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Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
101

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: LYMEC Bureau - Lena Höglund

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Moving the European Union Forward Together

2 Summary

- 3 1. The White Paper on the Future of Europe was presented by President Juncker on 1st
4 March 2017 in order to launch the debate ahead of the Rome Summit in March 2017. The
5 document set the main challenges and opportunities that Europe will face in the
6 upcoming decades and it offers five scenarios for how European Union could evolve by
7 2025.
- 8 2. The European Commission stressed that scenarios are neither mutually exclusive, nor
9 exhaustive.
- 10 3. In the first scenario EU sticks to its course, it focuses on implementing and upgrading its
11 current reform agenda. Priorities are regularly updated, problems are tackled as they
12 arise and new legislation is rolled out accordingly. EU's single market is strengthened
13 and EU invests in digital, transport, energy infrastructure and deepens defence
14 cooperation.
- 15 4. In the second scenario, the functioning of the single market becomes the main mission of
16 the EU27. Cooperation in other policy areas, such as migration, security or defence,
17 would be limited or left to bilateral collaboration.
- 18 5. The third scenario offers liberty to Member States to choose to be more active. Groups of
19 Member States that want to do more would deepen their cooperation in chosen areas
20 and other Member States retain the possibility to join those groups over time. The single
21 market is strengthened and four freedoms are reinforced. EU would still manage relations
22 of its members with third countries.
- 23 6. The fourth scenario focus attention and limited resources of EU on a reduced number of
24 areas to be able to take quick and decisively actions. There would be stronger tools
25 enabling EU to directly implement and enforce collective decisions. The EU27 steps up its
26 work in fields such as innovation, trade, security, migration, the management of borders
27 and defence and employment and social policy.
- 28 7. In the fifth scenario, cooperation between all Member States goes further than ever
29 before in all areas. Decisions are agreed and implemented faster on the European level.
30 Europe speaks and acts as one in trade and is represented by one seat in most
31 international fora. Defence and security are prioritised and European Defence Union is
32 created. EU supports fight against climate change and is an active humanitarian and
33 development aid donor. Citizens have more rights derived directly from EU law.
- 34 8. After the Rome Summit the heads of state expressed the intention to push European
35 integration forward, but in varied pace, in a shared but yet not completely levelled voice.
36 This means a continued hope for a united and integrated Europe, while allowing for some

37 Member States to take action to do more together and for some to join that action at a
38 later stage.

39 9. In practice, this stand reflects the very different dreams and aspirations towards
40 integration and disintegration in the EU member states as of 2017. The stand accepts the
41 present landscape and is very cautious in presenting a true vision for EU and Europe.

42 10. Despite expressed dedication to non-negotiables such as the single market, the four
43 freedoms, the values of liberty, of freedom of opinion, of freedom of speech, of freedom of
44 press, of freedom of religion, of democracy and human rights, Member States like Poland
45 and Hungary display repeated threats to these non-negotiables.

46

47 **Considering that:**

- 48 • LYMEC has repeatedly expressed its commitment to continue to work for a united
49 Europe, and a federal and decentralised European Union that guarantees freedom,
50 democracy, human rights
- 51 • LYMEC has previously emphasized the need for a shared constitution as a step towards
52 more clarity on the rights of the individual in the EU and the need for a coordinated
53 debate at the face of increased euroscepticism
- 54 • In the light of populist voices and disintegration rhetoric by leaders in Member States,
55 carrying on without a further vision is a risk. The gap between expectation and delivery
56 needs to be bridged.
- 57 • At the face of a new balance in global trade and regional conflicts, trade, a shared
58 European Asylum Agency and border management needs to be a priority for the EU.
- 59 • The single market needs to be open to free movement of people and services in order to
60 make for an agile market on an aging continent with issues of mismatch of skills and
61 education levels in the labour force.
- 62 • A singular focus on the single market and the lack of other cooperation will result into not
63 fully guaranteed free movement of workers and services and into more border checks.
- 64 • European Commission stressed that a singular focus on the single market would put at
65 risk the integrity of the Euro and make EU vulnerable to a new financial crisis.
- 66 • A multi-speed Europe might lead to policing Member States that do not adhere to core
67 principles of the Union. This implies a decrease in efficiency over guarding a patchwork of
68 agreement and exceptions for Member States.
- 69 • Allowing for different levels of integration will result in an unlevelled single market in terms
70 of trading, social and economic standards, labour market - thus resulting in increased
71 risks for internal conflicts.
- 72 • The vision of doing much more together on all levels demands strong leadership,
73 openness and transparency on all levels. Benefits of the increased cooperation need to
74 be quantified and visualized more clearly to citizens. All forms of unnecessary
75 bureaucracy need to be eliminated.

76

77 **Believing that:**

- 78 • The EU needs to embrace and tackle its place in the global community, accepting
79 different power relations and isolationist policies by allies as an issue and an opportunity
80 for the Member States in EU to take shared leadership.
- 81 • In order to maintain and boost its global position, the EU single market is a priority. This
82 calls for coordination on other areas too, such as migration, labour policy, digitalisation
83 and innovation in order for the single market not to cause and emphasize inequalities and

84 prevent internal borders.

