy needs to be reformed in order to recover from the current crisis and avoid similar occurrences in the future. We recommend several ways to achieve this goal. Among them are: taking measures in order to support the stability of the Euro currency as well as setting higher standards for accepting the Euro, restructuring the EU budget, redirecting finances in the field of business development, increasing regulations and supervision of financial services. Concerning fiscal policy matters, the committee suggests more cooperation and consultation between EU members and EU experts in order to prevent another economic crisis and create more balanced budgets.

We have to point out that economy is one of the essential fields of EU integration but not the only one. Economic process can not proceed without the help and support of integration processes in other areas.



Final report of The Committee of Civil liberties, Justice and Home affairs

Justice and law

Right to vote in the country of living

Concerning the civil rights, The Committee of Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) has consented, that the term *European Citizenship* should be more fulfilled.

According to the Council directive 80/94 of 19 December 1994, every European Citizen has a right to vote in municipal elections in every EU member state regardless of his or her nationality. The only conditions are (a) *to be a European Citizen*; (b) *to file a notice of interest*, (c) *He/She has to be eligible to participate in election under the national electoral law*, (d) *to be a resident in another state*.

LIBE committee considers it necessary to enlarge the scope of the above mentioned Council directive in a sense that European Citizens would be provided right to elect in all kind of elections in a state where she or he is a resident.

Reasons for such revision of the Council Directive were also considered by LIBE committee. People who reside in another member state are influenced by the situation in their country of residency as much as citizens of that country. However, they are not eligible to fully participate in public affairs. As the European Union is based on free movement of people, such revision of the above mentioned council directive seems to be necessary in the future.

This initiative is not about harmonization of electoral systems, but about providing all people the right to participate in democratic process in cases when, for example, one is a citizen of Czech Republic, but has lived for 15 years in France. French citizens are entitled to vote in elections, while other residents are not.

This initiative is also not about providing the right to participate in election to all residents living in the European Union, but only about the promotion of real European Citizenship.

Committee's proposal:

Preconditions for the right to vote in another country than one is a citizen of are:

- To be a European Citizen
- To file a notice of interest of participating in election



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- To reside for at least 2 years in an EU member state other than the country of one's citizenship
- To be eligible to participate in all kinds of elections under the national law of the country of residency.

Committee is aware that not every citizen is willing to vote in a state other than his or her country of citizenship. Due to this, a resident is obliged to file a notice of interest. If one does, one will lose their right to vote in one's home country. This should prevent situations whereby one would elect in two or more countries. If one would like to elect in his or her home country again, one is obliged to file another notice of interest. It means that a European Citizen may participate in election only if (a) He or she is a citizen of any member state and (b) files a notice of interest where he or she is a resident.

The period of two years is encompassed in the initiative in order to prevent situations in which one or more European Citizens would change their state of resident in very short time in order to participate in elections in every EU member state. The aim of this initiative is to provide residents the right to participate in elections in countries they really live in, not to provide the right to elect to European Citizens willing to participate in all elections all over the EU.

As it was mentioned, this initiative is not about harmonization of electoral systems. Because of this, if a European Citizen resides outside his or her country of citizenship, he or she has to be eligible to vote under the national law of their country of residency.

Discrimination

Minorities

Discrimination, racism and xenophobia are still persistent phenomena in the EU, that affect members of ethnic minorities and immigrants living in the EU, and that hamper their integration into our societies. These phenomena are incompatible with the values that the European Union is based upon.

The term "national minority" is still ambiguously defined in specialized literature, as well as in the political debate. According to Capotorti's definition for the UN, "minority" means a community:

- compactly or dispersedly settled on the territory of a state;
- which is smaller in number than the rest of the population of a state;



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- whose members are citizens of that state;
- which have ethnic, linguistic or cultural features different from those of the rest of the population;
- whose members are guided by the will to safeguard these features.

The term "ethnic minority" refers to people belonging to those ethnic communities which do not make up the majority of the population in any state and also do not form their own nation state anywhere. In Europe most national minorities live in their traditional homeland and the historic evolution found them included in a state with a major "titular nation", a national majority which normally exerts a cultural hegemony by the sheer effect of numbers, economic, social and political power. The smaller ethnic groups tend to be structurally disadvantaged and excluded from power.

