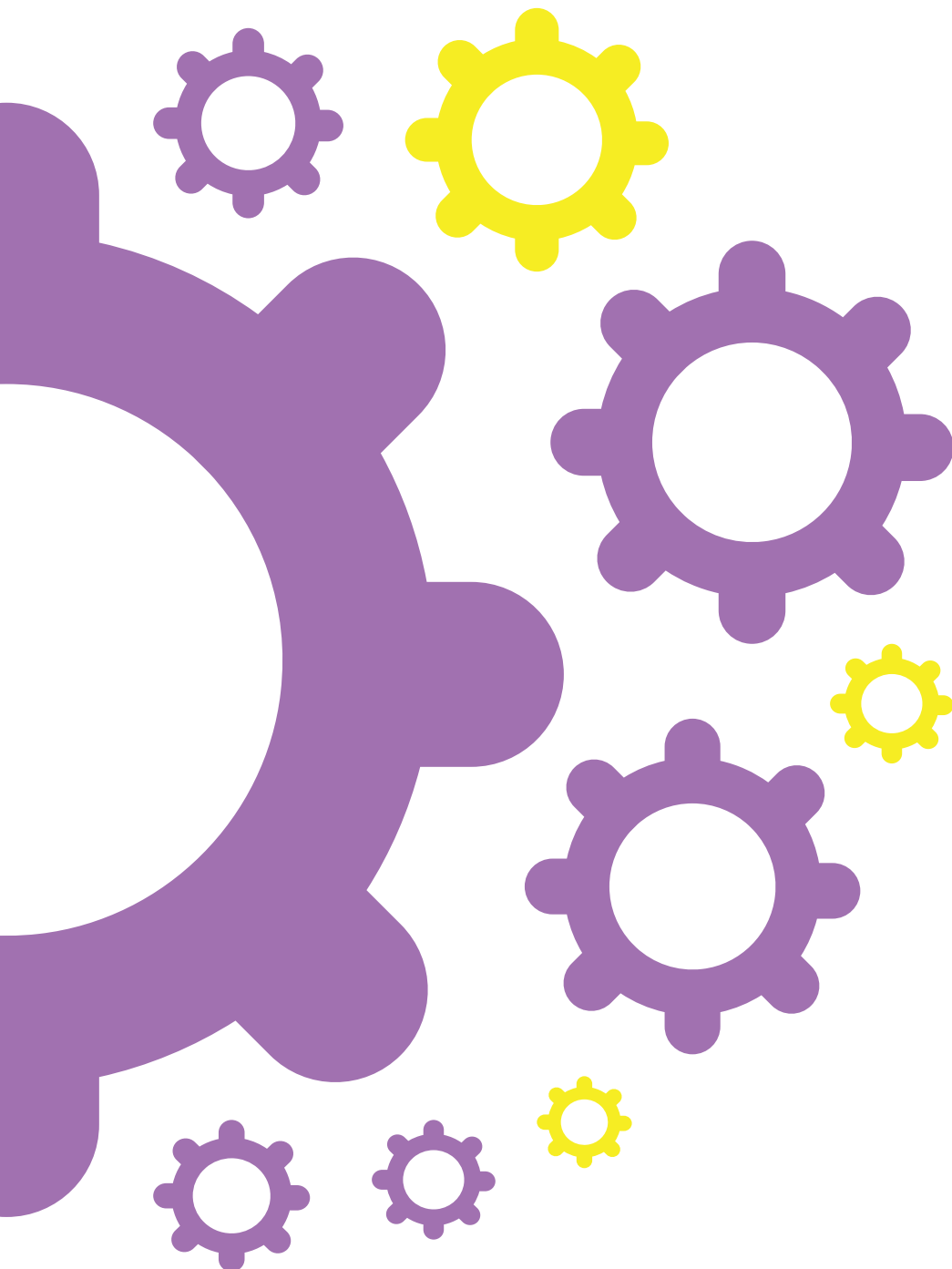


9-11TH OF NOVEMBER 2018

# RESOLUTION BOOKLET

TAMPERE REGIONAL SESSION 2018



EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT  
SUOMI FINLAND

## **Programme of the general Assembly**

08:15	Opening of the General Assembly
08:30	Committee on Human Rights
09:15	Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
10:00	Coffee break
10:30	Committee on Industry Research and Energy
11:15	Committee on Development
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Committee on Culture and Education
13:45	Committee on International Trade
14:30	Coffee break
15:00	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
15:45	Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
16:30	Closing Ceremony

## GA Procedure

### **Placards**

Each committee is provided with a set of placards (abbreviation of the committee name, direct response, personal privilege and order).

The **committee name placard** is raised when a member of the committee would like to address the assembly.

The **direct response placard** is raised together with the committee name placard when the committee would like to exercise their right to use the direct response.

The **personal privilege placard** is raised to indicate that a member of the committee cannot hear or comprehend what is being said.

The **order placard** is raised together with the committee name placard when the board violates this procedure.

### **Direct responses**

There will be **two direct responses per committee**, per debate (not per round of debate). The direct response must directly address the last point made by the preceding speaker, otherwise the board will immediately derecognise the speaker.

