



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT
ITALIA ITALY



Resolution Booklet

NSCMILANO'24



Resolution Booklet //

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION (CULT II)

Roots of the Land: Repatriation is the return of cultural property, often referring to ancient or looted art, to their country of origin or former owners. In May 2013, an estimated 85-90% of museum artefacts did not have documented provenance. What can the European Union do to create a just and ethically fair artistic ownership landscape?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to make repatriation processes and the ownership of cultural goods fair and ethical, respecting both the current and the original owners. Acknowledging that art and historical artefact theft have troubled us throughout history, it wants to achieve a fair future where a culture's heritage is in the right place, while also ensuring the safety of cultural goods. Additionally, it aims to share cultures while maintaining each country's local traditions and identities. This will be done by improving the security of transport of cultural goods, by a deep analysis of the current EU legislation, and by appropriately adapting them,

because

- There is a lack of EU legislative unity in terms of regulating the security [and repatriation of art](#), even though some Member States follow international laws such as the United Nations resolutions like “[Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin](#)”,
- [Events like wars](#) are when most thefts [of culturally relevant artefacts](#) take place, greatly obstructing the cultural growth of countries, such as in [the Ottoman Empire's conquering of Greece](#),



- There is a general [lack of knowledge](#) of the cultural heritage present in cities and countries which devalues the emotional, social and traditional importance of ownership,
- The financial discrepancy between Member States stops some of them from being able to [guarantee the security and integrity of their art](#),
- [Concerns are being raised](#) by the source countries about the ability of museums to properly explain and convey the culture that their artefacts represent,
- Source countries often [do not have the infrastructure](#) with enough physical space to withstand the repatriation,
- Member States requesting repatriation are extremely disadvantaged due to the current [Directive on the return of cultural objects unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State](#) applying only for a limited period of time¹ since the items' dislocation from the country of origin,
- There are large discrepancies [between the laws that ruled times](#) when art was stolen and current laws, resulting in political conflict among countries,
- History has proven that the [transportation](#) of artefacts from their new lodgings to the places where they originated from [can be perilous](#)

by

1. Requiring the European Commission to create structured guidelines that define the conditions in which states can ask for artefacts back and the procedures required to do so;
2. Strongly suggesting that [Europa Nostra](#) organises workshops in all of Europe to promote national heritage on the 15th of April – International Art Day;
3. Encouraging the Directorate-General on Budget ([DG BUDG](#)) to allocate [CulturEU Funding](#) to make the artistic landscape more fair and equal between countries by:
 - a. building bigger facilities,
 - b. raising awareness and educating people,
 - c. organising campaigns to eliminate the trade of artworks for individualistic reasons and to encourage a sense of duty and responsibility towards the art;

¹ This **period of time** is 30 years for privately owned items and 75 for publicly owned ones.



4. Encouraging museums to make the experience more innovative, interesting, and ethically transparent by:
 - a. involving experts during several exhibitions, who would explain the significance of the artefacts,
 - b. employing technological methods such as videos, pictures and virtual reality to make the experience more inclusive, interesting and interactive;
5. Encouraging the artwork owners to employ preventive measures, such as extinguishing systems or durable glass, to protect property against risks during conflicts, such as fire or collapse of buildings, similar to the measures in the Vatican²;
6. Suggesting that the European Commission directly aids Member States who are receiving artefacts by allocating part of the [CulturEU Funding](#) to ensure the quality of the facilities, a safe environment for the art to be put in, and to guarantee the needed maintenance;
7. Encouraging museums that are not big enough to withstand repatriation to use technology, such as augmented reality, holograms, and physical scale models to temporarily substitute artefacts;
8. Asking the European Commission to propose increasing the number of years in which it is possible to take legal action to 110 years to match the date of the start of World War 1;
9. Imploring the [European Investment Bank](#) to streamline private funds into the art transportation industry, including the development of security measures and safety measures for the artefacts and artwork that need transportation;
10. Asking the Directorate-General for Digital Services ([DG DIGIT](#)) to create a central database to track the movements of cultural goods, which will be controlled and checked to ensure that they are licit and legally correct;
11. Introducing a regulation on the transportation of cultural goods by:
 - a. creating courses for those involved in the process to learn the best way to handle the goods, be educated about their fragility, and limit the number of accidents,

² These [measures](#) are guaranteeing the safety of art displayed throughout the Vatican through stringent security checks and state-of-the-art anti-carbon-dioxide technology.



- b. funding the technological advancement in means of transport used to transfer the artefacts such as technologies that stabilise products travelling inside moving vehicles.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS (ECON)

Breaking the Rural Code: Despite abundant potential, rural areas struggle to nurture innovative startups due to resource constraints and limited access to digital tools. What strategies can empower rural entrepreneurs, boost economic prospects, and leverage the unique strengths of rural sectors like agriculture, tourism, and energy through rural entrepreneurship?

