EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT ITALIA ITALY



OF PORDENONE REGIONAL SELECTION CONFERENCE

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Where is the dough?: In light of the widespread farmer protests across the EU, regarding the reformation of agricultural policy, what measures can be taken by the EU and its Member States to balance innovation and competition within the agricultural sector while simultaneously ensuring stability for farms throughout the European Union?

Submitted by:

Allegra Michela De Mattio (IT), Anna Eger (IT), Samuele Giacomini (IT), Mattia Luvisetto (IT), Greogorio Nadal (IT), Giorgio Pirracchio (IT), Berna Simsek (BA, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to advance the agricultural system in the EU by achieving a balance between fostering innovation and competition with the stability of farms. Given the environmental goals set by the EU, we strive to ensure equity and viability among all farms across Europe.

Because

- A. The reformed Common Agricultural Policy (<u>CAP</u>) negatively <u>impacts</u> the economic viability of farms, posing a threat to their stability,
- B. Production prices and logistical difficulties prevent many farms, particularly smaller and more vulnerable ones, from <u>adapting</u> to new EU climate regulations,
- C. While <u>increased</u> competition can lead to lower prices for consumers, it causes concerns regarding the stability of <u>small-scale farms</u>,
- D. <u>30%</u> of agricultural areas in the EU will be at risk of land abandonment¹ by 2030, as agricultural businesses are struggling to find workers due to increasing <u>urbanisation</u>,
- E. <u>High end-emission scenarios</u>² and <u>pesticides</u> can negatively impact soil, water, and agricultural biodiversity, with a risk of up to a <u>50%</u> decrease in yields of irrigated crops such as wheat, corn and sugar beet by 2050 in Southern Europe,

¹ Land abandonment is the process by which previously cultivated or managed land is left unused or neglected, often due to economic, social, or environmental factors.

² High end-emission scenarios are situations where greenhouse gas emissions are estimated to remain high or increase significantly.

- F. Rising <u>inflation</u> is increasing economic <u>disparities</u> between small-scale farms and larger businesses, with the fluctuating prices making it more difficult to plan and manage finances,
- G. Small farmers often <u>struggle</u> to access larger markets due to remote locations, limitations in transportation, and lack of knowledge about market dynamics,
- H. 80% of payments from the EU budget for agriculture go to only <u>20%</u> of farmers, making large landowners disproportionately benefit;

- Requests the Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development (<u>DG AGRI</u>) to enhance <u>support</u> for the EU farms by increasing coverage for insurance premiums and facilitating access to risk management tools;
- 2. Urges DG AGRI to more equitably distribute subsidies for the agricultural sector to prevent unfair market practises by:
 - I. Prioritising subsidies towards farms with a smaller land area,
 - II. Providing financial support to smaller farms during periods of inflation;
- 3. Appeals the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (<u>CINEA</u>) to further support projects outside densely urbanised areas in order to improve the accessibility of rural communities to public services;
- Suggests the EU Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (<u>DG SANTE</u>) research new pesticides that are environmentally sustainable in order to prevent the loss of agricultural biodiversity;
- 5. Encourages the European Council of Young Farmers (<u>CEJA</u>) to further improve training courses for young farmers, educating them on agricultural practises aligned with the Farmer Field School (<u>FFS</u>) approach;
- 6. Encourages Member States to support, at a regional and local level, the promotion of agritourism initiatives, including agricultural festivals and farmers' markets, as part of sustainable rural development efforts;
- 7. Calls upon the Agriculture and Fisheries Council (<u>AGRIFISH</u>) to promote <u>organic products</u>³ throughout their regions, in order to raise public awareness of the significance of

³ Organic products are agricultural goods cultivated using natural methods, excluding synthetic chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMO).

agriculture, aligning with the <u>initiative</u> led by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry of Italy (<u>MiPAAF</u>).

