

Resolution:

Measures against the pandemic influenza of A (H1N1) in Europe

The seasonal influenza coupled with recent outbreaks of the influenza A(H1N1) pose a severe threat to the public health in the European Union. Although the situation in Member States varies significantly, the epidemic threshold has been reached in many cases. The governments across the EU are taking measures against the spread of the virus. However, despite their efforts hundreds of people died as a result of the swine flu.

The state of affairs in the EU's neighborhood raises concerns too. As of November 2, 2009, 255.000 cases of flu infections had been reported in Ukraine, with 170 receiving intensive care treatment. The swine flu virus was confirmed for 22 deaths. Nine western provinces have had quarantines imposed to control the disease's spread. The authorities ordered schools to close for three weeks, public gathering were banned.

In the light of the threat posed by the swine flu pandemic and recognizing that:

- Influenza A(H1N1) constitutes a cross-border challenge to the public health in Europe,
- Ukraine is already being provided with an assistance from a number of EU Member States and third countries,
- The nature of the challenge requires necessary measures to be taken at the EU level as promptly as possible,
- The common effort to help Ukraine and other Non-Member States coping with the disease is beneficial both for them and for the European Union,

The Youth of the European People's Party calls on the European Commission and Member States to:

- Step up preparations for the flu epidemic,
- Urgently identify the scope of needs of Member States and other European countries,
- Assess potentially available pharmaceutical products and medical devices available in the EU which could be offered by to those in need,
- Assess whether the vaccines available at the EU market fulfill the necessary criteria,
- Discuss jointly the epidemiological situation in Europe and level of potential assistance for Ukraine,

- To discuss during the ministerial meetings the issue of accessibility of vaccines on the EU market for the persons not belonging to identified groups of risk.
- Strengthen research programs aimed at fighting influenza.

Adopted by the YEPP Council in Tirana, Albania, December 5, 2009