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Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
101

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (Quim Quatre Casas), Fédération des Etudiants Libéraux, Jonge Democraten

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Democracy at the Doorstep

2 **Keywords:** Democracy

3 *Considering that:*

- 4 • In early summer 2018, the European Parliament green-lighted the first reform of
5 European electoral law in decades, which included several interesting changes such as
6 the promotion of electronic voting or making it easier for EU citizens residing abroad to
7 vote in European elections;
- 8 • disaffection with politics, particularly but by no means exclusively among young people, is
9 one of the driving forces behind falling turnout and the rise of extremism in many parts of
10 the Western world, while politicians are increasingly viewed as distant and out of touch
11 with voters;
- 12 • the geographic and demographic size of European constituencies has a real impact on
13 these perceptions and the closeness between politicians and their voters; constituencies
14 that are too large deprive people of any meaningful connection to their politicians,
15 whereas constituencies that are too small result in extremely high effective electoral
16 thresholds that also harm European democracy;
- 17 • some EU Member States are looking at importing certain voter registration requirements
18 from the United States; while ostensibly done to prevent voter fraud, in practice these
19 measures are used to reduce turnout among certain demographic segments; and
- 20 • a true European political sphere is a *conditio sine qua non* for the rise of a European
21 demos.

22 *Recalling that:*

- 23 • the 2018 LYMEC Spring Congress passed a resolution calling for increased democratic
24 rights for EU citizens living in EU Member States other than the one in which they hold
25 citizenship.

26 LYMEC:

- 27 • reiterates its determination to fight apathy towards politics among young people;
- 28 • calls on EU Member States to ensure that the 2024 and subsequent European elections
29 are held using constituencies whose geographic and demographic size ensures a
30 meaningful connection between voters and their representatives, while avoiding

- 31 excessively small constituencies that lead to very high effective electoral thresholds;
- 32 • rejects any attempt to reduce voter turnout among certain demographic segments under
- 33 the pretence of fighting voter fraud; and
- 34 • emphasises the importance of transnational lists in European elections for the rise of a
- 35 European demos.

36 **Striking down other resolutions**

- 37 1.27 Resolution on the European electoral system

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
102

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JOVD – Benjamin Broekhuizen

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Defending Europe: a liberal common-sense approach to** 2 **joint security**

3 **Noting that:**

- 4 • The member states of the European Union have a combined defence spending on par
5 with the total defence expenditure of the People's Republic of China and the Russian
6 Federation combined.
- 7 • The various European Union member states cooperate on defence multilaterally on
8 multiple levels, both within overall NATO and EU frameworks, and outside of these
9 frameworks.
- 10 • These efforts include joint units between two or more member states and various forms of
11 cooperation pertaining to procurement and maintenance, including but not limited to the
12 Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) initiatives of the European Defence Agency.
- 13 • Several European Union NATO members currently do not meet the agreed upon NATO
14 norm of spending at least 2% of GDP on defence.
- 15 • The overall interests of European Union member states regarding defence and security
16 are often aligned and the member states regularly cooperate operationally when it comes
17 to international missions to further peace and stability.
- 18 • There do still exist examples in which the interests and considerations of member states
19 do not align, including but not limited to outermost regions or even entire countries for
20 which a member state is bound by treaty, charter, or historical considerations to provide
21 defence and security. Such examples include the French Republic, the Kingdom of the
22 Netherlands, and the Kingdom of Denmark.
- 23 • European Union member states should not and cannot continue to depend primarily on
24 the United States of America for overall security in Europe and the wider region,
25 especially given the long-term shift towards the Pacific, as well as statements potentially
26 indicating a more self-centred or even isolationist approach.
- 27 • Threats continue to evolve which require new approaches and capabilities, including but
28 not limited to cyber warfare, the development of autonomous weapons systems,
29 asymmetrical warfare, ever increasing activity of non-state actors, and terrorism.
- 30 • It is in the interest of individual member states and the European community as a whole
31 that defence funding is spent in the most effective way possible, which can be achieved
32 through close cooperation, for example by elimination inefficient redundancies in
33 procurement.
- 34 • European cooperation should not lead to the development of a European
35 military-industrial complex which could trap European cooperation into pork barrelling,

- 36 and an overall lack of competition.
- 37 • One of the most important decisions a democratic state makes is that of peace and war,
- 38 as it is a decision which will inevitably put its citizens serving in the military in harm's way
- 39 and may even pose risks to its citizenry as a whole.
- 40 • As such, the decision of whether or not to deploy troops could only ever be delegated to a
- 41 European minister of defence and the European Parliament if a democratic fully
- 42 integrated political union were to exist in which the aforementioned misalignments on the
- 43 grounds of treaty, charter, or historical considerations were resolved.

44 **Considering that:**

- 45 • European Union member states should not and cannot continue to depend primarily on
- 46 the United States of America for overall security in Europe and the wider region,
- 47 especially given the long-term shift towards the Pacific, as well as statements potentially
- 48 indicating a more self-centred or even isolationist approach.
- 49 • Threats continue to evolve which require new approaches and capabilities, including but
- 50 not limited to cyber warfare, the development of autonomous weapons systems,
- 51 asymmetrical warfare, ever increasing activity of non-state actors, and terrorism.
- 52 • It is in the interest of individual member states and the European community as a whole
- 53 that defence funding is spent in the most effective way possible, which can be achieved
- 54 through close cooperation, for example by elimination inefficient redundancies in
- 55 procurement.
- 56 • European cooperation should not lead to the development of a European
- 57 military-industrial complex which could trap European cooperation into pork barrelling,
- 58 and an overall lack of competition.
- 59 • One of the most important decisions a democratic state makes is that of peace and war,
- 60 as it is a decision which will inevitably put its citizens serving in the military in harm's way
- 61 and may even pose risks to its citizenry as a whole.
- 62 • As such, the decision of whether or not to deploy troops could only ever be delegated to a
- 63 European minister of defence and the European Parliament if a democratic fully
- 64 integrated political union were to exist in which the aforementioned misalignments on the
- 65 grounds of treaty, charter, or historical considerations were resolved.

66 **LYMEC:**

- 67 • Calls upon member states to cooperate more closely on the topic of defence and security,
- 68 especially on matters such as procurement, research and development, and cyber
- 69 security, as well as the development of long-term strategies of preventing international
- 70 conflict using diplomacy or development before defence strategies are even needed.
- 71 • Calls for the continued development of the PESCO and various other initiatives within the
- 72 European Defence Agency, to research and develop answers to the joint questions of
- 73 security in the future.
- 74 • Maintains that decisions regarding the deployment of military personnel should be made
- 75 by the individual member states, meaning that any joint EU missions are carried out
- 76 based on voluntary contributions of military power by member states.
- 77 • Maintains that all weapons systems to be developed in or procured by member states
- 78 should have a human operator in the loop making the final decision; development and
- 79 procurement of fully autonomous weapons systems should be prohibited.
- 80 • Calls upon member states which have not done so to increase structural defence
- 81 spending to at least 2% of GDP to strengthen their contribution to European defence and
- 82 security.

