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AGRI

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

While current intensive agriculture and farming techniques cause damage to the environment, they also provide a livelihood to millions of farmers across Europe. What can the EU do to ensure a green transition and the safeguarding of nature while taking into account the livelihood of agricultural producers?

Submitted by: Yonis Ali (NL), Anouschka de Graaf (NL), Noor Laros (NL), Madelief Oosterveld (NL), Nicolas Vardon (Chairperson, SE)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Conscious that the agricultural industry is one of the largest emitters of nitrogen and methane which are harmful greenhouse gases,
 - B. Aware that the agricultural industry represents a significant share of the European economy, consisting of [44 million jobs and 10.5 million farms](#),
 - C. Noting with regret that the maximisation of crop yields¹ clashes with the environmental goals set in the European [Common Agricultural Policy](#),
 - D. Alarmed by the perpetual decrease in the quality of [topsoil, biodiversity, and crops](#) due to intensive farming practises,²
 - E. Seriously concerned by the [mismanagement of subsidies](#) towards intensive farming while environmentally friendly and lower income farms are severely underfunded;
1. Encourages Member States to provide farmers with further education on topsoil-friendly and environmentally-sustainable farming practices;
 2. Urges the Member States to subsidise environmentally-friendly products financed through the reallocation of taxes on environmentally harmful products;
 3. Invites Member States to create financially attractive programmes aimed at incentivising farmers to transition to more sustainable production methods;

¹ **Maximisation of crop yields:** refers to growing as many crops as possible in a given topsoil area.

² **Intensive farming:** is a type of farming that relies on large amounts of resources and labour to increase production per unit area. It uses land, water and fertilisers to a large extent. It can be considered as a representation of economies of scale function in agriculture.



4. Further encourages the European Commission to open a dialogue with representatives of farmers assisted by third-party mediators to provide increased job security;
5. Calls upon the [European Food Safety Agency \(EFSA\)](#) to create a European wide index disclosing whether agricultural products follow environmentally friendly and healthy production standards;
6. Requests the European Commission to foster transparency on the allocation of agricultural funds through:
 - a) the enhancement of the financial transparency system by making it more accessible to the general public,
 - b) ensuring farmers utilise their funds appropriately.



DEVE

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

Rebuilding Ukraine: *Current estimates predict the rebuilding of Ukraine will cost upwards of 350 billion Euros as of September 2022. Meanwhile, EU officials have spoken out for Ukrainian admission into the EU. In what way should the EU support the rebuilding process and shape future relations with Ukraine after the war?*

Submitted by: Isabelle van Hillegersberg (NL), Leah Israel (NL), David Pham (NL), Felix Crawford (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Aware of the necessity to rebuild Ukraine through consistent financial support, both during and after the war,
- B. Gravely concerned about the Ukrainian peoples' wellbeing, specifically regarding mental health issues and risks,
- C. Further concerned about the displacement of the population, and consequent distress or family separation,
- D. Realising that corruption in Ukraine limits the effectiveness of:
 - i) financial support programs,
 - ii) proper, just and effective governance,
 - iii) general short and long term recovery;
- E. Regretting the challenges Ukrainian civilians face when trying to leave warzones,
- F. Acknowledging the insufficient housing and care for Ukrainian refugees in the EU,
- G. Conscious of the traumatic consequences of the Russo-Ukrainian war, leaving (mental) healthcare facilities understaffed and underequipped,
- H. Recognising the many different and sometimes conflicting beliefs Ukrainian communities hold,
- I. Stressing the need for a long-term solution for the destruction caused by the Russo-Ukrainian war;



Information spreading

1. Demands that Member States ban the spreading of any disinformation about the Russo-Ukrainian war on their state-sponsored media outlets;
2. Suggests all Member States to further inform their citizens through relevant media outlets about the need for shelter and housing for Ukrainians, the real-time situation in Ukraine, the necessity to create a welcoming space for refugees of war, opportunities to financially support Ukraine and its people;