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Culture and Education (CULT)

Motto: While Chat GPT has over 180.5 million users, teaching professionals are trying to catch any trace of AI. Over half of non-native English writing samples were misclassified as AI-generated, while the accuracy for native samples remained near perfect. How can the EU effectively implement and monitor the usage of AI while ensuring the academic integrity and digital safety of citizens?

Submitted by:

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The European Youth Parliament aims to cultivate academic integrity and digital safety of its citizens. It aims to prevent misclassification of non-native English writing samples while mitigating the negative impacts of artificial intelligence (AI)¹ on education, teaching professionals and individuals. It seeks to improve the pre-existing Artificial Intelligence (AI) detectors, support the accuracy of AI-implemented resources and raise awareness about the topic.

Because

- A. There is a lack of <u>regulations</u> available on how to <u>grade English writing tests</u> that were completed with the help of AI by students,
- B. There is an unequal accessibility to an efficient AI due to payment requirements,
- C. AI can mislead students by providing inaccurate and counterfactual answers,
- D. A significant amount of teachers believe that AI usage compromises academic integrity,
- E. The overusage of AI and other AI-related detectors under unnecessary conditions <u>provokes</u> <u>insecurity</u> in the field of education,
- F. There is a critical increase in privacy concerns such as the violation of civil and personal rights,
- G. The usage of AI excessively <u>slows down the learning process</u> by increasing poor stimulation², and decreasing motivation,

¹ <u>Artificial Intelligence (AI)</u> refers to systems designed by humans that, given a complex goal, act in the physical or digital world by perceiving their environment, interpreting the collected structured or unstructured data, and deciding the best actions to take to achieve the given goal. ² <u>Stimulation</u> is the act of encouraging of something so that it develops or becomes more active.

- H. <u>EU guidelines about AI</u> are not introduced widely to the public, which results in AI-related companies not following the regulations, and making <u>AI usage more concerning</u>,
- I. <u>AI and AI language models³</u> such as <u>Chat-GPT</u> and <u>Gemini are not accurate enough</u> to be trusted completely;

- Urges <u>the Directorate General on Research and Innovation</u> (DG RTD) to make adjustments to English and other language tests by:
 - I. Conducting them mainly in-person,
 - II. Using a protected web platform called <u>"Safe Exam Browser</u>" for turning any computer temporarily into a secure workstation, and preventing unauthorised resources from being used during an exam;
- 2. Suggests that <u>the European Institute of Innovation and Technology</u> (EIT) organises courses on AI-knowledge sharing and AI-related-text grading available for teachers to ensure valid evaluations, especially on English writing samples by:
 - I. Arranging seminars for teachers in the topics of reliable research and finding accurate and trustworthy sources such as scientific articles,
 - II. Organising online campaigns to raise awareness of the 21st-century skills of digital literacy⁴,
 - III. Building a teacher's representation group that will acknowledge the advancements in AI across teaching professionals;
- 3. Calls upon the <u>European Commission</u> to suggest a maximum market price on effective AI services and AI language models to make it affordable and accessible for everyone;
- 4. Asks the EIT to check the reliability of different AI detector programmes and improve regulations to ensure reliable open sources for everyone;
- 5. Invites <u>European Network for Academic Integrity</u> (ENAI) to inform students, school participants, and educators on the consequences of an exaggerated utilisation of AI;
- Encourages Member States to support their <u>educational institutions</u> by providing training to students, educators and teaching professionals on cybersecurity through seminars and conferences;

³ <u>AI-Language Models</u> are probability distribution over words or word sequences. In practice, it gives the probability of a certain word sequence being "valid".

⁴<u>Digital literacy</u> lays out five digital competence areas and a total of 21 digital competencies. The digital competence areas include information and data literacy, communication and collaboration, digital content creation, safety, and problem-solving.

