

Proposal for Skopje Spring Congress 2020

Proposal
207

LYMEC Spring Congress, April 3 to 5, 2020 in Skopje

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Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Skopje Spring Congress 2020 may decide:

1 **Ending Female Genital Mutilation**

2 This resolution archives Resolution 2.21 - Aiming at Ending Female Genital Mutilation.

3 *Discrimination, Human Rights, Health, Civil Rights*

4 **For consideration on the annual Congress of the European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) in**
5 **Skopje, North Macedonia on 3-5 April 2020.**

6 **Having regard to:**

7 - the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against
8 Women (1979) and its Optional Protocol (1999), as well as the specific;

9 - the convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or
10 Punishment;

11 - the report of the UN Secretary General of 5 December 2012 "Ending Female Genital
12 Mutilation";

13 - the Council of Europe Convention of 12 April 2011 on preventing and combating violence
14 against women and domestic violence;

15 - the European Parliament resolution of 12 February 2020 on an EU strategy to put an end to
16 female genital mutilation around the world;

17 - the Sustainable Development Goal, sub-goal 5 (Gender Equality);

18 **Considering:**

19 - that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is an irreparable abuse, intentionally causing injury to
20 female genitals for non-medical reasons, with irreversible consequences;

21 - that according to the WHO it is estimated that more than 200 million girls and women alive
22 today have undergone female genital mutilation in the countries where the practice is
23 concentrated. Furthermore, there are an estimated 3 million girls at risk of undergoing female
24 genital mutilation every year.

25 - that it also happens in European countries; according to the European Parliament, the most
26 recent national data available across Europe, estimates for around 600 000 women and girls in
27 Europe living with lifelong physical and psychological consequences of FGM, and a further 180
28 000 girls are at a high risk of FGM in 13 European countries alone[1];

29 - that any form of FGM as harmful traditional practice should not be considered as part of a
30 religion as such, but as act of violence and torture against girls and women; thus any form of

- 31 FGM is a violation of human rights;
- 32 - the serious and irreparable injuries caused by FGM, in the short and long term, to the physical
33 and mental health of the girls and women who underwent it:
- 34 - that they are at risk of further infections, sickness and injuries in case of use of rudimentary
35 instruments and the lack of antiseptic precautions;
- 36 - the effect FGM can have on their future relations – pain during sexual intercourse, childbirth,
37 and the possible complications (haemorrhaging, shock, infections);
- 38 - that FGM is an expression of inequality between women and men;
- 39 - that a global approach to fight FGM is a necessary tool in the fight towards gender equality;
- 40 **The European Liberal Youth (LYMEC) Congress:**
- 41 - Expresses its deep concerns about the fact that FGM is often practiced on girls younger than 15
42 years, violating as such the United Nations' 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- 43 - Recalls that every Member State of the European Union are committed to protecting the
44 Children's Rights;
- 45 - Calls on the EU member states to urgently ratify the Istanbul Convention, and insists that the
46 ALDE party members and ALDE Prime ministers should also urges for the Convention's
47 ratification[2];
- 48 - Calls on the Member state to enforce legal measures to end female genital mutilation, including
49 penalizing offenders;
- 50 - Calls on the European Commission to include actions to end FGM in the EU Gender Equality
51 Strategy;
- 52 - Calls on the Commission to ensure its full integration into the EU legislative framework to
53 ensure the prevention of FGM, protection of women, prosecution of offenders and adequate
54 provision of services in response to FGM, including providing care for survivors.[3].
- 55 - Member States of the Council of Europe to take preventive and protective initiatives for girls and
56 women at risk, particularly from immigration groups;
- 57 - Proposes that every European country should develop a mechanism to allow and encourage
58 victims to report any case of FGM;
- 59 - Believes that international cooperation is needed to end female genital mutilation, not only in
60 Europe, but on a global scale;
- 61 - Urges the Renew group in the European Parliament to support the European programs on
62 Justice, Health and Development and Cooperation, to insist on providing them with sufficient
63 resources to face the needs and the priorities of girls in a vulnerable situation, including the ones
64 at risk of FGM;
- 65 - Asks for the inclusion in every European or bi- and multilateral development and cooperation
66 plan of a program aiming at gender equality, women empowerment and the fight against violence
67 and discrimination against women;

Attention: This is a preview! The official text is printed in the proposal book for Skopje Spring Congress 2020 03 - 05 April 2020.