



## RESOLUTION

### **WELFARE SYSTEM**

Adopted at the YEPP Presidents Council  
in Rome on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014

#### **Recognising:**

- That the freedom to travel, the freedom to live and the freedom to work wherever you want are essential rights of every citizen of the EU
- That overcoming inter-European borders is a corner stone of European peace and common identity
- That Member States of the EU have a duty to take care of their needy citizens
- That age-composition in most European countries will change in the coming decades, and that there will be fewer workers in proportion to the elderly and pensioners.

#### **Acknowledging:**

- That performance-oriented economic activity needs responsible citizens
- That there are considerable differences between the welfare systems of European countries
- That the complete opening of welfare systems within the EU for all European citizens would overstress these systems
- That state welfare systems are paid by working residents and for reasons of fairness there cannot be any automatic right to benefits for individuals who have never paid into these systems
- The changes in age-composition might stress some of the developed welfare systems within the EU.

#### **YEPP calls on:**

- The member states of the EU to strengthen their efforts to create efficient and humane welfare systems

- The European Commission to oblige Member States to take care of their needy citizens and to ensure that every minority has the same rights and opportunities
- A sustainable welfare-policy that can meet the challenge of changing age-composition.