



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

RESOLUTION

Supporting Transatlantic Unity and Cooperation

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting via Zoom, 24.04.2021

Recognizing that:

1. The USA and Canada are two crucial strategic partners, allies and close friends of European nations since WWII, with who we fully share our common values: democracy, equality, the rule of law, strive for protection and expansion of human rights and personal liberties.
2. The USA and Canada plays a central role in European security, especially so within NATO framework, that gives American and Canadian allies in Europe clear security guarantees.
3. The European Union and the United States have the largest bilateral trade and investment relationship and enjoy the most integrated economic relationship in the world”,¹ while economic, trade and investment relationships with Canada are also highly valuable and important for the EU.
4. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the added value of transatlantic unity and solidarity, especially with regards to cooperation and partnership in vaccine production and distribution, to ensure health and security of both continents.

¹ European Commission. 2021. *Trade policy. Countries and Regions. United States*. European Commission. <https://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/united-states/>

Acknowledging that:

1. EU relationships with Canada in recent years were boosted by signed CETA trade agreement, intensified digital, climate and military cooperation.^{2, 3}
2. At the same time, the relationships between the EU and the USA in previous couple of years were rather cool and can be broadly associated with increased tariffs and trade barriers, disagreements on WTO reforms, policy on China, Paris Climate Agreement, Iran nuclear deal, big tech taxation, privacy standards as well as other issues.
3. During the recent years concerns over the poor state of transatlantic relationships were expressed countless times both by politicians, political experts and prominent think tanks.^{4, 5} However, there is a clear sign of wish for a positive developments, especially from the US, where current State Secretary defined the aim of “rebuilding and revitalising alliances” including “transatlantic partnership” as the priority for the USA foreign policy.⁶
4. Transatlantic relationships are too important for European nations, our partners across the Atlantic and the world in general. Therefore, we must come together with our Transatlantic partners to find a common ground and common solutions to existing problems. It is also important not just to sustain, but deepen the cooperation, to boost transatlantic unity in order to have stronger representation internationally.
5. As biggest youth organization in Europe, YEPP is capable to help the cause.

² European Commission. 29.10.2020. *Statement by President von der Leyen at the joint press conference with President Michel and Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, following the EU-Canada Leaders' meeting via videoconference.* European Commission. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_20_2007

³ Department of National Defense. 2021. *Operation REASSURANCE.* DND. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-reassurance.html>

⁴ Kirchick., J. 25.05.2018. *Europeans want to break up with America. They'd do so at their peril.* Brookings Institute. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/05/25/europeans-want-to-break-up-with-america-theyd-do-so-at-their-peril/>

⁵ The Economist. 05.07.2018. *The Western alliance is in trouble. That should worry Europe, America and the world.* The Economist. <https://www.economist.com/leaders/2018/07/05/the-western-alliance-is-in-trouble>

⁶ France24. 23.03.2021. *US Secretary of State Blinken travels to Europe to mend ties with EU, NATO allies.* France24. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210323-us-secretary-of-state-blinken-heads-to-europe-to-mend-ties-with-eu-nato-allies>



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

YEPP calls on:

1. The YEPP board to increase bilateral dialogue with both Young Democrats of America and Young Republicans. Same shall be done in regard to Young Conservatives and Young Liberals of Canada. Due to unique natures of both North American political systems and differences with European political system, both youth organizations from Canada and the US more or less share the core values of the YEPP.
2. The YEPP board to reach out already mentioned youth organizations in order to develop common events and projects that our organizations can provide to European and American youth.
3. The YEPP board and four mentioned youth organizations to establish yearly “Transatlantic Youth summit” by that renovating and upgrading similar project that was held in 2015.⁷
4. The European Parliament and EPP to begin discussions on possibility to create EU financed exchange, training and scholarship programs for European, American and Canadian students, graduates and experts, who wish to gain transatlantic experience (similar existing projects: ERASMUS+, SALTO-YOUTH, Fulbright, FLEX and Benjamin Franklin Program).
5. The European Parliament, European Commission and European External Action Service to uphold strong Transatlantic stance and to begin to search ways how to address existing challenges in the EU-US relationships, also proposing to our American partners new negotiations on Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) – a comprehensive trade agreement with the US.
6. Unicode Consortium to introduce NATO flag-emoji as millions of Europeans, Canadians and Americans perceive this flag as a symbol of Transatlantic unity and cooperation.

⁷ International Republican Institute. 12.11.2015. *Young Leaders from Both Sides of the Atlantic Gather in DC for 2nd Transatlantic Youth Summit*. *International Republican Institute*. <https://www.iri.org/web-story/young-leaders-both-sides-atlantic-gather-dc-2nd-transatlantic-youth-summit>



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

7. The transatlantic stakeholders to further the cooperation and partnership in vaccine production and distribution, to enhance transport and economic ties, and enable mobility of citizens, especially of young people.