

**BM65 – ZAGREB**

- Internal motion
- Resolution
- Amendment

**Title: ESU stands in solidarity with Western Saharan students**

Point of the agenda: 8c

Proposed by: SYL & SAMOK

Seconded by: VSS-UNES-USU, UNEF, NSO, SHI, DSF, EÜL, LSS, SHS, LSA, CREUP, FAIRe

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1 The European Students' Union expresses its solidarity to the Western  
 2 Sahara Students' Union (UESARIO) and draws attention to the human  
 3 rights violations taking place in the Western Saharan area. Western  
 4 Sahara has been occupied by Morocco since 1975 and is divided by a  
 5 2.800 km long wall. The wall is guarded by 160.000 soldiers and eight  
 6 million landmines surround it. Many of the people have been forced to  
 7 leave the country to refugee camps in Algeria, where they have  
 8 resided for numerous years. The ones who have stayed in the occupied  
 9 territory face human rights violations on a daily basis.

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11 UESARIO organises summer programmes for students and youth in  
 12 the refugee camps, but their work is not easy. They face challenges  
 13 such as not having proper headquarters for their work; not being able  
 14 to finance their summer programmes; or not having enough  
 15 information or training opportunities. Their work is carried out at the  
 16 refugee camps, which is a challenging task.

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18 Some of the young people are allowed to go and study in the  
 19 neighbouring countries, however, they are not given the right to  
 20 choose what or where to study. The students sometimes face  
 21 assassinations and imprisonments and in most cases they are banned  
 22 from university registration or their diplomas are not recognised  
 23 officially. In practice, this means that when a Saharawi graduates from

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24 a university abroad, as there are no higher education possibilities in  
25 Western Sahara, and returns to the occupied territory, the degree is  
26 not recognized. As a consequence the young people face discrimination  
27 and their right to a decent and dignified life is violated.

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29 ESU believes that education is a human right and everyone should  
30 have access to it. All students should have the freedom to choose their  
31 field of study and pursue higher education.

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Passed: **YES**      **NO**

(for use of board meeting chair only!)