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The European Youth Parliament strives to empower rural communities by reducing the digital divide, developing new infrastructure, and encouraging local enterprises to foster rural entrepreneurship. Furthermore, it seeks to connect rural and urban areas by developing new, sustainable startups, allowing these regions to thrive, prosper, and give a better lifestyle to their citizens,

because

- Despite [technological development](#), there persists a difference in Europe between rural, peri-urban³, and urban areas,
- The [polarisation](#) between rural and urban areas is a complex socio-economic phenomenon marked by disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and infrastructure,
- [The lack of transportation](#) and connectivity in rural areas hinders the movement of equipment and services, posing challenges for both entrepreneurship and the residents of these regions,
- The absence of adequate infrastructure in rural areas within the EU has [widened the gap](#) between affluent and disadvantaged regions, hindering tourism and obstructing the development of rural economies,
- The digital gap in rural areas hinders access to [essential services](#) and blocks rural entrepreneurs from improving their businesses,

³ **Peri-urban** refers to mix of rural and and urban features.



- The prominence of the quaternary sector⁴ in rural Europe [is comparatively lower](#) than in urban regions primarily due to the predominant influence of the primary sector,
- A vast [32%](#) of European rural entrepreneurship lacks financial and digital skills, further slowing down the ability of rural populations to grow their businesses,
- Economic contribution in rural areas is affected by age-related [demographic changes](#) that lead to a lack of demand and skilled labour force,
- Rural areas lack adequate funding and development, and [compensatory education programmes](#) within them often lag behind those in urban areas,
- With digital services dominating the current market trends, rural entrepreneurs are [lacking behind](#) with both digitalisation and the pioneering of new business models centred on innovative products and processes,
- [Rural businesses](#) are restricted in their geographical location, which limits their capacities to reach customers and establish themselves in the EU market,
- Rural communities do not have the same approach to the digital transformation of urban areas and are [isolated from credible information](#) about improving and empowering economic opportunities in the area,

by

1. Calling upon the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport ([DG MOVE](#)) to support Member States in expanding and improving rural area connection by:
 - a. building and renovating transport infrastructure, including roads and railways, bridges and tunnels for more remote areas,
 - b. expanding and making public transport affordable for residents of rural areas;
2. Reminding the European Commission of its comprehensive [long-term plan for EU rural areas](#), aimed at addressing infrastructure challenges by:
 - a. investing in broadband access,
 - b. improving transportation networks,
 - c. empowering local communities through capacity-building initiatives;
3. Encouraging telecommunication companies to prioritise laying wirelines in rural and peri-urban areas for enhanced connectivity;

⁴ **Quaternary sector** is a sector of the economy centred on knowledge-based activities such as research, technology, education, and information services.



4. Recommending the European Commission to strengthen and further enhance the [Digital Europe Programme](#) by providing significant subsidies to rural entrepreneurs in Member States to streamline the digitalisation process;
5. Incentivising national internet providers to improve the accessibility of [broadband internet](#)⁵ in rural areas;
6. Calling upon local municipalities to promote programs like “[WiFi4EU](#)”, which supports the creation of free Wi-Fi hotspots in public spaces throughout the EU, particularly in rural communities;
7. Advising Directorate-General of Agriculture and Rural Development ([DG AGRI](#)) to implement targeted training in business skills, technology, and digital literacy through publicly-owned facilities in rural areas;
8. Requesting Member States to explore the adoption of [vertical farming](#) by:
 - a. [reducing the need for food imports](#) and fostering local economic development,
 - b. creating self-sustaining food systems,
 - c. mitigating fluctuations in [labour demands](#);
9. Urging the European Commission to enhance and strengthen the measures taken in the Digital Europe Programme ([DEP](#)) such as real-world implementation projects and the creation of free training programs that aim to teach rural entrepreneurs the basics of digital literacy;
10. Calling upon the European Commission to strengthen the [Rural Pact](#) to further enhance and foster the connection between all relevant stakeholders to create [local digital hubs](#) and [bio-districts](#) where farmers, tourism operators, and public authorities enter a cooperative environment;
11. Proposing the DG AGRI to further promote the [Green Deal](#) in rural areas, thus helping to preserve local resources and the environment;
12. Directing the Directorate-General on Regional and Urban Policy Addressing ([REGIO](#)) to utilise the existing [Startup Village Forum](#) to further facilitate knowledge exchange between relevant stakeholders;
13. Urging the European Education and Culture Executive Agency ([EACEA](#)) to develop an ordered framework of scholarships aimed at physically disadvantaged rural students;
14. Invoking the European Investment Fund ([EIF](#)) to increment trust of the banks towards rural startups by:

⁵ **Broadband internet** refers to high-speed internet access that is faster and more sufficient than traditional connection.