- Reiterates the <u>Directorate General on Communications Networks, Content and Technology</u> (CNECT) to raise awareness using the power of social media on students' motivation after meeting AI tools such as <u>ChatGPT</u> and <u>Gemini</u> by:
 - I. Putting measures in place to track their students,
 - II. Displaying creativity over plagiarism with artistic AI tools;
- 8. Calls upon the <u>European Commission</u> to increase the <u>penalties</u> on Artificial Companies <u>disregarding regulations on privacy concerns</u> by implementing stricter enforcement mechanisms, and imposing substantial fines;
- Asks the EIT to enlarge AI tool databases, based on both data sets of human written texts and AI-generated content, to have more comparison possibilities and to provide academic integrity.



Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Committee on Human Rights (DROI)

Stigma Kills: In light of the discrimination encountered by drug addicts within the healthcare sector, where individuals frequently face denial of crucial medical services based on their substance abuse history, profound human rights concerns emerge. What measures should the EU implement to eradicate discrimination in the healthcare sector and ensure equitable access to medical care for individuals with a history of substance abuse?

Submitted by:

Angelica Belviso (IT), Filippo Bigi (IT), Michele Maggio (IT), Caterina Pasqualini (IT), Xhulia Troksi (IT), Beatrice Vicenzotto (IT), Donara Sardaryan (AM, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to combat the persistent structural and social inequalities and discrimination in the healthcare system. By addressing the unfair treatment by medical personnel towards people with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)¹ and the existing barriers, we strive to ensure the basic universal human right to healthcare.

Because

- A. People with SUD are subjected to <u>discrimination</u> within healthcare settings perpetuated by <u>social stigma</u>,
- B. People with SUD tend to <u>mistrust the healthcare system</u>, preventing them from getting the necessary medical assistance,
- C. Ineffective rehabilitation methods for people with SUD still subsist in the EU,
- D. Policies in place ensuring access to healthcare, often omit people suffering from SUD,
- E. Intersectionality² often <u>experienced</u> by individuals with SUD <u>further prevents</u> them from getting medical assistance,

¹<u>SUD</u> is a treatable mental disorder that affects a person's brain and behaviour, leading to their inability to control usage of substances like legal or illegal drugs, alcohol, or medications.

²<u>Intersectionality</u> is the interaction and result of cumulative effects of multiple forms of discrimination affecting the daily lives of individuals.

- F. <u>Medical error</u>³ within the primary care system⁴ concerning individuals with SUD has <u>disproportionately high rates</u>,
- G. Of thea <u>lack of training</u> and education among medical personnel regarding sensitive and individualised approaches for interacting with drug addicts considering their dignity;

- Calls upon the Member States to implement policies mandating increased time allocation for medical personnel to engage with individuals with SUD, as it affects <u>stigma reduction</u>;
- 2. Advocates the <u>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)</u> establish a dedicated hotline supporting individuals with SUD, helping them report cases of discrimination within healthcare settings and offer immediate psychological support;
- 3. Calls upon the <u>European Research Council (ERC)</u> to allocate resources for research aimed at determining the most effective rehabilitation methods at a decentralised level;
- 4. Calls upon the <u>European Commission</u> to initiate legal procedures addressing the <u>deficiency</u> <u>in secondary law</u> concerning the prevention of discrimination based on SUD;
- 5. Calls upon the <u>European Social Fund+ (ESF+)</u> to provide funding for increasing the accessibility of medical assistance by addressing language, financial, and other social barriers to healthcare;
- Encourages the Member States to expedite the implementation of a cross-national <u>Electronic Health Record (EHR)</u>⁵ tracing system for seamless access to medical records of people with SUD;
- 7. Encourages the <u>European Medical Association (EMA)</u> to develop a standardised course on medical ethics for medical personnel tailored to the specific needs of people with SUD.

³<u>Medical error</u> is a preventable adverse effect of medical care

⁴<u>Primary care</u> is the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community.

⁵EHR is the tool through which citizens can trace and consult the entire history of their health care life, sharing it with healthcare professionals to ensure a more effective and efficient service.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)

Rising Inflation, Falling Standards: The rapid rise in inflation, especially in food and energy costs, has significantly affected individuals living in poverty or with low incomes, leading to 21.7 percent of the population being at risk of poverty or social exclusion. What measures should the EU take to improve living standards?

