

**Resolutions**

**Model European Parliament**

**Baltic Sea Region**

**Riga, Latvia**

**2017**

**The Committee on Security and Defence submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia**

1. Noting with deep concern the lack of will to compromise from both the perspective of Western countries as well as Russia,
2. Recognising a large population of ethnic Russians in Baltic States, who are being exposed to Russian nationalistic views, due to the lack of integration into the country,
3. Alarmed by the lack of communication between Russia and Western countries,
4. Bearing in mind the increasing aggression[[1]](#footnote-1) between Russia and Western countries,
5. Recognising the influence of nationalistic views within Russia and Western countries which rejects ethnic minorities and do not prevent racial segregation and is reluctant to cooperate internationally,
6. Deeply concerned by the biased media’s way of describing matters regarding the West and Russia,
7. Observing that the sanctions created from both the EU/EEA and Russia are not profitable, such as but not limited to unjustified increase in tariffs, quotas and prices on goods,
	* + 1. Recommends to offer free language courses for foreigners in each Baltic state;
			2. Encourage national media companies to broadcast in both the country's native language and Russian, while promoting education of the recognition of different cultures in order to promote international cooperation;
			3. Requests establishing a Baltic Sea Region Forum (BSRF) for Russia and the Baltic states[[2]](#footnote-2) to further discuss regional matters;
			4. Emphasizing the importance of international organizations such as but not limited to NATO-Russia Council and OSCE[[3]](#footnote-3) for organizing sessions for discussion and cooperation between Russia and Western countries;
			5. Encourages western countries and Russia to seek common ground where they can strengthen their relationships with the help of media;
			6. Recommends creating a treaty with representatives of media from the Western states and Russia, which:
				1. calls upon the treaty to operate towards improving the media landscape within the region,
				2. notes that the purpose of the treaty would be such as, but not limited to the reduction of propaganda,
				3. requests the treaty to incorporate a system of punishment, in case the agreement should be compromised;
			7. Requests to create an independent organisation which works on fact-checking media, which will follow the IFCN’s[[4]](#footnote-4) code of principles;
			8. Urges the organisation of a meeting between accountable[[5]](#footnote-5) Russian, EU and NATO representatives to justify (if possible) the actions of aggression and the means of compromise;
			9. Encourages Western countries and Russia to start mutually beneficial economical trade with less limitations, which:
				1. further resolves that the West and Russia should start negotiations about bilateral cancel of sanctions,
				2. make efforts towards reaching the same view on international situations which has led to sanctions;
			10. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

The Committee on Human Rights submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia

1. Alarmed by the fact that possible victims of human trafficking are usually not granted a citizenship nor asylum,
2. Bearing in mind that there is a low risk of being arrested and high economic gain for human traffickers,
3. Deeply disturbed by the crime of kidnapping people for the purpose of the removal of their organs,
4. Declaring that 98% of sex trafficking victims are women, of which, 25% are under 18 years old,
5. Taking into consideration that human trafficking occurs more often in less economically developed countries (LEDC),
6. Reaffirming that the victims of human trafficking are usually not aware of their exploitation,
7. Noting with deep concern that many victims of human trafficking are hesitant to provide information about their trafficking,
8. Realizing that human traffickers that are convicted are sentenced lightly within the European Union,
9. Further noting that consumers are often unaware whether goods and services are produced free of trafficking,
10. Fully aware that the criminalization of sex workers targets the victims of human trafficking,
11. Encourages EU member states to improve their background checks to prevent people who are seeking asylum or a citizenship from being turned down on false grounds;
12. Recommends financial institutions - both governments and NGOs - to have more thorough searches for cases of money laundering;
13. Strongly recommends stricter anti-money laundering laws and greater judicial measures for those convicted for human trafficking;
14. Strongly condemns the exploitation of all genders for sexual purposes and urges all nations to:
15. work with educators to teach girls from an early age to identify the first stages of trafficking and how to respond,
16. invest in efforts and investigations towards isolating where and how people (especially women and girls) end up in the trafficking process,
17. support sustainable policies and projects specifically targeted to include women that have been, or are in danger of being trafficked, into the economic and social life;
18. Expresses its hope that the LEDC economic situation, especially regarding the high unemployment rate, which is frequently the cause of human trafficking, will improve and passes the responsibility to deal with this topic to the committee on Employment and Social Affairs;
19. Calls upon efforts to decrease the organ trafficking industry by means of but not limited to:
	1. raising the awareness of the high risks of illegal organ donations as well as the importance of legal organ donations,
	2. urging the implementation of laws prohibiting organ harvesting,
	3. encouraging member states to simplify the process of legally donating organs,
	4. keeping better track of organ donations by monitoring hospitals;
20. Encourages the introduction of the Sex Buyer Law/The Swedish Model into all member states of the European Union in order to:
	1. shift the focus from the victim to the perpetrator by criminalizing the buyers and traffickers instead of the sex workers;
	2. encourage more victims to provide information about their trafficking, so they will not be punished;
21. Further suggests more cooperation between government, the police and NGOs to provide greater protection for victims in ways such as but not limited to:
	1. the provision of sanctuaries,
	2. the protection of identity for all victims of trafficking,
	3. recommendation for victims to testify anonymously;
22. Further encourages the European Union to introduce a certificate which guarantees that services and products are free of trafficking that companies may receive by:
	1. applying for the certificate,
	2. proving that they have legal labor conditions for all their work;
23. Further recommends that the EU and NGOs launch national campaigns to inform the public about human trafficking by means such as but not limited to:
	1. advertisements declaring the alarming growth of human trafficking within the European Union,
	2. advertisements explaining labour rights regarding wages, hours and working conditions;
24. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution towards the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