- a. fostering the collaboration among public entities, financial institutions, and private investors that can create funds for investments in rural startups or matchmaking events between entrepreneurs and investors,
 - b. providing fiscal incentives for investments in rural startups to attract more investors and bolster the flow of capital into these areas, providing tax credits or fiscal advantages,
 - c. creating a digital platform linking rural startups with banks, supported by institutions like the EC and the European Investment Bank ([EIB](#)), aligning with the EU's Digital Single Market strategy for economic competitiveness;
15. Calling upon the European Commission to mitigate numerous problems that push rural areas back and work to find plausible solutions by:
 - a. investing and improving digital and physical infrastructure,
 - b. supporting agricultural and regional development through programmes like the [Common Agricultural Policy](#) and their [strategic plans](#),
 - c. [empowering communities](#) by delivering social services for disadvantaged groups, as well as fostering connections between rural and urban entrepreneurs;
16. Prompting greater transparency in the local action groups, such as the [LEADER](#) programme to be more accessible to rural entrepreneurs;
17. Advising Member States to promote media literacy through community workshops, [fact-checking networks](#), and partnerships with local leaders and educational institutions.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AGRI)

O Farmer, Where Art Thou?: Recent actions by Europe to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 have caused the collapse of a vast amount of small farms, which account for 82% of Europe's farmland. Small agricultural businesses are already faced with hard accessibility to the global market due to giant manufacturers, now their economic stability is even more in question. Since around 86 million people are employed in this sector, what can the EU do to improve the state of this industry, while still striving to achieve the Green Deal?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to achieve a stable relationship between our planet and the people that cultivate it. Following policies like the European Green Deal, it strives to achieve the fundamental ecological transition fair and economically sustainable by tackling the obstacles small farms and the younger generation of farmers face. It focuses on providing clear guidelines and stability and rethinking investments in the agricultural sector, delivering a promising future both in terms of the environment and EU citizens,

because

- European small farmers are disadvantaged by unfair price competition, caused by a [lack of agricultural laws concerning quality](#) and standards in non-EU countries,
- Only a minority of small farmers have the [opportunity to sell their products in the local markets](#), thus creating [no direct connection between local producers and consumers](#),
- Rural areas by comparison with urban areas are not being modernised enough with the required knowledge and technology, thus being the reason for [depopulation](#) and [under-education of farmers](#),
- Farmers are struggling to implement the [European Green Deal](#) measures due to the bureaucracy of the process,
- Farmers' protests demonstrate an overwhelming sense of dissatisfaction across Europe and their distrust in current national governments,



- Owners of [small farms](#) are threatened by [dumping](#)⁶, caused by the [free trade agreements with several nations outside of the Eurozone](#), and the duty-free imports from Eastern Europe,
- There is a substantial discrepancy between the requirements and the technical capabilities of the [production and usage of chemical fertilisers](#), as seen in their price surge which became [6% more expensive due to the war in Ukraine](#),
- The inequality in the distribution of subsidies privileges bigger farms that are less in need, as the subsidies' distribution is proportional to the size of the farm,
- Taking into consideration that giant manufacturing lobbies push forward the interests of large farmers in EU governance, further disadvantaging smaller farmers who are often misrepresented by the EU, as highlighted by the recent farmer protests,
- Farmers are pushed to use more fertilisers, due to the intensive use of soil, resulting in impoverished soil, creating a vicious cycle that disadvantages smaller farmers,
- The yield and economic stability of farmers are negatively affected by meteorological catastrophes, which contributed to [EUR 12 billion worth of damage in 2022 and 2023](#),

by

1. Proposing the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development ([DG AGRI](#)) to protect and increase the competitiveness of small farmers' products by:
 - a. adjusting the policies of the free trade agreements, without abolishing duties on imports of agricultural products in the agreements with the Mercosur bloc⁷, Australia, New Zealand, and Vietnam,
 - b. reintroducing duties on agricultural imports from Ukraine,
 - c. suggesting the Member States decrease the taxes on the products of small farms;
2. Urging the Directorate-General for Trade ([DG TRADE](#)) to match EU's general food standards for all imported goods, such as a food label scheme showcasing its CO2 footprint and country of origin;
3. Asking the Directorate-General for Climate Action ([DG CLIMA](#)) to support farmers in facing the effects of climate change, by:
 - a. establishing a fund and a related system of "crop insurance" aimed at offsetting the economic losses farmers suffer due to climate alteration and extreme events,

⁶ **Dumping** is the practice of a country or company exporting a product at a price that is lower in the foreign importing market than the price in the exporter's domestic market.

⁷ **Mercosur** is a South American trade bloc consisting of most South American states in either full or associate capacity, with the exception of Venezuela, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Guyana and Suriname.



- b. financially promoting the adoption of sustainable innovations that lower vulnerability to climate events, such as vertical agriculture⁸ and indoor agriculture,
 - c. investing in scientific research about adaptation to climate change in the agricultural sector;
 4. Furthering the impact of non-governmental organisations such as [IFOAM organics Europe](#) in creating and spreading courses educating farmers on new agricultural techniques, providing a certification label on their products after the completion of the course;
 5. Encouraging the European Economic and Social Committee ([EESC](#)) in collaboration with the Ministers of Agriculture on a national level, to establish regular conferences with representatives of small farms to cultivate a trustworthy environment;
 6. Encouraging the European Investment Bank ([EIB](#)) and the [European Agricultural Guarantee Fund](#) to increase investments in the research of affordable technologies and renewable energy sources to assist small farm owners in achieving the goals outlined in the European Green Deal;
 7. Asking Member States to encourage a closer connection between small farms and consumers, by:
 - a. Encouraging community-supported agriculture with more funds, media campaigns and sensitisation⁹ at school,
 - b. popularisation programme for small farm products,
 8. Directing the Directorate-General on Budget ([DG BUDG](#)) to modify [Common Agricultural Policy](#)'s funds distribution by:
 - a. ceasing to provide funds directly proportional to farms' surface and instead introducing a system in which the value of per-hectare subsidy decreases as the number of hectares of the farm increases, to help small farms and redistribute subsidies while maintaining the total amount constant,
 - b. increasing subsidies for farms that follow environmentally sustainable behaviours,
 - c. increasing subsidies for younger farm owners to incentivise younger participation in agriculture;
 9. Reducing the influence and interest of large farmers in EU governance by:
 - a. the improvement of existing and formation of new trade and workers' unions composed exclusively of small farms and workers,