To avoid being derecognised, make it absolutely clear in the first 10 seconds how the point relates to the previous point- board will be strict about this.

### **GA procedure**

- I. The Board announces the proposing committee and reads out the topic;
- II. The Board recognises the proposing committee do deliver their **defence speech** from the podium (this can last up to 3 minutes);
- III. The Board will ask the GA if there are any **position speeches**. Only two will be recognised (they can last up to 1,5 minutes each) and they will be delivered from the podium;
- IV. The proposing committee will have the chance to **respond to the position speeches** from the floor (this can last up to 90 seconds);
- V. The open debate will take place. We will have **3-4 rounds depending on the schedule**. In between points of debate, the proposing committee will be able to respond from the podium;
- VI. After this, the proposing committee will deliver their **summation speech**. The first part of the speech (this part can last up to 1,5 minutes) will serve as an answer to the last round of debate and general clarifications about the topic that might have come up during the debate as well. The second part of the speech (also known as summation II) will serve as a conclusion of the debate (this part can last up to 1,5 minutes)- the proposing committee will have the chance to remind the GA of the reasons why they should vote in favour of their resolution;
- VII. The chairpersons will then **collect the votes**, insert them on the GA statistics and the Board will announce the passing or failing of the resolution.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

**From Calais to Moria, refugee camps are spread across Europe to serve as safe havens to those who seek asylum. But lack of housing infrastructures and essential medical facilities, poor security, malnutrition and above all, a status of uncertainty due to the slow processing of asylum requests, results in refugees being exposed to dangerous and life-threatening conditions. How can the EU further cooperate with not only governments but NGO's and even civil societies, to not only improve living conditions in the camps but to also allow refugees to recover and integrate their surroundings?**

Submitted by: Inga Brandys (Turun normaalikoulu), Aaron Hietaniemi (Mikkelin lukio), Sara Lehtiniemi (Jyväskylän lyseon lukio), Henna Männistö (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Kiia Nieminen (Sammon keskuslukio), Milli Primmer (Turku International School), Frida Rapo (Tampereen lyseon lukio), Martta Rissanen (Jyväskylän lyseon lukio), Ina Wichmann (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Christina Hönings (Chairperson, AT), Hanna Ryan (Chairperson, FI),

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Noting with concern that the Common European Asylum System<sup>1</sup> is not currently an effective policy tool, causing over crowdedness and inhumane conditions in refugee camps,
- B. Deeply aware that a slow and ineffective asylum process causes uncertainty among refugees, promotes violence, radicalisation and can even cause irreversible psychological trauma,
- C. Noting with deep concern that Member States governments do not provide sufficient citizen-inclusion infrastructures in the integration process,
- D. Further noting that false media broadcasting and lack of information encourages prejudice against refugees and impedes successful integration,
- E. Believing that the temporarily established refugee camps have become a commonly utilised alternative to for example, permanent housing, due to insufficient alternative measures,
- F. Firmly convinced that the responsibility of taking in refugees has not been divided equally by overburdening front-line states<sup>2</sup> such as Greece and Italy,
- G. Emphasising that even though 17.7 billion<sup>3</sup> € have been allocated in the course of 2015 to 2017 to the migration crisis, no significant improvement has been seen,
- H. Observing that differences in national legislation and policies have led to inequality in the asylum-seeking process amongst the Member States;

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<sup>1</sup> Common European Asylum System: The current legislative framework on asylum and refugee law within the European Union creating minimum asylum standards while leaving discretion as to their implementation to the Member States.

<sup>2</sup> Member States located on the outskirts of the Schengen area confronted with the largest influx of asylum seekers.

<sup>3</sup> Directorate-General for Communication, European Commission, 2017.

### **Inhumane conditions in refugee camps**

1. Urges Member States to divide overcrowded refugee camps into smaller ones, specifically in affected states such as Greece, Croatia and Italy, to speed up the asylum-seeking process;
2. Encourages the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) to create and improve education and training opportunities within the camps to counteract violence, radicalisation and psychological trauma;

### **Prejudice and integration**

3. Recommends Member States to increase the freedom of movement between refugee camps and the cities they are situated in, to deepen the interaction with the local society, enabling a faster integration process;
4. Urges the European Commission to expand the Erasmus+ programme to include refugee integration in order to connect former asylum seekers who have acquired European citizenship;
5. Strongly urges NGOs and organisations to cooperate at an organisation level while increasing the scope of shared knowledge, awareness of refugee conditions and exchange of good practices;
6. Requests the Member States to support and encourage more diverse and alternative integration measures, such as voluntary work or the host family system;
7. Suggests the European Parliament to incentivise funding for countries that accept an increasing number of refugees which could possibly stabilize refugee placement across Europe;
8. Invites the European Union (EU) to increase its collaboration with the ECRE<sup>4</sup> improving and developing future expenditures regarding the refugee crisis;

### **Lack of cooperation within the EU**

9. Calls upon the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to discuss legislation and regulations concerning the asylum-seeking process in order to harmonise laws within the EU.

