



# Try on the treaty

## Rules

### I General provisions

1. The organizer of the competition Try on the Treaty the Online Game (hereinafter referred to as the Game) is the Polish Robert Schuman Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the Organizer) seated in Warsaw (Poland), Al. Ujazdowskie 37/5, registered under KRS number: 0000023615.
2. The game lasts from 17th September 2010 till midnight, 17th December 2010. It is divided into two phases (from 17th September to 1st November and from 2nd November to 17th December 2010). Points are awarded in each phase independently.
3. Only the citizens of the Member States of the European Union are allowed to take part in the Game. Citizens of the overseas territories of the UE Member States are excluded from the Game.
4. Minors are allowed to take part in the Game.
5. The participation in the competition is free of charge.
6. After the registration, each person will log in by using a personal login and a password (this person is hereinafter referred to as the Contestant). Submitting false data may be the basis for dismissing the Contestant from the Game. It may also result in the Organizer discharging themselves from other obligations resulting from the Game Rules. The Organizer has every right to change the rules of registration.
7. The number of the Game Contestants is unlimited.
8. The Contestant may have only one account for the Game.
9. The Contestant agrees to receive the information regarding the competition via e-mail.
10. English is the Language of the Game.
11. The behaviour of the Contestants is based on a mutual respect and may not cause any disturbance of the Game. The Organizer has every right to exclude the Contestant violating the provisions of the Game Rules.
12. The organization of the Game and the actions of the Contestants of the Game are subject to the law in force in Poland.

### II Registration

1. In order to register, the Contestant fills in the form available on the official website of the Game.
2. It is possible to register as long as the Game takes place.
3. While registering, the Contestant gives their real name and last name, the birth date, the country of residence and the mail. The refusal to submit these information means the resignation from taking part in the Game. Later, the Contestant chooses a commission, a parliamentary group and an EU Member State they want to represent in the Game. It does not have to be the country of residence nor the country of origin of the Contestant.
4. During the Game, the Contestant has an access to their data but they are not allowed to

- change the following information: a name, a last name, birth date and the country of residence.
5. The Organizer has every right to verify the forms and to dismiss the Contestant.
  6. The prizes are awarded only to the Contestants who have submitted true personal data during registration.
  7. The Registration of the Contestant means that they give the permission to process the personal data for the needs of the Game and the Organizer's future educational projects (in accordance with the bill of 29th August 1997 about the protection of personal data as amended) .
  8. Every Contestant may register to the Game only once. If the Organizer finds that a given person has been registered more than once, they have the right to cancel additional identities along with the points awarded to them. In extreme cases, the Organizer may dismiss the Contestant from the Game.

### **III Course of the Game**

1. The Game takes place only on the website [www.treaty.pl](http://www.treaty.pl) and [tryonthetreaty.eu](http://tryonthetreaty.eu).
2. The rules of the Game are specified by the Organizer in the Rules. The Organizer has every right to change the rules of the Game. The Organizer is allowed to perform the final interpretation of the Rules.
3. The Contestants gain points in the Game on the basis of rules specified by the Organizer (a detailed points list can be found in the Annex 1).
4. The Game is divided into two phases. The first phase lasts from 17th September till midnight, 1st November 2010. The second phase lasts from 2nd November till midnight, 17th December 2010. Points gained by the Contestants are awarded independently in each phase. After the first phase, the points will be reset and the points will be awarded anew.
5. While registering, the Contestants oblige themselves to abide by the rules of the Game.
6. People appointed by the Organizers, hereinafter referred to as Administrators, will supervise the Game.

### **IV Discussion forums**

1. The Organizer grants the Contestants the access to discussion forums. The Contestants may discuss on:
  - a general forum,
  - commissions' forum,
  - political groups' forum,
  - forums of the countries they represent in the Game.
2. Only the registered members are allowed to discuss on a forum of a given commission, group or a country.
3. English is the Language of the forums.
4. The general forum allows all the Contestants to discuss the situation in the European Union and the projects.
5. Forums of the political groups serve as the place for discussions on:
  - the group's opinion about given proposals,
  - election/change of the president of the group,
  - other topics related the Game's objectives.
6. Contestants may discuss on the commissions' forum:
  - the commission's stand regarding submitted proposals,
  - the election/change of the president of the commission,

- other issues relevant to a given commission and related to the Game.
7. The forum of a given country allows the Contestants representing it to discuss the situation in the European Union and the proposals.
  8. Administrators are responsible for making sure that everything happens in accordance with the rules. Their work is supervised by the Organizer of the Game. While supervising the forums, the Administrators are allowed to use the Contestants' help by appointing Moderators for particular forums.
  9. The posts which violate the law (inciting to violence or hatred); the posts the authors of which do not show respect to other Contestants; the posts written without regard to grammar and orthography rules; spam etc will be deleted by the Administrator or authorized persons appointed by the Organizers and Administrators. Furthermore, posts should be written in accordance with the Netiquette (Annex 2).
  10. In the case when the posts mentioned above appear repeatedly, the Organizer has the right to suspend the Contestant from discussing on forums or even dismiss the Contestant from the Game.

