

**Resolution**

**'External Border Control – A Need for Area of Freedom, Security and Justice'**

**Acknowledging that:**

- Effective external border control is a necessity of any area of freedom, security and justice;
- Efficient external border control is vital in combating drug smuggling, human trafficking and illegal migration;
- Trade-marks, designs and intellectual property act as important legal safeguard for the protection of producer's rights and quality control;
- Smuggling and contravention of customs regulations undermines the financial stability of certain countries;
- Siphoning VAT is a direct threat to the states' national security and finances organized crime.
- The Resolution passed by the YEPP Council in Cork, March 2008, on the Fight Against Corruption.

**Considering that:**

- The political will of governments is to prioritize the fight against organized crime;
- Effective customs control and the fight against organized crime is crucial in the guaranteeing the economic stability of certain countries

**YEPP is appealing to EU and the member-states:**

- to elaborate and implement more efficient measures for the combating and the coordinating of the fight against smuggling, tax fraud and the importation of counterfeit goods.

- to implement more efficient measures via an improved inter-state cooperation of the equivalent services in the respective countries for the investigation and prevention of VAT-related frauds,
- to envisage necessary and innovative legislative measures and reforms to guarantee a more effective policy to combat smuggling, tax fraud and the import of counterfeit goods by the strengthened of the outer borders of the EU.
- To implement more efficient measures for restricting drug smuggling, human trafficking and illegal migration.

**YEPP appeals to the governments of the new EU Member States, forming as they do the outer border of the Community:**

- To continue with adequate reforms and with the strengthening of border control in order to make more efficient and effective the combating of smuggling, tax fraud, the importation of counterfeit goods - and the priority of restricting drug trafficking, human trafficking and illegal migration;
- The reforms in the security-related services should not be done at any cost, but they should ensure the preservation of the stability of the border control services and their respective personnel;

To restrain any parliamentary or governmental reforms that could restrict or slow-down the fight against organized crime and illicit smuggling.

*Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting, 6 September 2008*