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<sup>4</sup> The ECRE is an alliance of 99 NGOs across 40 European countries with the aim to protect and advance the rights of refugees, asylum-seekers and other forcibly displaced persons in Europe.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

**A social enterprise combines entrepreneurial activity with a social purpose. Its main aim is to have a social impact, rather than maximise profit for owners or shareholders. Yet, only seven European countries have policy frameworks in place to encourage and support the development of social enterprises due to poor understanding of the concept of social enterprise, lack of specialist business development services, few supportive legislative frameworks and the absence of common mechanisms for measuring and demonstrating impact. How can the EU support social entrepreneurship, while encapsulating a dynamic, diverse and entrepreneurial movement that combines economic activity with social missions, and the promotion of inclusive growth?**

Submitted by: Eero Ilmari Ahokas (Turun normaalikoulu), Eveliina Pynnönen (Mikkelin lukio), Sini Nara Kallioniemi (Tampereen lyseon lukio), Joey Le Pham (Turun normaalikoulu), Jade Halme (Lahden yhteiskoulu), Heini Nieminen (Sammon keskuslukio), Iiris Vastamäki (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Ida Kärkkäinen (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Anca Herăscu (Chairperson, RO) & Cameron Dunn Merelle (Chairperson, FI).

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Emphasising the important role of social enterprises (SEs)<sup>5</sup> in tackling societal issues,
- B. Draws attention to the difficulties social enterprises face compared with traditional enterprises, such as the need for government-based, financial or consultative support,
- C. Alarmed by the large reliance of SEs on external financial support,
- D. Considering the need of SEs to yield to external influences and investors, influencing their social mission,
- E. Noting with deep regret the restrictive nature of current legislation in e.g. forms<sup>6</sup> and statuses<sup>7</sup>;

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<sup>5</sup> Social entrepreneurship is, at its most basic level, entrepreneurship with a social cause (e.g. environmental protection & conservation, job creation etc.).

<sup>6</sup> Different structures of cooperation and ownership for a business that must be clarified during early creation of a business. It determines whether the business shall be sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation.

<sup>7</sup> Being heavily related to legal forms, they underline which societal aspect shall benefit and what the company's intentions were in the long run.

## **Exchanging and promoting good practices**

1. Calls upon the Directorate General on Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion (DG-EMPL) of the European Commission to fund and organise seminars and events regarding the positive implications of social enterprises within the European Union (EU);
2. Expresses its appreciation for the sharing of knowledge between SEs in the Social Innovation Europe (SIE) platform<sup>8</sup>;
3. Invites the Expert Group on Social Economy and Social Enterprises (GECES)<sup>9</sup> to develop a standard methodology on the quantification of societal impact of SEs;
4. Further invites the GECES to design business models for SEs;
5. Directs EU Member States political groups such as the Working party on the environment<sup>10</sup>, involved in social issues to advise SEs on which societal problems to prioritise;

## **Funding opportunities for social enterprises**

6. Urges the DG-EMPL of the European Commission to develop a simpler national bureaucratic framework on financial aid acquisition for SEs;
7. Advises the Member States to create a national fund aimed at the facilitation of SEs;
8. Instructs the European Central Bank (ECB) to direct funds of the European Investment Fund (EIF)<sup>11</sup> towards the previously mentioned national funds;

## **Legal recognition**

9. Encourages EU Member States to consider social enterprises as a separate form of legal organisation when creating new legal forms or statuses and revising present ones.

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<sup>8</sup>A community of over 3000 people across Europe, a go to place to understand the context of social innovation in different countries, and a database of organisations and events across Europe.

<sup>9</sup>A consultative multi-stakeholder group on social business to examine the progress of the measures envisaged in the Social Business Initiative.

<sup>10</sup> The working party on the environment negotiates issues in the area of climate change and EU environmental policies and legislation.

<sup>11</sup> The European Investment Fund is a subtopic of the European Central Bank created in 1992 aimed at financing small and medium-sized enterprises.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY**

**Over the past 200 years, employment numbers have persistently increased due to technological development. The development of robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) may have the potential to transform lives and work practices, drive efficiency, increase savings, and improve safety levels in areas such as transport, medical care, rescue, education and farming. What can the European Commission and the Member States do to foster AI entrepreneurship, research programmes, and explore long-term risks and opportunities of AI and robotics technologies while encouraging the initiation of a structured public dialogue on the consequences of their development?**

