



# **RESOLUTION BOOKLET**



XLIV NATIONAL SELECTION

CONFERENCE - MILANO 2018





### THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS (DROI)

Humans not for sale. According to the European Commission, 20.9 million people are victims of human trafficking in all its forms. Given the Directives and the 2012-2016 EU Strategy, what should the EU concretely do in order to implement the so called "4P Plan" (Prevention, Prosecution, Protection and Partnerships)?

Submitted by:

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### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Realising that in Europe human trafficking is the second most profitable illegal trade<sup>1</sup> and that this market will prosper as long as there is demand for services such as easier adoption and cheap organs,
- B. Deeply alarmed by the fact that low priority is given by authorities to tackling human trafficking in many Member States,
- C. Keeping in mind that human trafficking is a process which involves a wider range of crimes such as document fraud, corruption of government officials and its inextricable link with worldwide criminal organisations,
- D. Deploring the lack of cooperation both within and outside Member States concerning human trafficking,
- E. Noting that people lacking in education with a poor, underdeveloped background are most vulnerable,
- F. Bearing in mind that victims are not always reintegrated into society and are thereby more likely to fall victim to trafficking once again,
- G. Taking into account the gender disparity among victims, with women representing having a larger proportion of the victims,
- H. Expressing its appreciation for INTERPOL's<sup>2</sup> missing persons database which offers targeted support for investigations,
- I. Alarmed that the internet is increasingly used by traffickers to recruit victims,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> European Commission (2018), <u>TOGETHER AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It is a database which constantly report missing people through cooperation between national police forces.





- J. Noting with regret that traffickers are taking advantage of the ongoing migration crisis,
- K. Keeping in mind that making use of victims' services is not illegal within some Member States,
- L. Deeply concerned by the increasing number of child victims;

#### **Political**

- 1. Urges the European Commission to create a new department inside the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights<sup>3</sup>, in cooperation with the Commissioner for Human Rights<sup>4</sup>, that will:
  - a. collaborate with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the field of human trafficking,
  - b. coordinate Member States and ensure a united approach;
- 2. Encourages the EU to develop partnerships with its non-EU neighbours by:
  - a. updating the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENPs)<sup>5</sup> aimed at addressing human trafficking by promoting further collaboration between security establishments, welfare systems and national and international NGOs,
  - b. implementing projects in collaboration with the United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)<sup>6</sup> following the model of the GLO.ACT<sup>7</sup>;
- 3. Strongly urges the creation of a European human trafficking task force comprised of national authorities and EU stakeholders aimed at:
  - a. suppressing all forms of human trafficking,
  - b. cooperating with national welfare systems to provide assistance to victims by granting access to shelter, physical, sexual and psychological healthcare, translation and interpretation services and legal and social counseling,

### **Economical**

4. Urges the Member States to improve healthcare systems to target organ trafficking;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is the EU's centre of fundamental rights expertise. The Agency helps to ensure that the fundamental rights of people living in the EU are protected.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> It is an independent and impartial non-judicial institution established in 1999 by the Strasbourg-based Council of Europe, to promote awareness of and respect for human rights

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> It is a policy to foster stabilisation, security and prosperity, in line with the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> An United Nations office which fights against illicit drug use, international terrorism, political corruption, crime prevention and criminal justice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (GLO.ACT) is a four-year (2015-2019) initiative by the European Union and the United Nations. It aims to assist the selected countries in developing and implementing comprehensive national counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling responses.





