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YEPP Resolution: Recognizing the sovereign Right of Countries to exploit their Natural Recourses

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

Recognizing that:

- Each country has the sovereign right to exploit its natural resources in its best interest.
- That all European Countries have signed and ratified the UN Convention of the Law for the Sea (UNCLOS III), which among other issues, it determines each country's Exclusive Economic Zone.
- That Turkey is an EU candidate country.

Acknowledging that:

- Every country has the right to exploit its natural resources, either on its own, or in co-operation with other countries.
- The Republic of Cyprus has mutually agreed and determined its Exclusive Economic Zone with Egypt and Israel and has decided to exploit its Natural Recourses within its Exclusive Economic Zone, in co-operation with the state of Israel.

- That Turkey, via its minister of foreign affairs, has repeatedly threatened Cyprus on its will to exploit these resources and that Turkey does not recognize the agreement between Cyprus and Israel.

YEPP calls on the respective EU institutions:

- To acknowledge the sovereign right of every country, including the Republic of Cyprus, to exploit their Natural Resources, as well as the obligation of any candidate country for EU-membership, to respect this right for all other EU member states.
- To condemn Turkey's efforts to interfere in an issue of bilateral agreement between Cyprus and Israel, by issuing official threats and trying to intimidate any private company that is interested to get involved with the project.
- To send a clear message to Turkey, that its accession negotiations cannot continue while at the same time, Ankara refuses to recognize the UN Convention of the Law for the Sea (UNCLOS III) and threatens other EU member states who choose to exploit their Natural Recourses, based on UNCLOS III.