Submitted by: Pilvi Kilpeläinen (Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu), Astrid Korkeamäki (Helsingin uusi yhteiskoulu), Nella Susanne Kuosmanen (Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu), Mei Lin Kuttilla (Valkeakosken Tietotien Lukio), Lotta Niemi (Jyväskylän Lyseon lukio), Rilla Ritakallio (Turun Normaalikoulu), Eloize Suhtala (Helsingin Saksalainen koulu), Johan Carlo Artturi van der Meer (Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu), Lisa Fuchsberger (Chairperson, AT), Anastasia Makeeva (Chairperson, FI)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Noting with deep concern the low priority of Artificial Intelligence in European financial policy making, making the EU inferior to pioneers such as the US and China,
- B. Bearing in mind investment risks in funding AI research and development,
- C. Concerned by the lack of cooperation between Member States and companies operating in the EU towards common goals on AI development,
- D. Recognising the effects of automation<sup>12</sup> on the job market that;
  - i) cause unemployment in certain job areas where humans are replaced by AI robots
  - ii) create new job opportunities in the AI research and development field,
- E. Alarmed by alienation in certain age groups such as young people and the elderly, caused by fast AI innovation,
- F. Observing the withholding of personal information for AI usage in fear of a violation of privacy,
- G. Considering a barrier to engage with AI due to lack of understanding of it
- H. Acknowledging the fact that the European Commission will present ethical guidelines on AI development by the end of 2018,
- I. Emphasising the technological innovation gap between developing and developed countries,
- J. Noting with regret the delay in developing new legislation regarding AI development;

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<sup>12</sup> Automation is any procedure that uses technological assistance, minimizing human intervention or completely eliminating it.



## Research and development

1. Calls upon the Directorate General on Research and Innovation of the European Commission to appeal to the European Parliament to encourage them to focus on and increase the funding of AI development to be on the same level or even more efficient as US and China;
2. Applauds research on the introduction of AI as a work tool on the economy, in order to constantly ensure a safe exploitation of AI;
3. Supports the initiative of the creation of a European Lab for Learning and Intelligent Systems<sup>13</sup>;
4. Further invites Member States to cooperate on AI and robotics technology research and development through;
  - a. Fostering cooperative research programmes,
  - b. Knowledge-sharing through funding projects encouraging conversation,
  - c. Sharing of resources,

## Education and information

5. Requests the European Commission to include educational programmes concerning AI for young people in their Erasmus Plus<sup>14</sup> programme;
6. Invites Member States to offer digitised services about AI entrepreneurship for starting up a business, including;
  - a. Information on entrepreneurship within AI;
  - b. Digital administration of new businesses;
7. Calls upon the European Association of Artificial Intelligence to publish an annual report to inform the public about the developments of AI;
8. Suggests that companies operating in the AI and robotics technologies field implement training and informational programmes in order to engage with young people;

## Employment and general public

9. Encourages Member States to support workers who lost their job due to the introduction of AI to re-educate;
10. Applauds the implementation of AI technology in providing company and supporting elderly people through e.g. AI pets and companions;
11. Recommends Member States to re-evaluate outdated legislations on AI experimentation such as on autonomous vehicles.

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<sup>13</sup> Mission of ELLIS is to benefit Europe in two ways: best basic research to be performed in Europe to enable Europe to shape how AI changes the world and create jobs in Europe by outstanding and free basic research.

<sup>14</sup> The Erasmus Programme is a European Union student exchange programme established in 1987. Erasmus+, or Erasmus Plus, is the new programme combining all the EU's current schemes for education, training, youth and sport, which was started in January 2014.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT**

**Since it was founded in 2007, the European Progress Microfinance Facility, has since then supported more than 30,473 SME's by increasing access to finance for micro-entrepreneurs, including but not restricted to, groups with limited access to the conventional credit market, such as female entrepreneurs, young entrepreneurs, entrepreneurs belonging to a minority group. Nevertheless, the fragmented regulatory frameworks at national level can favour banks over microfinance providers and make it difficult for the latter to challenge the rules.**

**How can policy makers promote microfinancing activity while also cooperating with stakeholder banks, that lend to SMEs in the old-fashioned way, to further increase access to microfinance?**

Submitted by: Elina Ahde (Suomalainen yhteiskoulu), Pihla Aro (Sammon keskuslukio), Andreas Jabbari (Tampereen teknillinen lukio), Aapo Johansson (Tammerkosken lukio), Michaela Jokiniemi (Vesilahti Lower Secondary School), Yuhao Zhang (Tampereen lyseon Lukio), Riccardo Rastello (IT)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Recognising that microenterprises make up to 91% of all businesses in the EU<sup>15</sup>,
- B. Taking into consideration that microfinance offers significant long-term economic growth,
- C. Welcoming the initiatives of the European Commission tackling Microfinance Institutions (MFI's) such as the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision<sup>16</sup> and the European Progress Microfinance Facility<sup>17</sup>,
- D. Alarmed by the lack of awareness in European Union (EU) countries about microfinance,
- E. Realising that the economic differences between EU Member States can affect the overall quality of micro-financial support,
- F. Bearing in mind that insufficient microfinance services lead citizens to see payday loans as a viable option,
- G. Noting with regret that MFI's profits have been decreasing since 2016<sup>18</sup>,
- H. Fully aware of the lack of consistency between the benefits of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) and traditional banks,
- I. Convinced that traditional loans are usually too large in quantity when compared to the actual needs of SME's;

### **Improvement of European microfinance programmes**

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<sup>15</sup> [“Microfinance in Europe: A market overview”, European Investment Fund, 2009](#)

<sup>16</sup> European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision: launched by the European Commission, which sets common good practice guidelines in order to help microfinance providers.

