

29-04-2022

DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the follow-up to the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe

the European Parliament,

having regard of the Conference Rules of Procedure, as approved by the Executive Board and published on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe,

having regard to the conclusions of the nine thematic working groups of the Conference on the Future of Europe, as endorsed on 30 April 2022 by the Conference plenary,

having regard to the activity report of the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe, published in February 2022,

having regard to the contributions per Member State on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe, published in February 2022,

having regard to the reports of national citizen's panels and national events, as published on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe,

having regard to the "Youth Ideas report for the Conference on the Future of Europe" published as a result of the European Youth Event of 8/9 October 2021,

having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 1: "Stronger economy, social justice and jobs / Education, culture, youth and sport / Digital transformation",

having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 2 "European democracy/Values and rights, rule of law, security",

having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 3 "Climate change, environment / Health",

having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 4 "EU in the world / Migration",

having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Parliament's position on the Conference on the Future of Europe

having regard to its resolutions of 16 February 2017 on improving the functioning of the European Union building on the potential of the Lisbon Treaty of 16 February 2017 on possible evolutions of and adjustments to the current institutional set-up of the European Union, of 13 February 2019 on the state of the debate on the future of Europe and of 26 November 2020 on the stocktaking of the European elections,

having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas the European Union is living an unprecedented situation compared to when the Conference process was launched, which requires a new impetus to the European integration, with the need for an even stronger common action and solidarity as war is returning to the European continent,

B. whereas the EU will be judged on its capacity to emerge from the current crises and should, therefore, aim at becoming stronger,

C. whereas the European Parliament has fully committed to the Conference on the Future of Europe firmly believing the EU needs to be reformed to be able to tackle not only current, but also future challenges,

D. whereas the conclusions of the Conference will also need to address all consequences of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, in an already very demanding post-pandemic context,

E. whereas the proposals coming from citizens' participation, as translated into the final Conference conclusions, ask for the European Union to become more democratic, secure, effective, , prosperous, more capable of acting, fairer, sustainable, and a more influential actor in the world,

F. whereas the EU should be equipped with sufficient and appropriate means to achieve the above-mentioned goals, which highlights once more the need to improve the way the institutions are functioning,

G. whereas the European Union, should thus be empowered with tools able to act on important transnational challenges, in the field of security, health, climate change and environment, migration, digitalisation, defence, taxation, inequalities, economic and social policies, and geopolitics,

H. whereas besides legislative proposals the opening of a process of institutional reforms are needed to implement the recommendations and expectations of the citizens participation process,

I. whereas new policies and, in some cases, Treaty changes, are necessary not as means in itself but in the interests of all Europeans , by aiming at reshaping the EU in a way that will guarantee its open strategic autonomy, security, sustainability , competitiveness, improvement of living and working conditions, respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights,

J. whereas the Conference on the Future of Europe shows, once more, that any reform of the Union demands the full engagement of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council and relevant stakeholders, as well as the direct engagement with citizens.,

K. whereas the experience of the Conference on the Future of Europe confirms the importance to enhance all possible ways of dialogue and cooperation among the European Parliament and national Parliaments,

1. welcomes the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe as endorsed by the Conference plenary on 30 April 2022,

2. express its satisfaction with the ambitious and constructive proposals formulated by the Conference based on the recommendations and ideas coming from the European and national Citizens' Panels, the European Youth Event, as well as from the online platform represented, Welcomes that the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe were drafted in a citizen-driven process and stresses the importance of citizens' participation in European democracy,
3. considers that the Conference on the Future of Europe has led to a innovative and successful participation for European citizens and has offered an additional opportunity for the European institutions leading to a comprehensive dialogue among citizens, national parliaments, regional and local authorities, social partners, organised civil society on the future of the Union,
4. highlights the importance of the parliamentary dimension of the Conference process and express its wish to foster and strengthen the dialogue and cooperation between national parliaments and the European Parliament,
5. believes that an increased role in the EU decision making process goes hand in hand with a more democratic, transparent and accountable EU Institutions; moreover supports the continuous involvement of citizens' participation and consultation,
6. points out that the most recent crises call for common European solutions; believes that the Conference on the Future of Europe represented a unique opportunity to provide the EU with forward-looking proposals in that regard,
7. considers that the Russian aggression against Ukraine proves the need for a stronger geopolitical EU, speaking with one voice in the world and common policies in the areas of security, defence, energy and migration, based on common action and full solidarity,
8. recalls that in response to the Covid-19 pandemic the European Union has shown its capacity to act and promote innovative and common solutions in health, economic growth and social cohesion; is of the opinion that these positive actions need to be turned into a new permanent institutional and policy framework,
9. stresses that the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe show the urgent need for the EU to lead in addressing climate change, protecting biodiversity and promoting sustainability,
10. highlights the need to deliver on the Conference conclusions and on citizens' expectations, by working on ambitious changes in some of our most crucial policies,
11. believes that deeper political integration and genuine democracy, as highlighted in the conclusions of the Conference, can be achieved through a right of legislative initiative for the EP and the abolishment of unanimity in the Council,
12. Acknowledges that the conclusions of the Conference require Treaty changes, inter alia, concerning the simplification of the EU institutional architecture, more transparency and accountability in the decision-making process, a new reflection on EU competences, ,

13. supports, as highlighted in the conclusions of the working groups of the Conference, a shift to a sustainable, inclusive and resilient growth model; strengthening the competitiveness and resilience of the European Union's economy, with special attention to SME's as the backbone of our economy and a competitiveness check; the full implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including its relevant headline targets for 2030; a Social Progress Protocol; and promoting future-oriented investments focused on the just, green and digital transitions with a strong social dimension, including gender equality, taking also into account the examples of Next Generation EU and SURE instrument,

14. believes it is essential to focus on the follow-up to the Conference proposals, in order to deliver on the citizens' demands; expects every European institution to commit with a constructive and ambitious approach, in accordance with its role and competences, in every step of the follow-up, including with legislative proposals,

15. stands ready to play its role and ensure a proper follow-up of the Conference outcome, therefore, calls for a Convention by activating the procedure for the revision of the treaties provided for in article 48 of the Treaty on the European Union, and tasks the Constitutional Affairs committee to start the necessary procedure accordingly,

16 Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission as well as to the national parliaments,