New measures and policies

3. Invites the Council of Europe to establish a Ukraine Recovery Concept (URC), consisting of both short-term and long-term solutions such as:
 - a) easing entry restrictions into the EU for Ukrainians fleeing the war,
 - b) more accessible and safer housing in the EU for refugees of war,
 - c) governmental support for [Mental Health Europe](#) to assist in reducing the risks and effects of mental health problems for Ukrainians,
 - d) clear and simple national legislation regarding citizenship and residence permits for Ukrainian refugees,
 - e) the provision of long-term schooling opportunities for Ukrainian children;
4. Calls for the establishment of a council to provide a centralised way of giving structural and monetary support to Ukraine, consisting of representatives from the NATO, the [European Bank for Development and Reconstruction](#), the [European External Action Service \(EEAS\)](#), the [Security Council of the United Nations](#), the [G-7](#), and the European Commission;

Reinforcing existing measures and policies

5. Hopes that the Ukrainian government will further work on:
 - a) promoting democracy,
 - b) the deradicalisation of pro-Russian separatists and other extremists,
 - c) the fight against corruption through further investments in their [National Anti-Corruption Bureau](#),
 - d) legislation that prevents democratic backsliding or corruption,
 - e) meeting the other requirements necessary to join the EU;
6. Underlines the importance of the reconstruction of Ukraine, specifically focussing on the infrastructure and transportation in Ukraine;



7. Expresses its hope that Member States will work together with, and utilise the support of the Council established in OC 4;
8. Encourages all European countries to discuss the possibility for more humanitarian corridors, utilising the [Red Cross](#), [EEAS](#) and [RescEU](#).



ECON

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Money, money, money: *With the ECB recently increasing interest rates to counter inflation, many Europeans are seeing their savings dwindle while the threat of stagflation looms large over the Eurozone. What steps can the EU take to ensure economic growth and combat inflation while protecting European consumers?*

Submitted by: Ebe Lubecht (NL), Kik Maassen (NL), Madelief van Poelvoorde (NL), Mirte van der Worp (NL), Laura Simón (Chairperson, ES)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting how inflation causes [financial hardship](#) for citizens of the EU,
 - B. Taking into account that current market tendencies are leading to a wage-price spiral³
 - C. Concerned about the decreasing availability of loans for consumers in the EU caused by potentially rising interest rates,
 - D. Aware that the European Central Bank (ECB) has been consistently [raising interest rates](#)⁴,
 - E. Fully alarmed by the rise of [Member States' national debts](#),
 - F. Recognising the burden that low employment rates inflict on Member States' economies;
1. Calls upon the European Commission to introduce a fund for the European Food Banks Federation;
 2. Urges the Member States to set a price cap for necessity goods;
 3. Further urges Member States to compensate industries' rising cost of production;
 4. Suggests Member States to introduce a luxury goods tax to finance the costs emerging from OC 2 and OC 3;
 5. Authorises the European Commission to demand businesses to justify the rise of product prices based on the respective increase in production costs;

³ **Wage-price spiral:** Rising prices increase demand for higher wages which leads to higher production costs and further upward pressure on prices. This creates a conceptual spiral.

⁴ **Interest rates :** Interest rates indicate the cost for banks borrowing money at the ECB.



6. Ask the Member States to increase understanding of household finances and economics through:
 - a) their national secondary education curricula,
 - b) additional courses for adults;
7. Encourages Member States to increase corporate income tax for large corporations;
8. Seeks the European Commission to start a second [temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency](#) focussed on countering inflation-inflicted hardship.



LIBE I

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS I

Journalism under pressure: *In recent years, freedom of the press has come under pressure in the EU. With journalists facing threats or even coming under attack, what can the EU do to ensure journalists can work safely and freely?*

Submitted by: Dan Nguyen (NL), Famke van den Dungen (NL), Rahim Hammani (NL), Wies de Ridder (NL), Sofia Giani (Chairperson, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Alarmed by the large number of [Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation](#) (SLAPPs)⁵,
 - B. Aware of the [rise in government censorship](#) in some Member States,
 - C. Deeply concerned by the [growing number of homicides](#) of journalists in the EU,
 - D. Disturbed by the increasing harassment and violence journalists in the EU are facing,
 - E. Fully believing in freedom of the press as a pillar of liberal democracy in the EU;
- 1) Calls upon the European Commission to create an intergovernmental task-force of lawyers aimed at providing legal advice to legal persons⁶ being sued with SLAPPs;
 - 2) Encourages the European Commission to further support the work of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) like the European Federation of Journalists to ensure the safety and health of journalists, increase the trust in and quality of journalism, and counter political interference in the media;
 - 3) Urges the European Commission to direct funds to NGOs that safeguard journalists such as Reporters Without Borders;
 - 4) Requests the Council of Europe to further develop and expand their [Europe Platform to Promote the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists](#) with additional guidelines for journalists reporting from ‘dangerous’ environments;

⁵ **Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation:** generally refers to a lawsuit filed by powerful subjects, such as a corporation, a public official or a high-profile business person, against non-government individuals or organisations who expressed a critical position on issues of some political interest or social significance.