5. Encourages Member States to simplify the process of adoption;

### Legal

- 6. Calls upon the Joint Cybercrime Action Task Force<sup>8</sup> to enforce and enhance cooperation between national police forces of individual Member States in order to tackle human traffickers who act online by sharing data and best practices;
- 7. Urges Member States to increase the minimum penalty and remove the limit of a maximum penalty for trafficking;
- 8. Encourages Member States to improve cross-border controls, especially in the countries of origin of trafficked persons, by implementing strict control on policing agencies to eradicate corruption;

#### Social

9. Suggests Member States to put in place after-school programmes on the model of "Girls only! Boys only!" so to address the gender disparity of the phenomenon of human trafficking;

- 10. Urges the Member States to focus on the economic and educational field as well as on the collaboration with NGOs and global organisations like UNICEF<sup>10</sup> in order to fight human trafficking with a collaborative approach;
- 11. Further suggests that Member States adopt incisive strategies in order to improve citizens' education with the aim of making potential victims less vulnerable by:
  - a. implementing awareness-raising campaigns and education programmes,
  - b. execute teaching modules in schools and college curricula to inform pupils of human rights, gender issues, the modus operandi and dangers presented by trafficking crimes,
  - c. making young people aware of the hazards of social forums which are used by traffickers to contact and recruit victims.

<sup>8</sup> An Europol taskforce division launched in September 2014 that focuses on cyber crimes within and outside the EU

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> An after-school intervention that aims to build the resilience of vulnerable children aged 8 - 12 through the provision of group mentoring and coping skills in a safe and trusted environment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> United Nations Children's' Fund is a United Nations Program that provides humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries.





### THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (EMPL)

Working transition. With internships and apprenticeships becoming crucial for graduates at the start of the career ladder, how should the EU effectively support its youth in making a smooth transition from education to employment, taking into consideration the lack of a common educational and internship system amongst Member States?

Submitted by:

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### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Concerned by the high youth unemployment rate<sup>11</sup> in some of the European Union (EU) Member States<sup>12</sup>,
- B. Taking into consideration the economic and social burden of youth unemployment,
- C. Alarmed by the uneven access of employers across the EU to the financial benefits provided for the implementation of internships and apprenticeship programmes,
- D. Fully aware of the different implementation and financing of internship and apprenticeship programmes among Member States,
- E. Deeply concerned about small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) not possessing the necessary financial means and human resources required to implement apprenticeship programmes,

<sup>11</sup> Yaouth unemployment rate is the percentage of the unemployed in the age group 15 to 24 years old compared to the total labour force (both employed and unemployed) in that age group. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Glossary:Youth\_unemployment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Youth unemployment rate in EU member states as of January 2018. https://www.statista.com/statistics/266228/youth-unemployment-rate-in-eu-countries/





- F. Noting with deep concern how different social and economic background of each individual affect their possibilities to access unpaid internships and apprenticeship,
- G. Acknowledging the absence of a common legal definition of apprentices and interns across Member States,
- H. Bearing in mind that the interns without employment contracts do not possess the same labour arrangements, equal treatment and protection that are provided to regular workers,
- I. Noting with regret that the inadequacy of existing regulations on internships in Member States has resulted in cases of exploitation of interns,
- J. Recognising the necessity of fostering Internet and Communication Technology (ICT) skills in an increasingly digitised working environment;

### **Employment and Initiatives**

- 1. Appreciates Member States' involvement in addressing the issue of youth unemployment and further supports the existing EU initiatives such as:
  - a. European Alliance for Apprenticeships<sup>13</sup> (EAFA),
  - b. The Youth Employment Initiative 14 (YEI),
  - c. The Youth Guarantee Programme<sup>15</sup>;
- 2. Calls upon the European Commission for the instatement of a recommendation setting common criteria and long term goals for fund granting to Member States entailing:
  - a. a common definition of interns and apprentices,
  - b. provision of scholarships prioritising those who are in a disadvantaged financial situation,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) is a platform which brings together governments with other key stakeholders, its common goal is to strengthen the quality, supply and image of apprenticeships. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catld=1147

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) is one of the main EU financial resources to support the implementation of Youth Guarantee schemes. It was launched to provide support to young people. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catld=1176

 $<sup>^{15}</sup>$  The Youth guarantee Programme is a plan aimed at facilitating the access to the working environment to young Europeans.