⁸ **Vertical agriculture** is the practice of growing crops in vertically stacked layers, thus optimising crop yields and plant growth.

⁹ **Sensitisation** is process is a process of producing a feel of sensitivity towards a topic or issue.



- b. the creation of an investigative commission, appointed by the EU Parliament, to discover links between politicians and large farmers lobbies and neutralise the corruption in agriculture,
 - c. the reduction of lobbies' influential soft power by banning lobbyist fundraisers, limiting political campaign contributions and increasing transparency over their activities;
10. Asking the [Internal Audit Service](#) to streamline bureaucratic processes by:
 - a. simplifying regulations,
 - b. lowering the number of approval mechanisms,
 - c. making the CAP-imposed requirements less stringent,
 - d. creating a step-by-step guide on how to access finances with all relevant documentation,
 - e. granting more resources to the relevant public servants,
 - f. providing free legal counsel to smaller farmer's trade unions, necessary to help overcome the unequal distribution of subsidies;
11. Asking the [European Agricultural Guarantee Fund](#) to invest in developing and implementing sustainable agricultural practices, including alternatives to fertilisers such as **crop rotation**¹⁰, **cover crop**¹¹ and **precision farming techniques**¹².

¹⁰ **Crop rotation** is the practice of planting different crops sequentially on the same plot of land to improve soil health, optimize nutrients in the soil, and combat pest and weed pressure.

¹¹ **Cover crops** are plants that are planted to cover the soil rather than for the purpose of being harvested.

¹² **Precision farming** encapsulates practices that include technology and digital solutions in the agricultural sector.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS I (AFCO I)

Europe of Nations, Nations of Europe: As further European integration faces significant challenges in the shape of nationalist governments, lack of common identity, and weak level of collective engagement, how can the EU strengthen its internal soft power and consolidate its complex cultural union?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to affirm the common identity of its 27 Member States. It is committed to representing all minorities, countering nationalism and Euroscepticism. It supports European integration and promotes cultural union without losing its characteristic variety, a strong sense of identity, engagement and expansion. It positions diversity as a strength, ensuring a fair representation for all, and spreading the EU values as one united voice,

because

- Citizens struggle to feel a sense of belonging to the EU, given the many [cultural, language](#) and [religious barriers](#),
- The soft power¹³ of the EU has been [undermined](#) in recent years due to the frequent cultural and economic disputes and contrasts among Member States,
- The EU citizens consider the EU institutions [too distant and out of touch](#),
- The functions, uses, and structure of the EU and its institutions [are poorly](#) understood by the EU citizens,

¹³ **Soft power** can be defined as the power of political entity like a State based on its culture and its influence, its diplomatic weight



- The EU's efficiency is decreased by [bureaucracy](#) and its delay due to the mandatory multilingualism, as all documents need to be translated,
- The EU does not appear united in defence, security and energy policies, as seen in the case of Germany refusing [to cut all imports of Russian gas](#) during the Russian-Ukrainian War,
- [Students still experience a significant lack of attachment to European culture](#), despite the 2014 measure of adding a shared [European culture to scholastic](#) programmes,
- Currently, in seven Member States, the political parties considered to be [in the lead in public opinion polls](#) are far-right parties, out of which 3 are established in power,
- Ethnocultural minorities, which represent [5% to 20%](#) of the EU population, are discriminated against and undervalued,
- Seven Member States use currencies [other](#) than the euro, which weakens the unity of the EU,
- The legitimacy of the EU is hindered by corruption, as shown by the [Qatargate](#) case in 2022, but also still exists in many Member States,
- In the past years, Member States such as Hungary, Poland and Bulgaria openly went against European [values and policies](#) without sufficient penalties and repercussions,
- [Citizenship education](#) is not used at its full potential by any Member State,

by

1. Encouraging the European Education and Culture Executive Agency ([EACEA](#)) to improve debate around religion and culture different from the dominant ones in schools, social media and TV;
2. Further encouraging the EACEA to finance and increase the number of [European schools](#)¹⁴;
3. Calling upon the Directorate-General on Education, Youth, Sports and Culture ([DG EAC](#)) to set up a festivity that would occur once every six months to promote a randomly selected Member State's culture, traditions and customs;
4. Suggesting that [European Institution of Culture Routes](#) enhances programmes on culture by:
 - a. promoting their benefits through media campaigns on social networks,
 - b. creating assistance tutoring programmes such as with previous [Erasmus+](#) project participants;
5. Asking the [Directorate-General of Migration and Home Affairs \(DG HOME\)](#) to encourage all the Member States to accelerate Cyprus' admission to the [Schengen treaty](#), as the only Member State not being a part of it;

¹⁴ **European Schools** are schools oriented through multilingualism and multiculturalism originally dedicated to the children of EU Staff.