⁶ **Legal person:** a company that has full legal rights and responsibilities according to the law.



- 5) Recommends the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM) to spread awareness about the principles stated in the International Federation of Journalists' [Global Charter of Ethics for Journalists](#) through media campaigns;
- 6) Reminds Member States to align their actions to Article 10⁷ of the European Convention on Human Rights;
- 7) Invites Member States to further fund NGOs that support or help independent media outlets and journalists.

⁷ **Article 10:** Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.



LIBE II

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Rule by the people: *With the European Parliament recently declaring that Hungary is no longer a full democracy, as well as the pressure the judiciary is facing in Poland, what can the EU do to uphold the democratic functioning of its Member States?*

Submitted by: Pjotr van Aalst (NL), Lina Assalhi (NL), Ciana Kokos (NL), Marc Weenk (NL), Marieke de Weerd (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Emphasising the decline of adherence to the EU's [core values](#) within certain Member States, opening up the possibility of a [deterioration](#) of fundamental rights in the future,
- B. Noting with concern the current shortcomings of [Article 7](#) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) due to the necessity of a unanimous vote by all Member States,
- C. Deeply disturbed by [the violation](#) of human rights in Hungary through:
 - i) governmental rule by decree⁸ powers, [which](#) disempower democratic institutions, endanger the rule of law⁹, and place fundamental rights at risk,
 - ii) [the rise of hate speech](#) against certain minority populations, such as migrants and foreigners;
- D. Alarmed by [the violation](#) of human rights in Poland through, the undermining of the independence of the judiciary, the restriction of the freedom of expression, and the unlawful or arbitrary killings by police forces;
 1. Calls upon the European Commission to initiate a change to the voting system of article 7.2 TEU termed “serious and persistent breach of EU values” from a unanimous vote to a four-fifths majority;
 2. Calls upon the European Commission to [initiate](#) the legislation of a “yellow-card-red-card-system” which means that:

⁸ A style of governance allowing quick, unchallenged creation of law by a single person or group.

⁹ Rule of law is the practice that ensures that all citizens are treated equally before the law.



- a. Member States will receive a yellow card for a maximum of ten years if they undermine a core value resulting in:
 - i. the loss of access to financial aid until they have restored their adherence to the core values,
 - ii. the implementation of economic sanctions amounting to one percent of the Member State's GDP, being issued three months after the distribution of the yellow card;
 - b. Member States will receive a red card if they have violated multiple not-coinciding core values leading them to be expelled from the EU for twenty years;
3. Encourages the European Commission to guide sanctioned Member States in rebuilding EU core values in order to halt the process of democratic backsliding;
 4. Appeals to NGOs such as [Freedom House](#) and the [Hungarian Helsinki Committee](#) to assist the EU's effort to enforce the adherence to core values in the Member States at risk of breaching them.



PECH

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Under the sea: *Marine biodiversity and habitat loss is an ongoing challenge for Europe's seas. EU actions have not restored its waters to good environmental status nor fishing to sustainable levels in all seas. What more can the EU do to protect marine life in EU waters?*

Submitted by: Isthea Amoilafoa (NL), Jean-Paul Steinbusch (NL), Jet van der Wilden (NL), Larissa Peters (NL), Peter Schalke (NL), Alice Comoglio (Chairperson, IT)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Taking into account that there are now around [5.25 trillion](#) macro- and microplastics in the ocean which are having a detrimental effect on EU marine populations,
- B. Noting with concern that there are [still 3,000](#) bilge water¹⁰ dumpings a year occurring in Europe's waters,
- C. Conscious of the destruction of [European coral reefs due to various pollutants](#) entering the water,
- D. Acknowledging the existence of aquaculture¹¹ such as fishing farms, due to the excessive demand for seafood,
- E. Pointing out the existence of projects and laws like [Natura 2030](#), the [EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy](#), and the [Nature Restoration Law](#) that strive for the conservation and restoration of marine habitats,

¹⁰ **Bilge water:** is a mixture of fresh water, sea water, oil, sludge, chemicals and various other fluids that forms in the lowest area of the ship.

