European Union General Assembly
BrewMUNC 2021

Chairs : Danielle Rosner
Packet By : Danielle Rosner & Macie Marinich

Committee Information

Zoom

Central debate will take place over Zoom. While speaking, it is expected that you keep your camera on, unless your internet connection does not allow it. While not speaking, it is expected that you remain muted. Chairs will make use of the "React" features of Zoom to come to a vote. Moderated caucuses will take place much in the same way as in person caucus would: the chair picks each speaker, who will be allowed to speak for a set duration. Unmoderated caucuses will be facilitated using the breakout room feature. The chair will open breakout rooms for all attendees. They will be allowed to enter and leave the rooms as they choose, before the unmoderated caucus elapses. Points and motions should be brought to the floor using the "Raise hand" feature. In place of passing notes, the Zoom private messaging system will be used. Please keep all messages respectful and committee focused. Zoom links to each committee will be shared on the day of the conference.

Discord

Crisis notes and directive submissions will be handled via Discord. Each committee will have a server on Discord they will have access to. Within the server, the delegate is expected to keep their name as their position, for ease of communication. There will be a committee wide chat, where committee wide information such as crisis updates and new directives can be shared. Crisis Notes will be sent via DM to your crisis team (an individual contact will be assigned to you). Links to each server will be shared on the day of the conference.

Directives and Resolutions

Directives and resolutions will be written on Google Docs. Delegates may share the link to these documents, for the purposes of sponsoring, signing, and writing them. Once a document receives the required number of signatures and is linked in the Discord chat, a motion to present the directive may be passed, at which time the chair will share their screen and open the document.

Position Papers

Please email your position papers to brewstermun@gmail.com by the time opening ceremonies start. In order to receive an award you must submit a paper. We will also be awarding a separate position paper award. These papers should be no longer than a single page.

General Parliamentary Procedure

<u>Point of Order</u> - A Point of Order may interrupt a speech and be used when a delegate feels that the Chair or another delegate is not correctly following the rules of procedure.

<u>Point of Inquiry</u> - A Point of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker and may be used to direct a question to the chair to clarify parliamentary procedure or to ask a question. Substantive analyses or speeches may not be made using a point of inquiry.

<u>Point of Information</u> - A Point of Information may not interrupt a speech and may be used either to clarify a point or motion, or to bring substantive information to the notice of the Dais. No analyses or speeches may be made using a point of information.

<u>Point of Personal Privilege</u> - A Point of Personal Privilege may be raised when a delegate's ability to participate in debate is immediately impaired for any physical or logistical reason (for instance, if the speaker is not audible). In addition, this point may be used to bring up any issues with the conditions of the room, such as lighting or temperature. This point may interrupt a speech, and the Dais will immediately try to resolve the difficulty.

<u>Right of Reply</u> - The Right of Reply may be invoked in the rare case that a delegate feels his or her personal dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. The delegate may raise his placard and ask the Chair for a Right of Reply which will be judged at the Chair's discretion.

<u>Motion for a Moderated Caucus</u> - A motion to enter into a moderated caucus must specify the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the speaker's time. Much of the committee debate is expected to take place in a moderated caucus.

<u>Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus</u> - A motion for an unmoderated caucus is up to the Chair's discretion and must specify a topic of debate for the caucus. If this motion passes, the rules of debate will be suspended for the given amount of time, and delegates will be permitted to leave their seats to discuss and write documents for submission.

<u>Motion to Introduce Documents</u> - A motion to introduce documents must be recognised by the chair for any of the documents to be presented or discussed. The document will be read out loud by the Chair or by the presenting delegate and be submitted for committee

discussion if it has at least four signatures from delegates. If the document is a directive it will abide by the rules set forth below.

<u>Motion for a Q&A Session</u> - At the Chair's discretion, after a document has been submitted for debate, a delegate may motion for a question and answer session to ask questions of the document's author(s). If the Chair approves this motion, the rules of debate will be suspended for a session whose length is subject to the Chair's discretion.

<u>Motion to Enter Voting Procedure</u> - If a delegate deems that a document has been sufficiently discussed, he or she may motion to enter voting procedure. If this motion passes, debate will be suspended on that document, and the committee will enter voting procedure.

<u>Motion to Suspend Debate</u> - At the end of a committee session, a delegate may motion to suspend debate. If this motion passes, debate will be suspended and resume at the next committee session. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair's discretion.

<u>Motion to Adjourn Debate</u> - At the end of the final committee session of BREWMUNC, a delegate may motion to adjourn debate. If this motion passes, debate at this committee for this conference will be adjourned, and committee business will be concluded. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair's discretion.

<u>Between Delegates</u> - Delegates are encouraged to exchange ideas amongst one another during unmoderated caucus and through the passing of notes during normal flow of debate. Out of respect for other members of the Ministry, however, talking during another member's speech will not be tolerated. The chair may take disciplinary action against delegates who do not adhere to this policy.

Abstract

The European Union is a political and economic union of twenty seven member states in Europe. Founded in 1993, the EU works to promote peace, freedom, stability, and development of all nations involved. Today, the EU discusses a wide range of topics and addresses economic, political, and social issues. The issues that this assembly will address include the rise of right wing nationalism, the freedom of movement across borders, the freedom of religion, and the possible expulsion of totalitarian Hungary from the EU. A recent boom in voter support for right-wing and populist parties has pulled away from democracy and caused significant controversy. Differing views between nations with Christian, Muslim, or Jewish beliefs can potentially cause many conflicts due to the EU's lack of involvement in determining individual nation's religious policies. The freedom of movement, which allows for nationals in member states of the European Union to move freely, can cause major issues between countries due to hostility and the belief that foreigners take jobs from local workers. Hungary's authoritarian government, which violates many EU values, has become a question concerning the EU's ability to implement political standards or suspend the nation state from the union. The assembly will work to address these issues, in an attempt to maintain the diplomacy and beliefs of their respective nation.