- 85 • Internal law enforcement, counter-terrorism, integration strategies as well as pooling
86 military industry and military capacities are necessary for a sustainable approach to
87 security in and on the borders of the EU. A safer EU requires a defence union, a
88 strengthened border agency and a better-coordinated Interpol.
- 89 • The EU's surrounding regions in conflict have a dire need for a more humane refugee
90 and migration policy in the EU. Such a policy should at least include scrapping the Dublin
91 system, cancelling the deal with Turkey, preventing deals with Libya and setting up
92 long-term solutions ensuring that not only south and south-eastern Europe end up dealing
93 with the stream of refugees. The EU needs a single European Asylum Agency, but also a
94 shared outlook on integration and labour policy. The Member States need to accept the
95 agreed quotas as a part of the shared responsibility for migration.
- 96 • At the face of mismatch of skills and an increasingly aging population, there is a need to
97 speed up the recognition of vocational degrees across member states. While youth
98 unemployment is still far too high, ensuring mutual recognition and thus a well-functioning
99 single market for labour is one of the few concrete things the EU can do to increase
100 agility. Continued shared efforts for digitalisation will also support the young generation of
101 labourers and entrepreneurs.
- 102 • The Union can do much more together. But, with loud voices questioning the credibility
103 and mandate of the EU, increasing transparency, democracy and reducing bureaucracy
104 has to be on top of the agenda. LYMEC believes the European Parliament needs to have
105 a single seat. The decision to move between Strasbourg and Brussels was made during a
106 different era in European history. Moreover, the EU must move in a more democratic
107 direction, ensuring that the President of the European Commission is directly elected.
108 Europe and its coming young generation demands more transparency and less backroom
109 deals. This will give more legitimacy to the President and bring the EU closer to the
110 citizens of Europe.
- 111 • The internal tone and responsibilities need to be clarified in the light of Brexit, setting a
112 tone for improving the Union as oppose to leaving the Union. Trust between Member
113 States needs to be reinforced.
- 114 • Setting up defined EU memberships of different levels of integration will create an
115 incentive for Member States to reduce their membership ad infinitum and decrease the
116 much needed defence of the European citizen.
- 117 • The fourth scenario focus attention and limited resources of EU on a reduced number of
118 areas to be able to take quick and decisively actions. This outlook fits well with the
119 LYMEC vision for a federal and democratic Union, set to solve and decide on matters as
120 close to citizens as possible and make decisions together when its seen to be more
121 sustainable, such as within trade, migration, border management and defence.
- 122 • EU Member States move forward on integration or reduce the areas of cooperation, so
123 that a higher level of delivery can be met.
- 124 • Policy areas that can be left to national determination, should be left to national
125 determination, while focusing on bigger issues.
- 126 • Responsibilities between national and EU level need to be clarified and the institutions
127 need to answer better to the need for transparency in decision-making.

128
129 **LYMEC calls for the ALDE MEPs and Member State representatives to**

- 130 • defend the single market and the four freedoms at the core of the development of the
131 European Union
- 132 • uphold the need for a shared asylum system and work towards scrapping the Dublin

- 133 system and for ALDE representatives in Member States to make sure Member States
134 adhere to the refugee quotas assigned to them
- 135 • see to a shared Border Agency and steps towards a Defence Union, albeit respecting the
136 self-determination and integrity of Member States
- 137
- focus shared efforts to recognize degrees and other barriers to a free EU labour market
- 138
- focus shared spending and cooperation on innovation and digitalisation, trade, crime
139 prevention, migration, labour market, the management of borders and defence - thus
140 reducing areas of cooperation, but deepening cooperation in some areas
- 141
- advocate for a Single Seat and ensure that the President of the European Commission is
142 directly elected
- 143
- maintain its long-term vision of a European Federation, with a clear European
144 Government and a bicameral Parliament representing on the one hand the European
145 citizens and on the other hand the European Member States, by initiating a European
146 Convent to reshape the institutions
- 147
- increase the powers of the EU Parliament as the advocate for the rights of EU citizen and
148 the development of the single market

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
301

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: JNC / Víctor Solé Ferioli

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Tackling bullying in Europe

2 Summary (optional)

- 3 1. School bullying, which remains widespread in many European countries, is detrimental to
- 4 the mental health, academic performance and personal development of the victims.
- 5 2. New information technologies such as social networks and messaging apps have given
- 6 rise to cyberbullying.
- 7 3. The resolution urges all stakeholders, ranging from parents and teachers to mental health
- 8 professionals, to do their bit.
- 9 4. It calls for the establishment of a European Action Plan Against Bullying to raise
- 10 awareness about the issue, facilitate the exchange of good practices in the fight against
- 11 bullying and support Member States in their educational measures against it.

12 Considering that:

- 13 • School bullying remains widespread across Europe. A recent OECD report found particularly
- 14 high rates of bullying in European countries such as Austria, Estonia, Belgium or Portugal.
- 15 • Bullying has been proven to not only hurt the academic performance of victims—which
- 16 undermines our continent's future workforce—, but to also affect their mental health and personal
- 17 development significantly and for long periods.
- 18 • The use of new technologies such as social networks can increase the potential for bullying, with
- 19 phenomena such as cyberbullying, and pose a new challenge in this area.

20 Believing that:

- 21 • Teachers should not be left alone in the fight against bullying and cyberbullying. Tackling this
- 22 challenge depends on a concerted effort from all involved parties, including teachers, but also
- 23 parents, psychologists, social services, the forces of order, etc.
- 24 • Good practices in the fight against bullying are not always shared as widely and as quickly as they
- 25 should be. The success of countries such as Sweden and Italy in tackling bullying has not been
- 26 replicated in other European states.

27 LYMEC:

- 28 • Calls on the European institutions to launch a European Action Plan Against Bullying to 1) raise
- 29 awareness of the problem throughout society in an empirical and non-sensationalist way; 2)

30 facilitate the exchange of good practices so that countries can learn from one another in tackling
31 bullying; 3) promote the values of diversity and tolerance in the classroom; and 4) support EU
32 Member States in devising and implementing new measures to fight bullying.

33 **Striking down other resolutions:** none

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
302

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: FEL (Fédération des étudiants libéraux)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Joint Degree Programmes integration in Erasmus +**

2 **Noting that:**

- 3 • 2020 is approaching and a new budgetary path shall be discussed regarding how
4 ERASMUS + is to be modified and funded.
- 5 • Joint degrees are often the product of a bilateral contract between two institutions. It
6 provides the students from the concerned institutions with the possibility of studying
7 abroad within the framework of one and only one studying programme elaborated by the
8 student and both universities he shall attend during a full academic year.
- 9 • A few joint master degrees based on the same system previously exposed are currently
10 being funded by the European Commission as part of the "*Joint Degree Programmes*" it
11 crafted in the 6-years plan 2014-2020 of ERASMUS +. These partnerships are part of the
12 action "Erasmus Mundus Master Courses (EMMCs)". Partners of EMMCs are from
13 Europe as well as from other continents. However, the list of bilaterally elaborated joint
14 degrees is quite short (around 110).
- 15 • Such synergies do exist when it comes to PhD's or joint academic researchers led
16 bilaterally or multilaterally, in much more numerous ways than in the framework of
17 Erasmus Mundus program.
- 18 • We already have lists of Universities involved in the Erasmus + programme.
- 19 • Small European countries have less influence than other European countries in the world.

20 **Considering that:**

- 21 • Many MEPS' now believe the Erasmus program (as it is constructed today) has reached
22 the initial goals its founding fathers had expected from it in the past. It has to evolve and
23 meet the current challenges our Union faces.
- 24 • If we are to debate on the principles underlying ERASMUS + as a whole, it was Erasmus'
25 very goal to undertake thorough and exhaustive studies within particular philosophical
26 domains yet conducted in several European universities.
- 27 • A joint degree programme is much more valuable in the labor market than an exchange
28 programme,
- 29 • In the end, if ERASMUS + is to be continued after 2020, should our final objective not be
30 the creation of a "European socialization process and ambition".
- 31 • Nationality is often used as criteria in many study areas.

