



FIGHTING TERRORISM TOGETHER

Adopted at the YEPP Council in Kyiv, Ukraine

On the 5th December 2015

Recognising:

- YEPP's political programme "*A Stronger Europe in a Changing World*" adopted at the 10th YEPP Congress in May 2015, with particular reference to articles 25, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34;
- YEPP Resolutions "*Call for Prompt and Effective Measures against Terrorism in the EU*" adopted in March 2015; "*A Common Responsibility for Refugees and Asylum Seekers*" adopted in March 2015; "*In Support of a Common EU Action in the Middle East and Libya*" adopted in March 2015; "*Improving Solutions to Illegal Immigration in the Mediterranean*" adopted in March 2015; "*The Threat of European Jihadist Fighters*" adopted in October 2014; "*Review of the EU Common Position on Arms Exports*" adopted February 2013;
- YEPP Position Paper on "*Security and Defense*" 2013;
- Recent terrorist attacks in Paris, France on the 13th of November 2015; and Beirut, Lebanon on the 12th of November 2015; the downing of the Russian passenger jet in Sinai on the 31st of October; Bamako, Mali on the 21st of November.
- Continuing terror threats from extremist organisations such as ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Al-Shaabab, Boko Haram and others;
- UNSC Resolution 2170 "*Condemning Gross, Widespread abuse of Human Rights by Extremist Groups in Iraq and Syria*" adopted in 2014.

Acknowledging:

- A disastrous act of terrorism has shaken Europe on November 13th, when members of ISIS killed more than a hundred people and injured hundreds of citizens in Paris.
- Peace building is not a short-term process and frequently takes several decades;
- Economic deprivation and marginalisation by society lead to the radicalisation of young people in the Middle East and from other areas of the world such as Europe and Africa;
- States lacking structures and institutions are an open zone for the cultivation and training of extremist fighters;

- Previous airstrikes against Islamic extremists executed by the International community;

YEPP calls on:

A united response

- All EU Heads of State to join the French President in **declaring war on ISIS**. The state of emergency must be considered depending on the situation in every Member State.
- A UN Security Council Resolution for common military action against ISIS. All States that aim to defeat ISIS must be coordinated.
- The activation of **Article 5 of NATO's Founding Treaty**. An armed attack against one is an attack against all NATO allies. This would be the second time in NATO's history after 9/11.
- The EU to condemn and take action against states, individuals and institutions financing ISIS and other terrorist organisations, whether directly or indirectly.

Security and terror

- Member States need to give all necessary support to victims of terrorism.
- The European Union must **protect its external borders from terrorists**. YEPP calls for increased security on the external borders of the EU and stricter screening of incoming immigrants. The *Schengen Area* however should remain open, with extra security measures taken where deemed necessary for national security.
- Returning citizens that joined ISIS in their war of terror should be **brought to court** for their part of crimes.
- EU citizens and residents who are suspected of being related to ISIS terrorists or ISIS activities **must be arrested preemptively**. Europol together with national intelligence services must cooperate closely so as to more effectively address the emergency.
- EU governments must increase security measures to protect **cultural monuments in European capitals**. ISIS has a record of targeting and destroying landmarks of historical importance. We cannot risk a potential loss of symbols that are part of European identity.
- The Member States to fully implement the directive on *PNR (Passenger Name Records)* in external and internal flights of the EU.
- Intelligence and security services to intensify cooperation between EU Member States and third countries as well in order to stop terrorist attacks across Europe and to prepare and take preventive actions.
- Digital Multinational companies such as Sony, Facebook, Google and Twitter that are massively used by terrorists so as to recruit and organise, to cooperate with Europol in order to identify suspects and prevent attacks.

- Strengthening Europol by providing it with resources to effectively combat terrorist threats and other forms of organised crime. Europol should be transformed into a real Intelligence Service, able to receive, analyse and monitor all data sent by national authorities.
- Member States to prevent radicalisation and intensifying the de-radicalisation process in schools and universities. Ensure education programs to avoid radicalisation of young people in Europe.
- Member States to work on immigrant integration policies from an early age through values courses and language tests, with compulsory language courses for those in need of assistance. Religious diversity and tolerance through education must be ensured.
- The global community, including the UN, the EU, the African Union, the United States and the Arab League to be responsible for the sharing of information of known jihadists and their whereabouts, particularly those returning to their home countries from countries with known jihadist training sites.

Middle East

- The EU, the United States, Russia, Iran, Jordan and Saudi Arabia to continue to cooperate in facilitating negotiations between Bashar Al Assad's government and opposition groups in Syria with a view to establishing a transitional government, which will hold democratic elections within 18 months as agreed in Vienna, Austria on the 14th of November 2015.
- The UN, the EU, the Arab League and local organisations and communities to continue to work with the Afghan government and UNAMA as well as the Iraqi government and UNAMI to strengthen institutions and to further cement democracy and security in these states.
- The UN to strengthen and broaden the mandate of UNTSO to authorise further peacekeeping efforts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria to facilitate engagement with local communities and trust building.
- The global community including the UN, the EU, the African Union and the Arab League to cooperate in education and integration mechanisms to prevent radicalisation of young people.