**The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia**

1. Taking into account the presence of discrimination (gender-, ethnic- etc.) amongst employers throughout the EU,
2. Recognising the significant effect language barriers pose on the job-seeking/unemployed youths,
3. Alarmed by the differences between EU member states in wages, taxes and welfare and the influence it has on young EU citizens’ decisions to work abroad or not, with:
4. brain drain being a consequent result and the imbalances resulting thereof,
5. undercutting of local wages being a consequent result thereof,
6. Noting with regret the lack of connections between employers and job-seekers between the member states,
7. Taking into consideration the lack of young people with degrees and qualifications that have a high labour market success,
8. Concerned, that the youth unemployment rate in the EU area is as high as 16.7%,
9. Aware of the low rates of intra-EU labour mobility,
10. Supports companies meeting targets for gender and ethnic diversity, and in particular of young people as a whole, through grants;
11. Encourages development and promotion of programmes like Erasmus Pro in order to increase mobility and skills of the youth through sponsorships and grants and encouraging NGOs to develop similar programmes;
12. Requests the member states to implement the ‘mother tongue + two foreign languages’ objective as well as the sponsorship of basic foundation courses of the national language for youths living in a foreign member state;
13. Endorses funding of the EURES[[6]](#footnote-6) and its promotion; thereby increasing the amount of both employers and hopeful employees that are using and accessing the platform and by connecting;
14. Supports firms, and especially firms that are offering bottleneck jobs, in providing an increase in foreign student vocational sponsorship;
15. Strongly encourages the increase in conditional subsidies for foreign firms investing in member states at a level of more than 1% over the EU average of youth unemployment;
16. Requests the establishment of a foundation called EUSUH (EUropean StartUp Help) for young entrepreneurs, that provides financial support to startups annually in the hope of increasing the number of employed young European citizens and helping the creation of a better and more competitive environment for startups and entrepreneurs, in addition to already existing funding opportunities available for startups;
17. Calls upon the further expansion of programmes such as the European Structural and Investment Funds, especially the European regional development fund (ERDF) and the European social fund (ESF), aimed at creating balanced development between different regions of the EU, and supporting employment-related projects and investment in human capital, respectively, to diminish economic differences between member states;
18. Trusts, that member states will maintain benefits for a period of six months towards their emigrating population who are in search of employment within other member states;
19. Expresses its appreciation towards the *Europe2020* “Youth on the Move” and Youth Employment initiatives and wishes a further enforcement, not just on a national, but also on a regional level in order to encourage students to pursue an education in fields of study that have high labour market success;
20. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia

