6th National Selection Conference of EYP Georgia

June 14-17, 2012

DELEGATES' PREPARATION KIT

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I Committee Topics

For your information you will find a list of all 7 Committee Topics. Always be aware of the work of the other Committees, since everybody will participate in the final discussions of the General Assembly.

II Committee Topic Preparation

Overviews: The overviews are written by the Committee chairpersons to serve as background material. They aim to identify the key issues at stake while synthesizing the topic area. The objective is naturally to keep these overviews as balanced as possible, yet they may not receive unanimous consent. It should be noted that the EYP strongly encourages independent thinking so feel free to disagree!

Keywords: The non-exhaustive list of keywords intends to facilitate searching for information, may it be documents, news items or articles, at different types of search engines, news websites and encyclopedias.

Research Links: As regards the suggestions for research links, the list is by no means exhaustive. Rather than citing individual links, we have preferred indicating links to websites where several relevant documents and articles can be found. Please note that the EYP is not responsible for the contents on various websites; the texts reflect the opinions of their authors only.

We wish you successful preparation and interesting reading!

Ani Nozadze   Tornike Zurabashvili   Bircan Kilci
(Vice President)   (President)   (Vice president)

I Committee Topics

1. Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)
Low youth representation in the staff pools of European Institutions and national governments. How should the EU and individual member states ensure that the youth voice is heard in governing bodies throughout Europe?

2. Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)
Should smoking be totally banned in public and workplaces or should there be separate smoking sections in buildings in Europe?

3. Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)
What measures should the European governments take to minimize the increasing energy dependence on Russia?

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Politicization of the Eurovision Song Contest: What should the European states do to ensure the contest is conducted in a manner that is free from political implications?

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In light of growing anti-Schengen sentiment, what is the best balance between a sustainable migration strategy and freedom of movement in Europe?

6. Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)
Three years since the Eastern Partnership project was inaugurated. What further steps should the European Union take to enhance its relations with its Eastern Neighbors?

7. Committee on Culture and Education (CULT II)
How best can the EU and other stakeholders protect the cultural identity of religious minorities across Europe, whilst actively encouraging them to play a part in the greater European community?

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)

Low youth representation in the staff pools of European Institutions and national governments. How should the EU and individual member states ensure that the youth voice is heard in governing bodies throughout Europe?

Overview

Kofi Annan, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations once stated: "No one is born a good citizen, no nation is born a democracy. Rather, both are processes that continue to evolve over a lifetime. Young people must be included from birth." The young people are the source of dynamism in every public or private institution throughout the world. In the EU, around 95 million Europeans are aged 15 to 29, which is almost fifth of the entire EU population. The youth however show a very sporadic involvement in civic and political affairs both on state and on EU levels.

Youth underrepresentation is especially salient when it comes to leading public policy positions in the EU. For instance, European Commission hires a very low percentage of youth as staff members (http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/docs/europa_sp2_bs_sexe_x_age_en.pdf), an indication that youth is very low-represented in important governing positions. The problem in this regards in twofold: one the one hand the EU and national governments lack the political will to ensure greater youth representation and on the other, the youth themselves are pessimistic about their involvement in civic and political affairs.

In 2009 the European Commission adopted a new EU strategy for youth policy for the coming decade: "Youth – Investing and Empowering". The strategy outlines two very important facts in regards to young people in Europe: first, young people are the most vulnerable part of the European community, especially in times of current economic crisis; second, in the aging European society, youth should play a special role. The young generation is decreasing in numbers and the present 20% share in EU population is projected to dwindle to 15% in 2050. With decreasing young population of Europe, the need for Europe's youth to be able to benefit from civic and political opportunities, rises.

With this scenario in mind, you must respond the two very important questions: "What steps should the European Union take to ensure larger participation of youth at EU institutions" and "What should the individual Member States do to ensure higher youth representation at national government offices?"

By Tornike Zurabashvili and Irakli Grzelishvili

Keywords: Youth, European Union, Youth Representation, Low youth turnout in elections, Youth empowerment.