Submitted by:

Martina Ciceri (IT), Riccardo Cuomo (IT), Leonardo Caliandro (IT), Enes Gapa (AL), Lia Scaramal (IT), Giorgio Spadotto Bellavitis (IT), Francesco Loconsole (IT), Maria Manno (IT, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to promote balanced and sustainable energy policies in the EU, focusing on renewable energy initiatives, addressing inflation concerns, and ensuring fair fund allocation based on Member States' needs. It supports measures to counter rising energy prices, improve energy efficiency, monitor energy poverty, and increase funding for renewable energy projects to achieve self-sufficiency in renewable energy production.

Because

- A. The social gap between lower-income households and the rest of the population has increased, with <u>21.7%</u> of the population being on the brink of poverty or social exclusion in 2021, marking the highest figure in the past decade,
- B. Procedures like income support measures¹ are not effective in the long-term as they <u>deprive</u> resources of addressing other structural issues such as building renovations,
- C. In 2022, high energy prices and the cost of living crisis resulted in around 9.3% of Europeans being unable to afford heat in their homes, compared to 6.9% in 2021,
- D. There are no sufficiently <u>targeted</u> and long-term objectives in the measures taken so far to protect consumers from high and volatile energy prices,
- E. There is a <u>rise</u> in the number of shocks and disruptions in the energy market due to an increased political use of energy sources and an increased EU dependence on specific energy suppliers, such as Russia,

¹ Government programs or policies aimed at providing financial assistance or benefits to individuals or households with low income or facing economic hardship: unemployment benefits, welfare payments, food assistance programs, or subsidies for essential services

- F. Climate <u>directives</u> are not sufficiently targeted, impose higher <u>pressure</u> on less developed countries, since they have fewer resources and face higher levels of inflation,
- G. The energy transition² is slowed down by the high <u>costs</u> of building green energy infrastructure and excessive <u>bureaucracy</u> linked to investments in the energy sector;

- 1. Encourages the <u>Directorate General for Energy</u> (DG Energy) to keep a balance between long-term and short-term projects and also invest in measures aimed at both promoting renewable energy and lowering inflation;
- 2. Urges the Member States to pass laws aimed at effectively countering rising energy prices;
- 3. Encourages the Member States to invest in more efficient energy usage and sources by investing in green infrastructure and prioritising natural gas over more environmentally impacting sources;
- 4. Calls upon DG Energy to implement energy policies which take into account the possibility of unprecedented disruption in energy supply and that require European gas reserves to be at a minimum constant level of 70%;
- 5. Calls upon DG Energy to track energy poverty rates by establishing dedicated monitoring bodies;
- Recommends <u>Directorate General Employment (DG Empl)</u> to promote programs such as the <u>European Social Fund (ESF+)</u> to alleviate fiscal pressure that weighs on families already in economic difficulty;
- 7. Calls upon DG Energy to reduce the energy price cap in order to reduce energy prices and to financially support enterprises and companies;
- 8. Requests <u>European External Action Service (EEAS)</u> to enter into international agreements with countries outside the European Economic Area to ensure reliable energy suppliers;
- 9. Calls upon DG Energy to lower the costs of materials for green energy projects, simplify energy sector regulations;
- 10. Calls upon the Member States to encourage diversification of domestic energy production by renewable energy sources;
- 11. Calls upon DG Energy to overview climate goals provided by <u>Fit55</u> to better accommodate every Member State, particularly less developed ones which face higher rates of inflation;

² Transition of the energy sector towards a more diversified combination of Energy sources increasing the renewable, green energies and all energies that are not dependent on importation (petrol, gas, biofuels etc.)

12. Urges the European Commission to increase funding for <u>Horizon Europe</u>, focusing on the aim of reducing production costs and improving their efficiency to cope with the continent's growing demand for electricity.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)

Going Green: In light of sustainability objectives, the environmental impact of animal product industries is apparent. The recent prohibition of lab-cultivated meat in Italy revolves around preserving culture. What measures should the EU adopt to transition to more sustainable food choices while simultaneously upholding and safeguarding cultural traditions?

