



Erasmus+

## LISBON MUN/EYP Committee:

### U4 CIVIC INITIATIVES - Supporting the Good Initiatives

#### RESOLUTION by Crete

- (01) *Believing* that Greece is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with more  
(02) frequent and intense extreme weather events;
- (03) *Taking into consideration* that the temperature has been increasing steadily over the past few  
(04) decades causing a number of problems;
- (05) *Reminding* the fact that heatwaves ,floods ,wildfires and storms have resulted in many  
(06) property damages or even deaths over the past few years in our country;
- (07) *Further reminding* that these problems are having a significant impact on the country's  
(08) economy, environment and society;
- (09) *Deeply regretting* that Greece is lagging behind its European counterparts in terms of taking  
(10) actions and has been slow to implement measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change;
- (11) *Aware of* the lack of progress on climate change due to a number of factors, including a lack  
(12) of political will, limited resources, and a lack of public awareness and engagement;
- (13) *Noting with satisfaction* that the government has started investing in renewable energy  
(14) sources and introducing measures to reduce emissions;
- (15) *Viewing with appreciation* the fact that the government has also taken steps to address the  
(16) issue, adopting a National Climate Change Action Plan which aims to outline the steps that  
(17) our country has to take in order to adapt to the effects of climate change;
- (18) *Expecting* the community to raise awareness and support more initiatives that address  
(19) climate change and promote sustainable practices.
- (29) 4. Encourages the creation of initiatives promoting social inclusivity through  
(30) increasing the access to affordable housing in the principal cities, promoting  
(31) inclusivity in the workplace and in schools, creating awareness campaigns to end  
(32) discrimination in professional and educational situations and increasing the support (33)



for the more vulnerable part of the population, such as the elderly, people with disabilities and refugees; (34)

(20)1. Requests transition to renewable energy, the government could support incentives for (21)clean energy production and reduce subsidies for fossil fuels;

(22)2. Demands the promotion of public transport and cycling encouraging active transportation (23)like cycling and using public transport can reduce carbon emissions, air pollution, and traffic (24)congestion, the government could offer more subsidies for public transport and create more (25)bike paths;

(26)3. Further demands the government to establish regulations on energy efficiency for (27)buildings, transportation, and appliances, these regulations could mandate energy-saving (28)measures, for example, by using LED light bulbs or scheduling air conditioning;

(29)4. Suggests effective urban planning strategies which could reduce emissions by minimising (30)vehicle use and promoting energy-efficient buildings, implementing sustainable urban (31)policies would reduce the carbon footprint of cities;

(32)5. Strongly recommends emphasising circular economy and circular economic models (33)paying attention to the reduction of waste, Greek legislation could set requirements for more (34)sustainable production systems and better intermediation from the start to the disposal of (35)goods;

(36)6. Asks the government to focus on promoting green infrastructure and green public spaces, (37)such as public parks, green roofs and vertical gardens to mitigate the urban heat island effect (38)and improve air quality;

20)1. Requests transition to renewable energy, the government could support incentives for (21)clean energy production and reduce subsidies for fossil fuels;

(39)7. Further asks the government to support sustainable farming and promote regenerative (40)agriculture practices, namely crop rotation and conservation tillage that can help reduce (41)carbon emissions and preserve soil health.

### **RESOLUTION by Czechia**

(01) Keeping in mind the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris (02)Agreement, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to protect (03)the environment, promote sustainable development, and combat climate change,