Useful Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - Statistical data on the young in the European Union
   http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Youth_in_Europe
   - European Commission Youth Policy Overviews
   http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-policies/evidence-based-policy-making_en.htm

2. *Official sources:*
   - EU Youth Report - European Commission
   http://ec.europa.eu/youth/documents/youth_report_final.pdf
   - Youth in Europe - A statistical portrait
   http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-78-09-920/EN/KS-78-09-920-EN.PDF
   - Traineeship opportunities for young people in the European Institutions
   http://ec.europa.eu/stages/index_en.htm
   - Distribution of officials and temporary agents by gender and age in the European Commission
   http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/docs/europa_sp2_bs_sexe_x_age_en.pdf

3. *News articles and other materials:*
   - Youth Voter Participation: Involving Today's Young in Tomorrow's Democracy
   http://archive.idea.int/df/99df/daniela-int2.html

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

Should smoking be totally banned in public and workplaces or should there be separate smoking sections in buildings in Europe?

Overview

Each person has a right to free personal development, which includes the right to smoke. However, one can exercise his/her rights until it infringes others' rights. Recent studies show that approximately 19,000 non-smokers die each year in the European Union because of the impact of second-hand smoke. Due to the fact that smoking affects non-smokers as well, many countries have prohibited smoking in public places.

It is also argued that, while protecting non-smokers' rights, smoking ban infringes smokers' rights. As smokers cannot spend a long time without smoking, they cannot spend considerable time at public areas, that in turn restricts them from visiting certain places.

Some think that separate smoking sections at certain public spaces (e.g., clubs and restaurants) might be a good solution; however, others claim that separate smoking sections are not enough to control the smoke. Total ban of smoking could highly influence businesses, as smokers would not go to non-smoking places, thereby reducing their clients. Enforcement of anti-smoking laws stands as another problem. If some businesses obey the rules and others not, the honest businesses will suffer the most. That is why authorities shall assess the risks of implementation and take necessary actions in order to manage them.

In the light of abovementioned arguments, it is still uncertain how it can be ensured that the rights of smokers and non-smokers are equally protected.

By Ani Nozadze

Keywords: Passive smoking, Smoking ban, Second-hand smoke, Separate smoking spaces, Smoking in public spaces.

Useful Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - Attitudes of Europeans towards Tobacco
   http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_272c_en.pdf
   - Smoking Ban
   http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smoking_ban

2. *Official sources:*
   - World Health Organization – Smoke Control
   http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/mediacentre/news/control_smoke/en/index.html
   - Implementation of Smoke-free Laws in the EU
   http://ec.europa.eu/health/archive/ph_determinants/life_style/tobacco/documents/tobacco_implementation_en.pdf
   - European Union and Tobacco Control
   http://www.eurunion.org/eu/images/stories/euinsight-smoking-6-11.pdf

3. *News articles and other materials:*
   - Passive Smoking kills 60.000 people annually worldwide
   http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-11844169

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)

What measures should the European governments take to minimize the increasing energy dependence on Russia?

Overview:

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) are highly dependent on Russian energy, especially the natural gas and oil. The European Commission estimates that Europe's total imports of natural gas will increase from 55 percent to 84 percent by 2030.

At present, oil and gas are also available from Europe's neighbours other than Russia; however, even with the availability of alternative suppliers, the question of how this gas gets to Europe remains unanswered. Gazprom currently controls almost all of the gas pipelines supplying Europe from its East, with 80 percent transported via Ukraine. The crises over oil & gas deliveries from Russia to Ukraine have again triggered virulent criticism about Russian energy strategies and its qualities as a stable supplier.

Russia and Europe will need each other in the next twenty years for several reasons. First and foremost, investments for the gas sector must grow at 5 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) in order to meet the energy needs and it will require an industrial and financial partnership with western companies. Therefore, Russia needs Europe as a customer as much as Europe needs Moscow's merchandise.

However this type of co-dependency has not fostered a healthy relationship between Russia and Europe so far. Europe's over-reliance on Russian energy is a fundamental strategic weakness of Europe and this particular question should be responded by innovative ideas in the field of energy and very careful diplomatic efforts.

Bearing in mind the contemporary energy setting of Europe and Russia, what would you suggest to decrease the dramatically increasing demand of Europe on its eastern energy supplier?

By Nana Maisuradze and Sophio Bokuchava

Keywords: Energy dependence, Russia, Energy Policy, Energy Security, Renewable energy, Gazprom, European Union.