Submitted by:

Daniele Andrighetto (IT), Thomas Gottardo (IT), Elisabeth Grizzo (IT), Aurelia Rocci (IT), Sofia Stephens (IT), Riccardo Taiariol (IT), Maya Natarajan (SE, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to increase awareness on the consumption and production of novel foods¹ such as lab-cultivated meat for a more sustainable future. It aims to do this while preserving cultural food heritage, enabling the coexistence of novel foods as well as traditional ones. This will be achieved while ensuring the well-being of workers affected by the transition.

Because

- A. There is <u>existing scepticism</u> towards lab-cultivated meat and its <u>potential negative impact</u> on health due to a general lack of knowledge in the field,
- B. A transition towards cellular agriculture² may <u>lead to unemployment</u> within the animal agriculture sector,
- C. The heavy environmental impact of current meat consumption with the livestock sector accounting for a total of <u>86% of agricultural greenhouse gas emissions</u>,
- D. Companies prioritise economic profit over ethical production and animal welfare,
- E. There is <u>apprehension</u> towards the loss of local culinary excellence and food heritage that do not align with sustainable food options;

¹ Novel foods refer to foods developed using new techniques and innovative methods and have not been consumed to a significant degree by humans in the EU before 15 May 1997

² Cellular agriculture is the production of animal-based products from cell cultures rather than directly from animals.

- Suggests that Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as the <u>European Vegetarian</u> <u>Union</u> (EVU) launch a media campaign about novel foods such as lab-grown meat to bridge existing knowledge gaps;
- Calls upon the <u>European Commission</u> to aid those within the agricultural sector facing unemployment or lowered wages, due to changes in food production, through initiatives such as the <u>EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation</u> (EaSI);
- 3. Calls upon the <u>Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development</u> (DG AGRI) to ensure sustainable consumption wherever possible by encouraging local sourcing of products, water conservation, eco-friendly product packaging, and reduced food waste;
- Suggests the European Commission replicate the warnings mandated under the <u>Tobacco</u> <u>Products Directive</u> for unethical animal products to discourage their purchase, thereby reducing the prioritisation of profit over ethics;
- Calls upon the <u>European Advertising Standards Alliance</u> (EASA) to further its objective of making commitments in the field of diet and nutrition by launching a media campaign promoting the coexistence between more sustainable novel foods as well as traditional foods.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)

Is it green or printed out: The urgent challenge of addressing greenwashing across sectors like agriculture, banking, business, technology, and fashion demands innovative approaches within the EU. What strategy should the EU take to ensure genuine environmental claims?

Submitted by:

Francesco Belluz (IT), Marco Bernacchia (IT), Aurora Boschian (IT), Marta Cattaneo (IT), Alex Iurcu (IT), Francesco Morrasut (IT), Inez Bloch (SE, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to decrease greenwashing across manufacturing sectors by sanctioning actors acting in bad faith. Furthermore, it aims to address the issue of greenwashing, customer deception and devious advertisement by increasing control and standards necessary for environmental certifications.

Because

- A. Companies are awarded <u>environmental certifications</u> without living up to the sustainability requirements,
- B. <u>64% of consumers</u> are not willing to pay higher prices for sustainable products, discouraging smaller startups from producing eco-friendly products,
- C. The <u>71% of European consumers</u> who aspire to buy sustainable products are misled by marketing strategies from companies that leverage colour psychology, buzzwords¹, and deceptive eco-friendly certifications into buying non-sustainable products,
- D. The <u>lack of transparency</u> regarding the usage of sustainable materials and production methods enables companies to overprice their products, deceive consumers and make fake claims concerning their sustainability,
- E. Lacking the ability of institutions such as the <u>European Environmental Bureau (EEB)</u> to control the correct application of eco-friendly laws and regulations,
- F. Lack of education on sustainability is among the primary causes of pollution,

¹ Influential words used to incentivise consumers to perceive products in a certain way, such as green, sustainable or eco friendly.

