

Motion for a resolution by: **LIBE I - Committee on Civil Liberties**

Vilvoorde, 11-02-2010

Submitted by: Onze-Lieve-Vrouwecollege Vilvoorde

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"Freedom of religion and the limits of multiculturalism: to what extent should religious values, attitudes and traditions be respected in an increasing multicultural Europe? "

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Emphasising that religious matters are not a priority of the European Union
- B. Respecting European legislation about discrimination and equality between all EU citizens
- C. Reaffirming articles 9 and 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights concerning freedom of thought, conscience, religion and expression and their integration into the Lisbon Treaty
- D. Fully aware that discrimination is often caused by ignorance and therefore stressing the importance of awareness campaigns
- E. Viewing with appreciation media- and cultural programmes to stimulate the intercultural dialogue
- F. Taking note of the European neighbourhood policy
- G. Approving of article 12 and 13 of the European Commission Treaty concerning the combat of various sorts of discrimination
- H. Recognising the existence of the Bologna Process, facilitating student exchange within the European Union
- I. Reaffirming the equality between sexes as listed in the Treaty of Amsterdam
- J. Noting that religion is a private matter, open to discussion and criticism, on which no rules can be imposed except in the cases where religion breaches European Citizen's rights

- 1. Advises all Member States to leave the choice of limitations about religious symbols to the local institutions and companies
- 2. Calls for the prohibition of full face coverage in the Member States
- 3. Recommends the separation of State and Church in order to ensure the neutrality of the State concerning religious matters
- 4. Further recommends an increase of initiatives such as the 2001-06 action programme
- 5. Encourages the development of media – and cultural programmes in order to diminish the cultural gap between European citizens and to involve today's youth
- 6. Calls for specific actions that support the economy of the countries mentioned in the European neighbourhood policy in order to reduce economic migration
- 7. Supports the proposal for a directive concerning multiple discrimination as

called for in amendments 10 and 23 of the European Parliament legislative resolution of 2 April 2009

8. Requests all Member States to provide the possibility of international student exchange
9. Urges the accurate application of the equality between sexes
10. Asks for a migration policy resembling the Canadian system resulting in more positive contributions of migration for the European Union

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