## **V Political groups**

1. While registering, every Contestant is obliged to indicate the political group they will belong to throughout the Game. The Contestant is allowed to change their group not more often than once per 20 days by using a special form.
2. It is not possible to create a new political group.
3. The election/change of the president of the group will take place on the Game's website on 27th September, on 18th October and on 15th November. It will not be possible to change the political group during those days.
4. A current president of the political group is not allowed to change the political group during their leadership period.

## **VI Parliamentary commissions**

1. While registering, every Contestant is obliged to indicate the parliamentary commission they will belong to throughout the Game. The Contestant is allowed to change their commission not more often than once per 20 days by using a special form.
2. It is not possible to create a new parliamentary commission.
3. The election/change of the president of the parliamentary commission will take place on the Game's website on 27th September, on 18th October and on 15th November. It will not be possible to change the parliamentary commission during those days.
4. A current president of the parliamentary commission is not allowed to change the political group during their leadership period.

## **VII Projects**

1. There are two types of the projects in the game:
  - submitted by the Organizer - proposals of the European Commission for a legislative act and positions of the Council of the European Union,
  - submitted by the Contestants - the projects of resolution.
2. Organizer acting as the European Commission lodges to a given parliamentary commission the proposals for a legislative act containing: the explanatory statement (the context of the proposal, legal basis, reference to the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, reference to conducted consultations, influence on a budget) and the legislation act itself.

- 2.1 The Contestants who are the members of this commission may apply for the post of the Reporter by filling in a given form. The applications are processed in the order they are received. The task of the Reporter is to defend the opinion of the commission during the plenary session of the European Parliament. The name of the Contestant-Reporter is written next to the proposal's title.
  - 2.2 A suitable parliamentary commission discusses the proposal on forum and votes by a simple majority. The debate is not shorter than 3 days and voting is not shorter than 24 hours. Particular Contestants may vote in favour or against the proposal. It is not possible to submit amendments. After voting, depending on its result, the proposal is given the annotation Commission X recommends the acceptance of the proposal or Commission X recommends the rejection of the proposal.
3. If, during a plenary session, the proposal of the European Commission for a legislative act is accepted, the Organizer may act as the Council of the European Union and present the position of the Council, disagreeing with the motion accepted by the Contestants. In such a case, the proposal of the Council is forwarded to appropriate commission.
- 3.1 The Contestants, who are members of that commission, may apply for the Reporter role using the special form. Applications are taken under consideration based on a first come first served basis. The Reporter's task is to defend the position of the commission during the plenary session of the European Parliament. The name of the Contestant-Reporter is placed next to the title.
  - 3.2 The position of the Council undergoes a debate and voting in the appropriate parliamentary commission. The debate must take at least 3 days, it is then followed by voting, which has to take at least 24 hours. Amendments cannot be submitted. Simple majority has the decisive effect. Then, the Council's position is forwarded to the plenary session with the following annotation: The X Commission recommends the acceptance of the position of the Council of the European Union or The X Commission recommends the rejection of the position of the Council of the European Union.
4. The Contestants may, using special form, submit projects (in English):
- resolutions that do not constitute the law, concerning any topic within the scope of the EU competence,
  - resolutions requesting the European Commission to adopt or change a legal act,
  - resolutions requesting the European Commission to take into account the recommendations of the Parliament before concluding the treaty of accession of a candidate state.
  - 4.1 The project has to contain the explanatory statement, including, if necessary, the evaluation of costs resulting from acceptance of the given solution, as well as the source of the funding. The introduction of the project has to contain reference to the legal bases on which the project is based. The subject matter of the resolution has to agree with the scope of work of the commission in which the Contestant is a member.
  - 4.2 Within 3 days from the submission of the project, the Organizer may reject projects that are incomplete, incorrect from the formal point of view, written without observing the basic spelling of grammar rules, as well as projects that encourage violence, discrimination, hatred or include other improper contents. The Contestant is informed by e-mail about the project being rejected.
  - 4.3 Then the resolution projects are forwarded to the appropriate parliamentary commission. The Contestants that are members of the commissions debate them for at least 3 days and vote with simple majority for at least 24 hours. Projects accepted

by the majority of votes are forwarded for plenary session. The author of the project acts as the Reporter of the project.

- 4.4 The Contestant may submit no more than one resolution project a day, no more than 7 projects in the 1st phase of the Game and no more than 7 projects in the 2nd phase of the game.