Erasmus+

- (04) Recognizing the importance of protecting the environment and preserving natural resources  
(05)for the well-being of present and future generations,
- (06) Noting with deep concern the current state of the environment in the Czech Republic,  
(07)including air and water pollution, deforestation, and the effects of climate change,
- (08) Taking into account the efforts of civil society organisations and charity groups in the  
(09)Czech Republic that have initiated various programs and campaigns to address  
(10)environmental challenges,
- (11) Recognizing the need for collaborative action among the government, civil society  
(12)organisations, and the private sector to promote sustainable development and protect the  
(13)environment in the Czech Republic,
- (14) Approving the increased awareness and participation of citizens, particularly young people,  
(15)in environmental protection and climate action,
- (16) Affirming the importance of enhancing environmental education and public awareness  
(17)campaigns to foster a culture of environmental responsibility,
- (18) Taking note of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on environmental protection efforts  
(19)in the Czech Republic and the need to build back better and greener,
- (20) Encourages the Government of the Czech Republic to promote and support civic initiatives  
(21)and charity work, like the non-profit organisation Arnika, aimed at protecting the  
(22)environment and promoting sustainable development, including through the allocation of  
(23)appropriate resources, such as funding, training, and technical assistance;
- (24) Calls upon the Government of the Czech Republic to strengthen collaboration and  
(25)partnerships between the government, civil society, and the private sector to support the  
(26)development and implementation of effective environmental initiatives and policies;
- (27) Further invites the Government of the Czech Republic to raise awareness and encourage  
(28)active participation of citizens, especially young people, in environmental protection  
(29)activities through education and public awareness campaigns, and to recognize the crucial  
(30)role of civil society organisations and charity groups in promoting environmental  
(31)responsibility and sustainable development;



Erasmus+

- (32) Trusts the Government of the Czech Republic to provide incentives for businesses to  
(33) support environmental initiatives, including through tax incentives and other economic  
(34) measures, to encourage private sector involvement in sustainable development and  
(35) environmental protection efforts;
- (36) Calls upon the Government of the Czech Republic to strengthen environmental regulations  
(37) and enforcement mechanisms to prevent environmental degradation and promote sustainable  
(38) development, and to consider adopting ambitious climate targets in line with the Paris  
(39) Agreement;
- (40) Further reminds the Government of the Czech Republic to encourage the use of clean and  
(41) renewable energy sources, promote energy efficiency, and support the development of  
(42) sustainable transportation infrastructure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote  
(43) sustainable development;
- (44) Encourages the international community to provide technical and financial assistance to the  
(45) Czech Republic in its efforts to protect the environment and promote sustainable  
(46) development, and to support and promote partnerships and cooperation between Czech and  
(47) international civil society organisations and the private sector to support environmental  
(48) protection initiatives;
- (49) Recommends the international community to encourage the exchange of knowledge,  
(50) experiences, and best practices to promote environmental protection and sustainable  
(51) development in the Czech Republic and other countries;

### **RESOLUTION by Estonia**

- (01) *Believing* that “Teeme Ära!” is a non-profit organisation in Estonia that is adamant about  
(02) keeping Estonia’s nature and cities clean. The organisation started as a cleaning campaign in  
(03) 2004 during which approximately 50,000 volunteers cleaned up almost (05) 10,000 tons of  
(04) garbage from the entire territory of Estonia,
- (05) *Taking into consideration* that by following the Estonian action, similar social clean-up  
(10) actions have taken place in more than a hundred countries around the world and nearly 20  
(11) million people have participated in the actions,



Erasmus+

(12) *Reminding* that it has evolved into the international campaign "Let's Do It! World". On  
(13) September 15, 2018, the first World Cleanup Day 2018 took place, which was led by Teeme  
(14) Ära Foundation,

(15) *Further reminding* that their main activities are cleaning forests, beaches, and roadsides of  
(16) waste. They also have smaller yearly goals, for example cleaning all the basements, around  
(17) the kindergarten and school grounds and saunas,

(18) *Recognizing the* purpose of "Teeme ära!" is to promote initiative and an active lifestyle,  
(19) improving the common living environment and strengthening the local community,

(20) *Aware* that "Teeme ära!" can help people clean the areas around their homes even outside of  
(21) the campaign days. If most of the inhabitants living near the area are elderly, and their  
(22) families live far away, "Teeme ära!" can help people keep their homes clean of debris,

(23) *Regretfully* the first attempts to initiate a cleaning day failed multiple times, due to the lack  
(24) of interest by people. The founder of "Teeme ära!" needed support from the government and  
(25) people around the country to help, otherwise cleaning the whole country in a single day  
(26) wasn't possible. Eventually the founder team of "Teeme ära" managed to convince the  
(27) government of the necessity of the action,

(28) *Expecting* that people working with "Teeme ära" know that now is the time to take the next  
(29) step - to keep it clean. Many experts have also emerged to help people dispose of garbage in  
(30) a safe and environmentally friendly way.