6. Proposing to the European Commission to streamline translation requirements of bureaucratic processes in case of problems of immediate and urgent interest;
7. Encouraging Member States to unify their stance on international affairs, including on global conflicts, making sure the EU as a whole acts in its interest;
8. Requesting the [European Central Bank](#) to introduce a tax on currency conversion between other national currencies and the euro;
9. Pressing DG EAC to finance programmes protecting and preserving traditions, such as the [Creative Europe programme](#), [Erasmus+](#), and [Europe for citizens](#);
10. Further pressing DG EAC to adopt new guidelines for citizenship education that will include an overview of the EU's history, institutions, benefits, and values;
11. Requesting the DG EAC to encourage all Member States to do an annual in-school survey on general EU knowledge for all students aged 14 and 17 as part of the citizenship education program;
12. Urging the DG EAC to promote cultural initiatives, such as but not limited to conferences and language courses, in school to make young people more aware of cultural diversity in Europe;
13. Demanding the Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion ([DG EMPL](#)) to provide representation in workers' organisations for minorities;
14. Asking the Directorate-General for Communication ([DG COMM](#)) to improve and promote the Euronews network, to increase the number of viewers;
15. Inviting the Member States to establish a minimum number of Members of the European Parliament to represent their minorities proportionally;
16. Imploring that an Ethics Body of the European Parliament be created to check and control the behaviour of all Member States' representatives.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS (AFCO II)

Voting for the Future: With the 2019 European elections witnessing an unprecedented 50.6 % in voter turnout, thanks to initiatives aimed at boosting youth participation, and the 2024 elections on the horizon, the EU and its Member States are at a pivotal juncture. As they seek to further enhance democratic engagement and build trust in the political process, what innovative strategies could be employed to increase political participation across all demographics?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to decrease youth abstention from voting by unifying and harmonising the elections system all across the European Union. It wishes to support active political participation among young Europeans. Moreover, it wants to foster the modernisation of the EU administration and increase voting turnout, making the electoral process accessible to all citizens. Finally, it aims to educate European students about the importance of active citizenship,

because

- Approximately [30%](#) of people in the EU do not identify as its citizens and [21%](#) of Europeans have a negative perception of the EU,
- Citizens show less interest in EU elections compared to national elections as per the [second-order elections theory](#)¹⁵, which has been well-demonstrated by the [2019 electoral turnout](#),
- The upcoming June 2024 elections will be subjected to the [increasing influence of fake news](#) and disinformation spread through social media,
- There is significant disharmonisation between Member States regarding the minimum voting age, due to [Article 8](#) of the European Electoral Act giving Member States the liberty to decide their voting age,

¹⁵ **Second-order elections theory** states that EU elections are considered to be of secondary importance to voters, in comparison to national elections, which are also known as first-order elections.



- Despite the [recent increase](#) in voter turnout, the youngest demographic is still the least participating, lagging behind the older population by a [considerable margin](#) of 12%,
- The youth in the European Parliament is highly under-represented since the average age of MEPs is [49.5](#) and only [6%](#) of all MEPs are under the age of 30, while one in five Europeans is between the ages of 18 and 35,
- Young people face barriers such as [over-elaborated language and lack of representation](#) in joining political parties, even though they exhibit interest in engaging in politics,
- Data protection and web security render [e-voting](#) unsecured due to technological errors, potential frauds and issues with maintaining voter anonymity and personal data security,
- Education significantly impacts election turnouts, as stated by a [survey](#) conducted in the UK, with 81% of citizens holding a degree voting, whereas only 68% of those with just a secondary school education engage in the elections,
- People who suffer from disabilities [feel disenfranchised](#) from voting,
- [Approximately 800,000](#) European citizens suffering from various disabilities cannot exercise their vote due to the lack of accessible infrastructure and misinformation about specific electoral procedures,
- High voting abstention rates are linked to hostility, corruption and lack of trust towards European political matters, especially in Eastern European countries such as [Bulgaria, Slovakia and the Czech Republic](#),

by

1. Calling upon Member States' Ministries of Education to further develop civics education curricula as a stand-alone subject with emphasis on active citizenship;
2. Inviting the Directorate-General for Digital Services ([DG DIGIT](#)) to improve the existing digital project [Together EU](#) by:
 - a. creating interactive educational online platforms containing videos and reliable information about the elections,
 - b. organising online workshops,
 - c. promoting EU elections on social media;
3. Asking the European Commission to modify the European Electoral Act to unify the voting system and set up a two-day voting holiday¹⁶;
4. Urging the European Commission to issue a proposal for a harmonised voting age across all Member States being set to 16, to enhance youth participation and political engagement;

¹⁶ **Two-day voting holiday** is an European-wide period of suspension of work, study, or other activities, dedicated to voting in the European elections.