http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catld=1161&langld=en





- c. each Member State committing to hire a set number of apprentices and interns in a set period of time;
- 3. Invites all Member States to develop and spread technological skills, further enforcing the existing Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs<sup>16</sup> focusing on hands-on training in digital fields such as cyber security, artificial intelligence, coding and digital working;
- 4. Accordingly encourages the extension of the Erasmus+ programme<sup>17</sup> to Vocational Education and Training mentors in order to improve their mobility and sharing of good practices;
- 5. Instructs the European Commission to promote equal access to individuals in apprenticeship and internship programmes within the European Framework of Quality and Effective Apprenticeships;
- 6. Promotes the visibility of "European Vocational Skills Week" and the introduction of similar initiatives aimed at encouraging the employers to hire interns and apprentices;

### Legislation

- 7. Asks Member States to extend the worker rights stated in the Lisbon Treaty<sup>18</sup> also to internship and apprenticeship contracts;
- 8. Calls upon the European Commission to extend the European Labour Authority<sup>19</sup>'s jurisdiction to apprenticeships and internships, stressing its pivotal importance in monitoring the compliance of the existing regulations;
- Invites the Member States to recognise a single legal definition of an apprentice by emphasising the double status of both a student and a worker;

### **Businesses and Enterprises**

<sup>16</sup> The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition brings together Member States, companies, social partners, non-profit organisations and education providers, who take action to tackle the lack of digital skills in Europe.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Erasmus+ supports traineeships (work placements, internships, etc.) abroad for students currently enrolled in higher education institutions, as well as young professionals. https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/opportunities/traineeships-students\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> The Lisbon Treaty is an international agreement among Member States forming the constitutional basis of the European Union.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The European Labour Authority was announced in 2017 aiming to ensure that EU rules on labour mobility be enforced in a fair, simple and effective way.

http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1414&langId=en





- Calls upon the European Commission to set long-term goals for the development of apprenticeship programmes in SMEs among Member States;
- 11. Suggests the Member States to create "cluster apprenticeships and internships" specifically aimed at increasing the capacities of SMEs to provide such programmes;
- 12. Welcomes the Établissements Foncier Des Yvelines (EPFY)<sup>21</sup> first joint proposal on creation of an EU-wide network of intermediary agencies aimed at:
  - a. administrating business-school partnerships,
  - b. fostering new joint activities,
  - c. assisting and directing the recruitment and the mobility of apprenticeships.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Cluster apprenticeships are specific categories of apprenticeships aiming at forming highly specialised workers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> An organisation dealing with industrial and commercial development in all regions of France.





### THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY (ENVI)

A world without bees - bitterness without honey. According to the UN News Centre 70% of the crop species that provide us with food are pollinated by bees, which, since 2006, have declined considerably due to pesticides, diseases, parasites and global warming. Given the EU's high standards environmental policy, what should the EU concretely do in order to tackle such an important, yet still underestimated issue?

Submitted by:

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### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Considering that bees are responsible for the pollination of 80% of all flowering plant species<sup>22</sup>,
- B. Underlining that bees contribute to 14,2 billion euros to the European agricultural industry<sup>23</sup> every year,
- C. Having examined that products produced by bees, such as honey, are essential for the pharmaceutical industry,
- D. Realising that global crops production is expected to be reduced by about  $90\%^{24}$  due to the declining bee population,
- E. Observing that bee habitats are decreasing due to urbanisation and modern agricultural methods such as meadow's flower eradication<sup>25</sup>,
- F. Alarmed that climate change deeply affects the health of flying pollinators and consequently the stability of the ecosystem,
- G. Deeply concerned that parasites and diseases, such as the Varroa destructor<sup>26</sup> and deformed wing virus<sup>27</sup>, spread through transportation and are the main causes of massive demise of bee colonies,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The Food and Agriculture Organization, (2018), <u>FAO's Global Action on Pollination Services for Sustainable</u> Agriculture

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> European Parliament News, Protecting bees and fighting fake honey imports in Europe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> IPBES (2016): <u>Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> The artificial removal of invasive wildflowers and plantains.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> The Varroa Destructor is an external parasite that attacks honey bees specifically by attaching to its body and infecting it with deformed wing virus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> The deformed wing virus is a virus that most commonly attacks honey bees, causing their wings to become useless and their bodies damaged or paralysed.