## **RESOLUTION by Lithuania**

(01) *Believing that* "DAROM" is a non-profit organisation in Lithuania that is committed to  
(05) protecting the environment and promoting sustainable living. They believe that everyone has a  
(05) role to play in protecting the planet, and they work tirelessly to educate and empower  
(05) individuals, families, and communities to take action.



Erasmus+

(06) *Taking into consideration* that their efforts to protect the environment began with a small group  
(05) of volunteers who were concerned about the amount of waste that was being generated in their  
(05) community.

(05) *Recalling* the fact that they saw firsthand the negative impact that this waste was having on the  
(05) environment, and they knew that something needed to be done.

(05) *Further recalling* that they formed "DAROM", which means "let's do it" in Lithuanian, and  
(05) began organising clean-up events in their local parks and beaches. They recruited volunteers  
(05) from the community, and together they collected thousands of pounds of trash and debris.

(18) *Recognizing* that "DAROM" knew that simply cleaning up trash wasn't enough. They needed  
(05) to address the root causes of the problem, and that meant changing people's attitudes and  
(05) behaviours. So they began organising educational workshops and seminars, where they taught  
(05) people about the importance of reducing waste, recycling, and conserving resources.

(24) *Aware of* that they also worked with local businesses and government agencies to promote  
(05) sustainable practices. They encouraged businesses to reduce their use of plastic, to recycle their  
(05) waste, and to adopt eco-friendly practices. And they worked with government agencies to  
(05) develop policies and programs that supported sustainable living.

(30) *Regretfully* one of "DAROM's" biggest initiatives was their "Green City" campaign which  
(05) cannot be implemented quickly. They worked with the city government and local businesses to  
(05) transform an underutilised park into a vibrant green space. They planted trees and flowers, built  
(05) walking trails, and installed benches and picnic tables.

(36) *Expecting* that "DAROM" knows that there is still much work to be done. They continue to  
(05) organise clean-up events and educational workshops, and they are always looking for new and  
(05) innovative ways to promote sustainable living.

### **RESOLUTION by Portugal**

(01) *Aware* of the vital role civic initiatives play in furthering sustainable development,  
(02) democratic governance, and social cohesion,

(03) *Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms everyone's right to  
(04) freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly including through  
(05) participation in civic activities,

(06) *Further recalling* the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, in particular  
(07) Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities and Goal  
(08) 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and the crucial importance of civic initiatives to  
(09) fulfil these goals,



Erasmus+

- (10) *Emphasising* the necessity of creating an enabling environment for civic projects in  
(11) Portugal, including through offering legislative frameworks, financial resources, and  
(12) support for capacity-building,
- (13) *Noting with satisfaction* the initiatives taken by the Portuguese Government and  
(14) numerous national organisations to promote the development of sustainable cities  
(15) and communities, social inclusivity as well as to fight poverty and hunger
- (16) *Recognizing* however, the difficulties civic initiatives in Portugal encounter, such as  
(17) scarce resources, administrative obstacles, and a challenging economic and social  
(18) environment,
- (19) 1. Encourages Portugal's government to address the difficulties faced by civic  
(20) initiatives, including by lowering administrative barriers and offering support for  
(21) capacity-building and technical assistance in order to create a more favourable  
(22) investing environment for civic projects;
- (23) 2. Further invites Portugal to invest in national cooperation, whether in developing  
(24) the healthcare system, infrastructures and education, stimulating public-private  
(25) partnerships to achieve common goals;
- (26) 3. Further recommends Portugal to consider stepping into a circular, more  
(27) sustainable economy, due to this system's great benefits on the economy and the  
(28) market;
- (29) 4. Encourages the creation of initiatives promoting social inclusivity through  
(30) increasing the access to affordable housing in the principal cities, promoting  
(31) inclusivity in the workplace and in schools, creating awareness campaigns to end  
(32) discrimination in professional and educational situations and increasing the support (33)  
for the more vulnerable part of the population, such as the elderly, people with (34)  
disabilities and refugees;
- (35) 5. Draws the attention to the importance of investing in digital transformation and  
(36) development by presenting lectures and educating the employees in the workplace to  
(37) improve their digital skills, promoting the digital transformation of the economy,  
(38) infrastructures, healthcare and education systems and creating various initiatives,  
(39) such as "The Digital Agenda 2020", "The Simplex Program", "The National  
(40) Cybersecurity Strategy" and "The Digital Inclusion Plan", Portuguese initiatives  
(41) that not only promote digital inclusivity, but also safeness.