32 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 33 • Transforming our current "exchange program" into a real and ambitious European
34 academic framework.
- 35 • Widening Joint Masters applications possibilities and increasing its funding in the
36 framework of Erasmus +.
- 37 • The creation of a "European academic public space".
- 38 • Launching a platform to facilitate the access of students to the joint degrees. It will give
39 easy access to the information for students through a unique source of communication.
- 40 • European agreements and convention to guarantee an access without discrimination to
41 each European student that wants to study on another continent in order to favor our
42 European identity and not national one.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
303

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Jong VLD / Jerry Van Echelpoel

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Resolution on Ethical Hacking

2 Considering that:

- 3 • IT infrastructure has an increasingly prevalent role in the society of today and tomorrow,
4 thus increasing its potential as a target for criminal and terrorist activities,
- 5 • IT infrastructure should therefore be protected and tested against external threats, by
6 means of a robust initial design and a constant maintenance, testing for system
7 vulnerabilities,
- 8 • The purpose of the activities of a hacker is to look for vulnerabilities in order to exploit
9 them for criminal or terrorist activities,
- 10 • Ethical hacking is done to look actively for vulnerabilities within a system in order to test
11 or repair the tested system and is always done by mutual consent,
- 12 • Both hackers and ethical hackers use the same set of techniques in order to achieve their
13 goal, whether with malicious or benign intent,
- 14 • The difference between hacking and ethical hacking is not enshrined in current
15 legislation, thus creating a legal vacuum for people who try to improve security by actively
16 looking for vulnerabilities,
- 17 • Therefore, even when an ethical hacker has the consent of a system's owner, a third
18 party could file a complaint which could result in prosecution of the ethical hacker,
- 19 • the IT infrastructure of public institutions, both national and European, is insufficiently and
20 inadequately secure, while it is often the prime target of cyberattacks,

21

22 Acknowledging that:

- 23 • While ethical hacking has already been common practice for several years, with tech
24 companies such as Google and Facebook awarding ethical hackers that find
25 vulnerabilities within their system, it nevertheless remains a criminal activity,
- 26 • It is impossible to look for vulnerabilities without using techniques that are considered
27 illegal,

28

29 Believing that:

- 30 • Ethical hacking is an important factor and tool against the threats of cybercrime and
31 cyberterrorism,

- 32 • The use of IT infrastructure is not limited to national borders and calls for a European or
33 international context,
34 • Ethical hacking improves the security of European citizens, companies and governments;

35

36 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 37 • The European Union to legalize the use of techniques and activities considered as ethical
38 hacking which are done by explicit consent of the owner of a system in order to improve
39 the system's security;
40 • Public, governmental and european institutions to make use of ethical hacking by citizens
41 to strengthen the security of e-governance, voting systems and as a way of democratic
42 accountability.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
304

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Jonge Democraten (JD), Jongerenorganisatie Vrijheid en Democratie (JOVD), Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (JNC)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 License to Heal

2 Considering that:

- 3 • A third of the world's population has limited access to essential medicines.
- 4 • Costs of new expensive medicines cause problems of accessibility also in developed
5 European countries.
- 6 • The limited accessibility to drugs is caused by the current model for drug development.
7 The current system is based on market exclusivity through patents and allows
8 pharmaceutical companies to keep their prices high.
- 9 • About a quarter of the available drugs were discovered by knowledge institutions such as
10 universities. The government finances medical scientific research, but sets no conditions
11 on the price and accessibility of the discovered medication; leaving pharmaceutical
12 companies free to ask high prices which cannot be accounted for by research and
13 development costs.
- 14 • The high prices of drugs threaten patients' right to treatment, and put health budgets
15 under unsustainable pressure.
- 16 • The UN High Level Panel on Access to Medicines, provides valuable recommendations
17 for governments and international institutions to address inexpedient inconsistencies
18 between public health, medical innovation and the current research investment incentives
19 and legal framework.
- 20 • The UN Human Rights Panel (A/HRC/32/L.23/Rev.1) recognizes access to medicines as
21 a fundamental human right.
- 22 • The European Parliament recently adopted a resolution ((2016/2057(INI)) on how to
23 improve access to medicines in Europe, highlighting numerous areas where member
24 states can take immediate action.
- 25 • The European Union invests 1.6 billion euros in the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), a
26 partnership of the EU with the pharmaceutical industry, without requiring conditions
27 directed at access to the resulting drugs.

28 Believing that:

- 29 • Medicine and other medical products should be accessible to everyone.
- 30 • The human right to health and appropriate medical care is essential in sustaining
31 societies.
- 32 • To achieve affordability and accessibility, all stakeholders in the development of medicine
33 need to take responsibility. Governments should promote affordability as well as

34 innovation regarding the drug development process.
35 • It is necessary for European countries to collaborate on negotiating with pharmaceutical
36 companies regarding the pricing of innovative drugs to ensure their accessibility and the
37 sustainability of healthcare systems.

38

39 **Calls upon LYMEC and its MOs to:**

- 40 • Stimulate European Member States to require publicly financed research institutions to
41 license new active pharmaceutical ingredients responsibly. The resulting drugs originating
42 from such institutions should have a transparent cost structure and should have a
43 responsible price to ensure access to this drug. These conditions should preferably
44 consist of the following measures:
- 45 ◦ Require pharmaceutical companies to be transparent about the cost structure of a
46 drug, eligible for marketing, including public R&D investments and tax rebates;
 - 47 ◦ Limit profit margins for medicines;
 - 48 ◦ Before the reimbursement of a new drug the pharmaceutical company must prove
49 the added value of a newly discovered drug, based on cost-effectiveness and
50 budget impact.
- 51 • Stimulate collaboration among European Member States to collaborate on negotiating
52 with pharmaceutical companies regarding the pricing of innovative drugs to ensure their
53 accessibility and the sustainability of healthcare systems.
- 54 • Stimulate the European Commission to take the following measures:
- 55 ◦ Promote the accessibility of medicines in low- and middle-income countries by
56 making market competition possible through non-exclusive licenses of European
57 public research in these countries;
 - 58 ◦ Implement criteria for funding the Innovative Medicines Initiative. The Innovative
59 Medicines Initiative should safeguard the access to the resulting drugs of this
60 public-private partnership.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
305

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Bundesverband Liberaler Hochschulgruppen

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Refugees in Universities

2 Considering:

3

- 4 • The current refugee situation presents many challenges for the European Union however,
5 many yet unutilised opportunities exist.
- 6 • Demographic changes across Europe can be addressed by properly employing human
7 capital. At present a lot of this capital is wasted due to a lack of concrete measures aimed
8 at integrating refugees into education and the workforce.
- 9 • The correct implementation of these measures can yield higher productivity and
10 integration, provided a common strategy is employed across all 28 member states.

