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YEPP Resolution: On political persecutions in Ukraine

Adopted by the YEPP Council in Kyiv on September 10, 2011

Recognizing:

- The orientation of Ukraine towards integration into the European Union
- The importance of the consolidation of democracy and rule of law in Ukraine for the European Neighborhood and the future of the European Union
- Immediately after the presidential elections of 2010 that were lost by then prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko by only 3%, the new administration started investigations against her and other leaders of opposition parties. Apart from Tymoshenko, 15 ministers and deputy ministers are facing accusations by the prosecutors controlled by the Yanukovich administration.

Acknowledging:

- The progress in the negotiations for an Association Agreement and a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Zone between the European Union and Ukraine
- The selective application of law and the political persecution of the opposition in Ukraine
- The politically motivated trial against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her arrest
- The politically motivated persecution of the leadership and members of YEPP member organization Batkivshyna Moloda as well as other opposition parties
- Authoritarian tendencies in Ukraine, including restrictions of the freedom of the media and of the right for peaceful protest

- The concerns of the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and many European governments about the state of rule of law in Ukraine
- The recent setback in democratic standards might lead to the block of ratification of the Association Agreement in the European Parliament and in the national Parliaments

YEPP calls on:

- The Ukrainian authorities to stop the political prosecution of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, members of her government, members of the political party Batkivschyna and the political opposition and to guarantee the independence of the judiciary in Ukraine and to ensure the application of European standards of rule of law and democracy
- The Ukrainian authorities to stop the politically motivated persecution of the leadership and members of Batkivschyna Moloda as well as other opposition parties
- The Ukrainian authorities to ensure the successful closing of the Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Zone and the development of the further European Integration perspective for Ukraine by a strong and visible commitment to European values.
- The Ukrainian authorities to ensure transparent, fair and independent judicial procedures