<sup>17</sup> European Progress Microfinance Facility: launched by the European Commission in collaboration with the European Investment Bank to increase access to microcredit for setting up and managing small businesses. Rather than directly financing entrepreneurs, it allocates loans for selected microcredit providers in the EU (through the European Investment Fund) with the aim to enhance their ability to finance small businesses.

<sup>18</sup> [“Microfinance Barometer”, Convergences, 2018](#)

1. Appreciates the efforts of the European Commission in the field of microfinance;
2. Calls upon the European Investment Bank to increase the funding currently given to the European Investment Fund;

### **Awareness spreading**

3. Invites NGOs such as the European Microfinance Network, operating in the microfinance sector to lobby different EU Member States on its advantages;
4. Instructs the Member States to spread awareness on microfinance by offering courses tailored specifically for entrepreneurs;

### **Legislation**

5. Encourages the European Commission and the Member States to cooperate in the field of microfinance regulation to reach a common microfinance policy that takes into consideration the different financial capabilities of each Member State;
6. Urges the European Commission to propose legislation providing a legal framework for traditional banks to give out loans in the form of collective microcredit;
7. Calls upon Member States to draft legislation to limit payday loan companies;
8. Urges Member States to increase taxes on payday-loan organisations;

### **Support for the microfinance sector**

9. Advises Member States to financially subsidise traditional banks offering microfinance services, single location and small-scale banks and MFIs.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION**

**The European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health, states that even though sexual education in schools is mandatory in almost every EU member state by law, the quality and content can differ greatly amongst Member States- often concentrating lessons solely on the communication of biological facts, neglecting social and psychological aspects, as well as essential communication skills. How can this one-sided orientation be broadened in order to achieve a higher quality school-based sexuality education while providing students with not only a comprehensive and inclusive approach but with the possibility of discussing a wide range of subjects without taboo?**

Submitted by:

Meri Karhunen (Tampereen yhteiskoulun Lukio), Maija-Reetta Malmberg (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Sanni Mölsä (Jyväskylän lyseon lukio), Silva Virtanen (Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio), Christina Zhou (Joensuun Lyseon Lukio), Austra Grīviņa (Chairperson, LV) Jill Somers (Chairperson, IE)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Notes with regret that the European Union (EU) lacks legal competency in the Member States education sector, more specifically in the area of sexual education for Member States,
- B. Aware that the lack of sexual education and open discussion about methods of preventing the spread of STDs<sup>19</sup> and STIs<sup>20</sup> contributes to more than 1 million STIs being acquired every day worldwide<sup>21</sup>,
- C. Noting with deep concern that countries with religiously conservative backgrounds are still facing certain taboos<sup>22</sup> concerning sexuality and sexual health due to cultural and social restrictions,
- D. Realising that those in a position of authority such as teachers and educators have insufficient knowledge regarding sexuality education due to lack of comprehensive qualifications and trainings,
- E. Taking into account that when not provided with comprehensive sexuality education young people are left vulnerable to misinformation from social media and other unreliable sources,
- F. Keeping in mind that those with a lack of knowledge concerning sexuality education are in a higher risk category regarding:
  - i. occurrence of teen pregnancies
  - ii. avoidance of sexually transmitted diseases,

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<sup>19</sup> Sexually transmitted diseases

<sup>20</sup> Sexually transmitted infections

<sup>21</sup> WHO Fact Sheet on STIs [http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/sexually-transmitted-infections-\(stis\)](http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/sexually-transmitted-infections-(stis))

<sup>22</sup> A social or religious custom prohibiting or restricting a particular practice or forbidding association with a particular person, place, or thing.

- iii. recognizing abusive relationships and domestic violence,
- iv. lack of awareness of sexual consent;

### **Homogenising Educational Standards Across Member States**

1. Strongly urges increasing the quality of sexual education in the Member States, to regulate the standards of education and to utilize experts, allowing for educators and students receive reliable information;
2. Encourages Member states to create better cooperation between religious and conservative bodies to encourage mutual understanding of the importance for sexuality education when formulating sexual education policies;
3. Recommends Member States to further educate teachers by supporting lifelong education through the provision of courses based on reliable research, which encourages the use of more interactive and current methods and topics;
4. Suggests Member States departments of education to organise informative events in schools in cooperation with non-governmental organisations informing about social media in order to protect the youth from being misinformed regarding sexuality related issues such as their sexual identity;
5. Encourages the development of partnerships within social influencers by NGOs such as International Planned Parenthood Federation working in the field of sexuality education in order to provide young people with research based credible information through a medium that they are in direct contact with, such as social media;

### **Reduction of Diseases**

6. Suggests Member States create easier access to condoms and other contraceptives through reduced prices in order to decrease the spread of sexually transmitted diseases;

### **Supportive Organisations**

7. Supports the work of organisations like Rape Crisis Network who provide peer support for the victims of abusive relationships and domestic violence.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT**

**Since it was founded in 2007, the European Progress Microfinance Facility, has since then supported more than 30,473 SME's by increasing access to finance for micro-entrepreneurs, including but not restricted to, groups with limited access to the conventional credit market, such as female entrepreneurs, young entrepreneurs, entrepreneurs belonging to a minority group. Nevertheless, the fragmented regulatory frameworks at national level can favour banks over microfinance providers and make it difficult for the latter to challenge the rules.**