11

12 LYMEC proposes:

13 an innovative four-stage plan aimed at tackling these issues: The SETL Programme's four key
14 pillars endeavour to take a holistic approach in addressing the refugee situation. This is achieved
15 through measures assisting refugees before, during and after their course begins.

16

- 17 • S – Support. Particularly during their studies, refugees need a dedicated support network
18 tasked with acting on their behalf and offering specialist advice. This could be achieved
19 through a counselling service, or an allowance for more contact hours on a degree
20 course. Additionally, Universities could utilise innovative e-learning platforms such as the
21 Erasmus Programme's online linguistic support.
- 22 • E – Employment. Being the ultimate aim of University, it is crucial that refugees have the
23 opportunity to enter the labour market with an equal chance of employment. A dedicated
24 network of refugees both in employment and as employers around Europe could be
25 established, and a refugee fair could be held yearly in conjunction with this. Any
26 University employment service could also receive training in how to advertise refugees to
27 potential employers, and in how to create an understanding that refugees can be a
28 valuable asset to respective employers.
- 29 • T – Training. Refugees may enter a country with no or limited skills, and so in order to
30 study effectively catch-up training could be provided. This could be carried out both
31 initially during the often-long refugee status waiting period and continuously during their
32 period of study.

33 • L - Learning. All the additional support previously outlined should ease the transition into
34 study, and provide a base of knowledge and guidance upon which academic study can
35 be built. Now, the actual degree course studied will be addressed. Dedicated courses
36 built with refugees in mind could prove hugely beneficial, and may even persuade more
37 refugees to enter tertiary education in the first place. More contact hours and lower
38 course monetary requirements are just two possible examples.

39 In addition to the SETL Programme, legislators must also address the recognition process
40 concerned with previously held qualifications, and look to standardise refugee status waiting
41 times so that courses with standard timeframes can be offered during this period. Currently this
42 recognition process is massively disjointed, varying hugely across all member states.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
306

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: ELSN

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Educating Europe

2 Education is the foundation of a progressive society. The diversity of education within the
3 European Union should be seen as a strength but the harmonization of some standards as well
4 as common values ought to be achieved in order to develop the union and cooperation between
5 the EU countries.

6 Early Childhood Education:

7 **Considering:**

- 8 • Early Childhood Education has an immense influence on the children's development and
9 represents the foundation of knowledge and socialization skills.
- 10 • Reliable information on early childhood education and care (ECEC) systems in Europe is
11 essential in order to understand the challenges European countries are facing, what we
12 can learn from each other and what solutions might be developed to meet the needs of
13 the youngest members of society.

14 **Welcoming:**

- 15 • The establishment of and work by the network Eurydice and its report with Eurostat for
16 the European Commission about key data on early childhood education and care in
17 Europe.

18 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 19 • Promoting more multilingual nurseries and pre-schools.
- 20 • Guaranteeing a high quality first approach in education for the children so that the
21 transition into primary school can easily be executed. (e.g. children should already know
22 the alphabet and numbers when they enter primary school)
- 23 • Moreover, improvement in the five main aspects of ECEC: access, workforce
24 (professionalization of ECEC staff), curriculum (developmental care, formative
25 interactions, learning experiences, supportive assessment etc.), evaluation/monitoring
26 and governance/funding is obligatory by all means as it is a dynamic, continuous and
27 democratic process.

28 In order to have an equal system of early childhood education and care, **LYMEC calls upon:**

- 29 • All the European countries to establish a pre-school year for 4 year old children and to
30 follow the goals of the European Commission. (By 2020 at least 95% of pre-school
31 children of 4 years or older should participate in early childhood education.)

Primary Education:

Acknowledging that:

- 33 • In the field of Primary Education, there is a clear lack of EU money and competences.
34 • Three main models of organization within compulsory education in European countries
35 exist: First, single structure education which means no transition between primary and
36 lower secondary education. Moreover, common core curriculum provision where all
37 students progress to the lower secondary level where they follow the same general
38 common core curriculum. Finally, differentiated lower secondary education. After
39 successful completion of primary education, students are required to follow distinct
40 educational pathways or specific types of schooling, either at the beginning or during
41 lower secondary education.

LYMEC proposes:

- 43 • To aim for some harmonization between systems and promote one model which would
44 be the differentiated lower secondary education in order to give opportunities to students
45 to express their specific skills and knowledges at an early age.

Considering that:

- 47 • Primary education programs are typically designed to provide students with fundamental
48 skills in reading, writing and mathematics (i.e. literacy and numeracy) and establish a
49 solid foundation for learning and understanding core areas of knowledge, personal and
50 social development, in preparation for lower secondary education. Age is typically the
51 only entry requirement at this level. The customary or legal age of entry is usually not
52 below 5 years old nor above 7 years old. This level typically lasts six years, although its
53 duration can range between four and seven years.

LYMEC calls for:

- 55 • Maintaining legal entry to primary school between 5 and 7 years old is allowing some
56 flexibility and it is in fact a more liberal way to approach primary schooling. Regarding the
57 duration of the cursus, a balanced 6 years each between primary and secondary
58 education seems to be the best to valorise the 2 structures. This should be promoted.

Noting that:

- 60 • There are more young people in pre-primary and primary education than before.

Considering that:

- 62 • We need to have all children in primary education in the 21st century in the EU.
63 Non-compulsory pre-primary education is increasingly provided free of charge. This
64 clearly facilitates access to pre-primary education for all children and especially for those
65 who belong to low income families. All these measures may explain the increasing
66 participation in education at this level.

67 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 68 • Backing free pre-primary education all over the EU because it can lead to more children
69 in primary education. Coming up with a roadmap for making progressive steps towards
70 free primary education.