Useful Links:

1. Introductory material:

- Russia in the European Energy Sector
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia_in_the_European_energy_sector
- Europe's Strategic Dependence on Russia
http://www.policyarchive.org/handle/10207/bitstreams/13043.pdf

2. Official Sources:

- Energy Strategy for Europe
http://ec.europa.eu/energy/index_en.htm
- Russia and Europe's Mutual Energy Dependence
http://jia.sipa.columbia.edu/russia-and-europe%E2%80%99s-mutual-energy-dependence
- Energy Production and Imports
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Energy_production_and_imports

3. News Articles, papers and other materials:

- Analysis: Energy dependence and supply in Central and Eastern Europe
http://www.euractiv.com/energy/analysis-energy-dependence-supply-central-eastern-europe/article-155274
- Europe's energy dependency and Russia's commercial assertiveness
http://www.ecipe.org/media/publication_pdfs/europe2019s-energy-dependency-and-russia2019s-commercial-assertiveness-what-should-the-eu-do.pdf
- Poland's Push to reduce Energy Dependence
http://www.defenceviewpoints.co.uk/articles-and-analysis/polands-push-to-reduce-energy-dependence
- EU Plans New Energy Deals to Cut Dependence on Russia
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/3448247/EU-plans-new-energy-deals-to-cut-dependence-on-Russia.html

Committee on Culture and Education I (CULT I)

Politicization of the Eurovision Song Contest: What should the European states do to ensure the contest is conducted in a manner that is free from political implications?

The Eurovision Song Contest (ESC) was first held in Lugano, Switzerland and only had a total seven participating countries. Back in 1956, the ESC was designed as an entertainment TV show and a tool to promote friendship between European nations. In recent years, the number of participating countries gradually increased and reached 42 at the last song contest held in neighbouring Azerbaijan.

Protests and political implications at "Eurovision" is not an old fact for the song contest. The Armenian refusal to participate in Azerbaijani "Eurovision" was yet another example of bringing the international politics into the music world. Others argued that letting a human rights violator Azerbaijan to hold the song contest was not a right decision.

The contest has also been criticized of having an unacceptable degree of political bias: the voters vote not according to how good or bad the song was, but according to the relationship of their and the other countries. The voting trends show that the neighbouring countries allocate a higher percentage of votes to their neighbours or their kin states. Here, some would say that the closer the nations are the more likely it is that the two understand each other's art. Whereas others would find political implications deeply rooted behind this voting behaviour.

Looking at the facts above, what should the European states and the Eurovision organisers do to ensure that the judgement is based on objective reality and in a manner that is free from political implications.

By Bircan Kilci

Keywords: Eurovision Song Contest, ESC politics, Eurovision political voting, Eurovision protests

Useful Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - Eurovision Song Contest
     http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurovision_Song_Contest
   - Voting at the Eurovision Song Contest
   http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voting_at_the_Eurovision_Song_Contest

2. *Official Sources:*
   - Official website of Eurovision
   http://www.eurovision.tv/page/baku-2012

3. *Newspaper articles and other materials:*
   - The Politics of Power, Pleasure and Prayer in the Eurovision Contest
   http://www.doiserbia.nb.rs/img/doi/1450-9814/2007/1450-98140707039B.pdf
   - Eurovision Politics
   http://edition.cnn.com/2012/05/24/showbiz/eurovision-politics/index.html
   - Eurovision: political contest?
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_jQz6PlqTo
   - Eurovision 2012 – Sweden wins in politically charged Azerbaijan
   http://world.time.com/2012/05/27/eurovision-2012-swedens-loreen-wins-in-politically-charged-azerbaijan/?xid=rss-topstories
   - Politics – Nothing New for Eurovision Song Contest
   http://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2012/05/25/politics-nothing-new-for-eurovision-song-contest/
   - Azerbaijan Eurovision - Dirty Secret
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJqpVK29EYo&fb_source=message
   - The Eurovision Song Contest. Is Voting Political or Cultural?
   http://ecares.org/ecare/personal/ginsburgh/papers/153.eurovision.pdf
   - Cultural Voting - The Eurovision Song Contest
   http://webdoc.sub.gwdg.de/ebook/serien/e/CORE/dp2005_6.pdf
   - Eurovision Protests
   http://www.globalnews.ca/Pages/PhotoGallery.aspx?id=6442648864
   - Baku Eurovision Protests
   http://www.rferl.org/content/baku-eurovision-protests/24593744.html
   - The Politics of Eurovision
   http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/22/opinion/22watts.html

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

In the light of growing anti-Schengen sentiment, what is the best balance between a sustainable migration strategy and freedom of movement in Europe?

