

**BM65 – ZAGREB**

Internal motion

Resolution

Amendment

**Title: Investment in education and training must be a priority for any government**

Point of the agenda: 8c

Proposed by: CREUP

Seconded by: FZS, SKONUS, USI, NUIS, ANOSR, NSO, POFEN, KSU, SUS, FAGE, UDU, UNEF, FAIRe, FEF, OH, NSUM, SYL, DSF

Text:

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1 ESU supports peaceful protests and demonstrations by the  
2 educational community of the Spanish state against cuts  
3 that undermine equal opportunities in access to education  
4 and training of any citizen.

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6 In Europe's history, there have been numerous protests and  
7 demonstrations claiming rights, especially among the youth,  
8 and therefore, those who defend a quality public education  
9 should not be publicly criminalised.

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11 The Spanish government should take into consideration that  
12 the demonstrations, not only are a right, but a vital part of  
13 democracy and that there is no reason for a government to  
14 criminalise systematically the demonstrators while in the  
15 end, they just claim their rights.

16  
17 The education policies at all levels of education should be a  
18 priority for any government, as having a well trained and  
19 educated society is essential for a social and economic  
20 welfare of all states. Hiding budget cuts without a thorough

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21 analysis of the medium and long term effect, under the  
22 excuse of improving the quality of education, is not  
23 acceptable because it would affect very negatively the future  
24 generations, and furthermore, the society as a whole.

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26 When we deal with education and training, any legislative  
27 change should count for a high consensus, not only  
28 politically, but also socially. A law that really improves the  
29 quality of a higher education system is what gives stability  
30 to the education system. We cannot accept that every four  
31 years, there is an attempt to change and implement a new  
32 education law, because this weakens, year after year, our  
33 education system and this is not positive at all for anyone.

34

35 The cuts in education, especially in accessing the education  
36 system and accessing the grants' system, are questioning  
37 the equal opportunities of any citizen to be able to study.  
38 Education and access to education should be treated as a  
39 human right, and therefore, actions with short-term  
40 objectives should be avoided.

41

42 Executing politics and reforms in education and training  
43 without all the education community is not acceptable.  
44 Education is understood as a public good and as a solution  
45 to the crisis for the youth and the future.

46

47 The recent budget cuts in the grant system have narrowed  
48 the access to education and higher education mobility. Two  
49 doors have been built, one for those who can pay for it and  
50 another one for those with less resources.

51

52 ESU calls on the Spanish government to change its current  
53 policies and aim towards an inclusive education system. The  
54 access, progression and completion of higher education  
55 should be the basic pillars of governments' policies.

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57 The responsibility of the cost of education and training  
58 cannot be transferred to students and their families, asking  
59 them to make an even bigger effort. This undermines equal  
60 opportunities, affecting the welfare society at the same time.

61

62 The Spanish government must act and support higher  
63 education and training, mobility and life long learning. It  
64 should not be a privilege.

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66 The reasons are the following:

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68 - Education protects democracy and helps fight against  
69 inequality. Even the OECD states that the educational status  
70 is closely correlated to democratic participation and caring  
71 for disadvantaged and discriminated groups. A highly  
72 educated society is a more tolerant and peaceful state.

73

74 - A globalised environment and a constantly changing labour  
75 market need to have highly skilled and educated people to  
76 be able to adapt.

77

78 - The EU2020 strategy has as an objective to widen access  
79 to higher education. The EU foresees that the demand for  
80 highly qualified people will increase significantly in the  
81 following years.

82

83 - Young people are not responsible for any crisis but they  
84 have, for sure, the potential to prevent new crises in the  
85 future. We do not believe in any cuts, which undermine  
86 opportunities of young people, because this would harm the  
87 entire society.

88

89 Countries of the EU that have more resources should  
90 cooperate with Spain and all other states to overcome the

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91 crisis and build a sustainable society to reduce inequality  
92 and thus, improve the standard of living in Europe.

93

94 It is necessary to establish an economic and socially agreed  
95 policy addressing the high dropout rate from school from an  
96 inclusive perspective, to help society, but especially those  
97 with fewer resources, value higher education as an added  
98 value and as a solution for the future. Only this way can the  
99 problem with the high unemployment rate be addressed.

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101 As stated by the Lisbon Treaty, access to higher education  
102 should be increased, but Spain is currently not aiming at  
103 reducing barriers to access to higher education.

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105 A quality education requires a society that believes in the  
106 education of its country.

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Passed: **YES**      **NO**

(for use of board meeting chair only!)