- H. Having examined the combined effects of harmful pesticides which cause high mortality amongst bees,
- I. Expressing its satisfaction with the European Food Safety Authority<sup>28</sup> (EFSA)'s role in the fostering of discussions on further restrictions of some bee harmful pesticides,
- J. Appreciating initiatives such as the "bee-friendly" food product certification, which is already in use in the US and in Canada,
- K. Bearing in mind that European agricultural sector's major stakeholders such as farmers, pesticide companies and crop producers significantly rely on neonicotinoids<sup>29</sup> and other bee-harming pesticides for economical purposes;

#### Causes

- 1. Congratulates the European Commission for the ambitious environmental goals set in the Paris Agreement<sup>30</sup> and the EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>31</sup>;
- 2. Asks Member States' agricultural agencies to ensure pollinators' safety from harmful parasites by enforcing safety checks on bee colonies before and after their transportation through national borders;

#### **Economic**

3. Calls upon Member States to ensure organic pesticides' economic sustainability by providing pesticide companies with subsidies, thus increasing affordability of these in agricultural practices by farmers;

#### **Environmental**

- 4. Recommends the European Environment Agency<sup>32</sup> to develop a widespread media campaign in order to:
  - a. raise awareness about the importance of pollinator insects,
  - b. highlight the consequences resulting from their increased disappearance;
- 5. Endorses the European Commission to implement quality labels to identify bee-friendly products;
- 6. Supports the EFSA's analyses of hive samples aimed at ascertaining the causes of bee mortality;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The European Food Safety Authority provides independent scientific advice on food-related risk. Their work covers all matters with direct or indirect impact on food and food safety, including animal health, plant protection and nutrition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Neonicotinoids pesticides are the most widespread chemical based pesticides that cause severe harm to bees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> The Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations which aims to monitor and limit global temperature rise through greenhouse gas emission mitigation and help countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> The EU Biodiversity Strategy aims to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> The European Environment Agency provides targeted and reliable information on the environment, providing help in the development, adoption, implementation and evaluation of environmental policies.





7. Urges the European Commission to prevent habitat abandonment by pollinator colonies through the means of installing flowering areas in Member States.





### THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE (INTA)

Finding equitable health regulations. Uncured illnesses and increasing last - line resistance call for both fuelling pharmaceutical R&D and the promotion of fair access to medicine worldwide. How should the EU promote innovation in the pharmaceutical sector while making existing cures available to those who need them most?

Submitted by:

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### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Deeply alarmed by the lack of access to medicines that affects 185 million people globally, 5 million of whom are Europeans<sup>33</sup>,
- B. Noting with regret the differences between healthcare systems across the European Union (EU) with the consequent disparities in both research and access to medicines,
- C. Taking into account that the patent application process leaves small margin for profit due to:
  - i. the length of the Research and Development (R&D) process taking approximately half of the 20 years of the patent validity,
  - ii. the complexity of the trials necessary to obtain the patent,
- D. Keeping in mind that the current patent system limits the exchange of research and the creation of generic drugs,
- E. Bearing in mind that pharmaceutical companies are not stimulated to invest up to EUR 2 billion for the risky R&D process of a new drug<sup>34</sup>, leading to the majority of drugs in the clinical pipeline having no added value<sup>35</sup>,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> European Parliament (2016), EU Options for Improving Access to Medicines

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development (2014), Report on R&D.

no added value drugs have small variations from the original versions of the drug with low development cost and therefore represent an investment with small risk and higher profits.