The Schengen Agreement is a treaty signed on 14 June 1985 near the town of Schengen in Luxembourg, between five of the ten member states of the European Economic Community. Five years later, it was supplemented by the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement. Together these treaties created Europe's Schengen Area, which operates very much like a single state for international travel with external border controls for people travelling in and out of the area, but with no internal travel restrictions for those with one of the Schengen State Citizenship or the Schengen Visa.

Under the Treaty of Amsterdam, the Schengen regulations were implemented into the EU legislation. Currently, the Schengen area consists of 26 European States with a total of more than 400 million inhabitants. Even though the Agreement is usually viewed as one of the ground legislations of the EU, not all of the EU member states are the part of the Agreement; Non-EU countries, such as Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, however, are. Despite all of the positive achievements of the Agreement, some exceptional situations have arisen, challenging its existence.

In July 2011, Denmark decided to introduce tighter custom controls on its borders, claiming the given change would help fighting illegal immigration and drug trafficking. The EU and Germany remained highly sceptical about the conformity of the measure to the EU legislation. Before the question could be clarified, the newly elected Danish government abolished the abovementioned measure in October 2011.

Another case of a temporary utilization of pre-Schengen style border controls occurred during the Arab Spring in early 2011. As the amount of refugees entering Italy from Northern Africa via the Mediterranean increased to the amounts that were never anticipated, Italy decided to give residence permits to approximately 25,000 Tunisian refugees, thus enabling them to travel around the Schengen area freely. France and Germany, concerned by the prospect of a vast number of Tunisian immigrants entering their territory, threatened to impose stricter border controls; for a couple of hours, France blocked trains carrying the immigrants at the station of Ventimiglia in April 2011. An EU investigation following the events came to the conclusion that "police checks carried out by French authorities remained within the limits compatible with the Schengen Borders Code. On the basis of the information received on the checks, it cannot be concluded that France would have carried out systematic checks in the internal border zone with Italy during the past months"[1].

Following the Danish and the French re-installation of border controls, the European Council debated a reform of the Schengen agreement, including – amongst other measures – a new body with the competence of setting up temporary border controls when appropriate. Apart from the issue of (temporarily) re-introduced border controls within the Schengen area, the external border with non-

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[1] http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/11/538&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

Schengen neighbouring states has been subject to criticism, especially by human rights non-governmental organisations. Those claim that with stricter controls on external borders, individuals willing to enter the Schengen area illegally are driven into the open arms of smugglers and hence are more likely to be exploited upon arrival at their destination. Also, people willing to enter the Schengen area illegally take higher risks to cross the external border, leading to an alarming rate of mortality on those borders. The German organisation ProAsyl claims that between 1994 and 2004 more than 5000 people died trying to cross the external border in the Mediterranean.

The expansion of the Schengen Area remains controversial. The notion that cross-border criminality rose after the 2007 expansion of the Area (encompassing 9 out of 10 2004-joined EU member states, with Cyprus staying out for the time being) and is set to further rise with the planned accession of Romania and Bulgaria still lingers.

With the question of internal border controls remaining unsolved and a lasting pressure of immigration within the area and from outside, how can or how should the Schengen Agreement be reformed, finding balance between various above-mentioned concerns, such as the potential increase in crime rates and the principle of freedom of movement?

By Ia Tserodze and Shota Adamia

Keywords: Schengen agreement, Schengen area, Amsterdam treaty, Freedom of Movement (EU), Illegal immigration, European Council, EU-legislation, Reform of Schengen agreement, FRONTEX.

Useful Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - Factsheet about Schengen
   http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4361.html
   - BBC: Questions & Answers about the Schengen agreement
   http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-13194723
2. *Official Sources:*
   - The original Schengen Agreements
   http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:42000A0922%2801%29:EN:HTML
3. *News articles and other materials:*
   - France & Italy calling for a reform of Schengen
   http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-13189682
   - Warsaw Business Journal about the reform of Schengen
   http://www.wbj.pl/article-56742-schengen-governance-reform-another-dilemma-for-the-eu.html?type=wbj
   - Press release: Proposals by the European Commission about the reform of Schengen –
   http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1036&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en
   - Reactions to the proposals by the European Commission of the Group of the European People's Party
   http://www.eppgroup.eu/press/showpr.asp?prcontroldoctypeid=1&prcontrolid=10596&prcontentid=17851&prcontentlg=en
   - Website of the European Conservatives & Reformists Group
   http://www.ecrgroup.eu/schengen-reform-proposals-show-commision-has-not-listened-news-397.html
   - Proposals by the European Commission

http://www.euractiv.com/justice/malmstr-vows-defend-fantastic-schengen-project-news-507722

