



RESOLUTION

Moving the seat of the European Parliament and creating a European University of Digitalisation in the buildings of the European Parliament in Strasbourg

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting in Prague, 23.02.2019

Acknowledging that:

- The Treaty of Amsterdam requires the Members of the European Parliament along with their assistants and staff to commute on a monthly basis from Brussels to Strasbourg, where they attend the 12 periods of monthly plenary sessions.¹
- According to a study of the European Court of Auditors, moving the seat from Strasbourg to Brussels could generate annual savings of 114 million euro plus a one-off saving of 616 million euro if the Strasbourg buildings are successfully divested, or a one-off cost of 40 million euro if they are not.²
- The amount of CO2 created by the additional travel necessities of staff, documents and politicians has been estimated at 10,200 tons of CO2 per year.³
- The future in all the different aspects of life: work, communication, politics, travelling and much else is digitalisation – to deal with this complex topic scientifically we have to establish a European University of digitalisation.

Recognizing that:

- That the seat of the European Parliament in Strasbourg is a historical symbol. However, the member states of the European Union are getting closer over the years, especially Germany and France.
- That there are no benefits of having three seats for one institution and more money should be used to deal with the different facets of digitalisation.
- That digitalisation has a lot of upside as well as downside for our democratic society. Therefore, we have to analyse all the different aspects of digitalization and conduct research on how our society benefits best from it.

¹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/treaty/pdf/amst-en.pdf>

² https://www.eca.europa.eu/lists/ecadocuments/pl1407_letter/pl1407_letter_en.pdf

³ <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/10565686/The-farce-of-the-EU-travelling-circus.html>

- A European University on digitalisation in Strasbourg would create a unique hub on technical progress for the European Union and our economy, as well as keep the historical symbol of a united Europe in Strasbourg.

YEPP calls for:

- The Member States to unanimously inaugurate Brussels as the main seat of the European Parliament.
- The Member States to encourage France to establish a European university, whose main focus will be on digitalisation.
- The European Parliament to use its building in Strasbourg for the purpose of the European university.