⁸³ *This resolution, if adopted, would archive 1.45 and its points subsequently adopted into 1.52*

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
103

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Nicoló Branchesi - Svensk Ungdom, Radikal Ungdom, Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya, Centerpartiets Ungdomsförbund

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **The European Council. A impetus, not an obstacle.**

2 Considering that:

3 • Since 2015, when the Members of the European Union experienced an unprecedented
4 increase in arrival of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, the European Council has
5 become an increasingly central actor in the decision-making process with regard to
6 asylum and migration.

7 • This role was openly expressed at the October 2017 European Council, where it was
8 underlined that "the European Council will seek to reach a consensus during the first half
9 of 2018" with regard to the revision of the Common European Asylum System. At the
10 June 2018 European Council, it was again agreed upon that "A consensus needs to be
11 found on the Dublin Regulation to reform it based on a balance of responsibility and
12 solidarity".

13 • Legally, such approach is not in line with the rules set by the Lisbon Treaty. According to
14 the Treaty, the European Council provides the EU with the necessary impetus for its
15 development and defines the general political directions and priorities thereof. The Treaty
16 does not confer any legislative power to the European Council or the possibility to
17 interfere with the institutional balance and the voting rules set in the Treaty. In this sense,
18 asylum and migration policies are included in the area of freedom, security and justice.
19 Such area is subject to the ordinary legislative procedure, where the European
20 Commission has the power to propose new legislation and where the European
21 Parliament and the Council of Ministers codecide. In this regard, the European Parliament
22 decides with simple majority and the Council of Ministers qualified majority voting.

23 • Politically, consensus voting in a polarized area such as asylum and migration is likely to
24 either reach a weak and unambitious agreement or to block the decision-making process
25 through veto. This was the case in the 18 October European Council, where a vague and

26 unambitious agreement on migration was produced after the Italian government's threat
27 to veto all agreements.

28 Believing that:

- 29 • The wording and approach entailing that reform within the field of asylum and migration is
30 subject to the unanimity rule within the European Council is problematic for both legal and
31 political reasons.
- 32 • The Lisbon treaty attributes the European Council the role of an impetus and not of an
33 obstacle for further European integration.
- 34 • The European Council has an important function as an agenda-setting institution aiming
35 at providing the union with the necessary impetus for its development.

36 Calls for:

- 37 • Migration and asylum policies to henceforth be subject to the ordinary legislative
38 procedure as set in the Lisbon Treaty.
- 39 • The European Council to stop appropriating competences that are not conferred to it by
40 the Lisbon Treaty.
- 41 • The Commission, Parliament and Council of Ministers, i.e the institutions invested with
42 the legislative power, shall also address this issue.
- 43 • The European Council to stop being an obstacle for further European integration and
44 instead be an impetus for further development as prescribed in the Lisbon Treaty.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
104

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JOVD – Rutger de Ridder

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Resolution on the future of European unity

2 Noting that:

3 . The European Union, as a cooperation of member states, has both intergovernmental and
4 supranational aspects, which are both of vital importance to the continued success of the
5 European Union.

6 . LYMEC has always been in favour of strong cooperation and integration of the various
7 aspects of member states as the means to an end, specifically peace and prosperity.

8 . Cooperation is more complex between member states which have a significantly different
9 history, economy, and culture.

10 . The European Union is based on the shared values of solidarity, freedom and democracy.
11 These values are the basis that binds the peoples of Europe together.

12 . The European Union currently has twenty-seven member states, excluding the departing
13 United Kingdom, in which the cultural, economic and political challenges differ.

14 Considering that:

15 . A stronger European Union does not necessarily mean a larger European Union: the
16 ambition of the European Union should be broader than only increasing the number of member
17 states as the means to stand up against international competitors like Russia, India, and China.

18 . The foundation of the European Union is that the Union serves the peoples of their
19 member states, not the other way around. The European institutions are subject to the principles
20 of subsidiarity: matters which can be left up to the individual member states should be left up to
21 the member states.

22 . The accession of new member states may not always be in the best interests of the Union
23 as a whole or indeed the individual member states, as it often comes at a price.

24 . The European Union needs to be wary of overpromising and underdelivering, as this may
25 prove to be one of the deadliest threats to the continued success of the European project.

26 . European integration is not complete and is executed poorly due to misunderstandings and
27 misrepresentations of which tasks should be carried out on the European level and which tasks
28 ought to be left to the member states.

29 . The European Parliament cannot readily be compared to the national parliaments of
30 member states, since it lacks full parliamentary powers.

31 **LYMEC:**

32 . Calls for a stop to the accession of candidate member states, until European cooperation
33 and integration has progressed to the level where the accession of new candidate member states
34 can be considered.

35 . Calls for a white paper on the core tasks of the European Union, where the core tasks of
36 the European Union are to be those tasks which can not be executed on the national level, such
37 as carbon emission rights, and the joint defence of European borders.

38 . Calls for a clear strategy on the integration of policies of member states on those core
39 tasks which are necessary for the European Union to start underpromising and overdelivering for
40 the peoples of Europe.

41 . Calls upon member states to make the European Parliament a real parliament, including
42 all parliamentary powers national parliaments have.

43 . Calls upon member states to raise awareness of European institutions, like the European
44 Parliament, among their citizens.

45 . Calls upon the European Commission to present a policy which underlines the importance
46 of intergovernmental cooperation between member states and reduces as far as possible the
47 necessity for supranational aspects.

48 This resolution would archive Resolution 1.01, 1.04, 1.05, 1.06, 1.10

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
105

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Venstres Ungdom, Co-sign: Radikal Ungdom, JOVD

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Sunset clause on legislation**

2 Considering that:

3 ? The European legislation grows with hundreds of new statutory instruments, laws and
4 directions every year, upon lots of already existing legislation.

5 ? In this moment there are no stimulus for the parliamentarians to review the existing legislation.

6 ? Sunset clause already exist on part of the EU legislation, namely in branch of medicine.

7 Believing that:

8 ? Old legislation are often outdated and no longer relevant for the member states

9 ? That tons of old and irrelevant legislation makes the European Parliament more complex and
10 harder to explain for citizens.

11 ? Relevant and up to date politics and legislation gives the politicians better opportunities to
12 change the existing politics, which secures a national anchoring in the European system.

13 ? To ensure growing support for the EU, it's legislation has to be updated and reflex the time we
14 live in.

15 ? True democracy is transparent for its citizens.

16 Calls for:

17 ? an expiration date on 15 years for EU legislation, with the possibility to mandatory review
18 legislation.

19 ? MO's of LYMEC and it's candidates for coming elections to campaign for a sunset clause
20 both national and international.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
106

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JUNOS - Junge Liberale NEOS

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 The Future of the EU Institutions

2 *By approving this resolution, the following LYMEC resolutions could be archived:*

3 *1.02 ("Resolution on the Reform of the European Institutions")*

4 *1.04 ("Resolution on the Post-Nice Process")*

5 *1.06 ("Debate on the Future of the EU is a Basis for Cooperation")*

6 *1.07 ("Towards the Brussels-Laeken Declaration")*

7 *1.10 ("The European Union: a state")*

8 *1.14 ("Resolution on the Future of Europe")*

9 *1.23 ("Resolution on Institutions")*

10 *1.29 ("Give power to the Parliament – the representatives of the people")*

11 *1.41 ("Transfer of the permanent seat of the European Parliament in Brussels and the creation,*
12 *in Strasbourg, of a European university of public administration, political sciences, international*
13 *relations, European law and history of the European construction")*

14 Believing that

- 15 • The European Union is a unique project for peace, freedom and prosperity, promoting not
16 only human rights but also democracy.
- 17 • The European Union is constantly facing new challenges and can therefore only have a
18 future if it is willing to reform and embrace innovation in order to be able to target those
19 new challenges properly.
- 20 • The vision of a European Federation with a common European constitution - opposing a
21 centralized state - has to be maintained to lead the way to further European integration
22 and future enlargement.

