

Committee on Alpine Resources

The Importance of Water as an Alpine resource. Who should conduct the administration of water?

The Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention

- A) Aware of the fact that there will be a lack of water in the future,
 - B) Deeply concerned by the unequal distribution of water on the earth surface among the states and alarmed by the unnecessary waste of water in water rich countries,
 - C) Guided by the fact that the fragile eco-system of the Alps will suffer from severe damage if too much water is removed from it,
 - D) Observing that in the same country different regions are facing the hydration problem in different ways,
 - E) Fully believing that the privatised distribution of water is not an appropriate solution because
 - ... it is directly connected with the contamination of water
 - ... it does not mean equal prices in different regions for the same water quality
 - ... it can also cause a lowering of water quality if the enterprises want to achieve a cheaper price
 - ... it can also mean exploitation of poor countries
 - ... it can cause an increase in price of water which some people may not be able to afford,
 - F) Noting further that it is obviously a big problem that politicians in some areas do not take the water problem as seriously as they should, for example by destroying river basins¹,
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- 1) Recommends that the water distribution is only done by the government and that it is not privatised;
 - 2) Draws the attention to the importance of making people aware of the preciousness of water. Children should be taught to value this good already in kindergarten and primary school. Adults should be made aware of the water, as a limited resource, via media for example by creating flyers and using television and advertisements;
 - 3) Approves of strict laws for consumption and protection of water;
 - 4) Recommends the founding of National Parks for reserving the natural river basins;
 - 5) Encourages the government to create local commissions to treat the various regions more efficiently; supports the water management on a local level,

¹ The river Tagliamento in Italy is the last morphologically intact river of the Alps offering the possibility to study natural processes. The government decided to create three big artificial water basins to expand the river's load, which would damage the rivers beneath big water-beds.

emphasizing international cooperation; encouraging the introduction of controlling the international standards, energy management and water supplies, by local authorities;

- 6) Emphasizes the definition and setting of international standards concerning the water quality in the Alpine Region and calls upon the institutionalisation of a commission to control those standards, for example the emission of water-polluting substances caused by factories and agriculture;
- 7) Requests that either the companies clean the water themselves or pay higher taxes;
- 8) Recommends the installation of a multinational water fund for countries and regions with a lack of water, by cooperation so that water is available for them at a low price;
- 9) Proclaims investing more money in science to clean water more efficiently by affirming the use of alternatives to common ways of getting drinking water, for example purification of waste or sea water;
- 10) Urges that any trade with water should be carefully planned and worked out in collaboration with experts on ecology in order not to damage the environment;
- 11) Expresses its appreciation for campaigns of local governments to broaden the awareness of water pollution in the Alpine Convention;
- 12) Instructs the Presidency to forward this resolution to the Permanent Committee of the Alpine Convention and the IX. Alpine Conference.

Committee on Regional Policy and Tourism

How much Tourism is bearable for the Alpine Region?

The Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention

- A) Realising the importance of the balance between tourism and the ecosystem,
 - B) Taking into account that individual transport by tourists damages the ecosystem,
 - C) Alarmed by the masses of waste left in the alps every year especially by tourists but also by locals,
 - D) Keeping in mind the importance of the protocol on tourism,
 - E) Deeply concerned by the visual pollution²¹ caused by tourist buildings and facilities,
 - F) Noting that the holiday timetable of the different member states causes a lot of problems,
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- 1) Emphasizes the need for more public transportation in transit areas across the alps;

² Visual pollution means that buildings destroy the natural image and atmosphere of a location.