### **RESOLUTION by Thessaloniki**

- (01) *Aware of* the importance of civic engagement initiatives, working to make a  
(02) difference in the civic life of one's community and promoting the quality of life in



Erasmus+

- (03) it, Greece has grown its organised civil society in the last two decades, increasing  
(04) NGOs, volunteers and civic initiatives and activity in its path. A remarkable  
(05) example is the program “Aegean Rebreath”, which contributes to the cleaning of  
(06) the Thermaic Gulf, as well as other parts of the Aegean Sea, using modern  
(07) technology(sea drones),
- (08) *Alarmed by* its extremely weak - in relation to most other European countries -  
(09) civil society, Greece has made several efforts to support civic engagement. Some  
(10) researchers focused on individual attitudes and behaviour whilst others on  
(11) organisational data and some on sectoral characteristics. Indicators that were used  
(12) include estimates of generalised trust, turnout in referendum and membership of  
(13) voluntary organisations,
- (14) *Bearing in mind* that the theme for Earth Day 2022 on the 22nd of April is “Invest  
(15) in Our Planet” and is focused on civic initiatives, engagement and accelerating  
(16) solutions to combat our greatest threat, climate change. Greece - like multiple  
(17) other nations in the EU - has taken action to activate everyone – governments,  
(18) citizens, and businesses – to do their part. “Everyone accounted for, and everyone  
(19) accountable”,
- (20) *Reminding* ourselves and all nations of the importance of the climate change  
(21) emergency we are watching unfold, and the actions for the future taken by  
(22) multiple networks. Greece has regretfully become aware that it remains far behind  
(23) most of its EU partners, and in response has taken steps to implement initiatives to  
(24) tackle the problem, like providing services to people affected by climate change  
(25) and natural disasters,
- (26) 1.Requests the Greek government to enhance engagement among the government  
(27) and civil society organisations and implement actions to support civic initiatives  
(28) such as charity work and volunteering, by promoting citizen engagement, making  
(29) sure to recognize the good works of citizens, volunteer groups and other people  
(30) who make a positive impact on our community;
- (31) 2.Emphasises environmental sustainability can be greatly enhanced through civic  
(32) engagement. Much of the engagement used in communities to date has been in the  
(33) form of civic participation, a simple form of engagement involving individual  
(34) actions—e.x. residents taking part in recycling programs and businesses  
(35) voluntarily reducing emissions;
- (36) 3.Further requests the Greek community to take action to support civic initiatives  
(37) and the environment by participating in neighbourhood cleanups, planting public  
(38) gardens, helping out with local environmental charities, starting or assisting with  
(39) new city-level initiatives and attending school board or city government meetings





- (40) related to this topic;
- (41) 4. Demands the Greek government to increase the funding of environmental
- (42) charities and organisations, since the economic value of volunteer work in Greece
- (43) is estimated at less than 1% of the GDP, compared with 3-5% in northern Europe
- (44) (European Commission 2010).

### **COMMON RESOLUTION**

#### **Committee: U4 CIVIC INITIATIVES**

**Issue concerning: Question on Supporting the Good Initiatives**

**Presented by: The EU Erasmus+ ACT U4 CIVIC INITIATIVES  
team**

**Supported by: Clara Ribeiro (PT), Max Baldýnský (CZ),  
Giannakakis Vasileios (CR/GR), Laura-Liisa Kiis (EST), Tomas  
Grigalevičius (LIT), Anthi Kotsani (THES/GR)**