23 Considering that

- 24 • More member states are at risk of becoming increasingly nationalistic and turning away
25 from the common European idea.
- 26 • The voting turnout in European elections is generally very low, which might be improved
27 by a reform of the institutions, giving citizens more influence on the Commission's
28 political composition.

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- The European Commission has one member of each EU member state which does not reflect the political composition of the Parliament and makes decision-making fairly difficult. Furthermore, the nomination negotiation for Commissioner positions is an intransparent process behind closed doors whereas the EU parliament which is elected by EU citizens still does not have the right to propose new laws.
 - Moving the EU parliament from Brussels to Strasbourg once every month is inefficient and expensive. Other European institutions (European Commission, European Council) already have their headquarters in Brussels. However, the EU parliamentary site in Strasbourg is still a symbol for peace between Germany and France.

38 **LYMEC calls for**

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- A reform that established a more precise delimitation of competencies between the European Union and the Member States, reflecting the principle of subsidiarity.
 - The establishment of a European Federal Government which is led by the president of the European Commission who is elected through European wide voting lists with a Spitzenkandidaten system. Nevertheless, that candidate should ideally also be able to unite a majority in the EU parliament.
 - The number of European Commissioners has to be reduced. The Commission should aim at representing men and women equally.
 - The EU Parliament to be strengthened, granting it the right to propose new laws.
 - A bicameral EU parliament representing the European citizens and the EU member states has to be the strong counterpart to the European Commission and therefore needs to be equipped with several control measures.
 - A permanent EU parliament headquarter in Brussels in order to use tax payers' money more efficiently. At the current EU parliament site in Strasbourg, a European university of public administration, political sciences, international relations, European law and history of the European construction should be established as a new symbol of innovation within the European Union.
 - The further pursuit for a common EU constitution led by a European Constitutional Assembly.
 - The increase in possibilities for the Council to apply the qualified majority principle when voting on certain issues.
 - The introduction of a European Union Attorney, being able to investigate and prosecute crimes committed inside the European institutions, in cooperation with the anti-fraud unit OLAF.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
201

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Venstres Ungdom, JOVD

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Legalize pepper spray

2 Considering that:

- 3 • 35 pct of all women in the world have at some point during their life, been subjected to
4 violence or/and sexual abuse, according to WHO (World Health Organisation)
- 5 • Each year, over 1.6 million people, worldwide, lose their lives to violence. Violence is
6 among the leading causes of death for people aged 15–44 years worldwide, accounting
7 for 14 pct of deaths among men and 7 pct of deaths among women.

8

9 Noting that:

- 10 • Women from all around the world still walks around with a pepper spray in their handbag,
11 with the risk of getting punished if she choose to use it for defending herself.
- 12 • Pepper spray is not directly dangerous, and can not be used as weapon for killing.
- 13 • There have been cases of women using hair spray instead of pepper spray, for the
14 reason that it is legal to carry around, even though it can give permanent injuries,
15 opposite pepper spray, which only gives temporary injuries.

16 Believe that:

- 17 • Everyone have the right to defend themselves against abuse and violence without getting
18 punished.
- 19 • Criminals are criminals, and if they want to use pepper spray as a weapon, they don't
20 care if it legalized to carry around.
- 21 • Liberalism is about freedom and the people's right to take care of themselves.

22

23 Lymec calls for:

- 24 • Countries to legalize pepper spray to be carried in public spaces to be used as a defence
25 against criminality, especially violence, abuse and rapes.
- 26 • Countries to legalize the possibility of distribution pepper spray in stores within the
27 country, yet with a high level of security.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
202

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Junge Liberale JuLis

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Legal protection for Whistleblowers

2 Considering that:

- 3 · Democratic society thrives on transparency and openness, which makes it necessary to
- 4 protect those who draw attention to irregularities which serve the public interest.
- 5 · The currently missing legal bases and the unclear jurisdiction make it almost impossible for
- 6 informants to draw attention towards infringements, corruptions or other wrongdoings in
- 7 enterprises or authorities.
- 8 · The case of Edward Snowden showed that there can be situations in which single countries
- 9 have to fear massive economic and political difficulties if they provide asylum to whistleblowers.

10 Recognizing that:

- 11 - In 2011, the European Court of Human Rights determined that the termination without notice
- 12 of an employee on the basis of the publication of irregularities at her employer's company has
- 13 been a violation of the Human Rights Convention.

14 Believing that:

- 15 - A fair balance between the public information interest on one side and the protection of
- 16 commercial interests or possible state secrets on the other side is of crucial importance.

17 The European Liberal Youth calls for:

- 18 - A legal framework which states that employees who witness irregularities must first turn to
- 19 their employer or a comparable body which capable of finding an internal solution to the problem.
- 20 If the irregularity is not removed on the basis of this solution, employees should be allowed to
- 21 turn towards a competent external authority. Also, in this case, the employee should have the
- 22 right to make the matter public if the public interest regarding the information prevails
- 23 considerably in comparison with the interest of the business to keep their matters private and if
- 24 the personal rights of individuals are not violated in the process. An analogue regulation should
- 25 be enacted for civil servants and enable them to turn towards a competent external authority
- 26 without going through the internal official channels of the authority. These legislative changes can
- 27 be made in the according national law, but should be coordinated and monitored on the
- 28 European level.
- 29 - In specifically difficult cases, the European Union should be enabled to provide asylum to
- 30 whistleblowers as a representative of the member states. Member states taking whistleblowers
- 31 into their countries can then be certain to receive solidarity from the other member states.
- 32 - An international convention for the protection of whistleblowers. Inspired by the United

33 Nations Convention for Refugees, states should be obligated to take whistleblowers under their
34 wing, if they must fear criminal prosecution in their home countries due to their disclosure of
35 relevant irregularities.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
203

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: European Youth of Ukraine (EYU), Young Liberals (YL), Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (JNC), Ógra Fianna Fáil (OFF), Svensk Ungdom (SU), Jong Vlaamse Liberalen en Democraten (Jong VLD), Fédération des Etudiants Libéraux (FEL), Junge Liberale NEOS (JUNOS), Jonge Democraten (JD), Venstres Ungdom (VU); Spokesperson: Kateryna Melnychenko

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Resolution on condemning the persecution and torture of** 2 **journalists and activists**

3 **Endorses:**

4 - UN resolutions on safety of journalists, in particular Human Rights Council Resolution
5 (A/HRC/RES/33/2) on the Safety of Journalists (2016), the UNGA 3rd Committee Resolution
6 (A/C.3/72/L.35/Rev.1) on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (2017), the Universal
7 Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the
8 Helsinki Final Act, the European Convention on Human Rights and EU Treaties;