1. Recognising the fact that the majority of consumers prefer cheap fossil fuels over more expensive environmentally friendly options,
2. Deeply concerned that some governments of the EU member states do not support the renewable energy options[[7]](#footnote-7) enough,
3. Deeply concerned by the effects of climate change such as rising sea levels, extreme weather conditions and decreasing biodiversity,
4. Concerned by the shortage of funding and the lack of cooperation between the member states over the issue of research,
5. Alarmed by the EU’s dependency on importing fossil fuels,
6. Noting with deep concern the usage of fossil fuels in terms of transportation and the atrocious effect it has on the environment as well as the lack of low-emission transportation tools,
7. Alarmed by the lack of efficient renewable energy infrastructure in some cases because the landscape does not permit it,
8. Fully alarmed by the problems of energy loss in storage and transportation,
9. Convinced that the Cap and Price of the ETS[[8]](#footnote-8) does not adequately limit the emissions of CO2,
10. Noting with deep concern that international climate change agreements are not implemented by some EEA[[9]](#footnote-9) member states,
11. Alarmed by the shortage of renewable energy trading across borders between the EEA member states,
	* + 1. Requests funds to be allocated towards a climate change awareness campaign in order to reduce emissions by consumers;
			2. Calls upon the ECCP[[10]](#footnote-10) to subsidize renewable energy sources for all countries and companies;
			3. Proposes to take measures such as but not limited to dykes, in order to prevent people from losing their infrastructure because of natural catastrophes;
			4. Urges EEA member states to cooperate and invest in the field of research in sustainable energy resources and storage such as but not limited to:
		1. fusion,
		2. pump hydropower,
		3. wave power;
			1. Urges the EEA member states to stimulate systems of green certificates, prioritising access to the grid for electricity from renewables;
			2. Encourages the EU to introduce a bonus-malus system (BMS), where low-emission vehicles will be subsidized while the high-emission vehicles will receive a higher tax, in order to improve the low-emission vehicles position in the market;
			3. Requests to ban the production of new fossil fuel road vehicles by 2040;
			4. Encourages the areas which can only use few kinds of renewable energy options to invest money in energy infrastructure to make energy transport and trading more efficient;
			5. Emphasizes the importance of EEA member states developing their own main source of renewable energy;
			6. Requests that the price of carbon quotas are increased by further decreasing the ETS cap;
			7. Implements financial subsidies for fulfilling and sanctions for failing to fulfil the agreed result at the agreed date such as the national plans of the Paris agreement;
			8. Draws the attention to the need of creating a European Super Grid by CEF[[11]](#footnote-11)in order to increase electricity interconnection between the EEA member states;
			9. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

The Committee on Culture and Education submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia

1. Acknowledging and expressing deep concern over the lack of youth representation in parliamentary politics,
2. Alarmed by the lack of political diversity in parliamentary politics and party representation, which leads to lowered participation in elections,
3. Deeply concerned about the low levels of political participation and the lack of political interest especially amid the young generations,
4. Realizing that it is too hard to find information about the election procedures in many countries and therefore many young people aren't aware of the opportunities they have to make an impact by voting,
5. Aware of the gap between political establishment and civil society influenced and perpetuated by the under usage of social media by politicians as a way of communicating with young voters,
6. Seriously concerned about the amount of miseducation in the form of fake news about politics spreading amongst the youth,
7. Recognizing the political distance between politicians and the civil society, in particular the youth,
8. Emphasizing the fact that political systems are not keeping up with digital advancement in comparison to the youth,
9. Noting with regret that young people have lost their trust and interest in politics and politicians caused by corruption,

* + - 1. Proposes that all political parties should be required to have a minimum of 10% of their representatives on the next election list under the age of 30 within a period of 5 years;
			2. Requests that all EU member states should include a mandatory neutral political education including defined criteria of up-to-date politics nationally, as well as political concepts and forms of government, as a neutral relationship to the political landscape would lead to higher voting levels and more political diversity;
			3. Suggests that all EU member states aim for an increased participation and interest in politics to establish a youth parliament, as well as to encourage politicians to work with this parliament, as the opportunity to join political activities in school such as but not limited to:

clubs,

debates,

optional courses/classes;

* + - 1. Encourages that all EU member states should educate all students in politics from the age of 13, both in how the election process works and which political rights they are entitled to, furthermore encouraging more vivid use of social media as a source of information on said topics;
			2. Endorses parties and politicians to use social media as a platform to reach out to and communicate with the civil society, in particular young voters;
			3. Urges all EU member states to include source criticism in the mandatory part of their education system as well as to create online courses for those outside the public school system, so that everybody can become more aware of how to be source critical on what the media inform the civil society regarding politics and political situations;
			4. Draws attention to the fact that the political distance between politicians and the youth can be reduced by open days and debates as well as forums and political clubs, in order to humanize the politicians, and create a dialogue between the political power and the youth, so that the youth in the civil society feels more included in the democratic process;
			5. Recommends the implication of digital technologies[[12]](#footnote-12) in political affairs in order to facilitate related procedures both for the voters and the political representatives;
			6. Calls for the creation of a common council fighting against corruption to regain trust of their young voters;
			7. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs submits the following resolution to the Model European Parliament, Riga, Latvia

1. Deeply concerned by the free-rider problem and national interests in the EU causing problems for the distribution of immigrants and refugees in Europe,
2. Considering the threat to the European Schengen agreement and the Euroscepticism arising as a result of unregistered refugees travelling illegally within the member states,
3. Alarmed by the inefficiency of the Dublin-III Regulation, which eventuates in an accruement of hotspots, and a lack of help for non-EU countries surrounding the area of conflict,
4. Alarmed by the lack of diverse cultural and religious education of citizens and refugees in the EU leading to ignorance and violence,
5. Desiring a better overview and monitoring of the number of refugees and migrants in the EU,
6. Deeply concerned about a missing all-encompassing European distribution key,
7. Deeply concerned by the duration of the asylum application process and the
non-refoulement principle,
8. Alarmed by the lack of common integration in areas such as but not limited to:
	1. work,
	2. language,
	3. socializing,
	4. education,

leading to consequences such as refugees and asylum seekers gathering in ghettos,

