



European  
Student  
Parliaments

**Debate science!**



Vetenskap & Allmänhet

wissenschaft • im dialog



The Swedish Research Council for Environment,  
Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning

Robert Bosch Stiftung



# *The Future of our City*



*European Student  
Parliament  
Stockholm  
8-10 April*

## PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

09:00 – 09:15 Opening of the parliamentary debate by Mrs. Inger Linge, Chair of the Stockholm County Council Assembly

09:15 – 11:40 Debates

- **Future mobility – New approaches in the city**
- **City. Climate. Change.**

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:45 Debate

- **Resources in the city: skyfarming & urban gardening**

11:45 – 12:30 Lunch break

12:30 – 14:00 Debates

- **Energy efficient houses and flats**
- **Smart city: life in an urban network**

14:00 – 14:45 Presentation on Stockholm's Sustainability Programme by Per Ankersjö, Vice-Mayor for Environment, City of Stockholm

14:45– 15:00 Handover of the resolutions to Per Ankersjö

15:00– 15:15 Presentation of certificates to the students

## Committees and experts

### 1. Future mobility – New approaches in the city

Mobility has many facets. How do we want to move along in the future? Is the e-car really the solution or is the concept „car“ already out of date? Which ways of locomotion and hence which transport routes will have priority in future urban planning? Is the mobile workplace really a concept for tomorrow?

Expert: Peter Georén, PhD, Royal Institute of Technology, KTH

### 2. City. Climate. Change.

The impacts of the climate change affect cities in a particular way due to their high density of population. Cities need to focus on the consequences of flooding, heat waves and thunderstorms. The collaboration of different protagonists is necessary to be able to face the climatic changes. Which measures are required to be able to respond to the consequences of the changed climate? Do we need to alter our cities? What do we need to consider when planning cities in future? Which part do open spaces play? And who needs to be involved in urban planning?

Expert: Karin Mossberg Sonnek, PhD, Swedish Defence Research Agency, FOI

### 3. Resources in the city: skyfarming & urban gardening

Agriculture in multi-storey buildings & the city as a „huge raw materials mine“ – Can we and do we need to provide agricultural areas in the cities for our own supply? How could that be implemented? How can we recycle the waste that cities produce in the most effective way? Which chances and risks exist?

Expert: Tim Delshammar, PhD, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU

### 4. Energy efficient houses and flats

The highest potential of saving energy lies in already existing buildings. They require three times as much energy as new buildings. Research strives after the zero-emission building – but can it be realised everywhere? Which reconstruction possibilities are there for existing houses? And who is supposed to pay for it at the end?

Expert: Tove Malmqvist, PhD, Royal Institute of Technology, KTH

## 5. Smart City: Life in an urban network

Half of the world's population lives in cities. The future belongs to urban regions. What challenges are posed to an intelligent traffic control? Will we be capable of controlling the interconnections in our cities similar to the way it is done in the computer game "Sim City"? How can intelligent electricity meet the requirements of an increasing population? Can cloud computing, smartphones and social networks reform the working environment? Which role do open data networks and data protection play?

Expert: Omar Shafqat, PhD, Royal Institute of Technology, KTH

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## Procedure of the debate

### 1. Reading out the claims

At the beginning of each debate, the proposing committee has the opportunity to read out the committee's claims which are gathered in this resolution booklet. *(One member of the proposing committee reads out the claims at the lectern.)*

### 2. Defence speech

Subsequently, the proposing committee has the opportunity to hold a defence speech and to explain the existing resolution and its contents. *(One member of the proposing committee reads holds the speech at the lectern; approx. three minutes.)*

### 3. Attack speech(es)

Directly after, all other committees have the opportunity to hold one or more attack speeches, provided that the first attack speech does not take up all time. Every committee which has prepared an attack speech can now explain why some of the claims should not be accepted by the delegates. *(One member of an opposing committee; up to three minutes at own seat/via microphone.)*

### 4. Response to attack speech(es)

The proposing committee has the opportunity to give answers to the attack speech and to allay doubts the delegates may have. *(One member of the proposing committee; up to one minute at own seat/via microphone.)*

### 5. Open debate

All members of all opposing committees can raise their hands to address questions or remarks to the proposing committee. Up to three questions/remarks are gathered from members of the different committees, before the proposing committee can give a summarising answer to all of them. *(Up to four rounds à three questions/remarks of less than a minute; at own seat/via microphone.)*

### 6. Summarising speech, response to last questions

The proposing committee holds a summarising speech and answers the last questions. *(Two members of the proposing committee; three minutes at the lectern.)*

### 7. Voting

The chair of the debate reads out the claims and asks all delegates to vote for or against a claim.

