

## COMMITTEE ISSUES

### POOL A:

#### Country Allocation

Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Sweden - Turkey – Australia – (15)
--

### 1. Committee on Development (DEVE) - Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age (AIDA)

#### The question of AI's position in the EU

With the emergence of Artificial Intelligence as a significant force, various concerns have been raised, including data privacy and security, ethical complexities, and workforce disruption. Meanwhile, AI has continuously been improving and evolving, rendering us unable to keep up with its rapid pace.

Considering the Artificial Intelligence Act of 2024, how should the EU move forward? How can the European Union invest into this cutting-edge development and ensure the accountable and responsible use of AI in supporting human activity?

### 2. Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

#### The question of EU-US relations

The European Union and the United States have a longstanding partnership which is built on shared values, interests, military, and economic ties. However, with shifts in US leadership, ensuring continuity and stability in transatlantic relations becomes crucial. Bearing in mind that the US elections are imminent, how can the EU assume a more defined role in the longstanding partnership between the two transatlantic partners?

### 3. Committee on Industry, Research, and Energy (ITRE)

#### The question of a climate-neutral continent

In view of the climate crisis, the EU must become a climate-neutral continent as quickly as possible. Taking that statement into account, the Commission proposed a coordinated withdrawal from the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) by the European Union and its member states, as it considers the Treaty to be no longer compatible with the EU's climate goals

## 60<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEP ATHENS 2024

under the European Green Deal and the Paris Agreement, predominantly due to concerns over continued fossil fuel investments.

How should the EU move from this point forward to truly become a climate-neutral continent while abiding by the European Green Deal and the Paris Agreement's goals?

### 4. Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)

#### **The question of a more integrated European Union**

As the European Union contemplates further deepening its integration in various policy areas, the issue of opt-outs among Member States presents a complex challenge. While some countries have negotiated opt-outs from specific EU policies or initiatives, such as the Eurozone or Schengen Area, others seek closer integration and participation in all aspects of EU governance.

How can the EU reconcile the diverse interests and preferences of Member States regarding opt-outs while advancing deeper integration to address common challenges and promote cohesion within the Union?

### 5. Committee on Culture and Education (CULT)

#### **The question of a European Degree**

A blueprint for a European Degree in higher education was recently introduced by the Commission that strives for a transnational cooperation between higher education institutions.

How can the EU promote this movement further as well as improve and support the already existing blueprints in order to assure European students get the highest possible quality of education throughout the EU?

**POOL B:****Country Allocation**

Belgium, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain - Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia – Norway, United Kingdom (17)

**6. Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)****The question of skills mismatch in the European Union**

The issue of skills mismatch in the EU's internal market has been increasing. According to OECD reports, approximately 80 million European workers possess skills that are incompatible with their jobs, leading to either overqualification or underqualification.

How can educational policies across the EU adapt to the changing environment of the EU's internal market? What changes can be introduced to schools and universities to ensure an effective absorption into the job market?

**7. Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)****The question of Tech monopolies**

Recently, the European Union has started to crack down on monopolistic tactics of several tech mogul companies that prevent competition and deliberately limit the choices of consumers, by issuing heavy fines and changing regulations.

How can the Union further protect consumers and tech companies alike from unfair competition by multi-billion corporations while also ensuring that it does not breach free market laws and non-governmental intervention?

**8. Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs - Subcommittee on Legal Affairs (LIBE/JURI)****The question of the rise of authoritarianism in Europe**

After the COVID-19 Pandemic and Russia's invasion in Ukraine, many European Nations saw a rise of far-right, authoritarian governments and an increase of votes for far-left extremist parties.

## 60<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEP ATHENS 2024

How can the EU ensure the continued democratic values it advocates remain in place throughout its Member States? How can Member States counteract the rise of extremism on either side and outside the political spectrum without violating the freedom of free speech and freedom of thought of their citizens?

### 9. Committee on Environment, Public Health, and Food Safety (ENVI)

#### **The questions of crisis prevention and management against wildfires and floods**

In recent years, a combination of deliberate actions and the effects of climate change have led many European Member States to face freak weather conditions that lead to wildfires, droughts, extreme freezes, or severe flooding. All the damage comes at a great cost of innocent lives and monetary needs for repairs.

How can the European Union best prepare itself to prevent and respond to these incidents in the future? How can each Member State help to combat freak weather effects?

### 10. Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)

#### **The question of rising housing prices**

From 2010 to 2024, housing prices have risen by 42% making it difficult to impossible for young people across Europe to enter the property market. As a result, getting on to the housing ladder whether as an owner or tenant has increased the social and wealth divide.

Which measures can be taken by the EU to encourage Member States to make affordable housing possible for young people? How can the EU deal with the housing issue becoming a growing indicator of its citizens' socio-economic status?

#### **POOL C:**

#### **No Country Allocation**

### 11. THE MEDIA COMMITTEE:

Report and article writing skills required to cover daily events, film and photo reports, collages for social media coverage, for MEP Europe Fb and Insta; website design; live coverage; gossip to cartoon; photo story etc.