9 **Recognizes that:**

10 - over the past decade, according to information of Committee to Protect Journalists, more than
11 1337 journalists around the world were murdered for bringing news and information related to
12 corruption investigation to the public;

13 - in reviewing the facts of persecution within and out the EU, Daphne Caruana Galizia, was blown
14 up in her car on Malta (2017); activist Nikolai Andrushchenko from Russia was attacked and
15 afterwards died (2018) for reporting on issues provocative to the Russian regime, including
16 corruption; Slovak journalist Jan Kuciak was shot dead (2018) for investigating probabilistic
17 political corruption; Bulgarian journalist Viktoria Marinova was raped and murdered (2018) for
18 reporting on the investigation into corruption involving EU funds; Ukrainian activist and civil
19 servant Kateryna Gandzyuk, was drenched with acid and died (2018) in hospital;

20 **Alarmed:**

21 - that journalists and activists are murdered in **fight** for truth representing anti-corruption news in
22 violation of international/regional and national provisions on freedom of speech and expression;

23 - many of the killings are not investigated and the perpetrators are rarely identified;

24 **Concerned:**

25 - that journalists and activists have the right to hold opinions and to impart information without
26 interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers due to international and European
27 standards on human rights;

28 ***LYMEC calls on:***

29 - the ALDE Party and LYMEC Bureau to lobby within the ALDE Group of the European
30 Parliament to support the proposal for a regulation on condemning the persecution and torture of
31 journalists and activists, as well as to monitor the compliance of EU member countries with the
32 provisions of the European Parliament resolution on media pluralism and media freedom in the
33 European Union (2017/2209(INI)) of 3 May 2018;

34 - its member organizations to bring the topic into discussion in their respective mother parties,
35 partner organizations and government bodies;

36 - the EU institutions to defend the legitimate rights of European citizens and to condemn any
37 violation of their freedoms.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
301

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: ELSN Esther Steverding (LHG)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **European Student Card**

2 Whereas

3 - we have more than thousands of different student cards within Europe

4 Consider

5 - there is one card that is valid all over Europe

6 - increased mobility for students within Europe and with it less bureaucracy

7 - access to all higher educational services around Europe (e.g. library, canteen)

8 - data is saved digital and coded after the latest standards

9 LYMEC calls for

10 - a European Student card and every student can decide on her own if she wants to have one
11 and which information shall be stored

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
302

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: European Liberal Students' Network, LHG Spokesperson: Esther Steverding (LHG)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 European University Network

2 Noting that

- 3 • we have hundreds of national and private higher education institutions.
- 4 • the institutions have most of the time bilateral agreements with other institutions.
- 5 • a joint or double degree is often the exception.

6 Considering

- 7 • that there could be a network across universities and faculties in Europe that work
- 8 together and offers study programs altogether in cooperation.
- 9 • the European spirit could be lived and experienced during the study program.
- 10 • that the students can do their Bachelor degree at three different universities in three
- 11 different European countries and all performances are recognized.
- 12 • European values are spread and exchange would be lived by promoting the diversity of
- 13 the European languages and educating the student as a free world citizen.
- 14 • that there is an institution that supports actively the multilingualism of students.

15 LYMEC calls for

- 16 • a European University Network network of science, research, and teaching which
- 17 includes universities/ universities of applied science and/or individual faculties.
- 18 • a network that offers European specific study programs (e.g European Law) with
- 19 harmonized examination regulations and coordinated study contents.
- 20 • financed by a common core funding, jobs and research vacancies from the EU-budget,
- 21 third-party funds or with other cooperations.
- 22 • a shift in responsibilities towards the EU. The Council of education, youth, culture, and
- 23 sports should ensures the European wide accreditation of the European study
- 24 programmes

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
303

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JOVD – Anouk van Brug

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Secure innovation, how to secure smart devices**

2 **Noting that:**

- 3 . Innovation is occurring at a fast and ever-increasing pace
- 4 . Many devices have become smart and part of the so-called 'internet of things', including
5 televisions, watches, toothbrushes, and cars
- 6 . These devices have access to the internet in some way, and cybercriminals can thus gain
7 access to these devices
- 8 . No firewalls or other security measures are generally installed on these devices to keep
9 hackers out
- 10 . Vendors oftentimes do not update these devices after they have been sold, only offer
11 updates for a very limited time, or only at additional cost or effort to the consumer

12

13 **Considering that:**

- 14 . These devices are therefore vulnerable to cyberattacks
- 15 . Consumers generally seem to be unaware of this fact
- 16 . These devices often hold private information which can be stolen this way, and hacked can
17 be used as gateways into other networks, or can be used in botnets
- 18 . Hacking into devices such as cars can cause grave accidents to happen
- 19 . Digital security should be just as much of a consideration in product safety as the various
20 other aspects covered under European regulation

21

22 **LYMEC calls**

23 for the European Union to implement European product regulations to require vendors to update
24 internet-connected devices for their expected economic lifetime and to take appropriate steps
25 such as the installation of firewalls and the use of randomised default passwords to increase
26 cybersecurity.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
304

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JOVD – Anouk van Brug

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **The future isn't near, it is here: a common approach to** 2 **cybersecurity**

3 **Noting that:**

- 4 · the amount of personal and sensitive data in cyberspace is extensive and keeps increasing
- 5 at an exponential rate
- 6 · a lot of this data is stored in governmental systems, or centralised in private data centres
- 7 · the capabilities of cybercriminals are growing
- 8 · nation states and closely allied actors are also actively trying to acquire this data

10 **Considering that:**

- 11 · this data is to be private and protected, as stipulated in the GDPR
- 12 · European citizens need to be assured their data is secure
- 13 · the European Council has acknowledged these threats in their meeting in October 2018
- 14 · most governments do not have sufficient cyber capabilities ensure the security of their
- 15 systems
- 16 · governments often have to hire private enterprise to fix cybersecurity issues
- 17 · the importance of data security and cybersecurity is no less than that of defending the
- 18 physical territories of member states

19 **LYMEC calls**

- 20 upon the European Union to increase the cybersecurity capabilities of the Union and its member
- 21 states, in order to keep the private data of European citizens safe.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
401

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (Laia Comerma), Venstres Ungdom, Radikal Ungdom, Fédération des Etudiants Libéraux

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Standing behind our SMEs**

2 *Stressing that:*

- 3 • SMEs are affected by EU legislation in various fields, such as competition (Articles 101 to
4 109 TFEU), taxation (Articles 110 to 113 TFEU) and company law (right of establishment
5 – Articles 49 to 54 TFEU).

6 *Noting that:*

- 7 • The existing 23 million SMEs represent 99% of all business in the EU;
8 • In the past five years, they have created around 85% of new jobs and provided two-thirds
9 of the total private sector employment in the EU;
10 • The SMEs are particularly a well-known source of entrepreneurship within the European
11 economy, which is the foundation to ensure economic growth, innovation, job creation
12 and social integration in the EU;
13 • After the economic crisis, as reported by the SME Envoy Network, there has been a
14 strong recuperation and an increase in production and occupation in the SME sector, but
15 that they are still losing export potential due to the existing cross-border barriers within
16 the EU;
17 • The current SME Instrument will not exist under the next Multiannual Financial
18 Framework (2021-2027).