- F. Concerned about the lack of transparency and clear reports of clinical trials results,
- G.Noting with deep concern that certain drugs that fall under prescription law in some Member States can be bought as non-prescription drugs in others,
- H. Recognising that excessive usage of antibiotics without prescription contributes to increased antimicrobial resistance, which causes 25,000 deaths per year in the EU<sup>36</sup>;

### **Accessibility**

- 1. Invites Member States to adjust prices of non-prescription drugs proportionally to the buyers' income;
- 2. Calls for the Member States to introduce taxation benefits for their private companies that participate in the Medicine Patent Pool<sup>37</sup>;
- 3. Asks for the creation of drug research incubators to be used in situations of medical emergency, with the participation of private companies, experts and universities;
- 4. Calls for the European Medicines Agency (EMA)<sup>38</sup> to shorten the approval time of drugs under certain emergency circumstances such as epidemics, leaving their approval exclusively to EMA itself and not to Member States;

### Patents and innovation

- 5. Invites the European Patent Office (EPO)<sup>39</sup> to:
  - c. establish the length of patents from 5 to 10 years for follow-up drugs, depending on the level of modification from the original drug,
  - d. introduce the possibility to extend the patent of new drugs from maximum 25 to 30 years, as long as Member States reduce the price in the last 5 years to a market price determined by EU market sector analysts,
  - e. share existing clinical trial data of drugs with companies that invest in the R&D of same class drugs;
- 6. Endorses the creation of an independent agency composed of clinical and pharmaceutical experts in order to guarantee and supervise fair and clear trial processes;

Medicine Patent Pool is an United Nations-backed public health organisation working to increase access to HIV, hepatitis C and tuberculosis treatments in low and middle income countries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> European Commission (2017), AMR Factsheet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> the European Medicines Agency ensures the efficiency, quality and safety of drugs available in the EU.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> The European Patent Office is responsible for the approval of patent applications in the EU.





7. Instructs the Member States to increase the percentage of its European Health Programme<sup>40</sup> fund to be used for the research and development of innovative drugs;

#### **Antimicrobial resistance**

- 8. Proposes the implementation of awareness campaigns in schools, workplaces and social networks regarding the danger of antibiotics misuse and antimicrobial resistance;
- 9. Suggests to all Member States to unify their list of mandatory prescription drugs.

 $<sup>^{40}</sup>$  The EU Health Program (2014-2020) is a funding instrument of the European Commission that ensures the protection of human health across the EU.





### THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY (ITRE)

Big green city life. Following the 7<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme the EU has been committed to the promotion of smart and green cities by 2020, however only the north of Europe is promoting efficiently this evolution. How can the EU tap into upcoming technological and social innovations to ensure that urban development is socially just and environmentally sustainable in every Member State?

Submitted by:

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### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Affirming the impact corruption, especially in the construction sector<sup>41</sup>, and lobbying by stakeholders have on the legislation on green policies,
- B. Aware of the lack of cooperation and communication between European Commission, Member States and the local authorities,
- C. Acknowledging that Member States do not effectively manage EU funds,
- D. Gravely concerned by the disparities among the economical zones within the EU,
- E. Fully aware that there is a lack of urban planning policies for the natural disasters related to climate change,
- F. Bearing in mind that overpopulation and the destruction of green areas are aggravated due to ineffective urban planning,
- G. Concerned by the high levels of air and noise pollution in urban areas,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> <u>University of California at Los Angeles and University of Bologna, (2005), Corruption and management of public works in Italy</u>





- H. Deeply conscious of the inadequacy of sustainable public transport,
- I. Conscious of the low levels of Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF)<sup>42</sup> in countries in the South of Europe, resulting in water waste, high energy consumption, mass waste disposal<sup>43</sup>,
- J. Further acknowledging the unexploited potential of renewable natural resources in countries in the South of Europe, such as solar energy,<sup>44</sup>
- K. Taking into account that most of Europe's non-renewable energy is imported,45
- L. Acknowledging the necessity to raise public awareness on sustainable urban environment;

### **Policy**

- 2. Encourages the European Commission to establish communication and supervisory departments in each Member State that would be tasked with:
  - a. improvement of the communication between European Commission, Member States and the urban authorities on green planning,
  - b. ensuring an adequate management of resources and funds for green projects;
- 3. Appeals to the European Commission to facilitate access to funds for green urban development;

#### **Awareness**

4. Calls upon Member States to introduce QR codes<sup>46</sup> in public spaces and public information points, educating citizens on environmental issues;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Eurostat, (2016), Share of final energy consumption in the residential sector by type of end-use

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> GFCF is a formation that represents how much of the countries GDP is spent on physically improving existing assets (for example re-doing the pipes in a building), purchasing new assets (equipment, machines), or constructing tangible items such as roads, railways, houses or buildings. Low level of GFCF may result in water waste, high energy consumption, mass waste disposal, congestions, etc.