1. Deeply concerned by the absence of commitment to European values such as but not limited to, respect for human dignity and human rights, freedom of speech, freedom of movement, democracy, equality and the rule of law, shown by:
	1. certain member states in their reception and treatment of refugees,
	2. certain religious anti-democratic movements, among the refugees,
2. Deeply concerned about the hindrance of positive freedom of religion by some governments (i.e. niqab-bans, etc.),
3. Fully alarmed and concerned by the fact that refugees need to take dangerous routes and trips to get into the EU,
	* + 1. Requests the European Commission to strongly condemn free-riding member states that fail to honour their burden-sharing pledges by imposing punishments such as but not limited to sanctions;
			2. Calls upon further investments in European border control as well as the Frontex cooperation in order to minimize Eurosceptical views as well as emphasize the importance of informing refugees about the increases in border control around the EU;
			3. Recommends the creation of mobile EU asylum reception centres, to be set up in surrounding countries[[13]](#footnote-13), in order to give refugees a safer and faster way of seeking asylum in the European union in situations of crisis;
			4. Requests mandatory cultural and religious courses such as but not limited to language courses, women rights courses and religious education in schools, not only aimed at refugees and migrants, but also Europeans as this knowledge will bring along a diverse understanding based on respect;
			5. Recommends a replacement of the Dublin III with the RRDA[[14]](#footnote-14), taking the following points into consideration:
				1. a “European asylum” refugees can apply for in embassies in member states, where refugees will be assigned to a host country within the EU in accordance with the distribution key,
				2. a common European institution that processes applications for “European asylum”,
				3. an agreement between the European countries that all refugees seek European asylum and not in the individual national states,
				4. temporarily offering non-EU countries the possibility to take part in the RRDA by opening up for the opportunity to seek asylum in embassies outside of the EU;
			6. Trust that the EURODAC with data from the member states and the mobile asylum reception centres will oversee the number of refugees;
			7. Further invites an EU-wide distribution key to meet the European commission´s goal and programme to resettle at least 50,000 refugees within a span of two years inside the EU, which also considers the:
				1. financial strength of country,
				2. population in the country,
				3. existing integration structures in the country,

and would be complimented by compensation payments if necessary;

* + - 1. Emphasises that accepted asylum seekers should receive introductory payments for a time period of two years upon arriving in a member country which should be on level with the unemployment- and child support benefits according to the national standards and after 8 months[[15]](#footnote-15) a process to gradually start decreasing the introductory payments begins;
			2. Calls upon an evaluation of the non-refoulement principle so that member states on legal grounds have the authority to withdraw asylum if serious crimes have been committed, while reducing the processing time of asylum applications by:
				1. regarding applicants as refugees in the first place,
				2. increasing the budget for the asylum application process,
				3. introducing a common distribution key;
			3. Strongly condemns any and all acts, behaviours and measures taken by governments or individuals, counteracting European and democratic values such as but not limited to:
				1. respect for basic human rights and human dignity,
				2. freedom of speech,
				3. freedom of movement,
				4. democracy,
				5. equality,
				6. the rule of law;
			4. Requests investment in refugee camps to ensure that refugees will get the possibility to get an education which should also encompass subjects such as but not limited to, democracy, basic human rights and structures of the European Union;
			5. Expresses its hope that minors arriving in Europe will be placed in suitable local institutions according to their age as promptly as possible in order to facilitate integration;
			6. Encourages the European Parliament to further support programs as the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund that offer economic support to member states in ways such as, but not limited to:
				1. encouraging Governments and NGOs to put more resources into implementing social events to integrate refugees into local communities,
				2. encouraging governments to subsidize businesses that employ refugees in multi-programs leading to improved work-abilities, language skills and integration;
			7. Expects the European Commission to sanction member-states breaking the agreement of the EU-Charta based on Article 7 of the Lisbon-Treatment;
			8. Urges the committee on Security and Defence, sub-committee Human Rights to further address the issue of the refugees needing to take dangerous routes to get into the EU;
			9. Instructs the President of the GA to forward the resolution to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.
1. Such as but not limited to: conducting military exercises near borders, interfering air space, media propaganda [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Norway [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Representatives authorised to negotiate on behalf of each side and able to influence legislation [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. International Fact Checking Network [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. EURES is a cooperation network designed to promote the free movement of workers within the EU28 and Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Such as hydropower, solar power, wind power, biomass, geothermal energy, wave power [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Emissions Trading System [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. European Economic Area [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. European Climate Change Program [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Connecting Europe Facility [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. digital voting and campaigning [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Like conflict-free areas [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. RRDA – Riga Refugee Distribution Agreement [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. With the individual right to apply for an extension of this period [↑](#footnote-ref-15)