¹¹ **Aquaculture:** is the controlled cultivation and harvesting of aquatic animals such as fish, crustaceans, or molluscs in natural or pseudo-natural environments.



- F. Profoundly concerned that there are fishing practices such as bottom trawling¹² that result in a substantial amount of bycatch¹³ and the destruction of large swaths of marine habitats;
- G. Appreciating the creation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs);¹⁴
 - 1. Instructs all Member States to limit the use and dumping of plastic products by:
 - a. introducing returnable deposits on recyclable plastic items which can be collected at supermarkets or other collection centres,
 - b. increasing fines for illegally dumping plastic,
 - c. including the clean-up of plastic waste dumped in cities and nature in court-ordered community service;
 - 2. Calls upon the European Commission to subsidise companies which:
 - a. have found technological solutions to clean up the oceans from macro- and microplastics, such as [The Ocean Cleanup](#),
 - b. study new plastic materials and their recyclability,
 - c. research clean-up methods for oil spills;
 - 3. Requests Member States to take action against companies which make use of the environmentally harmful practice of bilge-dumping by:
 - a. collecting evidence in cooperation with companies such as [Skytruth](#),¹⁵
 - b. prosecuting companies guilty of bilge dumping;
 - 4. Demands all Member States to follow the guidelines of agreements such as Natura 2030, EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy, Nature Restoration Law, and the [14th Sustainable Development Goal](#);
 - 5. Encourages the European Commission to prohibit the use of environmentally harmful fishing techniques such as bottom trawling by 2030;
 - 6. Invites the European Commission to transition to the acquisition of seafood in fishing farms, cellular-pisciculture,¹⁶ and plant-based seafood;

¹² **Bottom trawling:** is a method of fishing whereby fish or other sea animals are herded and captured by towing a net along the seafloor.

¹³ **Bycatch:** is the incidental capture of non-target species such as dolphins, marine turtles, and seabirds, when fishing.

¹⁴ **Marine Protected Areas:** are bodies of water (part of a sea, ocean, estuary or even lake) demarcated by the local government with restricted human activity intended for the long-term conservation of marine resources, ecosystem services, or cultural heritage.

¹⁵ **Skytruth:** is a company that uses satellite imagery to catch any ships that are bilge dumping,

¹⁶ **Cellular-pisciculture:** is a combination of biomedical engineering with modern aquaculture techniques that aims to the production of seafood departing from single cells rather than the whole animal.



7. Urges all Member States to improve the state of marine life in EU waters by creating more MPAs in threatened areas to let marine organisms recover by having an expert team define the areas in need of being protected;
8. Further urges Member States to limit or ban recreational activity in all MPAs;
9. Asks the Member States to help people who are directly disadvantaged by the newly created MPAs through:
 - a. providing financial assistance,
 - b. offering retraining courses.



SEDE

Committee on Security and Defence

A European Army: *With NATO and the transatlantic partnership having been unstable, calls for more European strategic sovereignty in foreign policy and military matters have arisen. Seeing how Member States like Germany and Poland have already upscaled their military expenditures, how should the EU follow in potentially mutualising its defence ambitions?*

Submitted by: Bobby Blaauw (NL), Tim Hazebroek (NL), Tayma El Yalte (NL), Misha Zwietink (NL), Nikola Pantelić (Chairperson, RS)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting the [lack of military unity](#) in the EU,
 - B. Aware of the high degree of [dependence](#) of some EU Member States on non-EU countries or defence alliances, such as NATO,
 - C. Conscious of the [rising threat](#) of China and Russia,
 - D. Taking into account the [growing concern](#) amongst EU citizens regarding safety and security,
 - E. Keeping in mind that many EU Member States [lag behind](#) in military spending when compared to the great powers¹⁷,
 - F. Draws attention to the vast amount of resources misspent by Member States on a yearly basis on duplicate or [incompatible](#) military equipment,
 - G. Regrets the lack of a [permanent military command structure](#)¹⁸ for the EU,
 - H. Concerned by the fact that some Member States may resist efforts to unify European militaries due to differing national interests;
1. Proposes the creation of a [unified](#) European military consisting of all 27 EU Member States;
 2. Recommends all EU Member States to implement the agreement made by NATO defence ministers in 2006 regarding an increase of European countries' military spending to a minimum of [2% of their annual GDP](#);
 3. Urges the European Commission to decrease duplicate military spending by initiating a common budgeting policy for all EU Member States;
 4. Calls upon the Member States to create a unified governing body in charge of managing the European military proposed in OC 1 which includes all Member States' interests in its decision making process.