### **VIII Sessions of the Parliament**

1. The Sessions of the Parliament will take place on the Game's webpage in the form of real-time chat (software - updated version of Java).
2. The session agenda and date of each session shall be set by the Organizer. The Contestants shall be informed about them in advance by e-mail and on the Game's webpage. Chat rules may change during the Game.
3. The session agenda includes debates on particular proposal for a legislative act, positions of the Council and resolution projects. Time for each part of the session is assigned in advance. During the debate, priority is given to the Contestant-Reporter, who defends the opinion of the appropriate commission in the first 5 minutes of the debate concerning the given point in the agenda. Then the remaining Contestants may speak.
4. Entries in the chat that infringe the law (e.g. encouraging violence, hatred) or insult other Contestants of the Game, advertisements, spam etc. will be removed by the Administrator.
5. If chat entries with the content described above are repeated after issuing a single reprimand by the Administrator, the Organizer may suspend or even remove the Contestant from the Game.
6. Voting starts after the Parliament session and lasts for 24 hours. The Contestants decide with simple majority of votes on acceptance or rejection of the proposals of the European Commission for a legislative act, positions of the Council of the European Union and resolution projects.
7. Rejection results in conclusion of the procedure.

### **IX Quiz questions**

1. The Contestants may receive additional points for answering quiz questions concerning the Treaty of Lisbon on the Game's website in a special tab.
2. The questions will appear on the website in irregular intervals set by the Organizer and will be available there for at least 24 hours.
3. It is impossible to change the answers once they are given.
4. The Organizer reserves the ultimate right to decide on the correctness of the questions. Doubts concerning the questions will be resolved by the Organizer.
5. The Organizer reserves the right to change the rules of point awarding and to remove arguable questions.

### **X Parliamentary questions**

1. Every Contestant may submit written questions to the President of the European Council, the European Council, the European Commission or the Vice-president of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The questions have to fall within the scope of authority and duties of the given institution, they also have to concern the common interest, be concise and formulated in a comprehensible manner; they may not contain any offensive statements; they cannot concern any private matters.
2. Incomplete forms and forms written without observing basic rules of grammar or spelling will be rejected.

3. During the game each Contestants may submit no more than 2 parliamentary questions, no more than one question in the 1st phase of the game and no more than one question in the 2nd phase of the game. The Organizers will respond to parliamentary questions whenever possible.

### **XI Complaints and petitions**

1. The Contestants may submit complaints to the European Ombudsman using a special form. Complaints have to concern the improper administration of the institutions and bodies of the European Union with the exclusion of judicial system. Complaints cannot concern the state, regional or local authorities, even if the complaints are related to the affairs of the European Union. They cannot be directed against companies or natural persons.
2. Using a special form the Contestants may submit petition to the European Parliament that has to concern the affairs that fall within the scope of interest or competence of the European Union and are directly related to the author of the petition.
3. Incomplete forms and forms written without observing basic rules of grammar or
4. spelling will be rejected.
5. During the game each Contestant may submit no more than 2 complaints, no more than one complaint in the 1st phase of the Game and no more than one complaint in the 2nd phase of the Game.

### **XII Determining the winner**

1. The Game has two phases. The 1st phase begins on the 17th of September 2010 and ends at midnight on the 1st of November 2010. The 2nd phase begins on the 2nd of November 2010 and ends at midnight on the 17th of December 2010.
2. The Contestant who gathers the highest number of points during the 1st or 2nd phase of the Game will receive a prize from the Organizer. The prize is one weekend for the Contestant and their partner in one of the capital cities of the European Union Member States. The Organizer shall cover the costs of the trip (transportation, lodging, food) up to EUR 600.
3. If more than one Contestant gathers the same highest number of points in the 1st or 2nd phase, entitling them to receive the price, the number of points received from the Treaty of Lisbon questions is taken under consideration first, then the number of points received for performing the role of the Reporter is taken into account. If it is still impossible to determine the winner of the Game, the winner will be decided by a draw from among the Contestants that received the same number of points.
4. The Organizer reserves the right to grant prizes to more than one winning Contestant in each phase.

### **XIII Scoring**

1. The Contestants receive points according to the Annex 1 of the Game Rules. The Organizer reserves the right to change the scoring system during the Game.
2. Every Contestant may track the number of points they receive as well as the ranking of the Contestants. Contestant scores will be updated on a daily basis.

## Annex 1 to the Rules

### Scoring

Correct answer to the Treaty of Lisbon question	3 points
Submitting a resolution project	1 point
Presentation and defense of the project during the Parliament session (performing the role of the Reporter) - the Organizer decides	0 points - lack of defense of the project (absence on the chat or attendance that cannot be called a presentation and defense of the project) 3 points - sufficient defense of the project 5 points - convincing defense of the project
Participation in voting	1 point
Voting for the option that received the majority of votes	1 additional point
Submitting a correct petition to the European Parliament or a correct complaint to the European Ombudsman	1 point