Minority rights are an essential part of the fundamental human rights in defence of human dignity against the state. But compared with the classical individual human rights, minority rights have some specific features, as they can only be exercised collectively (it refers to religious activities, cultural, education facilities, language rights in public sphere etc.).

As 55 years of experience with ECHR have shown, the purely formal equal treatment is not enough to solve the discrimination dilemma through democracy and human rights alone.

In many European states people belonging to national minorities cannot use their language in the public sphere, in the media, in the institutions, in the education system. A number of languages are not even recognized. Collective rights include not only the fundamental right to official recognition and the right to existence and identity, but other fundamental rights, coming as a consequence of recognition:

- the right to use one's own language in the public sphere,
- the right to education in one's native language,
- the right to establish separate organizations including political parties,
- the right to maintain contacts with one's kin or people and institutions who share the same culture,
- the right to exchange information and create mass media in one's native language.



Minority Rights in National and International Law:

The first minority rights were created by revolutionary Parliament of Hungary in 1849. Minority rights, as applying to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples, are an integral part of international human rights law. Like children's rights, women's rights and refugee rights, minority rights are a legal framework designed to ensure that a specific group which is in a vulnerable, disadvantaged or marginalized position in the society, is able to achieve equality and is protected from persecution. The first post-war international treaty to protect minorities, designed to protect them from the greatest threat to their existence, was the U.N. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Subsequent human rights standards that codify minority rights include the International Convent on Civil and Political Rights (Article 27), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, two Council of Europe treaties (the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages), and the OSCE Copenhagen Document of 1990.

Minority rights cover protection of existence, protection from discrimination and persecution, protection and promotion of identity, and participation in political life.

To protect minority rights, many countries have specific laws and/or commissions or ombudsman institutions (for example the Hungarian Parliamentary Commissioner for National and Ethnic Minorities Rights).

While initially the United Nations treated indigenous peoples as a sub-category of minorities, there is an expanding body of international law specifically devoted to them, in particular Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (adopted 14 September 2007).

Attempts to codify the rights of sexual minorities in international human rights law have met with strong opposition from a number of member states of the United Nations.



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National Minorities in the Law of the EC/EU:

The direct role of the European Union (and also the law of the EU/EC) in the area of protection of national minorities is still very limited (likewise, the general protection of human rights). The EU has relied on general international law and a European regional system of international law (based on the Council of Europe, OSCE etc.) and in case of necessity accepted these norms. But the “de-economization of European integration”, which started in 1990s, is changing this situation. The political relevance of national minorities’ protection is very high. Although until 2009 protection of national minorities has not become a generally accepted, legally binding principle of the EU, in several legal acts issues of national minorities are mentioned. In external relations protection of national minorities became one of the main criteria for cooperation with the EU or accession to the Union.

By using the excuse of not upsetting anyone, the “politically correct” are demanding that people behave like fools wanting to please everyone, and that everyone becomes such a fool. All must accept the notions of the politically correct as the universal truth... This is the same mentality that inspired the Inquisition and forced Galileo to recant, the same mentality that inspired the Nazis and resulted in the Holocaust. Once expression gets placed in a straitjacket of official truth, then the madness characteristic for all totalitarian states occurs. Life, in private and public, becomes a meaningless charade where delusion thrives and terror rules.

Foundation stone for the construction of the voting system for the Council of the European Union should be the principle of representation, based on the following two rules: The Equity rule - the indirect voting power of all citizens of the EU should be as nearly equal as possible, and the Majority Rule - the decisions of the Council should express as closely as possible the will of the majority of the population. The equity rule is realized if the assumption of the Penrose method is fulfilled: the voting power of each country should be proportional to the square root of its population.

Committee’s proposal:

All Member States in the European Union should adopt a policy of equal rights among the citizens and not give any further opportunities to the minorities.



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The LIBE Committee has also discussed whether religious or ethnical symbols shall be banned from public spaces and governmental buildings, such as hospitals, schools and so on. The Committee concluded it would not be appropriate.

Discriminated people

Discriminatory behaviours take many forms but they all involve some form of exclusion or rejection. There are many types of discrimination, but the EU divided them in 6 groups: against sex, ethnic origin, religion or beliefs, age, disability and sexual orientation. Discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin is perceived to take place most widely.