¹⁷ **Great powers:** sovereign state with significant diplomatic, economic, and military strength to exert power in international affairs. The term refers to China, India, Russia and the United States.

¹⁸ **Permanent military command structure:** a unified leadership of the European military.



TRAN

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

All aboard!: *With fuel prices on the rise, trains have become a more viable and sustainable mode of travel. However, due to longer travel times, high ticket prices and a lack of last-mile infrastructure, many Europeans still favour the plane or car over the train. What steps can the EU take to improve and facilitate European-wide railway transportation?*

Submitted by: Naut Bordewijk (NL), Sem de Bruijn (NL), Féline Mac Donald (NL), Natascha Martinez (NL), Tess Tang (NL), Tommie Steenwinkel (Chairperson, NL)

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Noting with deep concern that people travelling through Europe tend to choose more polluting transportation options such as travelling by plane or car due to a lack of certain customer inconveniences like inadequate luggage space, facilities, hygiene, and train capacity;
- B. Alarmed by the fact that European train travel is not always accessible for citizens with physical disabilities,
- C. Aware that the existence of national monopolies on rail travel lead to:
 - i. deficiencies in technical and functional improvements,
 - ii. high ticket prices;
- D. Noting with deep concern that a lack of interoperability¹⁹ hinders the aim of a single European railway area because of:
 - i. international train operators needing additional certificates for every Member State they operate in,
 - ii. Member States mostly focus on their own railway infrastructure instead of cross-border railway infrastructure,
 - iii. technical differences in infrastructure between every Member State;

¹⁹ **Interoperability:** is the ability of rolling stock to operate on any stretch of rail in the EU, no matter where they are. Currently, this ability is being hampered by lack of common infrastructure. Many Member States have their own standards, systems and equipment.



- E. Taking into consideration that travelling by train is still relatively slow compared to other transportation options as a result of:
- i. long transfer times,
 - ii. certain destinations in Europe not being easily accessible or not being accessible at all when travelling by train;
1. Calls upon the European Commission to create an advisory organ consisting of industry experts and lawmakers advising on:
 - a. the drafting of guidelines for and checks on European train companies regarding luggage space, facilities, hygiene, and passenger capacity,
 - b. the most efficient timetables for international trains travelling through Europe,
 - c. the maintenance and upgrading of railway networks,
 - d. create a singular international certificate for conductors operating cross-border trains;
 2. Calls upon Member States to invest in high-speed underground railway networks that focuses on improving last-mile infrastructure²⁰;
 3. Calls upon Member States to increase funding for [the single European railway](#) area financed through the reallocation of a yet-to-introduce distance-based tax on flights happening within the EU;
 4. Calls upon the [European Regional Development Fund](#) to increase funding for research projects on more accessible high-speed trains;
 5. Calls upon the European Commission to increase funding for the accessibility of railway stations in order to:
 - a. fit every train platform with at least one customer lift,
 - b. equip every train station with luggage drop-off systems;
 6. Calls upon the European Commission to facilitate the creation of a European railway deal between all European train and railway infrastructure companies that aims to:
 - a. encourage all prospective railway infrastructure to use the same railway width, and electrical voltage, and implement the railway operating system [ERTMS](#),
 - b. encourage companies to reform their existing railway infrastructure to common standards,
 - c. encourage railway infrastructure companies to collectively invest in new international railway infrastructure projects.

²⁰ **Last-mile infrastructure:** in the context of public transport, last-mile infrastructure describes the last leg of a passenger's journey between the station and the passenger's destination. If the distance between the station and the destination is too great, passenger's may opt to travel by car rather than public transport.