- The Mission and the tasks of Frontex

http://www.frontex.europa.eu/about/mission-and-tasks

- Information about the "Eurodac" system

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/l33081_en.htm

- SIS (Schengen Information System)

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/policies/borders/borders_sis_en.htm

- The threat for Schengen zone to fail

http://esharp.eu/oped/hugo-brady/5-schengen-s-black-swan-moment/

Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

Three years since the Eastern Partnership project was inaugurated. What further steps should the European Union take to enhance its relations with its Eastern Neighbours?

Overview

Eastern Partnership program (EaP) being inaugurated in Prague on 7th of May, 2009, was supposed to complement the northern dimension with establishing institutionalized medium for discussing visa agreements, free trade deals and strategic partnership agreements with the EU's eastern neighbours. Being directly supervised by European Commission, Eastern Partnership program consists of the following post-soviet countries: Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia. Those counties, at varying degrees, trying to confront with loads of political, social and economic issues, show how vulnerable they still can be when their own security and safety questions are involved. The conflict in Georgia in August 2008 can serve as the perfect example. It has been acknowledged that what happens in the countries in Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus, affects the European Union.

It is obvious that facing with the challenges of answering pressing needs at its Mediterranean borders, EU stays focused on the south. However, the seemingly stable situation in the East has the potential to become as turbulent as in the south. The promotion of democracy and human rights in the Eastern neighbourhood is unarguably more important than ever. While the exact degree of the failure of the EaP remains contested, it is clear that the EaP has resulted neither in more democracy or in better governance, nor in more stability or prosperity in the post-Communist countries.

Moreover, over the past three years, the EaP has been criticized by academics and practitioners of focusing too much on bilateral cooperation with partner governments and too little on the needs of the civil societies in the partner countries.

All in all, prospective for reaching the main goals of the project, such as: promoting democracy and good governance, strengthening energy security, supporting economic and social development, increasing stability, still stay uncertain and vague in the light of future possible steps towards these counties.

By Sopho Konjaria

Keywords: Eastern partnership, Enhanced relations, Possible future steps for EaP.

Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - Eastern Partnership community

http://www.easternpartnership.org/
- Eastern Partnership

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Partnership

2. *Official Sources:*
    - European Union External Action

http://eeas.europa.eu/eastern/index_en.htm

3. *News Articles and other materials:*
    - 'Eastern Partnership' – opening a new chapter of Polish Eastern policy and the European Neighbourhood Policy?

http://isp.org.pl/files/8679201040703671001213792577.pdf

    - European Union's Eastern Partnership: Chances and Perspectives

http://www.cria-online.org/7_3.html

    - Russia and Eastern Partnership

http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Digital-Library/Policy-Briefs/Detail/?lng=en&id=117373

    - Debating the Eastern Partnership: Perspectives from European Union

http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/ipg/2011-3/04_balfour.pdf

Committee on Culture and Education II (CULT II)

How best can the EU and other stakeholders protect the cultural identity of religious minorities across Europe, whilst actively encouraging them to play a part in the greater European community?

Overview

A large proportion of the EU member states view themselves as 'multicultural' states. Multiculturalism as a concept recognizes, celebrates and maintains the different cultures or cultural identities within society in a non-confrontational way. A multicultural society is the one that offers equal status to all cultural and religious groups and guarantees recognition of all social aspects.

Less than a decade ago, multiculturalism was heralded as a way of integrating minority groups by allowing them to speak their own language as well as hold their own cultural and religious values. However, there have been also critics who warned that it poses a threat to the social cohesion of the state. Many of Europe's politicians, notably David Cameron, Nicolas Sarkozy and Angela Merkel, have claimed: "Multiculturalism, has failed, utterly failed."