On the 31 March 2010 The Committee of Ministers of Council of Europe adopted the Recommendation to all member states, which included measures to combat discrimination. Their goal was to ensure the right of freedom of association, administrative procedures, and right to respect for private and family life, as well as education. Some of those measures were:

- legislation, policies and practices,
- building victims' awareness of discrimination and giving them access to effective legal remedies before national authorities,
- sanctions for those who are discriminating other European citizens,
- promoting tolerance among European citizens.

Schools and universities are most seen as institutions that have to play an important role in combating discrimination. The other important actors are the media, national governments, parents, employers, political parties and others.

On average, awareness of existence of anti-discrimination laws is quite low in the EU. Discrimination on the grounds of disability, for example, is the only type of discrimination which more than half of the European public knows is prohibited by law when hiring new employee. Fewer citizens know that other discrimination types are also prohibited by law. European citizens are least aware of legislation prohibiting discrimination on the bases of sexual orientation and age.



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From all of the above we can conclude that the problem of discrimination is very difficult to resolve, because many factors must be taken under consideration in its solution.

Committee's proposal:

The civil union should be recognized in all EU member states but the term of that union doesn't mean that it's a synonym of marriage. It means that it only covers some aspects of marriages as they are understood now, for example property rights, the right of information, heritage cases and so on.

It is essential to establish a bureau for fighting discrimination and infringements of human rights on a national level in each member state, which operates on personal complaint basis. The bureau is going to investigate the situation and negotiate for a solution if a complaint is found justified. If the problem can not be solved by negotiations, the issue must be sent to the national court. The bureau will be provided with legal rights which are going to be defined by each member state. However, the framework of the laws under which it operates is going to be defined by a committee which will be formed in collaboration between all member states.

Human rights

Protection of the personal data via the Internet and the telephone

The right of privacy is a highly developed area of law in the European Union. Personal data can only be processed for specified explicit and legitimate purposes, and can not be processed further in the way incompatible with these purposes – article 6th of ECHR.

The convention for the protection of individual, with regard to individual personal data, negotiated in 1981, obliges the signatories to enact legislation concerning the automatic processing of personal data.

Convention should be abided by; the problem of the protection is mostly the problem between servers and users. A good example is your personal internet banking option. The services like this have their own protection, but failures of such protections still happen.

Committee's proposal:

The data including:



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- Internet connection directly between users
- Storage of data used in private communication via internet and telephone
- The history of visited sites from each internet user

shall be treated as a personal data and protected legally in an appropriate way according to the Convention for the Protection of the Individual, with Regards of the Individuals Personal Data.

Security

Cooperation between the police and security services in all member states

Today, under the Schengen Convention, if national authorities want to proceed with an observation of an alleged criminal in another member state, they are obliged to receive permission. In some cases pertaining serious crimes, the permission can be given after crossing the border. While staying abroad, officers need to obey the national law and the decisions of local authorities. Furthermore, they may not challenge nor arrest the suspect and they can follow him only in places accessible for public. In each case, the agreement considers only bordering states.

Committee's proposal:

In the first phase of its proceedings, the LIBE committee consented that the process should be faster and more effective. Instead of the requirement of obtaining permission, it would be sufficient to give a notice. Instead of bilateral agreement, there should be one or more multilateral contracts between the countries interested in such cooperation.

Secondly, the committee consented that an absolutely unified criminal law would be needed in order to achieve more effective fight against crime. Even today, when some elements of penal codes are harmonized, in predictable future the European authorities should concentrate on further unifying criminal law of all EU members.

Thirdly, the role of EUROPOL should be strengthened and changed. In case of crimes that were committed in more than one member state, EUROPOL could play a role of the EUROPEAN prosecutor. European prosecutor would organize the activity of national police services and judicial authorities in order to sentence the criminal more effectively and quickly. In other cases (those that have occurred only in one state or concerned only one



state) it would be still national police services which should be entitled to conduct the investigations.

Today, if national authorities want to investigate a crime on the territory of another state, or pursue an alleged criminal into other states, they are obliged to receive permission.