G. <u>53% of green claims</u> on productions are exaggerated, deceitful or misleading aided by the current legislative gap in sanctions;

To that end, the European Youth Parliament

- Encourages the EEB, along with environmentally focused non-governmental organisations (NGOs), such as <u>Greenpeace</u>, to control the application of sustainability certifications to prevent these being added without reason;
- 2. Advises the European Innovation Council (EIC) to award environmentally friendly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with additional funding;
- 3. Encourages <u>European Advertising Standards Alliance</u> (EASA) to promote responsible advertising and help reduce misleading green marketing;
- 4. Asks the <u>Directorate-General on Environment</u> (DG ENV) to, in addition to the EU ban for misleading greenwashing methods, establish more stringent guidelines concerning requirements to be labelled eco-friendly, as well as provide additional funds for companies who act accordingly;
- 5. Requests the <u>European Environmental Agency</u> (EEA) to place higher control over companies, to gather more complete and resounding data on greenwashing practices that are harmful both to consumers and the environment;
- 6. Encourages Member States to:
 - I. Seek counselling from environmentally focused NGOs such as Greenpeace to be assisted in further education concerning sustainability,
 - II. Establish a rewards-based <u>recycling system</u> based on the material and amount of which gets recycled;
- 7. Encourages the European Commission to:
 - I. More strictly implement the <u>Green Claims Directive</u>, to discipline the misuse of green labels deceiving consumers,
 - II. Enlarge the scope of the <u>Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism</u> (CBAM), including rewards in the form of tax cuts for those firms who operate sustainably.

Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)

Digital chaos: With escalating numbers of cyber attacks, including phishing and malware, how can the EU ensure protective measures to safeguard individuals from digital threats?

Submitted by:

Mariam Alkousee (IT), Riccardo Brunetta (IT), Matteo Del Zotto (IT), Silvia Gabelli (IT), Flavio Negrau-Varguta (IT), Paolo Pettini Bonomo (IT), Matteo Rigo (IT), Thalie Gadin (FR, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to raise awareness and provide knowledge on cybersecurity by focusing on elderly people and students. At the same time, it wishes to close the skill gap problem by supporting companies. Finally, it expects to provide funding and knowledge to the Member States who are in shortage of them.

Because

- A. Due to their lack of knowledge in the field, elderly people are more vulnerable to cyber attacks, in fact in Europe <u>69%</u> of people between the ages of 55 and 64 use the internet, but not all of them are familiar with cyber security,
- B. The elderly are more <u>sensitive</u> to phishing from hackers pretending to be authorities due to the higher trust placed in institutions,
- C. There is a <u>significant gap</u> among citizens of the EU Member States in terms of knowledge about cyber security,
- D. Cyber security is still a novel field with a limited number of specialists, despite only 3 to 5years being needed for an individual to be considered an expert,
- E. In 2023, <u>883 000</u> experts in the cyber security field were requested in the EU, with many underestimating the needed skills,
- F. Multinational companies have a larger employing possibility when it comes to cybersecurity experts, even from abroad, in comparison to their <u>small and medium</u> <u>counterparts</u>,
- G. As much as 10 terabytes of data are stolen monthly in the EU,
- H. Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, cyber attacks on European companies have risen from <u>9.8% to 46.5%</u> of global attacks,

 Many companies have <u>limited funding opportunities</u> to renovate and improve their security system;