**How can policy makers promote microfinancing activity while also cooperating with stakeholder banks, that lend to SMEs in the old-fashioned way, to further increase access to microfinance?**

Submitted by: Elina Ahde (Suomalainen yhteiskoulu), Pihla Aro (Sammon keskuslukio), Andreas Jabbari (Tampereen teknillinen lukio), Aapo Johansson (Tammerkosken lukio), Michaela Jokiniemi (Vesilahti Lower Secondary School), Yuhao Zhang (Tampereen lyseon Lukio), Riccardo Rastello (IT)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- J. Recognising that microenterprises make up to 91% of all businesses in the EU<sup>23</sup>,
- K. Taking into consideration that microfinance offers significant long-term economic growth,
- L. Welcoming the initiatives of the European Commission tackling Microfinance Institutions (MFI's) such as the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision<sup>24</sup> and the European Progress Microfinance Facility<sup>25</sup>,
- M. Alarmed by the lack of awareness in European Union (EU) countries about microfinance,
- N. Realising that the economic differences between EU Member States can affect the overall quality of micro-financial support,
- O. Bearing in mind that insufficient microfinance services lead citizens to see payday loans as a viable option,
- P. Noting with regret that MFI's profits have been decreasing since 2016<sup>26</sup>,
- Q. Fully aware of the lack of consistency between the benefits of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) and traditional banks,

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<sup>23</sup> [“Microfinance in Europe: A market overview”, European Investment Fund, 2009](#)

<sup>24</sup> European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision: launched by the European Commission, which sets common good practice guidelines in order to help microfinance providers.

<sup>25</sup> European Progress Microfinance Facility: launched by the European Commission in collaboration with the European Investment Bank to increase access to microcredit for setting up and managing small businesses. Rather than directly financing entrepreneurs, it allocates loans for selected microcredit providers in the EU (through the European Investment Fund) with the aim to enhance their ability to finance small businesses.

<sup>26</sup> [“Microfinance Barometer”, Convergences, 2018](#)

- R. Convinced that traditional loans are usually too large in quantity when compared to the actual needs of SME's;

### **Improvement of European microfinance programmes**

10. Appreciates the efforts of the European Commission in the field of microfinance;
11. Calls upon the European Investment Bank to increase the funding currently given to the European Investment Fund;

### **Awareness spreading**

12. Invites NGOs such as the European Microfinance Network, operating in the microfinance sector to lobby different EU Member States on its advantages;
13. Instructs the Member States to spread awareness on microfinance by offering courses tailored specifically for entrepreneurs;

### **Legislation**

14. Encourages the European Commission and the Member States to cooperate in the field of microfinance regulation to reach a common microfinance policy that takes into consideration the different financial capabilities of each Member State;
15. Urges the European Commission to propose legislation providing a legal framework for traditional banks to give out loans in the form of collective microcredit;
16. Calls upon Member States to draft legislation to limit payday loan companies;
17. Urges Member States to increase taxes on payday-loan organisations;

### **Support for the microfinance sector**

18. Advises Member States to financially subsidise traditional banks offering microfinance services, single location and small-scale banks and MFIs.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**After the Lisbon Treaty, promoting ‘fair trade’ has become one of the long-term objectives of the EU international trading partners, by setting up key international labour and environment standards and agreements amongst the rectification of international deals.**

**What can the EU do to further work with partners to strengthen the competitiveness of Fairtrade exporters, through a broad offer of tools and services, to help build vibrant and sustainable export sectors that provide economic opportunities to all?**

Submitted by: Wout Donné (Sammon keskuslukio), Toni Kallioniemi (Tampereen lyseon lukio) Kasper Kankkunen (Turun normaalikoulu), Inkeri Lipasti (Turun normaalikoulu), Aida Ramula (Tampereen lyseon lukio), Damla Schakir (Linnankosken lukio), Matias Mäkiranta (Chairperson, FI)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Profoundly concerned of the fact that in 2015, 10% of the World’s population lived on less than 1,67 EUR a day<sup>27</sup>,
- B. Noting with deep concern that around 265 million children are affected by child labour<sup>28</sup>,
- C. Further noting that the consumers do not always make what is considered the most sustainable choices due to the lack of education, consumer unawareness or ignorance,
- D. Bearing in mind that the technological advances implemented in Western countries differ greatly when compared with the current technological progress developing countries,
- E. Acknowledging the fact that large firms are not attracted to the Fairtrade model due to its high opportunity cost<sup>29</sup>,
- F. Conscious that the companies willing to become certified with the Fairtrade International product label must undergo a costly process involving a joining fee and annual fees to maintain the label,
- G. Concerned by the European companies’ insufficient advertising of the Fairtrade goods in the market,
- H. Acknowledging the fact that global trade has a big impact on climate change through i.e. greenhouse gas emissions of production units and pollution in production and transport,
- I. Deeply concerned that the current EU trade policies are increasingly focused on economic benefits rather than environmental issues;

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<sup>27</sup> ( Worldbank, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/09/19/decline-of-global-extreme-poverty-continues-but-has-slowed-world-bank>, 2018)

<sup>28</sup> (Esteban Ortiz-Ospina and Max Roser, <https://ourworldindata.org/child-labor>, 2013)

<sup>29</sup> Opportunity cost also known as alternative value. It is the cost of not enjoying the benefit of the best alternative.