71 **Secondary Education:**

72 **Considering that:**

- 73 • The European Union promotes adult education, which often entails secondary education
74 for adults.
75 • The European Union provides European High schools, especially for the children of
76 European employees, international ambassadors etc.
77 • The European Union has policies in primary education, and has important policies and
78 programs in higher education, but lacks action in secondary education.

79 **Calls for:**

- 80 • A common European set of guidelines for high schools in the member states, considering
81 the implementation of those policies that are of interest to all European youngsters.
82 • Creating a European sense of unity amongst young Europeans, and helping all students
83 realize the need, historical and current, for European unity across national borders, by
84 teaching European history and discussion about the Union in class.

85

86 **Higher Education:**

87 **Considering that:**

- 88 • The Bologna process has come a long way in harmonizing the higher education system
89 with regards to the well-known cycle structure of higher education. The system allows for
90 easier exchange studying.

91 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 92 • Improve harmonization when it comes to grades, semester length, course contents in
93 order to increase mobility between different universities and increase screening of
94 job-seekers.

95 **Considering that:**

- 96 • The Erasmus+ program is mainly based on bilateral agreements. It mainly implies that
97 you may study a part of your program at a partner university and credit for that period in
98 your degree. The erasmus+ program also revolves activities such as sports. The
99 Erasmus+ program costs some 2 billion euros yearly.

100 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 101 • Considering more harmonization instead of bilateral agreements. This would allow
102 students to more freely choose between different educational institutions.

103 **Vocational Education:**

104 **Considering:**

- 105 • In most EU countries, vocational education is still considered as less important than
106 studying.
- 107 • The quality of some jobs in countries of eastern Europe are considered lower by the
108 countries of western Europe because of the bad reputation of the vocational trainings.
- 109 • The European Union has taken a right step with the Copenhagen Process. Yet most of
110 the points of this process have not been put into practice. The differences of education
111 between countries are still too important.

112 **LYMEC calls for:**

- 113 • Developing a campaign to motivate the youth to do a vocational training.
- 114 • Harmonizing the standards of the trainings in order to minimize the differences between
115 the EU-countries.
- 116 • Enabling the recognition of all the vocational trainings from European countries within the
117 EU.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
403

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (JNC) | Fédération des Étudiants Libéraux (FEL) | Jonge Democraten (JD) / Meritxell Vicheto Anguela

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 **A proposal for the withdrawal of small-denomination euro** 2 **coins**

3 **Summary (optional)**

- 4 1. Rising production, productivity and handling costs associated with small-denomination
5 coins have turned them into a liability rather than an asset to the Eurozone economy.
- 6 2. Consumers who receive small-denominations coins as change tend to hoard them
7 instead of recirculating them —as a result, these coins no longer fulfil their role as a
8 medium of payment.
- 9 3. The resolution proposes ending the minting of 1- and 2-euro cent coins.
- 10 4. It urges the Eurozone to implement cash rounding as several Member States have
11 already done successfully.
- 12 5. It addresses some common concerns about small-denomination coin withdrawal and
13 cash rounding.
- 14 6. It sets out the legal basis for the Eurozone and its Member States to achieve this goal.

15 **Believing that:**

- 16 • Coins and banknotes of money exist to serve as an effective medium of payment.
17 Small-denomination euro coins no longer fulfil this role and, furthermore, they impose significant
18 costs on central banks and private businesses.
- 19 • Empirical data and practical experience in countries inside and outside the Eurozone prove that
20 cash rounding solves this problem by enabling the withdrawal of small-denomination coins while
21 safeguarding retailers' ability to make use of price optimisation strategies and avoiding inflationary
22 effects.

23 **Considering that:**

- 24 • The cost of minting small-denomination euro coins exceeds their face value and the cumulative
25 difference since the introduction of euro coins in 2002 has risen to €1.4 bn
- 26 • They make up about a half of all euro coins minted, but they disappear rapidly from circulation
27 due to wear and the fact that consumers do not consider them a useful medium of exchange.
- 28 • The impact on productivity is even greater —European workers are estimated to waste tens of
29 millions of hours every year looking for 1- and 2-euro cent coins as change in transactions.

- 30 • Handling charges for these coins (which can reach up to 80% of their face value) are ultimately
31 passed on to consumers in the shape of fees or price increases.

32 **Considering further that:**

- 33 • Belgium, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands and non-euro members such as Sweden, Denmark and
34 Hungary have successfully tackled this problem by instituting rounding in all cash transactions.
35 • Under this system, prices are rounded up or down to the nearest multiple of 5 cents.
36 • Individual items may continue to be priced at any amount (e.g. €0.99), and only the final tally is
37 rounded up or down, so retailers can continue to use price optimisation strategies.
38 • Theoretical studies and practical experience in countries which have already switched to this
39 system agree that the inflationary impact would be negligible to non-existent.
40 • Minting of small-denomination coins would cease and, while they would remain legal tender for
41 as long as they stayed in circulation, usual wear would eventually remove them.
42 • Polls show a sizeable majority of Eurozone citizens in favour of withdrawing 1- and 2-cent coins,
43 with popular support growing even in previously reluctant countries such as Germany.
44 • The European Union has the power to discontinue the minting of small-denomination coins under
45 Art. 128 [2], sentence 2 of the TFEU.

46 **LYMEC:**

- 47 • Calls on the European Commission to make a formal proposal to the European Council to 1)
48 discontinue the production of small-denomination coins by amending the Regulation on
49 denominations and technical specifications of euro coins; and 2) issue a Recommendation for
50 harmonised rounding rules under article 292 of the TFEU.

51 **Striking down other resolutions:** none

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
501

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Jeunes MR - FEL - Jong VLD

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Creation of a "student-entrepreneur" status in all** 2 **European countries**

3 LYMEC,

4 **Having regard to**

- 5 • the *EU Youth Strategy*;
- 6 • *Europe 2020 growth and jobs strategy*;
- 7 • the French initiative from November 2013 establishing a national status of
- 8 "étudiant-entrepreneur";
- 9 • the Belgian legislation from 30 December 2016 implementing a specific social and fiscal
- 10 status for students engaged in self-employment in Belgium;

11 **Considering that**

- 12 • more and more entrepreneurs are needed across Europe;
- 13 • in some countries, there is already a legal status for students doing summer jobs, but
- 14 none for students setting up their own business;
- 15 • the European Union needs to promote both the achievement of higher studies and the
- 16 setting up of new businesses;
- 17 • the creative mindset of young people is an asset to be exploited throughout Europe.
- 18 • positive speech around running one's own business is not sufficient and should be
- 19 supported by practical measures;
- 20 • young people need advice in setting up their own business as well as a clear legal status
- 21 to be able to achieve their studies and working as an entrepreneur simultaneously;
- 22 • non-formal learning is of equal importance in comparison with traditional education and
- 23 skills leading to a job cannot be acquired by theoretical learning only;
- 24 • promoting and supporting youth entrepreneurship with structural tools is not a short-term
- 25 and costly initiative.