5. Implementing a youth quota in the European Parliament based on the share of youth in the whole population to increase youth representation in the EU decision-making processes;
6. Calling on Member States to collaborate on harmonising the minimum age to run in elections across all European Union at 18;
7. Directing the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity ([ENISA](#)) and European Union Institute for Security Studies ([EUISS](#)) to collaborate on simplifying the implementation of e-voting while consistently protecting EU citizens's digital identities;
8. Asking the European Education and Culture Executive Agency ([EACEA](#)) to further streamline financial support to projects directly related to citizenship education such as [Erasmus+](#) and [Jean Monnet programme](#);
9. Imploring the European Commission to draft Directive on accessible voting with respect to:
 - a. the general accessibility of voting facilities and polling stations,
 - b. harmonising support systems from the EU at the Member State level,
 - c. mandating tools such as magnifiers, audio descriptors and braille alternatives at every polling station;
10. Urging the Member States to introduce e-voting as a measure of guaranteeing all citizens have the right to vote regardless of physical or social status, following [the example of Estonia](#);
11. Calling on DG DIGIT, to set up a new platform where all political parties running for European elections are required to transparently provide all necessary details about their campaigns such as their policy positions and campaign finances;
12. Further calling upon DG DIGIT to design an app dedicated to providing feedback about European political procedures;
13. Directing DG Digit to consistently maintain and develop the existing EU-owned website "[What Europe Does for Me](#)".



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY (ENVI)

Blinding Lights: Street lighting has actively reduced crime rates in urban areas since the advent of the light bulb. 19% of the world is blanketed by light pollution despite local fauna and human sleep relying on the daily light/dark cycle. What can the European Union do to limit light pollution's impact in the near future?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to overall reduce light pollution as a way of preserving ecosystems and human well-being. It plans to achieve this by transitioning towards a more sustainable and energy-efficient lighting system. Moreover, it believes that a common legal framework will be a great asset to achieving a joint solution among Member States in the near future,

because

- Major [discrepancies](#) in lighting legislation exist across the Member States,
- The sky visibility and astronomical observation [are being affected](#) by skyglow,
- There is no [scientific consensus](#) on acceptable thresholds of harmful brightness nor of ideal light-bulb efficiency,
- The last areas completely unpolluted by light are in [Siberia](#), the Sahara desert and the Amazon rainforest,
- [Clutter](#) is the most distracting form of light pollution for humans,
- Misinformation about light pollution is still present among European citizens despite the existence of various public awareness campaigns such as [STARS4ALL](#),
- The leakage of light and energy waste is a direct result of the poor [design](#) of current light systems,
- The transition to more eco-sustainable types of lighting methods produces significant amounts of waste and pollutes the environment,



- Light pollution [negatively affects](#) the behaviour of various animals, making them more susceptible to predators,
- Excessive and intense exposure to artificial lighting has been linked to an increase in [chronic physical disorders](#) and mental illnesses,
- Light pollution in rural and remote areas is a direct consequence of the introduction of [LEDs](#) and the increased density of such lighting solutions,
- There is an annual production of [23.6 billion kg of CO2](#) caused by the use and overproduction of low-efficiency light bulbs;

by

1. Delegating the Directorate-General on the Environment ([DG ENVI](#)) to make a list of the most polluting materials contained in outdated light bulbs and restrict their usage to help recycling and efficiency-improving efforts;
2. Urging Member States to implement and safeguard specific protected areas where animal behaviour would not be influenced by light pollution, by:
 - a. legislating light-free zones where complete darkness would be ensured,
 - b. introducing periodical check-ins by volunteers and local authorities;
3. Recommending the DG ENVI to collaborate with the [Dark Sky Association](#) to discover, set and establish commonly shared [Correlated Colour Temperature](#) thresholds for defining light-polluted areas following the example of the [French legislation](#)¹⁷;
4. Urging Member States to implement and safeguard specific protected areas where animal behaviour would not be influenced by light pollution, by:
 - a. legislating light-free zones where complete darkness would be ensured,
 - b. introducing periodical check-ins by volunteers and local authorities;
5. Inviting the Member States to tackle the problem and consequences directly connected with the presence of clutters by:
 - a. recognising an agreed maximum to define what clutter is, such as [lux](#)¹⁸,
 - b. implementing legislation on clutters, particularly by making lighting over a certain threshold illegal,
 - c. creating and installing AI-powered sensor-based control systems for public LED advertising billboards to sustainably manage their brightness,

¹⁷ The **French legislation** aims to reduce light pollution by specifying requirements for the design and operations of outdoor lightning and regulations for public and private property owners.

¹⁸ **LUX** Unit of illumination, also equivalent to the illumination that would exist on a surface all points of which are one metre from a point source of one international candle (candela). One lux is equal to 0.0929 foot-candle.