Unified IDs and passports

Committee's proposal:

The committee agreed on some proposals on the issue of personal documents:

All member states should be provided with the same template of ID cards in order to facilitate administrative procedures. The similar ID card system would especially help to create better conditions for trade and student exchange between countries. The LIBE Committee proposes:

- Unified ID card for all member states
- Not to print all info contained in the ID card

Instead, use micro chips embedded in the card to store all the necessary information

Easy change of address

Principal place of residence registration procedures:

A place of residence is a place (with an address) connected with immovable property freely selected by any person, in which the person has voluntarily settled with an intention to reside there expressed directly or implicitly, in which he or she has a lawful basis to reside and which has been recognised by him or her as a place where he or she is reachable in terms of legal relations with the State or local government.

A person changing the place of residence has a duty to declare such change to the relevant administrative body.

A person declaring his or her place of residence has the right to indicate in the declaration an additional address (addresses) of their place of residence.

A person declaring the place of residence, or his or her legal representative, may also submit a declaration electronically in accordance with regulatory enactments.



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Registering a declared place of residence should be subject to a one-off charge, to the benefit of the relevant local government in accordance with the procedures, in the amount determined by the national government.

Committee's proposal:

All the UE nations have a right of free movement between member states. As the result, many people are not living now in their home country. We propose that an ID should not have to contain information about the place of residency. This information can be just on a database, in the chip of one's ID. A citizen should also be able to change this information via a special, dedicated website, which would be easier than it is now. It would be possible to have two addresses in the data base – one temporary and one permanent.

We should pay the local taxes in our home country. Our first address in the home country could not be changed on the Internet.

SISone4all (SISone4all II.) and its application in Europe

The **Schengen Information System**, abbreviated **SIS**, is a governmental database used by several European countries to maintain and distribute information on individuals and pieces of property of interest. The intended uses of this system is for national security, border control and law enforcement purposes.

Information in the SIS is shared among of the participating countries in the Schengen Agreement Application Convention (SAAC). Five original participating countries were France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. Nineteen additional countries have joined the system since its creation, including Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Greece, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Estonia, The Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Currently, the Schengen Information System is used by 27 countries. Among the current participants, Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland are not members of the European Union.

Although the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom have not signed the Schengen Agreement Application Convention, they take part in Schengen co-operation under the terms of the Treaty of Amsterdam, which introduced the provisions of *Schengen Acquis* into the European Union. *Schengen Acquis* allows the United Kingdom and Ireland to take part in all or part of the Schengen convention arrangements. Ireland and the United Kingdom use



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the Schengen Information System for law enforcement purposes. They do not have access to the Article 96 data, because they do not intend to remove the border controls between themselves and the rest of Europe. European citizens still have the right of free movement to the UK but they must pass through a border control point, unlike in the rest of the Schengen signatory countries, where internal border controls have been largely abolished.

The proposed SISone4all would be a Schengen Information System which would be applied not only in the member states of Schengen space, but also used by Switzerland, Ireland, UK, Island, Romania and Bulgaria. The proposed solution is that this system should be used in all member states of the EU (member states have to share their information database) and in the best case, in all European countries (not just member states). It could also be offered to USA and Canada. The system's functions would not obligate member states or non-member states to enter the Schengen space, just share their database.

Committee's proposal:

The committee proposes to develop the system so that a non-member state could be allowed to join the new SISone4all. The system would be applied through the use of scanners for biometric data, which read the data from one's passport and transfers it to the common SISone4all database. Such a scanner would be placed at the borders of all member states.

SISone4all II. would be a system version for non-member and candidate states, if possible – its adoption would depend also on the consent and will of a non-member or candidate state.

System would be accessed on two levels:

- First level for non member states, they would be able to access the data only if they give their data in exchange
- Second level would be applicable to the members of Schengen zone.



Final report of The Committee on Foreign Affairs

Security Policy and Terrorism

In this area, the Committee proposes to create a new body concerning peacekeeping actions. This body should be based on two components – Information and education, as well as use of force.

Concerning the first component, we suggest creating educational system, which would be tasked with providing knowledge and experience for the people of third countries. The implementation of this process should be executed through projects, presentations, meetings, lectures, information booklets or leaflets.

These projects are supposed to improve the understanding of the European Union, its policies, aims and integration by citizens of third countries. It should introduce the European Union's culture, society, history and living standards in order to create a simple vision of Europe and how it works to protect human rights and liberties.

For this purpose, we suggest that the European Union could found Educational Committee as a part of this peace-building Body.