26 **Calls on**

- 27 • European Commission to officially recognize the "student-entrepreneur" status and
- 28 inscribe this system in its Youth and Job Strategies;
- 29 • the European Union to use all available instruments to support the creation of the
- 30 "student-entrepreneur" in respecting its legal obligations;

31 **Asks**

32 the European Commission to actively suggest to all European countries to adopt the following
33 system, with the following conditions:

- 34 • High school and university students should be able to combine a student status with a
35 professional activity as an entrepreneur;
- 36 • Each country will have the right to define their own age limit, in accordance with their
37 own education system;
- 38 • Every European country should grant this status to students coming from all background
39 and speciality, with the right mentorship;
- 40 • The following infrastructure should be set up in at least one high school and/or university
41 of each country, depending on the overall student population and proportion of young
42 entrepreneurs: young entrepreneurship incubator, with business angels and advisors, so
43 that candidates to young entrepreneurship can receive the best advise possible in terms
44 of business plan and contacts;

45 **Suggests**

46 this system would be supported by the following financial incentives:

- 47 • The student will keep the right to earn a certain amount (dependent on each country)
48 without any taxation (1st threshold) or with a reduced taxation (2nd threshold). Only
49 beyond a certain threshold to be determined by each country will the student
50 entrepreneur be taxed as a regular self-employed;
- 51 • In any case, the limit of turnover and benefits should be adapted so that a student
52 entrepreneur does not have fewer rights than a student doing a summer job;
- 53 • The student will keep the same social rights than a regular student;
- 54 • The student's parents will keep the same rights than they would for a regular student;

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
502

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Radikal Ungdom

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 The Social Union

2 Entry

3 **LYMEC NOTES** that the European Union was created on the principles of more liberated and
4 increased trade across the national borders. Since then the co-operation has grown into a
5 transnational community which has secured improved conditions for the environment, peace and
6 joined prosperity. The European Union can therefore no longer be considered only as a trading
7 union.

8 With the expansion of the inner market comes common challenges, and one of these challenges
9 is the lack of social security for the European citizen.

10 A challenge which has resulted in an still increasing inequality, insecurity and skepticism towards
11 the union.

12 A strong union is a union who can make a positive difference in all citizens' everyday lives, and if
13 we want a European continent that grows continuously stronger and closer together, we have to
14 create a standard for our social rights in unity.

15 Basic visions for the social union

16 LYMEC BELIEVES that the European Union exists for the singular citizen. When social inequality
17 and insecurity increasingly divides our community, it must be the Unions' responsibility to step
18 up. The Commissions' desire to create a social column in the European cooperation is a priority
19 that meets the issues and can create a necessary positive change in all our lives. It is a desire
20 that we in LYMEC support.

21 LYMEC therefore installs that:

- 22 • It should be a high priority for the European Union to establish a social pillar.
- 23 • A social pillar should contain all member nations of the EU and not just nations in the
24 Euro-zone. This must happen with respect for the countries differences and strengths.
- 25 • A social pillar must be concrete and legislative even if this means changing the treaties.
- 26 • The social pillar should be upheld by EU's institutions in close cooperation with the
27 member nations. If a member nation does not meet the goals of the social pillar it should
28 have consequences also established by the EU's institutions.
- 29 • It should be a priority in the social pillar to minimize analphabetism in all member nations
30 so that no citizen, have to go through life without a minimum of skill in language.
- 31 • It has to be fundamental for the social pillar that it contributes to the fight against
32 inequality and discrimination on the grounds of gender, sexuality, nationality, race, age or
33 religion.

35 **Equal opportunities and access to the labor market**

36 LYMEC BELIEVES that everyone should have equal opportunity to get in to the labor market.
 37 There must be no discrimination from the employers. It is the European Union's role to secure an
 38 available, open and equal labor mark for all the citizens of the union. In LYMEC we see it as one
 39 of the corner stones in the free movement that we freely can apply for and choose jobs without
 40 thinking about borders.

41 **LYMEC therefore installs that:**

- 42 • There shouldn't be a common minimum wage in the EU.
- 43 • EU has to secure that people with the same qualifications, doing the same job and
 44 working within the same country, must receive equal pay. This demand is also applies if
 45 you work in a different country than where you live.

46 **Fair rights on the labor market**

47 LYMEC BELIEVES that it is relevant for both wealthy and not så wealthy nations to have equal
 48 rights on the labor market to e.g. avoid social dumping and discrimination. There can occur
 49 discriminating choices both upwards and downwards. It is important to avoid in order to, ensure
 50 equal and even treatment.

51 **LYMEC therefore installs that:**

- 52 • One has the same rights on the labor market in the country one works as colleagues with
 53 the same qualifications. Regardless of national background and residence. This includes
 54 pay, pension, sick days etc.
- 55 • Injuries incurred at the job must be cared for in order of treatment and compensation, as
 56 declared by the rules of the member nation in question. This being the nations where the
 57 injury was incurred in.
- 58 • All member nations must enhance the importance of a common effort against social
 59 dumping across borders.

60 **Appropriate social protection**

61 LYMEC BELIEVES that it is fundamental for the European Union that every citizen feels safe and
 62 secure on the labor market and in the everyday life. To ensure this it is important that citizens in
 63 the EU has just and equal social rights across the borders of all member nations.

64 **LYMEC therefore installs that:**

- 65 • In the nation where one pays income taxes is where one has the rights to social benefits
 66 following the laws of the member nation in question. This includes child support,
 67 unemployment benefits, handicap rights etc.
- 68 • One has the right to child care and education in the country where the children are
 69 residents following the laws of the country in question. This best installs stability for the
 70 children which must be the highest priority.
- 71 • All member nations must inform about the current rights to social benefits every foreign
 72 employee has when he or she obtain employment in the country. It should also
 73 continuously be a right as a citizen to have legal advisement at hand, should one not
 74 have the resources to obtain it by them self.
- 75 • The European Union must secure all member nations each ensure a minimum standard

76 for its' employees so that all citizens have a standard of living, corresponding to the UN's
77 goals. This means that one as citizen has access to; heat, running water, electricity,
78 residential, banks and medical assistance.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
801

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: Ógra Fianna Fáil

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Connecting Regions

2 Considering that:

3

- 4 • Lymec values the importance of tackling Regional Disparities.
- 5 • Regional transport infrastructure varies greatly throughout Europe.
- 6 • The task of synchronizing the European railway system has been delegated to the
- 7 European Railway Agency (ERA).
- 8 • Cooperation in the railway industry will extend across borders: not just national frontiers,
- 9 but regarding commercial, industrial and organizational borders as well.
- 10 • Transport connectivity is a key factor for investors when considering to invest in an area.
- 11 • Motorway and Public transport links are often radial from a countries capital city and do
- 12 not interconnect other regional cities.
- 13 • Transport connections such as inter-rail have promoted European integration.

