Associazione Parlamento Europeo Giovani

Preselezione nazionale 2023/2024

Prima di procedere alla stesura della proposta, si prega di leggere attentamente la "Guida alla Preselezione", in cui sono elencate tutte le istruzioni da seguire scrupolosamente. In essa sono inoltre riportati alcuni esempi di come dovrà apparire la risoluzione finale. La guida è reperibile all'indirizzo: <u>https://www.eypitaly.org/preselezione</u>

Il presente documento deve essere utilizzato per impaginare le versioni definitive della risoluzione oggetto del Bando di Preselezione PEG. Si prega di compilare tutti i campi di seguito riportati di inviare l'elaborato entro il **4 dicembre 2023** all'indirizzo e-mail: preselezione@evpitaly.org

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Alcuni partecipanti alla preselezione sono impegnati in viaggio d'istruzione in maggio, data non ancora stabilita.

Istruzioni per l'uso del presente documento

 impaginare la versione inglese nel presente documento ed eventualmente quella italiana (altrimenti eliminare il modello);

- 2) inserire i nomi degli allievi partecipanti nell'apposito spazio;
- 3) digitare il testo dell' *Aim statement* senza modificare la formattazione del corpo testo;
- 4) digitare il testo delle *because clauses* utilizzando il primo elenco (bullet point);
- 5) digitare il testo delle *by clauses* utilizzando il primo elenco (numeri arabi);
- 6) inserire il testo nello spazio occupato dalle istruzioni comprese fra parentesi quadre, che sono da cancellare;
- 7) per aggiungere una clausola, posizionare il cursore alla fine della precedente, quindi premere "invio";
- 8) per le *because clauses* non sono previste sotto-clausole;
- 9) per le *by clauses* che comprendano elenchi, utilizzare il modello 2 (lettere minuscole seguite da parentesi);

10) per spostare il modello della clausola comprensiva di elenchi, evidenziare il testo col cursore e trascinare fino alla posizione desiderata;

11) non aggiungere nulla (logo o intestazione della scuola, bandiere europee, etc.) al di fuori di quanto richiesto;

12) non modificare alcuna parte della presente impaginazione, salvo quanto necessario alla redazione della

risoluzione;

13) non modificare il formato del presente documento (es.: NON trasformarlo in formato pdf);

14) nominare il seguente file NomeIstituto_Risoluzione_23-24.

Versione in lingua inglese

Cast your vote!: In recent years, elections all over Europe have faced significant challenges relating to their transparency and accessibility. In view of the upcoming European Parliament elections in 2024, what measures can the EU and the Member States take to ensure higher participation of European citizens, and to increase their accessibility and their perceived legitimacy?

Submitted by: Giacomini Samuele, Tessitori Luca, Fabbro Deva, Costantini Elisa, Gottardo Thomas, Caliandro Leonardo, Moretti Cesare, Zorzenon Luca

The European Youth Parliament aims to increase voter turnout, accessibility, awareness and transparency in the 2024 European Parliament (EP) elections. We aspire not only to improve current voting methods and to prevent the spread of disinformation, but also to increase the transparency of elections and the perceived legitimacy of the European Union Political Parties (EUPP). In fact, we firmly believe in the importance of voting and building awareness of the EU institutions. Our goal is primarily to outline general guidelines for all Member States, thus facilitating voting procedures, and secondly to block unethical lobbying and microtargeting, promoting unbiased media channels for voters, and to inform the general public,

because

• Polling stations are mostly inaccessible to those with mobility issues,

• Electoral communication is often presented in unclear formats to individuals with visual and/or cognitive disabilities,

- Assistance in voting for those who require it may be inadequate or absent,
- In some Member States individuals with intellectual disabilities do not have the right to vote,
- In some Member States citizens can only vote in their place of residence,
- Micro targeting in advertising strongly conditions people's freedom of opinion and fair access to objective, transparent and pluralistic information,

• EUPPs cannot be held responsible for their political advertising which is a tool for the manipulation of the electors through disinformation,

• Only some EUPPs disclose their logos in political adverts misleading the receiver with apparently neutral yet biased information,

• The EP has no regulations to protect itself from unethical lobbying, cases of conflict of interest and revolving door¹ issues,

• The register for lobbying is voluntary, contains inaccurate or misleading information and lacks proper resources to effectively check the registrants' lobbying actions,

• Lobbyists have privileged access to EU officials resulting in excessive corporate influence on decision making in the EP.