19 *Considering that:*

- 20 • The survey carried out to evaluate the performance of the Small Business Act (2008) as
21 the overarching framework acknowledges the need for a renewed strategy for SMEs with
22 a special focus on the five priority areas identified by the SME Envoy Network;
23 • The administrative and legislative burden remains the top concern for stakeholders;
24 • Access to finance remains difficult despite the actions taken both at the EU and member
25 states' level;
26 • Six Member States still generated SME value added in 2017 which was still below their
27 respective levels of 2008;
28 • The SME Instrument was particularly useful because it was self-beneficiary for the
29 participating company.

30 LYMEC welcomes:

- 31 • The European Commission’s decision to include a similar program to the SME
32 Instrument under the European Innovation Council for incremental innovation, called the
33 accelerator programme, which will help SMEs to grow through grants with no budgetary
34 limit;
- 35 • The SBA and the Commission’s intention to work for the continuous improvement of the
36 framework conditions for SMEs in the single market, as expressed in the “Towards a
37 Single Market Act – For a highly competitive social market economy” (COM(2010) 0608)
38 and the “Single Market Act II (COM(2012) 0573);
- 39 • The European Parliament’s proposal that 70% of the European Innovation Council will be
40 reserved to SMEs and start-ups.

41 LYMEC urges:

- 42 • The EU to take steps to remove cross-border barriers within its frontiers to facilitate the
43 export of products and services by SMEs, paying special attention to administrative and
44 legislative burdens;
- 45 • The EU to make a more efficient use of the existing instruments, particularly of COSME
46 financial instruments;
- 47 • The EU to keep on improving access to new markets and the internationalisation of SMEs
48 as an opportunity to grow, increase revenue and gain business experience, since
49 currently only 20% of SME exports go outside the Single Market;
- 50 • To create synergies between existing programmes to promote “early stage”
51 entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship education and support youth start-ups and SMEs;
- 52 • The EU to address the issue of the lack of skills in SMEs, especially when it comes to the
53 growing digitalisation of the economy and the spread of new technologies;
- 54 • To take into account the energy transition, which has to be fair and sustainable and be
55 carried out in a proportional manner, for what the SMEs need to prepare themselves
56 beforehand. In this regard, an incentives scheme would be a policy to consider;
- 57 • The EU to go beyond research funding and innovation funding programmes and consider
58 the unification of EU’s fewer requirements or reduced fees policies for administrative
59 compliance across member states;
- 60 • The EU to provide appropriate assistance to the SMEs in order to help them keep their
61 commercial relations with the UK in light of the possibility of a so-called hard BREXIT.
- 62 • The member states to create similar national support programmes that could create
63 synergies with the new EU funding programmes, respecting the principle of subsidiarity
64 and avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy;
- 65 • The LYMEC Bureau to forward this resolution to the ALDE Party and to the ALDE
66 Council;
- 67 • The LYMEC member organisations and member contacts in the EU member states and
68 applicant states to pressure their mother parties and other politicians to achieve the aims
69 of this resolution.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
402

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Venstres Ungdom, Liberal Youth of Sweden (LUF), CUF - Centerpartiets Ungdomsförbund, JOVD

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Cutting development aid

2 Considering that:

3 · Foreign aid constitutes a significant portion of most European countries' annual budgets, with
4 Denmark, Norway, Holland, Luxembourg, and the United Kingdom being the top donors of the
5 OECD.

6 · Recipient countries are not performing particularly better than those who do receives billions of
7 USD every year. Latest example is Botswana, whom without receiving as much as a penny from
8 the international community, has managed to become a larger economy than Bulgaria.

9 · Study from University of Aarhus (2016) concludes that 80% of the cases of development
10 aid-programs have not shown any improvement of macroeconomic performance in the long run.

11 Noting that:

12 · The evaluation of success has shown to be far too vague. The completion alone of newly build
13 schools or hospitals financed by foreign aid e.g. Tanzania, does not constitute enough evidence
14 for whether particular project has benefited the Tanzanian education system. The construction
15 would not have been made possible without already existing infrastructure, which entails that the
16 school was already in the local government's budget planning.

17 · The game theoretic model of the Samaritan's Dilemma has proved to be perfectly applicable to
18 several recipient countries. Even though donor countries threaten certain recipients by cutting
19 development-aid in exchange for improved civil rights and anti-corruption policies,
20 non-compliance still results in nothing but unchanged amounts of aid sent.

21 LYMEC calls for:

22 · All states must reconsider their effort in their assistance to developing countries. The road to hell
23 is built with good intentions, but in the long run, the fishing pole will always be more worth than
24 the actual fish.

25 · All states should increase their focus on creating incentives for businesses to invest in a
26 developing country and reduce trade barriers that are imposed upon them. By enhancing the
27 relations between the private sector and the embassies representing e.g. sub-Saharan African
28 nations, the funding will be minimized but yet significantly more focused. It is more worth
29 investing in people and local entrepreneurs rather than corrupt governments.

30 · All states to reform their foreign aid to significantly increase emergency aid, reconstruction aid
31 as well as support for democracy and human rights than development aid, which has proven
32 ineffective.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
601

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: LYMEC Bureau (Antoaneta Asenova)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Resolution on the future of our environment: climate** 2 **change, pollution and looking forward to sustainability**

3 Resolution on the future of our environment: climate change, pollution and looking forward to
4 sustainability

5 Archiving Resolutions 6.02, 6.03, 6.05, 6.09

6 Noting with grave concern the alarming trends of climate change and environmental deterioration
7 in the last couple of decades;

8 Regretting that despite the international discussions and commitments taken, the Rio Summit,
9 Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement, efforts in achieving sustainability and halting the impact of
10 climate change continue to constitute mainly paper promises;

11 *Acknowledging:*

- 12 • that according to the European Environment agency, EU greenhouse gas emissions
13 increased by 0.6% in 2017, following a 0.4.% decrease in 2016^[1], and by estimates of the
14 Agency a 32 % reduction of EU greenhouse gas emissions could be achieved by 2030,
15 compared with 1990 levels. These projected reductions fall short of the 40 % target for
16 2030.
- 17 • that human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global
18 warming above pre-industrial levels and Global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between
19 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate^[2].
- 20 • that maritime transport alone emits around 1000 million tonnes of CO2 annually and is
21 responsible for about 2.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions, shipping emissions are
22 predicted to increase between 50% and 250% by 2050, depending on future economic
23 and energy developments and direct emissions from aviation account for about 3% of the
24 EU's total greenhouse gas emissions and more than 2% of global emissions. By 2020,
25 the global international aviation emissions are projected to be around 70% higher than in
26 2005 and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) forecasts that by 2050 they
27 could grow by a further 300-700%^[3].
- 28 • that according to analyses by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the UN Food and
29 Agricultural Organization (UN FAO) total contribution of GHG from all agricultural
30 activities on the planet is between 14% to 18%^[4].
- 31 • that Global warming is a phenomenon witnessed in most land and ocean regions,
32 causing hot extremes in most inhabited regions, heavy precipitation in several regions
33 and the probability of drought and precipitation deficits in some regions^[5]. That this poses

34 the rising concern of access to water and food security and climate migration.