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## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

### “Future mobility – New approaches in the city”

**Mobility has many facets. How do we want to move along in the future? Is the e-car really the solution or is the concept „car“ already out of date? Which ways of locomotion and hence which transport routes will have priority in future urban planning? Is the mobile workplace really a concept for tomorrow?**

proposed by: Bilen Berhane, Selma Cesko, Oguz Ektas, Massi Faisal, Fjordor Fors, Oscar Hallgren, Agnes Johansson, Shideh Khodarahmi, Oscar Knutsson, Daniel Lund, Axel Lönnelid, Meldin Mahovic, David Malmkvist, Magnus Olsson (Thorildsplans gymnasium), Johanna Lundgren (EUP)

#### The Committee is:

- A) Aware that public transport is unreliable due to poor punctuality and low security.
- B) Worried that many people drive a car unnecessarily.
- C) Aware that accessibility on the roads is poor.
- D) Mindful that public transport is not able to cope with the high demand during rush hour.
- E) Deeply concerned that there are insufficient measures in place to support the use of electric cars.
- F) Well aware that the public transport system is insufficiently developed and badly maintained.
- G) Aware that the ticketing system for public transport is poor and unfairly structured.

#### The Committee proposes:

- 1) To improve public transport by:
  - a. running it in consistent time intervals rather than according to timetables;
  - b. installing glass doors along the platforms to prevent people falling onto the tracks;
  - c. improving track maintenance, particularly in the winter to reduce delays.
- 2) To encourage the use of electric vehicles by:
  - a. building more visible and a greater number of charging stations;
  - b. building lanes on major roads specifically for use by larger electric vehicles, such as lorries;
  - c. introducing incentives for electric vehicle users such as free parking and tax deductions.
- 3) To reduce the use of cars through:

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- a. additional and more expensive tolls for private vehicles run on fossil fuels;
  - b. the introduction of car pools with electric cars;
  - c. the introduction of car-free zones.
- 4) To build a new underground train line linking all the major stations to take pressure off the underground system.
  - 5) To set up an investigation into a better solution to the public transport ticketing system.
  - 6) To request a trial of driverless underground trains
  - 7) To support the development of a well-functioning bicycle and pedestrian path network.

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## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

### “City. Climate. Change.”

**The impacts of the climate change affect cities in a particular way due to their high density of population. Cities need to focus on the consequences of flooding, heat waves and thunderstorms. The collaboration of different protagonists is necessary to be able to face the climatic changes. Which measures are required to be able to respond to the consequences of the changed climate? Do we need to alter our cities? What do need to consider when planning cities in future? Which part do open spaces play? And who needs to be involved in urban planning?**

proposed by: Kauthar Al Zubaidi, Athil Azawi, Erik Berns, Ivar Björck, Oasima Chkkour, Emmeli Edström, Asad Hussain, Robert Jonsson, Joel Martinsson, Mustaf Omar, Haron Qadiri, Nesim Sadeghpor, Viktor Sharan, Viktor Strömwall (Thorildsplans gymnasium), Astrid Vikström (EUP)