To that end, the European Youth Parliament

- 1. Suggests the <u>European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)</u> to develop an official application to inform citizens, in particular the elderly ones, with clear and simple instructions about safety on the internet;
- 2. Requires <u>Europol</u> to make its <u>European Cybercrime Centre (EC3)</u> more accessible to all citizens, through the creation of 24/7 phone assistance;
- Advocates the <u>European Telecommunications Networks Operators' Association (ETNO)</u> to promote among all its members awareness campaigns of phishing, scams, and explain how to report them to the authorities;
- 4. Inquires the Ministries of Education of the Member States to promote the creation of local networks among cybersecurity-focused schools and companies, to ensure a smoother transition from the educational to the employment sector for those in the field;
- 5. Calls upon ENISA to guarantee an equal level of knowledge among the Member States by:
 - I. Promoting cybersecurity awareness campaigns where they are needed,
 - II. Guaranteeing that each Member State can offer high-level academic studies concerned with cybersecurity;
- 6. Demands the Council of Europe to raise awareness in the field from a young age onwards through the development of courses focused on cybersecurity in schools;
- 7. Calls upon ENISA to foster new, intensive and high-level courses in existing higher education institutions, in order to prepare effective, capable and skillful experts;
- Suggests the <u>European Commission</u> to increase the funds given to the <u>European</u> <u>Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT)</u> initiative to fight cybercrime across Europe;
- 9. Recommends the <u>Directorate General Taxation and Customs Union (TAXUD</u>) to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to invest in cybersecurity through the introduction of benefits such as tax reliefs.



Motion for a Resolution by the Committee on Public Health (SANT)

See-through rizzistance: With over 20 million EU citizens suffering from Eating Disorders (EDs), how can the EU prevent the growing incidence of EDs amongst the younger layers of its population and provide adequate and accessible treatment options for patients?

Submitted by:

Gianmarco Albanesi (IT), Andrea Lena (IT), Irene Lobello (IT), Beatrice Adriana Nita (IT/RO), Luca Tessitori (IT), Leonardo Tomaselli (IT), Erik Gapa (AL, Chairperson)

The European Youth Parliament aims to lower the prevalence of eating disorders¹ in Europe through raising awareness, improving mental health support systems for patients and financing research. The goal is to improve the quality of life of these individuals and ultimately resolve the problem.

Because

- A. Eating disorders (EDs) affect a person's physical and mental health, and <u>severely impair</u> everyday life,
- B. Individuals who suffer from an eating disorder tend to struggle with negative body image and have tendencies to <u>self-harm</u>, going as far as terminating their own life,
- C. Other feeding² or nutritional disorders can <u>lead the patient</u> towards developing an ED, <u>worsening their condition</u>,
- D. The current cost of ED treatments in the European Union is <u>1 trillion euros annually</u>,
- E. The diagnosis, the risks or the symptoms of EDs are <u>dangerously underestimated</u>,
- F. Being teased or bullied about weight is a risk factor in many EDs,
- G. As many as <u>20 million people</u> in the EU suffer from an ED,
- H. People who suffer from EDs tend to <u>self-isolate</u>, causing a more difficult healing process;

¹ An eating disorder is a mental disorder defined by abnormal eating behaviours that adversely affect a person's physical or mental health.

² A feeding disorder, in infancy or early childhood, is a child's refusal to eat certain food groups, textures, solids or liquids for a period of at least one month

- Calls upon the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (<u>DG SANTE</u>) to increase the number of public psychologists by providing financial support;
- 2. Calls upon the <u>European Medicine Agency</u> to create a public website where the risks and symptoms of EDsare clearly explained;
- 3. Requests the <u>European Commission</u> to rework <u>Horizon Europe</u>'s programme and to allocate a larger share of its budget towards research for ways to treat EDs more effectively, in order to reduce costs of treatments;
- 4. Inviting the European Commission to reform the <u>Digital Services Act</u> (DSA) and better regulate cyberspace;
- Encouraging Member States to expand their ED support hotlines³ to help patients suffering from EDs;
- 6. Recommends Member States facilitate cooperation between specialists and primary care practitioners⁴ to provide better assistance for mental health issues to patients;
- 7. Invites Member States to create more ED support groups consisting of doctors, specialists and patients for sharing experiences and establishing relationships.

³ A hotline is a telephone line that is always staffed and able to give immediate assistance.
⁴ Primary care practitioners are initial points of contact for undiagnosed diseases or pathologies between patients and the medical community.

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