- d. enhancing regulations for shops and commercial activities, such as imposing them to shut down their lights after closure by following the [French example](#);
6. Asking the European Space Agency ([ESA](#)) to update the already-existing European light-pollution map and to monitor light-polluted areas where lighting is unnecessary;
7. Asking the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety ([DG SANTE](#)) to consider adding light pollution habits as criteria for annual citizens' health check-ups;
8. Appeals the Directorate-General Research & Innovation ([DG RTD](#)) to legislate common adoption of [anti-glare](#) lights with innovative designs such as prismatic diffusers¹⁹ or anti-glare films²⁰;
9. Stressing the need for all Member States to modernise their public lighting systems by:
 - a. making the presence of shields²¹ mandatory for all public lighting lamps,
 - b. investing in new AI lighting systems capable of automatically turning on and off as well as dimming themselves down based on movement,
 - c. mandating technicians such as electricians, architects and engineers to follow the [Rolan Manifesto](#)²² and participate in workshops about new sustainable lighting systems;
10. Inviting the European Commission to put forward a new Directive on light pollution focusing on:
 - a. setting commonly agreed limits regarding the efficiency and intensity of light sources to prohibit their sale if said thresholds are not met,
 - b. establishing international metrics to quantify light pollution properly;
11. Directing the DG ENVI to propose policies which limit the usage of light-emitting devices following the results of case studies examined by the Ministry of the Environment of the [Czech Republic](#)²³;
12. Urging the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy ([DG REGIO](#)) in cooperation with the Member States' Ministries of the Environment to establish protected areas in which the construction of urban centres near observatories is prohibited;

¹⁹ **Prismatic diffusers** are textured optical components used in lighting fixtures to scatter and distribute light evenly, reducing glare and creating a softer illumination.

²⁰ **Anti-glare films** are thin, transparent materials applied to surfaces such as screens or lenses to reduce glare and reflections, improving visibility and reducing eye strain.

²¹ **LED light bulb shields** modify light performance, including glare reduction, softer illumination, UV radiation blocking, and heat management.

²² The **Rolan Manifesto** sets out ten core principles for external illumination and a plan of action to implement positive change in the lighting community

²³ Strategy where scientist worked on a device and a method for measuring light pollution and this experiment contributed to their research



13. Asking the Communications Networks, Content and Technology ([DG CONNECT](#)) to devise a system feature for technological devices that helps to remind and mitigate individual light over-consumption;
14. Recommends the [European Environmental Bureau](#) to enforce a substitution of traditional light bulbs with [LED lights](#).



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION I (CULT I)

Beyond the Bell Curve: With around 20% of all European students falling outside the neurotypical mainstream, there exists a pressing need for revising the accessibility and efficacy of contemporary schooling. How can the EU institute comprehensive policies to support neurodiverse students, ensuring their needs are met and their educational experiences are conducive to personal and academic growth?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to foster an accommodating and accepting environment for every form of neurodiversity by raising awareness about the neurodivergent community, their peculiarities, and the obstacles that they encounter in the social and educational system. Promoting inclusivity for neurodiverse students and creating a safe and encompassing academic setting which suits their special needs has to be a priority for the EU,

because

- Neurodivergent students in higher education are being mistreated due to [cultural biases and stigmas](#) surrounding neurodiversity,
- Parents, whose role is fundamental in [diagnosing neurodivergent conditions](#) in their children, often refuse to acknowledge this,
- The [misallocation of resources](#) in educational support staff²⁴ hinders neurodivergent students from having their individual needs met,
- There is a lack of [unity](#) among Member States in terms of laws and linguistic definitions concerning [neurodivergence](#) and [giftedness](#), translating into [significant issues](#) for the students involved,

²⁴ **Educational support staff** is a corps of specialists like psychologists, SEN specialists or also teaching assistants, and they can help ensure all students' special educational needs are met.



- There are consistent differences in the [enrollment rate](#) of students with special educational needs²⁵ (SEN) between special schools and mainstream classrooms,
- Only 9 Member States have adopted [policies](#) that favour the participation of students with SEN in higher education,
- There is [a lack of expertise](#) and training among teachers who feel concerned about how to deal with students with SEN,
- In the European Commission's expert [Working Group on Higher Education](#), which focuses on supporting vulnerable learners, [there is no subdivision](#) tackling neurodivergent integration in schools,
- In 2022, the [average](#) early school leaving ([ESL](#)) rate was 9.6 % in the EU for students with SEN, showing the link between ESL and the challenges these students experience,

by

1. Urging the [Council of Ministers of Education](#) to collaborate with local institutions that advocate for neurodivergent students through educational campaigns in schools, taking place regularly on designated awareness days, focusing on:
 - a. understanding neurodiversity and the different ways in which it presents,
 - b. informing classmates, teachers and caretakers on the best way to establish a relationship with neurodivergent students;
2. Recommending the Society for Neurodivergency ([S4ND](#)) to establish forums for parents to increase knowledge sharing on diagnosed and potential neurodivergent conditions through mutual communication and exchange of experiences;
3. Inviting the Directorate-General on Budget ([DG BUDG](#)) to increase the allocation of funds towards the national Ministries of Education to improve support measures for neurodivergent students;
4. Establishing, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation ([WHO](#)), a universal vocabulary concerning neurodivergence and the conditions that fall under its spectrum;
5. Trusting the Council of Ministries on Education to formulate a harmonised legal framework for every Member State, by:
 - a. abolishing special schools for neurodiverse students,
 - b. providing safe spaces and assistive technologies, such as more accessible classrooms and noise-cancelling devices,
 - c. collaborating between the teaching staff, the professional psychologists, the parents and the

²⁵ **Special educational needs (SEN)** are any permanent or temporary developmental functioning difficulty related to education or learning, resulting from the interaction of various health factors and which requires special individualised education.