## **Fair trade fights, child labour, and poverty**

1. Strongly affirms the implementation of External Investment Plan (EIP)<sup>30</sup> at a global level;
2. Calls upon the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission to establish minimum quotas of profit percentage received by first suppliers for companies who wish to sell on the European market;
3. Urges the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission to hinder the entry of companies that have not abolished child labour into the European market;
4. Instructs the Ministries of Education of the Member States to include the effects of fair trade as well as consumer awareness in education;
5. Encourages European businesses to advertise Fair Trade labelled goods and consider them in product placement;

## **Supporting fair trade**

6. Further encourages Fair Trade International to provide the companies a longer period of time to pay the registration and maintenance fees;
7. Urges the Member States to provide more development aid to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that provide education on new technological advances in developing countries
8. Calls upon the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission to reward business transparency in trade negotiations;

## **The environmental footprint of the product affects our climate**

9. Requests the European Commission to enforce the Emissions Trading System (ETS)<sup>31</sup> policy when making trade negotiations with international trading partners;
10. Directs NGOs such as Greenpeace to fund the implementation of greener technology and renewable sources of energy in developing countries.

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<sup>30</sup>External Investment plan is an EU initiative designed to attract more investment, in particular from businesses and private investors, into countries near the EU ('EU Neighbourhood') and in Africa. It aims to create jobs, raise living standards and support entrepreneurs.

<sup>31</sup> The Emissions Trading System (ETS) is the biggest carbon market in the world. The companies affected buy it will have to buy emission allowances in order to cover their emissions. If the company is able to reduce their emissions enough, they won't have to buy allowances and they might be able to sell unused allowances to other companies.

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS**

**Released to the public in 2009, Bitcoin’s white paper flashed the potential of open innovation. As Bitcoin and other public blockchains grow, new intermediary platforms, distributed ledgers and patented technologies emerge, recreating proprietary digital barriers between transacting individuals. How can the EU ensure that blockchain technology remains an equitable and open innovation led technology?**

Submitted by: Kingsley Fernandes (Turun normaalikoulu), Walter Johannes Geust (Turun normaalikoulu), Laura Hiekkanen (Helsingin suomalainen yhteiskoulu), Helena Honkanen (Kannaksen lukio), Atte Kunnari (Jyväskylän lyseon lukio), Neea Nenonen (Mikkelin lukio), Wilma Rovio (Jyväskylän lyseon lukio), Jami Toivonen (Sammon keskuslukio), Teodora Pariza (Chairperson, RO), Christophe Schmit (Chairperson, LU)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Alarmed by the lack of an intermediary and user identification in cryptocurrency transactions, preventing law-enforcement agencies from locating and tracing money obtained from illegal activities (44% Bitcoin transactions are used for illegalities<sup>32</sup>),
- B. Considering the alarming volatility of cryptocurrencies; preventing them from being used in daily life, due to drastic increases such as 1900% value increase in 2017<sup>33</sup>,
- C. Bearing in mind the lack of public awareness regarding the usage, application or necessity of distributed ledger technologies (DLT)<sup>34</sup>,
- D. Regretting the fact that the European Union’s (EU) legal framework does not currently regard cryptocurrencies as “financial instruments”, “securities” or “e-money”<sup>35</sup>,
- E. Aware of the difficulties in taxing cryptocurrencies, a decentralized system allows no taxation system on transactions, creating the demand for a black market,
- F. Observing that due to the different taxation schemes for cryptocurrencies users forgo declaring the country of cross-border transactions, making national taxation laws impossible;

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<sup>32</sup>[Foley, Sean and Karlsen, Jonathan R. and Putnins, Talis J., ”How Much Illegal Activity Is Financed Through Cryptocurrencies?”, October 21, 2018](#)

<sup>33</sup>[Ilich Bobby, 2018, How Much Did Bitcoin Rise In 2017?](#)

<sup>34</sup>[Investopedia, 2018, Distributed Ledgers](#)

<sup>35</sup>[Prof. Dr. Robby Houben et al, “Cryptocurrencies and blockchain”, 2018](#)

## **Broadening the vision of technological advancements in a social context**

1. Requests the European Economic and Financial commission to create a new cryptocurrency backed by the European Central Bank and regulated by the European Economic and Financial commission, while encouraging Member States to disallow the use of other cryptocurrencies within the European union;
2. Further requests the European Commission to encourage Member States to:
  - a. inform the population of their countries on the use of cryptocurrencies, by advertising in social media and in local state-run media organisations,
  - b. endorse the use of ICOs, for start-up businesses using any cryptocurrency;

## **Creating a cohesive political vision for distributed ledger technologies (DLT) in the EU**

3. Urges Member States to follow the Maltese legislative framework<sup>36</sup> monitoring the use of blockchain technologies:
  - a. creating the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA),
  - b. introducing the Technology Arrangements Service Bill (TAS), regulating the registration of Technology Service Providers (TSP)<sup>37</sup>;

## **Cryptocurrencies' rising importance for the EU's domestic economy**

4. Invites the director of the European Taxation and Customs Union (TAXUD) to encourage Member States to recognize cryptocurrencies as a legal tender in the EU, thus making them subject to the local Value Added Tax (VAT);
5. Concoors to all businesses in the EU the possibility of endorsing a Value Added Tax on all goods purchased with the use of cryptocurrencies.