- 2) Recommends the governments of the member states of the Alpine Convention to build bins in the trespassing areas and insure their use by imposing penalties and security personnel and also to improve and spread the practise of recycling;
- 3) Further requests all member states of the Alpine Convention, to fulfil the criteria of the protocol on tourism and to inform the public about these existing criteria, in sense of information at schools, in tourist resorts and through media;
- 4) Encourages the governments to solve not only the problems of chemical pollution but also visual and noise pollution by proper control and analysis of each project, before building;
- 5) Urges the governments to unify alpine road systems, to improve and spread the railway connections and to use renewable and environmentally friendly sources of energy;
- 6) Calls upon the member states to collaborate in order to coordinate the holiday timetable together, to avoid traffic jams and overcrowded tourist destinations;
- 7) Instructs the Presidency to forward this resolution to the Permanent Committee of the Alpine Convention and the IX. Alpine Conference.

Committee on Economy and Social Affairs

How can we improve the attractiveness of the Alpine region for young people?

The Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention

- A) Noting with deep concern that the unemployment of young people living in Alpine Regions is increasing, due to the small number of apprenticeship training positions,
 - B) Recognizing that the jobs in the Alps are mainly focused on leisure-activity-tourism and that the great potential of the Alps is not fully exhausted,
 - C) Believing that the communication network considering the information about jobs in the Alpine region is unsatisfying,
 - D) Taking into account that the economical advantages of the Alpine Region, for example the central location, aren't known,
 - E) Deeply concerned by the lack of high standard education facilities with special emphasise on farming and other topics important for the Alpine region, which may be a reason for the low attractiveness of farming,
 - F) Fully alarmed by the fact that the insufficient utilisation during the low season causes deserted villages,
- 1) Calls upon the creation of alternative jobs and apprenticeship training positions³ in order to increase the diversity and quantity of working possibilities and therefore to combat the unemployment amongst the youth;

³ For example ecological farming or health tourism.

- 2) Recommends the establishment of an information network or web site which would help young people to find out about existing working possibilities in the Alpine Region;
- 3) Proclaims to found an institution, which makes advertisement for future companies in the region and which supports them in questions of law and economy for establishing a new company;
- 4) Requests the establishment of a high standard education school, such as a university, which is specialized on important topics for the Alps with a focus on agriculture;
- 5) Strongly recommends the creation of tourism programs⁴ to attract people in the low season, with a special focus on seniors and singles;
- 6) Further recommends that congresses and meetings take place during the low season in order to fulfil the potential of the tourist destination;
- 7) Instructs the Presidency to forward this resolution to the Permanent Committee of the Alpine Convention and the IX. Alpine Conference.

Committee on Culture

What impact do modern and traditional culture have on the life of youths in the Alpine Region?

The Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention

- A) Fully aware of the rising negative influence of music on youth,
 - B) Alarmed by the fact that right extremist music transfers anti-Semitic and/or racist contents to the youth,
 - C) Deeply concerned about the lack of enough financial support for youth centres,
 - D) Concerned by the rising cultural conflicts⁵,
 - E) Aware of the foreign cultural influence on the alpine region,
- 1) Encourages the rise of influence of other fields on cultural activity such as theatre;
 - 2) Suggests the introduction of a law which prohibits any consumption as well as any production of extremist art⁶;
 - 3) Further recommends the support and promotion of amateur theatre groups as well as giving them a platform to perform (e.g. by installing a co-operation between non-professional theatre groups and youth centres);
 - 4) Invites the aforementioned amateur theatre groups to perform educational plays;
 - 5) Supports further financial subsidies for neutral⁷ youth centres aiming to enlarge the offer and attract more people;

⁴ Such as evening activities including folk songs or other traditional songs; specially prepared hiking routes, suitable for seniors; sports programs including meeting new people for singles; lowered prices on accommodation due to the low season.

⁵ In terms of generational and ethnic problems.

⁶ Right extremist propaganda such as music, pictures and hompages on the internet.

⁷ Non-politically motivated

- 6) Draws the attention to the use of subsidies to increase youth interest in traditional culture by combining traditional culture elements and modern elements in order to preserve and support at the same time;
- 7) Approves of compulsory cultural education at schools to build up cultural consciousness;
- 8) Instructs the Presidency to forward this resolution to the Permanent Committee of the Alpine Convention and the IX. Alpine Conference.