

## Declaration of the European Parliament on devoting more attention to youth empowerment in EU policies

The European Parliament ,

– having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas, the Commission in its White Paper 'A new impetus for European youth' (COM(2001)0681), which Parliament examined in its resolution of 14 May 2002(1) , adopted the objective of devoting more attention to young people in other policy fields, especially education and lifelong learning, employment, social integration, health, youth autonomy, mobility, fundamental rights and non-discrimination,

B. whereas the European Council of 22 - 23 March 2005 adopted a 'European Youth Pact' as one of the instruments contributing to the Lisbon objectives, and renewed its commitment in March 2008, insisting on the need to invest in youth now and in the future,

C. whereas the Commission reflected the need for the mainstreaming of youth issues in its Communication of 5 September 2007 on 'Promoting young people's full participation in education, employment and society' ( COM(2007)0498),

D. whereas it adopted its resolutions of 19 June 2007 on a regulatory framework for measures enabling young women in the European Union to combine family life with a period of studies(2) and of 21 February 2008 on the demographic future of Europe(3) , thus highlighting the need to take greater account of youth,

1. Calls on the Commission, when preparing legislative proposals, to consider and incorporate the impact on youth and the results of the structured dialogue with youth organisations, in particular in the policy fields referred to in recital A;

2. Calls on the Member States to focus on youth when implementing the Lisbon national reform programmes and to take youth into account in the relevant policy fields;

3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the European Youth Forum.

### List of signatories

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- (1) OJ C 180E, 31.7.2003, p.145.
- (2) OJ C 146E, 12.6.2008, p.112.
- (3) Texts Adopted, P6\_TA(2008)0066.