



RESOLUTION

INTENSIFYING THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Adopted at the YEPP Presidents Council

in Rome on 1st March 2014

Recognising:

- That the EU has established its own instruments to tackle corruption:
 1. The two conventions on “the protection of the European Community’s financial interests” and the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Union or officials of the EU Member States;
 2. The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), set up in 1999, which has interdepartmental investigative powers.
- The Existence of a series of regulations against corruption, such as the criminal Law Convention on Corruption (ETS 173), the civil Law Convention on Corruption (ETS 174) the additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption (ETS 191) and the Recommendation Rec (2003)4 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on Common Rules against Corruption in the Funding of Political Parties and electoral campaigns.
- The conclusions of the Convention hosted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions.

Acknowledging:

- The correlation between corruption, low economic stability, power, embezzlement and fiscal consolidation;
- The fact that corruption comes into direct conflict with democracy and democratic ethics and values;
- Phenomena such as tax evasion, bribe money, an underground economy

and the misappropriation of public funds, which led the political system into disrepute and society in ferment;

- That the development and improvement of investigative tools and allocation of more specialised staff can help in the fight against corruption;
- That Member States and EU institutions and bodies should double their efforts to combat corruption which damages the financial interests of the EU;
- That common standards of integrity should be established for public administration across the EU as they constitute a basic value of EU policy;
- The efforts of the private sector to raise the level integrity and corporate responsibility should be supported;
- The fight against political corruption and illicit financing of social partner entities and other interest groups should be increased;
- That corruption-related issues should be addressed in dialogue with EU candidate countries and third party countries;
- That the EU should continue to make the fight against corruption an integral part of its external and trade policy;

YEPP calls for:

- Continuous monitoring of the origin of wealth of all individuals in key state positions who are responsible for the management of public funds. Tightening of legislation on the management of public funds with online disclosure as to how and where public money is spent.
- Implementation of electronic signatures for citizens across EU Member States and borders.
- Full electronic interconnection between public sector services in order to control, identify and cross check data.
- EU regulation on ministerial accountability and discontinuation of parliamentary immunity on enquiries not related to parliamentary or ministerial capacity.
- Immediate confiscation of property (in proportion to the amount of damage to the public interest) of those who have been convicted of misappropriation of public funds. The limitation statute in relation to political figures who have mismanaged public funds should also be removed.
- Reconstruction and rationalisation of legislation relating to the

prosecution of bribery and corruption to create a clear, unified legislative framework which establishes clear penalties for offenders.

- Creation of interconnected controls in commercial entrances to the EU (ports, airports, train stations) that will monitor and encode imported products in order to fight the underground economy and eradicate corruption circuits.
- Publish all European Funds managed by the European Commission and member States and list all organizations (enterprises, NGO, public companies) that received money from the EU budget.