14 Concludes that:

15

- 16 • Regional disparities can be improved by improving transport connections to other regions.
- 17 • Regions can develop and access new markets through developing new transport
- 18 connections.
- 19 • Commuting times for workers can be cut through investment in public transport.
- 20 • Rail is one of the most popular method of public transport.

21 LYMEC calls upon:

22

- 23 • EU investment into transport connections between less developed regions in order to
- 24 create new opportunities for trade and movement of people.
- 25 • Rail links to be improved between regions and cities across Europe that are not solely to
- 26 capital cities.
- 27 • The European Commission to renew ERA's goals, so that ERA can be more useful in
- 28 aiding railway operators in their quest to serve passengers better in the future.

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
901

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: ERPY, LY, LLY, AY, JNC, VU, IMS Igor Caldeira - Gaspar Shabad

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Tackling propaganda and false news

2 Summary

3 In order to ensure maximum transparency and objectivity, awareness about propaganda among
4 citizens of the European Union, it is important to maximize the quantities of resources of
5 information about propaganda measures and tools, its spread and distribution, its influence and
6 impact accessible for European Union society in general. Combating propaganda is necessary to
7 uphold fundamental EU values and to ensure human rights, democratic values and functions of
8 civil society. Despite the levels of concern in European institutions, citizens of EU member
9 nations experience a lack of transparency with regards to the usability of and access to
10 information channels, tools, measures and documentation concerning propaganda within the
11 European Union. Citizens of the European Union are not currently involved in the process of
12 identifying and combating propaganda.

13 Taking into account

14 LYMEC Resolutions

- 15 • 9.64 – Resolution on the Ukraine-Russian war
- 16 • 9.70 Resolution on common foreign policy towards Russia
- 17 • The Electoral Manifesto of 2014, in special article 7.

18 International Documents:

- 19 • European agenda for culture in a globalising world (COM(2007)0242);
- 20 • The Paris Declaration on promoting citizenship (8496/15);
- 21 • European Parliament resolution on the role of intercultural dialogue, cultural diversity and
22 education in promoting EU fundamental values (2015/2139(INI));
- 23 • The explosion of populist and extremist political movements since the start of the financial
24 crisis;
- 25 • The intensification of religious extremist activities, culminating in several terrorist attacks;
- 26 • The violation of national territories (airspace and territorial sea) of several EU member

- 27 states and the annexation of parts of neighbouring countries by foreign aggressive
28 powers;
- 29 • The increase in cyberattacks that political institutions and economic actors in Europe
30 have suffered;
 - 31 • The dependence of Europe on American military capacity for its defence.

32 **Noting**

- 33 • Deeply troubled by the concerning intensification of propaganda and disinformation
34 towards European states
- 35 • Taking into account that propaganda is a message designed to persuade its intended
36 audience to think and behave in a certain manner or it is official government
37 communications to the public that are designed to influence opinion
- 38 • The alarming content of Russia's propaganda with anti-European sentiment, hate
39 speech, homophobia and xenophobia, which encourages aggression against
40 neighbouring countries and impedes integration of national minorities in the Baltic States,
41 through strategies such as falsifying the history of former member nations of the USSR
- 42 • Noting that Russia's main propaganda tools in the Baltic states are television, radio, news
43 portals, social networks.
- 44 • Further noting that Russian programming is slick and entertaining, and consequently
45 widely watched even by people who do not feel politically drawn to the Kremlin
- 46 • These events are fuelled and financed at least partially by foreign governments with the
47 specific aim of creating dissent in Europe, break down its institutions, spread extremist
48 political ideas (both of Far Left, Far Right and religion-based);
- 49 • The election of a new President of the United States that has threatened to weaken
50 NATO, not defend its European allies in case of aggression and that is himself connected
51 to some of the foreign interests that are threatening our continent.

52 **Considering that**

- 53 • Russian TV reaches around 4 million Baltic States' Russian speakers and ethnic
54 Russians
- 55 • Concerned that Russia has launched Sputnik, a so called news agency, and the semi
56 secret Baltnews site, which publishes anonymously produced "news" in Estonian, Latvian
57 and Lithuanian.
- 58 • Taking into consideration that Lithuania, Moldova and Ukraine itself have blocked
59 Russian TV channels, to prevent them from exerting similar influence on their minorities.
- 60 • RFE/RL's budget today, stretched to support television, radio, web, and social media in
61 28 languages, is roughly \$100 million, while East Stratcom, the new EU unit which has
62 identified and publicized 2,500 Russia-planted fake stories over the past year, may soon
63 be upgraded to a paltry budget of €1 million out of a budget of 142 billion Euros.
- 64 • Russia's population is roughly 140 million people, while the EU's is 500 million
- 65 • Russia's GDP is of around 1300 billion US dollars, while the EU's is about 16500 billion.