• Artificial Intelligence (AI) can manipulate information more effectively leading to new and/or more dangerous forms of disinformation,

- EUPPs are not popular with EU citizens who often ignore their political agenda,
- Many EU citizens do not know how EU institutions work,
- Some news media report biased information causing people's distrust in politics and disinterest in voting,

1 A situation in which someone moves from an influential government position to a position in a private company, or vice versa.

- People who do not feel part of the European Union may have low interest in voting for the EP,
- Many citizens are unaware of the importance of exercising their right to vote;

by

1. Declares the necessity to create a General set of Guidelines for all EU Member States outlined in the following nine clauses;

2. Considers it necessary for the Member States to ensure that every polling station is accessible to anyone;

3. Endorses the EP to provide electoral communication in various accessible formats, including braille, audio, sign language and easy-to-read versions;

4. Calls upon the legislative bodies of every Member State to review and modify laws in order to ensure equal voting rights for individuals with intellectual disabilities according to the autonomy and agency criteria appointed in the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth edition text revision" (DSM-5-TR)²;

5. Proposes the Member States to introduce secure and accessible remote voting options for off-site and abroad citizens through:

a) postal voting,

b) online voting;

6. Affirms the benefits of accessibility and voter turnout by introducing mobile voting units for individuals with mobility issues;

7. Invites the Member States to establish a national system of trained volunteers to offer assistance at polling stations yet respecting the secrecy of voting;

8. Suggests that each EUPP should create a segment to explain its political agenda after every news media:

a) the segment must be translated in each Member State official language(s),

b) the segment must include an interpreter for deaf people,

c) the segment must be subtitled,

d) there must be only one segment each day repeated after every news media,

e) the segment must start just before the EP elections a number of days equal to the number of EUPPs plus two³;

9. Endorses Member States to launch national and regional advertising campaigns to invite citizens to vote;

10. Encourages Member States to promote awareness of the EU institutions and the importance of voting in schools and life-long learning centres through:

a) the creation of pamphlets to hand out to both students and the general public,

b) the promotion of educational seminars and activities about the EU citizenship that could enrich the students' and workers' Curriculum Vitae (CV);

11. Considers it necessary to create political advertising Terms of Service (TOS), thus prohibiting the use of fearmongering strategies, encouragement of hate speech, reinforcement of violent rhetoric and self-hatred and spread of fake or ambiguous news;

12. Calls upon the EP to combat microtargeting by:

a) strengthening the regulations and the punishments already in place,

b) increasing the surveillance of the legislations,

c) banning extra-EU parties from paying for EU political advertising,

² https://www.mredscircleoftrust.com/storage/app/media/DSM%205%20TR.pdf

³ The duration of the electoral silence period.

- d) banning financing for political advertising from media companies or corporations,
- e) declaring that political advertising must be regarded as neutral content by the media's algorithm;

13. Expresses the need to make political advertising bound to the EUPP so that it can be used as evidence if the EUPP is put on trial for disinformation under the "Digital Service Act" (DSA)⁴;

14. Urges the EP to regard political advertising without the visible EUPP logo as propaganda and to file charges against the EUPPs responsible under the DSA;

15. Emphasises the need of an obligatory disclaimer before any advertising informing that it is part of a political campaign and/or political program;

16. Supports the strengthening of the EP ethics body in order to effectively investigate and deal with:

a) cases of conflict of interest inside the EP,

b) revolving door issues regarding former EU officials;

17. Stresses the importance to publish all input and meetings held with EU officials by the lobbyists into the legislative process, thus ensuring transparency and accountability;

18. Recommends the EP to improve the register for lobbying by:

- a) making it mandatory for all lobbyists to register,
- b) making it mandatory to disclose all information about what issues each lobbyist is trying to influence,
- c) making it mandatory to disclose who the lobbyists are working for,
- d) making it mandatory to state how much lobbyists are spending,
- e) increasing the funds to combat suspected cases of unethical lobbying;
- 19. Demands the EP to ensure an equal access to decision makers between private corporations and public interest groups;

20. Calls upon the EP to issue a law in order to prohibit and sanction the use of AI by EUPPs to commit slander through disinformation in political debate and campaign aimed at other EUPPs;

21. Requests that the EP creates a website, directly manged by the European Commission (EC), in which each EUPP explains its political agenda by publishing an article (up to one thousand words) per week on a specific topic previously decided by the EC;

- 22. Proposes that the EP creates a digital platform managed by the EC where:
- a) citizens can forward questions only about EU institutions,
- b) the answers are public,
- c) facts and news about the EU are regularly published,
- d) the digital platform must be advertised by every national media outlet and all EU institutions;
- 23. Calls upon the EU to promote an online awareness campaign on the official EU portals.

⁴ <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022R2065</u>