#### **The Committee is:**

- A) Convinced that urbanisation is a problem if there is inadequate infrastructure in place.
- B) Aware of the increasing demands that extreme weather puts on urban planning and that we are currently not doing enough preventative work to deal with these type of situations.
- C) Reminded that population growth leads to increased urbanisation of city areas, which can create an unstable city structure and prevent sustainable development.
- D) Worried that littering contributes to the spread of pollutants in the environment and in groundwater, which in turn has far-reaching effects on both the ecosystem and the water supply.
- E) Aware of a lack of interest in implementing more long-term sustainable solutions.
- F) Aware of the lack of effective action plans to tackle natural disasters.
- G) Deeply concerned by the tendency to ignore the causes of environmental pollution, which leads to delays in dealing with the problems.
- H) Conscious that the ecosystem is extremely sensitive and that increases in human activity, without regard to the effect they have on the environment, can have far-reaching consequences such as:
  - a. Water acidification
  - b. An unbalanced ecosystem
  - c. Extinction of parts of the ecosystem



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**The Committee proposes:**

- 1) To make small towns more attractive to live in, for example, by investing in building new schools, universities and supporting business ventures.
- 2) To build new cities from scratch, which can then be further developed in the future to accommodate larger populations.
- 3) To make small towns more attractive to live in, by moving/setting up universities and jobs.
- 4) To make environmental awareness and the impact of population growth on the environment a compulsory part of the school curriculum.
- 5) To ask non-profit organisations to run annual environmental fairs, which are mandatory for young people in grade 1 at upper secondary school.
- 6) To encourage the introduction of days at school that focus on teaching children about crisis management.
- 7) To establish a crisis centre at municipal level.
- 8) To build wetlands in vulnerable areas to help deal with the large amounts of water that will result from heavy rain or floods.

## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

### “Urban resources: skyfarming and urban gardening”

**Agriculture in multi-storey buildings & the city as a „huge raw materials mine“ – Can we and do we need to provide agricultural areas in the cities for our own supply? How could that be implemented? How can we recycle the waste that cities produce in the most effective way? Which chances and risks exist?**

proposed by: Hadisa Afshar, Abdulahi Ahmed, Abdirahman Ahmed, Kokeb Akelom, Elias Alexis, Hassan Warsame, Anton Bergman, Lida Hashemi, David Johansson, Ami Kojic, Markus Pettersson, Marzie Rezai, Filip Rosberg, Pelin Özpolat (Thorildsplans gymnasium), Emelie Tilstam (EUP)

#### **The Committee is:**

- A) Deeply concerned that today's food is transported an average of 2500 km and contributes to massive carbon emissions and energy losses.
- B) Worried that food is repackaged several times during transportation, which means that half of what we grow doesn't reach consumers because it rots and is spoiled along the way.
- C) Aware of the huge amount of water wasted in agriculture as much of the water used for the cultivation of fields is not taken up by the plants.
- D) Deeply concerned about the lack of knowledge and interest in recycling around the world.
- E) Concerned about the inadequate number of recycling sites in the world, which makes recycling difficult for individuals.
- F) Keen to see urban mining carried out more extensively, i.e. the process of reclaiming metal buried in the ground and under roads.
- G) Conscious that rain falling onto open, active landfills causes chemicals from electronics to leak into the soil and water.
- H) Aware that better waste sorting systems are being developed in Oslo and South Korea, for example, underground waste disposal systems and systems that sort different bags.

#### **The Committee proposes:**

- 1) To increase food cultivation in cities through sky farming and urban gardening to reduce food being transported long distances and to use water more efficiently.
- 2) To offer lectures and courses to school pupils and the general public so that

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people gain more knowledge and interest in sustainability.

3) To build more recycling facilities in the suburbs.

4) To adopt "Source Separation", a system adopted in Oslo that encourages and makes it easier for individuals to sort different types of waste.

5) To encourage cities to make greater use of the urban mining concept so that metal in disused pipes can be recycled.

6) To encourage individuals to compost more and consume less.

7) To encourage municipalities to engage their citizens in environmental issues.

## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

### “Energy-efficient houses and flats”

**The highest potential of saving energy lies in already existing buildings. They require three times as much energy as new buildings. Research strives after the zero-emission building – but can it be realised everywhere? Which reconstruction possibilities are there for existing houses? And who is supposed to pay for it at the end?**

proposed by: Mohammed Abbas, Seda Aktay, Yasmin Ibrahim, Josefine Karlsson, Ismail Osman, Filip Persson, Anton Rosen Wahlsten, Marcus Rost, Jystina Suszszynska, Tobias Tingsdal, Okan Uluhag, Andreas Åhman, (Thorildsplans gymnasium), Angelica Arnqvist, (EUP)

#### The Committee is:

- A) Deeply concerned that homes built during the Swedish Million Homes Programme have high energy consumption.
- B) Concerned about poor insulation, heat leakage and poor ventilation in many of the buildings that exist now.
- C) Worried that there are buildings from the 1930-50s that use even more energy than ‘million programme’ buildings.
- D) Concerned about the energy-wasting habits of individuals.
- E) Conscious that people often think of short-term costs, which is not always the most environmentally-friendly option.
- F) Aware that the technology exists to make buildings more energy efficient.
- G) Conscious that listing buildings of historic interest can prevent environmentally-unfriendly buildings from being demolished.
- H) Concerned that the more energy efficient options are often the more expensive ones.

#### The Committee proposes:

- 1) To investigate and invest in the renovation of environmentally unfriendly buildings, including listed buildings.
- 2) That the government and companies should distribute more information about ways to save energy at home.
- 3) More investment into research areas such as nanomaterials and photovoltaics.
- 4) To develop clearer guidelines on sustainable building materials for construction companies and property owners.
- 5) To encourage energy efficiency improvements, such as replacing windows, insulating walls and replacing ventilation systems.

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- 6) To develop proposals to give individuals better opportunities to switch to green electricity.
  - 7) To support the use of solar panels, solar collectors in areas where this would be effective and beneficial.
  - 8) To introduce lower interest rates for those who implement energy efficiency measures in buildings and special taxes for landlords of environmentally unfriendly buildings.

## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE

### “Smart city: life in an urban network”

**Half of the world’s population lives in cities. The future belongs to urban regions. What challenges are posed to an intelligent traffic control? Will we be capable of controlling the interconnections in our cities similar to the way it is done in the computer game “Sim City”? How can intelligent electricity meet the requirements of an increasing population? Can cloud computing, smartphones and social networks reform the working environment? Which role do open data networks and data protection play?**

proposed by: Omar Chamsine, Riifa Hassano, Nicklas Hersén, Petter Jansson, Thim Levén, Markus Liljekvist, Sakke Lundberg, Christian Malkki, Viking Minoz, Malgorzata Nowacka, Hivron Stenhav, Fehrat Tûrk, Sebastian Waldberg (Thorildsplans gymnasium), Ludvig Dietmann (EUP)

#### The Committee is:

- A) Worried that the Internet is not accessible to all.
- B) Concerned about public transport delays, making public transport an unattractive option.
- C) Fully aware of the shortage of parking spaces.
- D) Deeply concerned about the unnecessary use of energy (e.g. leaving appliances on stand-by), the lack of public awareness about energy consumption and the lack of motivation to reduce electricity consumption.
- E) Fully aware of the amount of unnecessary long distance transportation of waste.
- F) Deeply concerned about the waste of resources, such as fresh water and things being thrown away.
- G) Keen to see better communication between policymakers and citizens.
- H) Positive to making teaching materials and knowledge more widely available.

#### The Committee proposes:

- 1) To call for an expansion of WiFi hotspots in Stockholm and to exclude the use of government apps from data usage.
- 2) To use residual heat under roads to help keep public transport running during the winter.
- 3) To make it possible for more people to work from home with the help of cloud computing.
- 4) To improve the efficiency of vehicles by:

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- a. introducing sensors in parking spaces to provide information about available spaces via apps/gps;
  - b. increasing the use of car-pools;
  - c. introducing driverless cars that can communicate via a network.
- 5) To support the development of apps to:
- a. give the public an overview of their electricity use;
  - b. enable home appliances to be controlled remotely;
  - c. run a competition to motivate people to consume less energy.
- 6) To call for a better waste disposal system that uses vacuum tubes to take rubbish to a central collection point.
- 7) To reduce wastage of:
- a. drinking water by not using it when it isn't totally necessary;
  - b. recyclable rubbish by introducing colour-coded rubbish bags that are sorted by machines.
- 8) To support the creation of a policy forum in Stockholm and an online library via websites and apps.