66 **Concluding that**

- 67 • Pro-Russian broadcasters' influence is reflected in consistently stronger backing for the
68 Kremlin among ethnic Russians than in the general population
- 69 • Deeply concerned that citizens of the European Union are not involved in a process of
70 recognition and identification of propaganda

71 **LYMEC calls upon**

- 72 • To set up a task force, under the auspices of East StratCom, charged with identifying the
73 best methods to counter any disinformation tactics seeking to undermine the unity and
74 diversity of the EU;
- 75 • To significantly increase the EU's Strategic Communication budget, case specific to the
76 needs of East StratCom, to a percentage of the European Union's budget that gives the
77 appropriate attention to the defence of our democracies against foreign political powers'
78 propaganda and that the implementation should start at the earliest date possible;
- 79 • To guarantee that funds made to counter propaganda are fixed and will remain available
80 even in times of crisis;
- 81 • To create media campaign(s) aimed at raising awareness among European citizens
82 regarding EU channels that counter Russian propaganda
- 83 • To continue ongoing efforts in helping and building communications with Russian NGOs
84 and civil union leaders that pursue the same political goals and ambitions as those of the
85 EU;
- 86 • To facilitate as part of secondary education curriculums across EU member states, in
87 some beneficiary form, critical evaluation studies of sources and their reliability,
88 respective to the study programs
- 89 • Stands for an urgent pooling of resources aimed at creating a permanent cyberdefence
90 organisation with operational capacity to defend European countries from external
91 cyberattacks and propaganda activities.
- 92 • To pursue additional rounds of talks regarding possibilities of creating a cross-EU news
93 station, charged with countering propaganda news, thereby working to propagate the
94 values inherent in the principles and member nations of the Union;
- 95 • To bring forth a separate resolution on the proceedings regarding the creation of any new
96 news service by the time of the next Congress, following prior consultations with other
97 LYMEC member organizations.
- 98 • Asks the Bureau to create a campaign aimed at our political partners, both within the
99 Liberal family and from other political families, to promote these proposals.

100 **Keywords** Eastern Partnership, Russia, Democracy, EU Foreign Policy, Propaganda

Proposal for LYMEC Spring Congress

Proposal
902

LYMEC Spring Congress, May 12 - 14, 2017 in Stockholm

Author: LUF, SU

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The LYMEC Spring Congress may decide:

1 Resolution on Cyprus reunification process

2 *International Conflicts, United Nations, Peace Process, Cyprus, Turkey*

3 Presented at the LYMEC Congress, held in Stockholm, Sweden on the 12th-14th of May 2017

4 Noting:

- 5 • The situation in Cyprus, where the northern part has been occupied by Turkish military
- 6 forces since 1974;
- 7 • That Cyprus is a member of the European Union since 2004;
- 8 • That negotiations for a Turkish membership in the EU have been on-going since 1987 but
- 9 has been stalled due to infringements on human rights and democratic rights in Turkey;
- 10 • That the UN Secretary General started negotiations on behalf of the UN to solve the
- 11 problem over twenty years ago;
- 12 • That the first two rounds of negotiations did not result in any progress towards finding a
- 13 solution;
- 14 • That negotiations started again in May 2015, hosted by United Nations special envoy for
- 15 Cyprus, Espen Barth Eide, involving Mustafa Akinci and Nikos Anastasiades, to create a
- 16 federal two-part state without any involvement from a third state;
- 17 • That for the first time in the history of the negotiations, the leaders of both Communities
- 18 swapped maps indicating the territory of each constituent state if a solution is found;
- 19 • That not only the two communities, but also the guarantors (Greece, Turkey and the
- 20 United Kingdom) sat down at one table in order to initiate the discussion on the chapter of
- 21 security which is one of the biggest issues on the table;
- 22 • That the negotiations came to a halt in February 2017, which according to the Turkish
- 23 cypriots was because of a decision by the Greek Cypriot assembly to introduce a school
- 24 commemoration of a 1950 referendum on unification with Greece;
- 25 • That the Greek Cypriot decision has had negative effects on the current negotiations over
- 26 the island and has contributed to increased tension between the sides, according to many
- 27 Turkish cypriots.
- 28 • That Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot leaders were set to meet in April 2017 at the
- 29 UN-mandated buffer zone on the divided island.

30 Considering:

- 31 • That because of the imposed separation and division, a whole generation of Cypriots has
- 32 not been giving a chance of living together;
- 33 • That ever since the invasion and occupation of the northern part of Cyprus by the Turkish

- 34 troops, thousands of Turkish settlers have been illegally transferred to Cyprus;
- 35 • That the heated relations between the EU and Turkey due to reforms leading to lesser
- 36 democratic institutions in Turkey as well as the refugee crisis, has also re-flected onto the
- 37 dialogue on the reconciliation of Cyprus;
- 38 • That Cyprus as a member of the European Union is a matter of concern for all EU
- 39 member countries and that the development of Cyprus in terms of financial stability and
- 40 societal stability is of particular interest considering Cyprus' low growth rates over the
- 41 passed years and the geographical location at the face of the Syrian conflict and growth
- 42 of ISIS;
- 43 • That the rhetoric used by politicians on the island does not favour a reconciliation of the
- 44 Greek and Turkish Cypriots and worsens the strained climate between the communities.

45 Stating:

- 46 • That Turkey must withdraw its military forces from the island so that reunification of
- 47 Cyprus, the only remaining divided European country, could become possi-ble;
- 48 • That all the refugees must be allowed to return to their homes;
- 49 • That the Human Rights of all Cypriot Citizens must be respected and upheld;
- 50 • That everything must be done for the Cyprus problem to be solved peacefully and on the
- 51 basis of all UN resolutions for a just and viable solution;
- 52 • That politicians on the island have to maintain a language of reciprocal respect.

53 LYMEC Supports:

- 54 • The renewed efforts of the United Nations special envoy for Cyprus in promoting a
- 55 solution through direct negotiations between the two sides.

56 LYMEC Urges:

- 57 • The two sides to continue the negotiations for a speedy, just and viable solution.

58 LYMEC Welcomes:

- 59 • The contacts between LYMEC and the youth organisation Youth of the United Democrats
- 60 Cyprus as a means to empowering youth in the negotiation process and in party politics
- 61 on Cyprus;
- 62 • A peaceful, viable and lasting solution to the Cyprus issue will post a vigorous sign to the
- 63 world that diverse societies, with people from different religions, cultures and
- 64 backgrounds can live and work together in unity and peace, especially since the region
- 65 around Cyprus is faced with many tensions and problems.

66 LYMEC Hopes:

- 67 • To establish further co-operation with this organisation and other liberal political youth
- 68 organisations;
- 69 • To establish co-operation with young liberals all over Cyprus, who agree on this
- 70 resolution and who preferably have contacts with one or more of the above mentioned
- 71 youth organisation in Cyprus;
- 72 • To support youth representatives as participants in the reunification negotiation process
- 73 and as positive change agents on both sides of the now divided island;
- 74 • To see the negotiations resumed and give full support for the achievement of a peace

75 plan and fair reunification as soon as possible;
76 • To advocate for EU member states to make the struggle to reunify Cyprus a top priority
77 on the agenda in the European Union, since for many Cypriots, the full membership of the
78 European Union is the greatest guarantee for both communities.

79 Striking down resolution 9.34 Resolution on Cyprus