- 35 • that a publication of the World economic forum^[6] reaches the conclusion that policy delays
36 in climate action leads to higher ultimate CO2 concentrations and produces persistent
37 economic damages. A “delay that results in warming of 3° Celsius above pre industrial
38 levels, instead of 2°, could increase economic damages by approximately 0.9% of global
39 output. To put this percentage in perspective, 0.9% of estimated 2014 US Gross
40 Domestic Product (GDP) is approximately \$150 billion”. These costs would not be
41 incurred as one-time losses but are rather year after year because of the permanent
42 damage caused by increased climate change resulting from the delay in climate action.
43 That the matter of the economic impact of climate change lack of action was already the
44 subject matter of the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change published in
45 2006, which estimated that the costs and risks of climate change inaction will be
46 equivalent to losing from 5% to 20% or more of the global GDP each year, at the same
47 time the estimate for the annual cost of achieving stabilization of the levels of CO2
48 emissions is amounting to around 2% of global GDP per year.
- 49 • that as a consequence of Global warming, the oceans have absorbed much of the
50 increased heat, with the top 700 meters of ocean showing warming of more than 17.5
51 Celcius since 1969^[7]. The increasing ocean temperatures affect marine species and
52 ecosystems, causing coral bleaching and the loss of breeding grounds for fish and marine
53 mammals. This also causes more extreme weather events and the loss of coastal
54 protection^[8].
- 55 • that the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have decreased in mass. Data from NASA’s
56 Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment show Greenland lost an average of 286 billion
57 tons of ice per year between 1993 and 2016, while Antarctica lost about 127 billion tons
58 of ice per year during the same time period^[9]. The rate of Antarctica ice mass loss has
59 tripled in the last decade.
- 60 • that recent research indicates that global sea level rose about 8 inches (20.32 cm) in the
61 last century. The rate in the last two decades, however, is nearly double of that of the last
62 century and is accelerating every year^[10].
- 63 • that since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, the acidity of surface ocean waters
64 has increased by about 30 percent according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
65 Administration^[11]. This increase is the result of emitting more carbon dioxide into the
66 atmosphere and hence more being absorbed into the oceans. The amount of carbon
67 dioxide absorbed by the upper layer of the oceans is increasing by about 2 billion tons per
68 year^[12].
- 69 • that recent research findings indicate that Annual global production of plastics has
70 increased more than 200-fold since 1950. By 2015 cumulative plastic production was
71 more than 7.8 billion tonnes. This is equivalent to more than one tonne of plastic for every
72 person alive today. Of the global plastic produced over the period from 1950 to 2015:
73 55% straight to landfill, 30% was still in use, 8% was incinerated, 6-7% was recycled. Of
74 5.8 billion tonnes of plastic no longer in use approximately only 9% was recycled^[13],
75 whereas the global plastic waste in 2010 was 275 million tonnes. Whereas this leads to
76 severe impact on ecosystems and wildlife.
- 77 • that around 90 % of Europeans living in cities are exposed to pollutants at concentrations
78 higher than the air quality levels deemed harmful, having been estimated to reduce life
79 expectancy in the EU by more than eight months^[14].

80 Whereas:

- 81 • the EU committed itself to play a global leadership role in tackling climate change, but

82 needs now more than ever to step up its commitment and lead by example in order to
83 address its impact, as well as marine pollution and sustainable development.

- 84 ◦ free individual choices on a functioning market and international co-operation are
85 fundamental for reaching sustainable development.
- 86 ◦ the EU has developed the world's largest company-level scheme for trading in
87 emissions of CO₂, creating business opportunities for EU companies for
88 low-carbon goods and services.
- 89 ◦ Youth engagement plays an essential role in climate policy, as it is the youth that
90 will have to face the results of the decisions of today.
- 91 ◦ insisting on guaranteeing a stronger environmental protection is a long-standing
92 priority for LYMEC.

93 LYMEC calls its Member organisations, and the ALDE Party, ALDE Group members of the
94 European Parliament and Liberal Prime ministers to insist on:

- 95 • **an urgent global response, to address climate change with more tangible actions,**
96 research and investment to match the commitments made under the Paris Agreement.
97 Europe's leaders should ensure increased international cooperation, diplomatic pressure
98 and staying united on the efforts to tackle climate change, by achieving the targets of the
99 Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially as regards to the world's
100 major industrialized countries.
- 101 • **ensuring a smooth transition to EU's carbon neutral economy by 2050,** as
102 envisaged by the European Commission in its strategic plan "A Clean planet for all". We
103 insist on a firm commitment and immediate practical steps to reducing EU's greenhouse
104 emissions by 55% by 2030, compared to the 1990 levels, and reaching net-zero
105 emissions by 2050.
- 106 • **making sure that all transport models contribute to the de-carbonization strategy.**
107 We need a smart organization of the mobility network, increase in Europe's rail capacity,
108 support for the transition to low and zero-emissions vehicles and the appropriate
109 infrastructure for that.
- 110 • **working towards ending the 65 billion USD (57.5 billion Euro) fuel tax exemption for**
111 **international aviation** and a revision of the Chicago Convention as an essential step
112 towards decarbonization.
- 113 • **promoting sustainable agriculture** and targeted investment in alternative farming such
114 as rotations, soil building practices, crop-livestock diversification. Farmers should be
115 encouraged to prevent and control pests with minimal use of chemicals.
- 116 • **member states to allocate at least 2% of their GDP to environmental policies** and
117 investment in climate action;
- 118 • **introducing realistic, yet high environmental standards as an engine for new**
119 **technology and innovations.** Member states need to **increase the public and private**
120 **investment for research and development** in support of sustainable development and
121 environment-friendly technologies, renewable energy (wind power, solar energy,
122 hydropower), the use of alternative fuels, hydrogen, nuclear power, waste management
123 and fusion energy. In order to adapt to the new realities and required action, it is an
124 imperative for the European Union to support research centers, Universities and business
125 initiatives developing innovations not only in the field of introducing more green energy
126 sources, but also resource-effective circular economy and new, creative solutions to
127 tackle air, sea and land pollution. It is important in that regard, that funding supporting
128 low-carbon research is efficiently allocated under the NER 300 program, and actions
129 under the Strategic Energy Technology Plan and Horizon 2020.
- 130 • **providing design appropriate incentives to promote green public procurement** for the

