

**Draft resolution**

**“Fight corruption”**

*Proposed by*

*Junge Union (Germany)*

**Recognising:**

- Corruption is a severe threat to democracy and the rule of law, prevents market competition and blocs economic development.
- 5 • The fight against corruption is a question of the legal and moral integrity of the entire European Union and indispensable to efficiently achieve the goals of its policies.
- The European Union has reached a high level on democracy, the rule of law and market economy.

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**Considering:**

- The high levels of corruption persisting in Bulgaria and Romania after their EU accession in 2007, according to Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index published in September 2007 on which Bulgaria remains in 64th place, while Romania is 69<sup>th</sup> out of the 180 countries rated,
- 15 • the European Commission's reports on justice reform and the fight against corruption published in June 2007 proving that little progress has been made in Bulgaria and Romania since the end of 2006 and concluding that "progress in the judicial treatment of high-level corruption is insufficient",
- 20 • the new laws adopted recently by the Romanian parliament making criminal investigations into corruption more difficult, significantly reducing sanctions for corruption and increasing sanctions for journalists reporting on corruption,
- the latest Commission report issued the 4<sup>th</sup> of February that states that there is no sufficient progress in the fight against corruption in Bulgaria and Romania,

**YEPP calls on the EU and its Member States:**

- to develop and improve investigative tools and allocate more specialised staff to the fight against corruption.
  - to improve the capacity, reliability and impartiality of their legal system.
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- to consider changes in EU law to make sure that the EU can also put sufficient pressure on new Member States after their accession if their fight against corruption is not satisfactory.

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**YEPP particularly calls on the governments and law making bodies of Bulgaria and Romania**

- to continue with their programs of judicial reform and their fight against organized crime and corruption on all levels.
  - to stop any legal initiatives that could undermine the fight against corruption.
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- YEPP fully supports the EPP member parties in Bulgaria and Romania as well in all other EU Member States and Candidate States in their consistent fight against corruption and for the rule of law.