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<sup>36</sup> [EMD, "Blockchain Technology and Maltese Regulation", 2018](#)

<sup>37</sup> Technology Service Providers: E-wallet providers/Exchange platforms

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY**

**From victim blaming to being fearful of law enforcement mechanisms and justice systems, survivors of sexual violence and intimidation are reluctant to report any incidents to the rightful authorities. Underreporting makes sexual violence notoriously difficult to measure while also contributing to the dismissal of necessary follow-up measures. With reporting, recording and prosecution rates of sexual offences substantially below the real rates of occurrence, what can governments and civil society do to close that gap?**

Submitted by: Daniel Alexander Ferreira (Tampereen Lyseon Lukio), Dritëro Ferri (Vasa Övningsskolas gymnasium), Amanda Koumulainen (Turun Normaalikoulu), Roosa Lahtinen (Tampereen ytheiskoulun lukio), Senni Lehtinen – (Tampereen lyseon lukio), Maria Monge-Navarro Otero (Turun Normaalikoulu), Veera Naumanen (Sammon keskuslukio), Jenna Rovio (Jyväskylän Lyseon Lukio), Wilma Summanen (Sammon keskuslukio), Doireann Brosnan (IE), Nicola Spoletini (CH)

### **The European Youth Parliament,**

- A. Concerned that more than 55% of women in the European Union (EU) have experienced sexual harassment, two in three having never reported their abuse<sup>38</sup>,
- B. Stressing that many factors, such as shame, fear and lack of confidence are major drawbacks for a survivor seeking justice for sexual assault, thus resulting in a severe reporting gap,
- C. Acknowledging that survivors<sup>39</sup> frequently seek help from NGOs instead of reporting the incident to the police,
- D. Noting with regret that a high position or level influence of a perpetrator might hinder the process of criminal prosecution of acts of sexual violence,
- E. Observing that survivors are usually reluctant to report their abuse to the police due to:
  - i) a fear of not being taken seriously,
  - ii) the uncomfortable process they undergo during the investigation,
- F. Recognising that there is no existing common definition of sexual assault and consent in the EU member states, hindering data collection,
- G. Realising that survivors demanding justice may cause further damage to their mental health,
- H. Acknowledging the lack of awareness of survivors regarding the process of seeking help after an incident of sexual assault,
- I. Considering that the prosecution of a perpetrator becomes increasingly difficult as time progresses;

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<sup>38</sup> The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 14/2/2014

<sup>39</sup> A survivor is a more sensitive title given to those who have experienced the trauma of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

## **Civil Progression and education regarding sexual violence**

1. Suggests educational programmes for secondary school students on what constitutes as sexual harassment and abuse as well as the process of reporting abuse, to inform people of their rights and responsibilities;
2. Encourages the introduction of educational groups to explain sexual assault to children at a reasonable age<sup>40</sup>, to prevent victim blaming and the stigma of reporting amongst the general public;

## **Law enforcement and criminal prosecution**

3. Recommends the EU Member States to adopt a clear and mutual legal definition of:
  - a) the various degrees of sexual assault,
  - b) consent, based on the definition proposed by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)<sup>41</sup>;
4. Calls upon the judicial systems of Member States to protect survivors by preventing their perpetrator to approach them if necessary, once having reported them to the police, by
  - a) providing safe accommodation,
  - b) placing a restraining order on the defendant, while monitoring their location;

## **Cooperation between stakeholders and governmental institutions**

5. Invites collaboration between Member States and NGOs, such as the European Women's Lobby (EWL), and the Rape Crisis Network Europe (RCNE) to facilitate initiatives such as:
  - a) the provision of specialist training for the authorities in the questioning of victims,
  - b) an impactful awareness campaign;
6. Further invites for the cooperation between Member States and NGOs to provide necessary services including but not limited to therapy sessions, support groups and social networks to bring survivors together and share their experiences;
7. Proposes the introduction of large-scale surveys further exploring the reasons for under-reported rape and sexual assault, facilitated by the Member States and coordinated by the European Commission.

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<sup>40</sup> Commencing at the age at which they reach puberty.

<sup>41</sup> The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an autonomous body of the European Union, established to contribute to and strengthen the promotion of gender equality, including gender mainstreaming in all EU policies and the resulting national policies, and the fight against discrimination based on sex, as well as to raise EU citizens' awareness of gender equality.

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