- 131 private sector and private **individuals to engage in climate-friendly technologies**;
- 132 • **strengthening the European Emission Trading System (ETS)** as an investment driver
- 133 by expanding it to all carbon-emitting sectors, increasing the pace of annual reductions in
- 134 allowances to 2.2% as of 2021 and reinforcing the Market Stability Reserve. We need to
- 135 provide support for the industry and the energy sector to meet the innovation and
- 136 investment challenges of the low-carbon transition through low-carbon funding
- 137 mechanisms. In addition we want to strengthen the Clean Development Mechanism and
- 138 prospectively, reach a global emission trading system and a halt in high-carbon
- 139 investment.
- 140 • **strive for more ambition in the field of energy efficiency.** While we welcome the
- 141 recent revision of the Energy Efficiency Directive, as part of the Clean Energy package,
- 142 we insist on a 40 % binding EU energy efficiency target for 2030, annual savings
- 143 requirement at least 2% to reach the 40% target, and less exemptions provided, in order
- 144 to achieve EU's climate goals.
- 145 • the **prioritisation of food security and access to water in EU's global agenda** and
- 146 even considering it as an aspect of the security policy of the Union.
- 147 • the food produced in the EU to be sustainable and safe for the environment and the
- 148 individual. We should also invest in **information campaigns on the environmental**
- 149 **impact of food production**, including energy, water waste and long-distance
- 150 transportation.
- 151 • the EU member states should also prioritise the sustainable use of natural resources, by
- 152 reducing **food and water wastage**. Innovative solutions, for example applications and
- 153 campaigns such as "Too Good to Go", "Zu gut für die tonne" etc., which tackle food
- 154 waste need to be incentivised and supported both on national and EU level.
- 155 • a tangible **plan on reducing the use of plastic** wrappings and single-use plastics as and
- 156 transition to a minimized-plastics economy, while taking into account that market prices
- 157 have a powerful influence on the behavior of individuals and businesses. In order to
- 158 achieve this transition, a joint effort across industry, NGOs, local, national governments,
- 159 EU institutions, and our Global counterparts will be necessary. The plastics and
- 160 plastic-wrapping manufacturing businesses, enjoying access to the free single market of
- 161 the EU, the municipalities, controlling the after-use and disposal of plastics, the waste
- 162 collection and processing facilities and consumer organisations should all be involved in
- 163 the development of standards and incentives schemes for plastics use reduction. The EU
- 164 should further insist in its international communications and trade negotiations for global
- 165 standards on decreasing the use of plastics, in favour of the development of new
- 166 sustainable markets for plastics alternatives.
- 167 • that as a matter of urgency, the EU member states focus more on **preserving Europe's**
- 168 **unique nature and wildlife**, and Commission respond in cases of severe pressures to
- 169 environmental conservation such as excessive deforestation and industrial-scale logging,
- 170 large-scale infrastructure in the vicinity of protected areas, and the encroachment of
- 171 reserves and national parks by vast tourist facilities. In addition, **more attention** needs to
- 172 be paid **to the Arctic areas**, as their economic importance will grow in the upcoming
- 173 years.
- 174 • **increased awareness** of sustainable development and climate issues, not just to young
- 175 people but **across generations**, as the matter is already high in the agenda for the youth;
- 176 • finally, we insist that the EU's leaders come up with a consensus and **contingency plan**
- 177 **on how to act on the consequences of climate change**, including natural disasters,
- 178 climate migration and the projections of its impact, as it is not really in the future, it's
- 179 already happening.

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Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
701

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: JOVD – Benjamin Broekhuizen

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Securing a sustainable future for fisheries**

2 **Noting that:**

3 . The European Parliament voted to ban electric pulse fishing in January 2018 following an
4 amendment to that effect tabled by the Greens

5 . This will result the technique electric pulse fishing to be banned starting in 2021

6 . The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) issued an advice in May
7 2018 stating electric pulse trawls have fewer ecological and environmental effects when
8 compared to more traditional beam trawls when fishing for flatfish such as the common sole

9 . Electric pulse fishing especially has advantages when it comes to the sustainable
10 exploitation of the species, injuries and mortality of non-retained specimens, the mechanical
11 disturbance of the seabed, the structure and functioning of the benthic ecosystem, and the
12 impact of repetitive exposure, as found by ICES and research institutes

13 **Considering that:**

14 . The ban was informed more by fearmongering not based in any form of scientific evidence
15 and protectionist considerations than anything else

16 . Electric pulse fishing, together with other fisheries policies outlined in the LYMEC
17 programme can secure a sustainable future for fisheries by lessening environmental impact

18 . The development of electric pulse fishing can be a boost not only to the European fishing
19 industry, but can help propel the European Union forward as the home of sustainable and
20 innovative fishing practices, securing an international export market and the potential to drive
21 sustainable fishing practices worldwide

22 **LYMEC:**

23 . Calls upon ALDE, as well as its members and their youth movements, to oppose the
24 impending ban on electric pulse fishing with vehemence, as it runs counter to scientific evidence
25 and the ICES advice, and cuts off a potential source of innovation in fishing

26 . Urges the aforementioned parties to insist upon evidence-based market policy making
27 within the European Union and to oppose any form of covert protectionism stifling innovation and
28 progress when it comes to fisheries.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
702

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Junge Liberale, Centerstudenten, JUNOS – Junge Liberale NEOS

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 **Legalisation of snus and tobacco products with flavours** 2 **or certain additives**

3 Considering that:

- 4 • Article 7 paragraphs 1 and 7 European Tobacco Product Directive (EUTPD) obliges
5 Member States to prohibit the placing on the market of tobacco products with a
6 characterising flavour.
- 7 • Article 7 paragraph 6 EUTPD obliges Member States to prohibit the placing on the market
8 of tobacco products with
 - 9 ◦ (a) vitamins or other additives that create the impression that a tobacco product
10 has a health benefit or presents reduced health risks,
 - 11 ◦ (b) caffeine or taurine or other additives and stimulant compounds that are
12 associated with energy and vitality and
 - 13 ◦ (c) additives having colouring properties for emissions.
- 14 • Article 17 EUTPD obliges Member States to prohibit the placing on the market of tobacco
15 for oral use (e.g. Snus).

17 Recognizing that:

- 18 - Tobacco products and nicotine present a severe health issue.
 - 19 - An EU-Directive for tobacco products is essential to ensure the functioning of the internal
20 market in regard to those products.
 - 21 - Snus is not more harmful than the consumption of cigarettes or cigars.
 - 22 - Flavour or the before-mentioned additives do not make cigarettes more harmful either.

24 Believing that:

- 25 - Every person of age is free to choose the products they consume.
- 26 - No state has the right to patronise their citizens.
- 27 - Consumer protection requires easily accessible information and reasonable warnings for
28 products that contain nicotine, but no prohibition.

29 - The legalisation of Snus would remove one obstacle for Norway to join the EU.

30

31 The European Liberal Youth calls for:

- 32 • A reform of the EUTPD in order to legalise tobacco for oral use and tobacco products that
33 contain flavours or additives currently prohibited by Article 7 paragraph 6 letters a), b) and
34 c) EUTPD.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
901

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: Junge Liberale JuLis

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 The relationship with Turkey under assessment

2 Considering that:

- 3 • Turkey was officially recognized as a candidate for full EU-membership in December
- 4 1999, about twenty years ago and negotiations have been spanning over the course of
- 5 fourteen years now - yet, not even half of the necessary chapters which have to be
- 6 opened and completed for the accession process to be successful have been touched
- 7 until this day. The talks have reached a stalemate.
- 8 • From the coup attempt in July 2016 until November 2016, about 120,000 Turks were
- 9 dismissed or suspended from their public sector jobs, 40,000 Turks arrested, scores of
- 10 journalists rounded up and figures of the political opposition detained.
- 11 • The freedom of speech and the freedom of press are under attack in Turkey to the point
- 12 where journalists from EU-member states have been taken into custody without a fair
- 13 trial.
- 14 • Turkey's president Erdogan has recently stated that he is in favour of the death penalty.
- 15 • Turkey is financially supported by the European Union with "pre-accession aid"
- 16 amounting to several billion euros.