<sup>44</sup> An assessment of the regional potential for solar power generation in EU-28,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> The European Commission's science and knowledge service, (2016), Energy security strategy, European Commission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> OR code is a machine-readable optical label that contains information about the item to which it is attached.





- Suggests the Member States implement curricular and extracurricular activities and social media campaigns raising awareness on environmental sustainability;
- Requests Member States to create public websites with concise and userfriendly reports on policies and public projects on the topic of urban development;

#### **Infrastructure**

- 7. Urges the European Commission to direct more of the Cohesion funds<sup>47</sup> towards the exploitation of renewable natural resources in the countries in the South of Europe, by funding the constructions of solar panels, geothermal stations and windmill farms;
- 8. Requests the European Commission to increase funds of the SUSREG<sup>48</sup> project that promotes further education of urban planners;
- Further encourages the European Commission to provide additional funds for construction of accessible green and smart transportation systems;
- 10. Strongly recommends local authorities to construct earthquake sensors, adequate river banks, and fireproof foundations;
- 11. Invites Member States to incentivise clean energy, recycling, sustainable transportation, and waste management initiatives;
- 12. Further invites the Member States and local authorities to strive for better management of waste disposal and to take advantage of existing technologies such as SEaB energy;<sup>49</sup>
- 13. Strongly suggests European Commission create a Europe-wide public transport application, that would:
  - a. allow buying and validating tickets,

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 $<sup>^{47}</sup>$  Cohesion fund is aimed at Member States whose gross national income per inhabitant is less than 90% of the EU average.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> SUSREG is a project stimulating the use of sustainable energy resources and energy efficient methods in urban and regional planning by improving knowledge, skills and attitudes of professional urban planners at regional authorities, local organisations and national associations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> SEaB is a company developing waste-to-energy technology that turns organic waste into energy at the point where the waste is produced and the energy is required.





- b. provide the timetable and location of the vehicle;
- 14. Strongly encourages Directorate General for Environment<sup>50</sup> to promote the implementation of sustainable heating and cooling systems, rooftop gardens, solar panels, and similar sustainable systems;
- 15. Calls upon the Member States to create limited traffic zones in city centres restricting non-residential private vehicles;
- 16. Asks the Member States to facilitate the advancement of green vehicles by:
  - a. financing the demolition of fuel-powered vehicles,
  - b. increasing the taxation of non-sustainable vehicles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup>The Directorate-General for Environment is the European Commission department responsible for EU policy on the environment. It aims to protect, preserve and improve the environment for present and future generations, proposing and implementing policies that ensure a high level of environmental protection and preserve the quality of life of EU citizens.





### THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM (TRAN)

Driving towards the future. With driverless cars becoming ready for use on roads and a global economic potential of EUR 120 billion in connected vehicles equipment - hard and software -, what measures should the EU take regarding autonomous cars, whilst taking into account road safety and the potential for the EU to become a leader in driverless technology?