Concerning the second component, the use of force, the Committee decided that the European Union should use armed forces only in extreme situations, which is aimed at showing that the Community would not tolerate military actions as a tool of foreign policy. Still, in cases when the EU has information concerning potential terrorist attacks, it should take the necessary measures – regarding the leader of the criminal organization, he should be taken down by force; concerning the people who have participated in this organization, they would only receive punishment in the form of some kind of social work.

In case of terrorist attack, the EU should not hesitate to participate in monitoring the judicial proceedings against the accused of committing it – this means that those who have engaged in organized crime would be on trial according to their domestic law, but still, we suggest that their trials should be monitored “ad hoc” by the relevant institutions.



Enlargement

Turkey

Turkey took steps in order to meet the Copenhagen criteria, especially regarding stable institutions, the rule of law, human rights, as well as respect for and the protection of minorities. A key step in this process was the signing of the protocol on de facto abolition of the death penalty.

Even though we want Turkey to be more integrated with the EU, we realize that it still does not fulfil the Copenhagen criteria. We concluded that the Copenhagen criteria should be the only condition for Turkey to become a full member. The future membership of Turkey will improve the European Union's economy and will make it more competitive. Still, the Community insists on covering those criteria, especially more efforts are necessary in the sphere of democracy, democratic institutions and principles, the protection of human rights and liberties and dissolving regional conflicts. After meeting these criteria, Turkey may complete the procedure of accession.

Croatia

Of all candidate countries, Croatia is the closest to finish the accession process. We concluded that the process could be finished in 3-5 years and Croatia would become a full member, but it must cooperate with International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to punish genocide in Balkan Peninsula. The committee decided that Croatia could enter the EU singly, unless the other candidates are ready.

Macedonia

Macedonia still has a lot of internal problems and is not ready to begin the accession talks. Of course, the committee kept in mind the name of Macedonia (FYROM) issue with Greece in particular, and the unproductive talks between the two countries. The EU should take the role of mediator and concentrate on the goal - to reach a compromise, so that Macedonia would have a clear path on its way to becoming another EU member state.

Iceland

With regard to the EU-Iceland relations, we would rather see it at the level of bilateral treaties, than Iceland being a full member of the EU. However, the EU leaders agreed to



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open membership talks at the EU Council summit (on 16 July 2009 Iceland submitted application for EU membership). Also, Iceland agreed to a new deal to repay UK and the Netherlands billions of € in deposits lost during the Icelandic banking crisis.

Other possible candidates

As for further enlargement, we concluded that the EU should not start accession talks with potential candidate states. It should rather focus on its internal issues and try to strengthen itself on the inside.

Cooperation with International organizations and third countries

NATO

The Foreign Affairs Committee discussed in depth the issue of the future prospects concerning coordination between the European Union and NATO. During the debate the Committee accepted a proposal that the EU should strengthen its relations with NATO, and in particular, try to gain equality with the USA in the decision-making process within NATO. We consider that the Community should delegate equal power to the other members of the Alliance and also that the EU army should be a part of the NATO forces.

EU – Russia relations

Regarding the EU relations with Russia, the Committee decided that we should focus on two main issues. The first one concerns the diplomatic relations between the EU and Russia, and in particular, their improvement – Russia is one of the biggest countries in the world and we cannot underestimate that fact. Good relations with Russia are needed for stability on the continent. The second topic includes gaining more independence from Russia regarding the resource supplies. The idea is to create a “pipeline network” across the EU and on its borders. Russia would be a main, but not the only, source of gas and oil supplies. If Russia rejects to make deliveries and stops the flow of resources, the Community will consider obtaining them from other partners, such as Azerbaijan, the Northern Sea, Norway, or GB territories.



Afterword

This final report passed by our European Parliament is composed of ideas of young people concerning the future of the EU.

We have not proposed solutions of actual problems. But we were mainly dealing with topics we consider important in the next twenty years.

We are aware that some of our proposals would be very difficult to implement in practice. But we are not negotiators of these proposals. We are not responsible for reaching the consensus needed to achieve proposed goals.

We gathered in Wrocław to come up with ideas about the EU in the future and we have laid them down in our Final Report.

According to the main Theme of our Youth Parliamentary Session - *“The Future of the European Union –The Desires of Young Europeans”* - we discussed and proposed ideas about what European Union should be like, not what kind of European Union is possible to create in reality.



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