Such attitude has become the source of inspiration even for some radicals residing in European Countries. Increased number of immigrants and the danger of so called "Muslim Colonization" is said to be the main reason of the well-known massacres of 2011 in Norway. Anders Breivik, Norwegian accused mass murderer, bombed the government buildings in Oslo, which resulted in eight deaths. He then carried out a mass shooting at a camp of the Workers' Youth League (AUF) of the Labour Party on the island of Utøya where he killed 69 people, mostly teenagers.

In the context of Europe with rising immigration rates there has been an increased rigidity regarding religious practices and symbols. In particular, the *burqa (veil)* and other appearance-shrouding clothing cause a lot of controversy. But there are important differences between states in this argument. In Germany for example, where a large minority of Turkish migrants live, it is a voluntary act to wear the veil and not an imposed one. In France, with its strong attachment to secularity (*laïcité*), it is forbidden to wear religious symbols in public institutions and government administrations. The *burqa*, for example, was banned from public schools in 2004.

Whilst the EU has not been granted any responsibility over religion, several community acts approach the topic aiming to guarantee and protect religious freedoms. The most important document on the European level is the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) of the Council of Europe and in particular it's Article 9.2 concerning freedom of thought, conscience and religion which also makes reference to the limitations in manifesting one's religion or belief. In accordance with Article 52.3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the freedom of thought, conscience and belief may be subject only to the limitations set out by the European Court of Human Rights. The Lisbon Treaty integrates the Charter of Fundamental Rights as part of EU law and is the first one that has included all churches and religious communities. The purpose of this is to shed light on how important it is for Europe to keep freedom of religion as well as the freedom of not having a religion.

In the conditions of strengthened radical movements, to what extent should the EU seek to promote multiculturalism? With increasing migration between EU member states, particularly migration from former Soviet-bloc countries and Turkey to western EU states, can we speak about

enhancing EU Multiculturalism? Or should the openness to other cultures be a matter for individual states to determine?

By Asmat Naskidashvili

Keywords: Freedom of religion; Anders Breivik; ECHR; Multiculturalism; Religious symbols; Religious tolerance; Secularity.

Useful Links:
1. *Introductory material:*
   - EUREL – Religions in Europe
   http://www.eurel.info

2. *Official sources:*
   - European Parliament: Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union - Article 10, Freedom of Thought Conscience and Religion
   http://www.europarl.europa.eu/comparl/libe/elsj/charter/art10/default_en.htm
   - Summaries of EU legislation: Human Rights
   http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/human_rights/index_en.htm
   - European Commission: Jacques Barrot, EU Commissioner for Justice, Freedom and Security
   http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/barrot/welcome/default_en.htm
   - European Commission: Directorate General Freedom, Security and Justice
   http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/index_en.htm

3. *News articles, papers and other material:*
   - Center for European Policy Studies: 'Integration' as a Process of Inclusion for Migrants? The Case of Long-Term Residents in the EU
   http://www.euractiv.com/29/images/CEPS%20Migration_integration_tcm29-137142.pdf
   - How True are Breivik's claims
   http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/apr/17/breivik-claims-basis
   - Germany's Merkel declares multiculturalism "has failed"
   http://www.robinshepherdonline.com/germanys-merkel-declares-multiculturalism-has-failed-but-can-europe-deliver-with-a-viable-alternative/
   - Nicolas Sarkozy joins David Cameron and Angela Merkel view that multiculturalism has failed
   http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1355961/Nicolas-Sarkozy-joins-David-Cameron-Angela-Merkel-view-multiculturalism-failed.html
   - Find Articles: Liberalism and the Limits of Multiculturalism
   http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qa3683/is_200104/ai_n8946092/
   - Shadid and van Koningsveld: Islam, European Identity and the Limits of Multiculturalism
   http://diana.ugent.be/menarg/publications/multicul.pdf
   - Euro zone: freedom of Expression and its Limits
   http://www.eurozine.com/articles/2006-03-03-rosenberg-en.html
   - Forbes.com: Europe Backs Away from Multiculturalism
   http://www.forbes.com/2006/11/17/multiculturalism-assimilation-europe-biz-cx_1120oxford.html

- BBC News: So what exactly is multiculturalism? (Different aspects of multiculturalism in Europe and analysis of the current situation)

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/3600791.stm

- Education, Multiculturalism and the EU Charter of Rights

http://www.bath.ac.uk/esml/conWEB/Conweb%20papers-filestore/conweb5-2002.pdf