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#### The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Concerned by European citizens' reluctance towards self-driving vehicles,
- B. Noting the problem of road safety caused by the coexistence of autonomous and traditional vehicles,
- C. Concerned by the poor maintenance of Europe's transport network and the absence of sufficient road infrastructure for autonomous cars in most Member States,
- D. Noting with deep regret that 2.4 million<sup>51</sup> European citizens are injured every year in road accidents,
- E. Taking into consideration that the human factor accounts for up to 90% of car accidents<sup>52</sup>.
- F. Alarmed by autonomous driving system's vulnerability to cyber-attacks, leading to:
  - i. leak of personal information,

<sup>51</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) European Region (2004), <u>Preventing road traffic injury; a public health</u> perspective for Europe, Abstract

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation (2015), Traffic Safety Facts, p. 1





- ii. privacy breaches,
- iii. potential hijack of a vehicle's functions,
- G. Realising the non-existence of a European computing cloud containing information on updates, traffic management and system functions for autonomous vehicles,
- H. Deeply concerned by the lack of harmonised legislation in the EU regarding the liability between parties in case of road accidents involving autonomous vehicles.
- I. Alarmed by the absence of standards for the safety of autonomous vehicles on the EU level,
- J. Having examined that Article 8 of Vienna Convention on Road Traffic<sup>53</sup> is outdated and does not include any reference concerning autonomous vehicles,
- K. Acknowledging the negative effect that autonomous vehicles might have on employment of drivers,
- L. Having considered that the cost of road traffic injuries to society is estimated to be 2%<sup>54</sup> of EU's gross domestic product (GDP<sup>55</sup>),
- M. Ascertaining the necessity of infrastructures that will provide access to electrical energy for self-driving vehicles, as they are expected to be mostly electric;

### **Legal Framework**

- 1. Calls upon the Global Forum on Road Traffic Safety<sup>56</sup> to amend the Vienna Convention, so as to:
  - a. redefine the term "driver",
  - b. enable autonomous vehicles on public roads;
- 2. Calls upon the European Commission to follow the example of Germany and Sweden and enact autonomous car legislation for the Member States;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (1968), <u>The Vienna Convention on Road Traffic</u>, p.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) European Region (2004), <u>Preventing road traffic injury; a public health</u> perspective for Europe, p. 19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Gross domestic product (GDP) is the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Global Forum on road Traffic Safety is an intergovernmental body established by the UNECE in order to prevent road accidents.





### Infrastructure & Technology

- 3. Calls upon the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA<sup>57</sup>) of the European Commission to cooperate with the European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA) to:
  - a. set the standards of the necessary asphalt infrastructures,
  - b. supervise the preservation of the standards;
- 4. Asks INEA to allocate funds to the Member States in order to meet the aforementioned requirements;
- 5. Urges the automotive industry to focus on researching and developing vehicles of the fourth level of automotivity rather than the third level, as the latter is more hazardous for road safety;
- 6. Calls upon INEA to establish a computing cloud in order for the self-driving vehicles to be informed about road circulation among European territory;

### Safety and Security

- 7. Asks the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA<sup>58</sup>) to:
  - a. focus on furthering research on driverless systems,
  - b. establish cyber security requirements;
- 8. Requests that data collected by autonomous vehicles be encrypted by the manufacturers as defined in Article 6 of the General Data Protection Regulation<sup>59</sup>;
- 9. Strongly recommends the automotive industry to provide every autonomous vehicle with a black box, which will record the computing data of the vehicle, so as to determine which part is responsible in case of an accident;

<sup>57</sup> The Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) is an agency established by the European Commission and is in charge of all open TEN-T projects. The projects represent all transport modes – air, rail, road, and maritime/sea – plus logistics and intelligent transport systems, and involve all EU Member States.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> The European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) is a centre of expertise for cyber security in Europe. The Agency works closely together with Members States and private sector to deliver advice and solutions contributing to a high level of network and information security.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a regulation in EU law on data protection and privacy for all individuals within the European Union. It addresses the export of personal data outside the EU. The GDPR aims primarily to give control to citizens and residents over their personal data and to simplify the regulatory environment for international business by unifying the regulation within the EU.





#### Social

- 10. Invites the European institutions to promote through their communication channels autonomous vehicles in order to give European citizens information on the benefits of driverless technology;
- 11. Encourages the automotive industries to organise exhibitions that promote the autonomous driving, especially in the less technologically advanced Member States;
- 12. Calls upon the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) of the European Parliament to tackle the issue of potential job losses in the transport industry.







Commissione europea Rappresentanza a Milano



## **PATRONAGES**