17 Recognizing that:

- 18 - In 2016, the European Parliament passed a resolution requesting the European Commission
- 19 to suspend the accession talks. In 2019, a European parliament committee voted to suspend the
- 20 accession talks.
- 21 - The EU General Affairs Council pointed out that Turkey has been moving further away from the
- 22 European Union and the negotiations are not leading anywhere, stating that "no further chapters
- 23 can be considered for opening or closing".

24 Believing that:

- 25 - The people of the member states of the European Union and the people of Turkey deserve
- 26 more than political stalemate. Since an accession seems to be out of question with regards to the
- 27 political development and the human rights development in Turkey, other dialogue channels
- 28 should be opened in order to foster the discourse between the EU and Turkey.
- 29 - To keep the accession talks open without any chance of success in sight is not fair - especially
- 30 not to those within the Turkish civil society who are affected by the recent political development
- 31 and must fear oppression.

32 The European Liberal Youth calls for:

- 33 - The stop of the EU-accession talks with Turkey.
- 34 - An assessment of common grounds as the basis for a new, strategic partnership which does
- 35 the people of Turkey and the people of EU-member states justice.
- 36 - to remain in dialogue with Turkey. This dialogue should take place not only at diplomatic level,
- 37 but especially at civil society level as well as on the industry and business level.

Proposal for Spring Congress

Proposal
001

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 05.-07., 2019 in Brussels

Author: LYMEC Bureau

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Spring Congress may decide:

1 Code of Conduct

2 Code of Conduct

3 Introduction to LYMEC

4 LYMEC, European Liberal Youth, is a pan-European organisation dedicated to the promotion and
5 strengthening of liberal and radical values in Europe. LYMEC is composed of liberal and radical
6 political youth and student organisations based in European countries, as well as of young
7 European individuals subscribing to the principles and values of Liberalism and Radicalism. The
8 aim of LYMEC is to strengthen cooperation among the community of young liberals and radicals
9 and channel our combined efforts towards building a better and more liberal political, social and
10 economic environment for all Europeans.

11 Aims and objectives of the Code of Conduct

12 In all our activities we embrace and underline the liberal values of freedom with responsibility,
13 and tolerance and equal rights. The main aim of this Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe,
14 inclusive environment based on equality and mutual respect and to encourage full and
15 democratic participation in all the bodies and events of LYMEC. We condemn and reject any
16 behaviour, offline or online, that may prevent the full participation and may bring damage to the
17 respect and dignity of any person that volunteer or work in the organisation or participate in
18 events, with particular reference to discrimination, sexual or emotional harassment, humiliation,
19 prejudice, segregation, stereotype or violence.

20 This Code of Conduct applies to any individual participating in any offline or online activity of
21 LYMEC, as well as to the staff and elected representatives of the organisation, also when
22 representing LYMEC externally.

23 General Principles

24 As advocates for fruitful cooperation among young people from all around Europe, LYMEC
25 rejects and condemn any kind of violence and discrimination, as the ones based on:

- 26 • Age^[1]
- 27 • Citizenship
- 28 • Disabilities or impairments of any kind
- 29 • Education and socio-economic background
- 30 • Ethics and values.
- 31 • Gender including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression
- 32 • Language
- 33 • Physical appearance

- 34 • Race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- 35 • Religion, belief, faith or non-belief

36 LYMEC requires that the behaviour of any individual participating in any offline or online activity
37 of the organisation or representing LYMEC externally must be coherent with these values
38 and promotes an inclusive atmosphere and an accessible environment in the organisation and
39 enforces non-violent communication. LYMEC has a zero tolerance approach to any kind of
40 discrimination, threatening behaviour or violence, including but not limited to bullying,
41 degradation, harassment, verbal, non-verbal, physical or non-physical humiliation and
42 intimidation. While we recognise that ideas might be conflicting and debates may get heated, and
43 though we see the freedom of expression as an undeniable right, we reject all attacks on
44 individuals.

45 Point of contact

46 The points of contact (PoC) for complaints at LYMEC Congresses are the chairs, at any other
47 event including online activities the PoC is the facilitator in cooperation with the Secretary
48 General, or if the Secretary General is involved/concerned the President and/or Vice President.

49 Procedures

50 In the case of witnessing or having received a report of any written, non-verbal or verbal violent
51 or discriminatory behaviour, conduct or discourse, the chair or facilitator of the meeting is
52 required, on their best judgment, to, in successive order and depending on severity of the action:

- 53 1. Remind participants of their obligation to act in accordance with the code of conduct;
- 54 2. Engage in a one to one chat with the offender to make sure that there is an
55 understanding of the reason of the inappropriate action;
- 56 3. Engage with the offender to explain and ask for an apology and/or retraction of the action;
- 57 4. Suspend the session and/or ask the offender to leave from the remainder of the meeting
58 or event.

59 In case the chair or facilitator was also the person receiving the original complaint, the decision
60 should when possible not be taken alone.

61 We all have an obligation to uphold the ethical standards of LYMEC. If you observe behaviour
62 that concerns you, or that may represent a violation of this Code of Conduct, please raise the
63 issue promptly, provided you feel comfortable doing so. That will allow LYMEC an opportunity to
64 deal with the issue and correct it, ideally before it becomes a violation of law or a risk to health or
65 security.

66 Any case of breach of the Code of Conduct may be referred to the Committee of Discipline and
67 Arbitrage but only on initiative by the Bureau, a member organisation or an individual member in
68 accordance with LYMEC Statutes 29(5).

69 Privacy

70 In order to protect the privacy of the concerned persons, all persons involved in a mediation
71 process are bound to silence¹²¹ and discretion about any facts they come to know during the
72 mediation process. The point of contact shall not disclose the identities of the parties concerned
73 without prior consent. Any written material about the incident that contains personal information
74 should not be stored longer than the purpose and time of solving the issue of the case requires. If
75 the Committee of Discipline and Arbitrage issue a report it must be written in a way so that no
76 persons can be identified from it.

77 Representing LYMEC

78 The persons representing LYMEC externally are the members of the Bureau and the Secretary
79 General, and in the case of IFLRY General Assemblies, the LYMEC Representative to the IFLRY
80 Bureau. In certain cases the Bureau may appoint someone else to represent LYMEC, but this is
81 always subject to prior written agreement. Members of Member organisations or LYMEC
82 Individual Members may not speak on behalf of LYMEC unless officially appointed by the Bureau
83 to do so.

84 Elected officials and staff members must refrain from taking positions on behalf of LYMEC if not
85 previously decided on by the Bureau and supported by official policy. LYMEC officials shall not
86 intervene in Member Organisations, or their mother parties, internal affairs such as by making
87 endorsements. Bureau members and the Secretary General should keep in mind that their
88 actions can be seen as taken on behalf of LYMEC, and should always consult the Bureau if in
89 doubt of what they can and may say or do.

90
91 ^[1] Setting age-limits to LYMEC events shall not be seen as age-discrimination if it is done for
92 compelling reasons such as insurance policy.

93

94

95 ^[2] except if any legal procedure requires it or for the safety of the individual

96

97