- d. neurodiverse students to guarantee a study method that is tailored to each student and their needs;
6. Calling upon the Directorate-General on Education, Youth, Sport and Culture ([DG EAC](#)) to create a body made up of psychologists and neurodivergent advocates to:
 - a. produce a questionnaire administered to neurodivergent students, periodically evaluating their educational experience,
 - b. monitor the reliability of these reports, to keep track of Member States' successes in the implementation of the above framework;
7. Suggesting the Member States include compulsory courses for teachers focusing on neurodivergence and fair treatment of neurodiverse students as the main qualification criterion for educational professionals in the field;
8. Advocating for the establishment of a specialised psychologist in neurodiversity to follow neurodivergent students through their academic path in close collaboration with the rest of the school staff;
9. Reaffirming the need for improved teaching methods, inclusive to neurodivergent students, such as interactive learning based on hands-on experiences.



MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS (LIBE)

Turning the Page on Inclusivity: In the context of growing diversity in educational institutions, the EU encounters obstacles in effectively integrating migrant and refugee students into the schooling system. Beyond the challenge of recognizing educational qualifications from non-EU countries, this situation underscores a broader issue of ensuring equitable access to education. How might the EU tackle these challenges to foster inclusiveness and ensure equitable education for everyone?

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The European Youth Parliament aims to ensure equal access to education, opportunities, and resources for migrants and refugees, fostering their integration into the schooling system. Furthermore, it intends to safeguard their household's financial stability and well-being while also promoting a safe and inclusive educational environment,

because

- In 2022, [only 11.6% of non-EU citizens living in the EU](#) had access to education,
- In most Member States, migrants earn on [average 30% lower wages](#) than natives,
- The spread of misinformation and xenophobia²⁶ in European countries leads to [bullying and discrimination](#) against migrant and refugee students,
- In the EU, more than 80% of pupils from high-income families complete tertiary education, as compared to less [than 50% of low-income pupils](#),

²⁶ **Xenophobia** is a series of attitudes, prejudices, and behaviours that marginalise and frequently demonise individuals due to the perception that they are outsiders or foreigners to the community, society, or national identity.



- [Only 10 Member States](#) capture migration status in education statistics, complicating the harmonisation of data collection,
- Early school leaving rates for migrants are [twice as high](#) as those for the native population,
- The absence of a [developed language learning system](#) for migrant and refugee students is detrimental to social and cultural integration,
- There exists a [lack of expertise, personnel, and appropriate training](#) across different fields for working with migrant and refugee students,
- There is limited [psychological support](#) for migrant and refugee students, who may have faced stress and trauma in the past, as well as a lack of comprehension and empathy from educators,
- Undocumented migrant children are [the most at risk of staying out of school](#) since most Member States do not explicitly recognise their entitlement to education,
- Teaching methods adopted by educational institutions are [not accessible and inclusive](#) to migrant and refugee children,
- [The recognition of academic degrees or diplomas](#) for migrants and refugees is difficult to obtain due to the lack of proof of their qualifications;

by

1. Calling upon the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture ([DG EAC](#)) to promote cultural diversity by organising cultural events, meetings, and courses in schools;
2. Further calling upon DG EAC to strengthen the school-household relationship between legal guardians of migrant and refugee pupils and their teachers by facilitating guidance courses, workshops, and informative sessions regarding students' performance;
3. Recommending the [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) to foster inclusive environments by implementing peer mentoring programs, wherein migrant and refugee students are paired with native or more experienced students;



4. Suggesting the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund ([UNICEF](#)) to promote a strong collaboration between therapists and teachers by creating guidelines on how to adequately help migrant and refugee students;
5. Inviting Member States' Ministries of Education to avoid school segregation by equally dividing migrant and refugee pupils among classes in individual schools;
6. Delegating the EU Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice ([eu-LISA](#)) to simplify the learning process through further integrating digital platforms such as Duolingo²⁷;
7. Requesting UNICEF to support migrants' and refugees' education by funding a free and efficient psychological service in schools;
8. Appealing to Member States to facilitate migrant students' learning by hiring migrant education specialists on short-term contracts that adapt to students' fluctuating needs;
9. Instructing [Eurostat](#) to collaborate with Member States' National Statistical Institutes to harmonise data collection on migration status and adopt standardised methodologies for data collection and analysis;
10. Imploring DG EAC to develop a general EU-standardised exam system for migrant and refugee student allocation that all Member States may use in their national curricula;
11. Encouraging Member States' Ministries of Education to guarantee migrant students' enrollment into the schooling system by enacting laws explicitly clarifying their entitlement to education.

²⁷ **Duolingo** is a widely-used language-learning platform known for its gamified approach and user-friendly interface, aimed at simplifying language acquisition through digital means.



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