Background

Origin

      After World War II, the nations of Europe knew that a unifying force was necessary to prevent another serious conflict like this one. Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands officially founded the European Union on November 1, 1993 in Maastricht, Netherlands. Additional nations joined the EU throughout the following decades, and there are now twenty-seven member states belonging to the Union. The Union has since developed into a proponent of social, economic, and political development within and among European nations.

      The main focus of the EU is on the rule of law, meaning that all of the included nations must democratically approve treaties. Over time, these treaties can be amended and changed to better address current events and allow for more effective cooperation between nations. The Union promotes the assurance of human rights in each citizen's country of origin and any country they may travel to within Europe. They protect against employment exploitation, unfair treatment, dangers while traveling, and the negative impacts of globalisation. At large, the EU works to have more global influence and power over decisions and policies, both politically and economically.

Cooperation Between Nations

      In 1957, the EU passed the "Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union", better known as the "Treaty of Rome". This treaty introduced the European Economic Community (EEC), which was a system intended to bring about economic integration throughout Europe. The EEC set up a common market so that all economic activity would be regulated throughout Europe, preventing trade blockages or restrictions. It was not until 1993, though, that a single market was established, allowing goods, resources, services, and people to travel freely throughout the countries belonging to the Union. This single market was deemed the "European Community" (EC) because it encompasses a broader range of free movement, beyond the economy. The EC enabled a closer relationship between all the nations, advancing cooperation and internationally connected markets.

      The collaboration of the Union was further perpetuated by the collapse of communism throughout Europe in the 1990's, resulting in more communication among nations. The EU began establishing methods to ensure national and international security from other European countries and countries outside of Europe. They also started emphasising the protection of the environment, taking international efforts to reduce climate change. With the rise of technology, more rapid communications between nations and people take place over the internet, enabling a greater connection throughout Europe.

Current Affairs

The EU encountered a major political change in 2020: they were no longer fully democratic states. Recently, there has been a surge in support for Populist and right wing ideals. In the European Parliament, nine right wing states formed a new bloc called Identity and Democracy. Nationalists have begun to receive higher scores in elections in European Parliament. Voters have become frustrated with the political establishment. However, more importantly, they are concerned about the future of the EU and issues regarding immigration and globalisation.

The European Commission proposed a new Pact on migration and asylum in September 2020. This included a new screening regulation, an amended proposal revising asylum procedures, and a new asylum and migration management regulation. The primary goal of the Commission is to improve the overall system and conditions of asylum. Despite there being many disagreements among countries regarding migration and the integration of refugees, the EU aims to find a common solution.

Topics of Debate

Rise of Right-Wing Nationalism

Recently, voter support throughout Europe has been increasingly in favour of right-wing political parties in their respective countries. Right-wing nationalism encourages an emphasis on the success of the "common people," expressing distrust in powerful corporations and elitist organisations. Many right-wing political parties oppose free immigration policies, like those that have been adopted by the European Union. This party is also often characterised for their support of anti-environmentalism and anti-globalisation. Evidently, the current EU policies generally stand against the ideals of right-wing nationalism, though the EU as a governing body also recognises the sentiments of the European citizens as a whole.

The nations that have had a surplus of right-wing support are in danger of moving toward totalitarianism. Totalitarian states are characterised by the use of systems like modern media and non-democratic propaganda to gain support. Often, totalitarian regimes emerge from a political revolution overthrowing the present democracy, though these regimes can shift toward totalitarian political aspirations without a full-out revolution. Various nations that seek to bring about fundamental change will do so with activism for far-right policies, hoping that these political efforts will alter the current political state.

In the past decade, right wing nationalist politicians and political parties have held an increasing amount of support from many European people. At the forefront, Italy's Lega Nord Party, Spain's Vox Party, Germany's Alternative for Germany Party, and Hungary's two nationalist parties. Throughout Europe, right-wing nationalist parties have earned seats in the political elections of their respective nations, many gaining at least 10% of voter support, with some gaining nearly 30%. The EU, as an entity, does not approve of these generally extreme political parties. Likewise, these parties do not approve of the policies of the EU. How will the Union address these differences? How will they combat the rise of right-wing support while still ensuring the freedom of choice guaranteed to the European people?

Expulsion of Hungary from the EU

Prime Minister Viktor Orbán seized absolute power in Hungary in 2020 in an attempt to adopt authoritarianism. Other countries have imposed drastic measures in order to combat current issues in the EU, although Hungary's plans are clearly the most extreme and the most permanent. With Orbán in power, the Fidesz party has destroyed academic freedom and promoted xenophobia in Hungary. In response to this, the EU passed "Article 7"

which permits penalties against any state that violates the values of the EU. However, this failed to stop Orbán, and he increasingly gained power in Hungary without being penalized.

However, the EU is hesitant to expel them because they fear it would be damaging to the EU politically and economically. Not only does Orbán bring in a significant amount of money, but they feel that isolating Orbán would disagree with the way the EU has collectively agreed on handling issues. Since other countries have drifted from the EU in the past, and they have never faced repercussions, some feel that it is unfair to penalize Hungary for their political situation that might be temporary. What actions will the EU take to both ensure fairness and uphold their beliefs as a Union?

Freedom of Movement

The EU plans to develop a balanced and common migration policy that allows greater mobility, leading to more opportunities for growth. By developing a migration policy that is effective and coherent, it should advance the EU's economic growth and performance as well. A key objective of the European Union is to establish an immigration policy that is balanced, so that it can approach regular and irregular immigration.

The EU aims to control regular immigration and regulate irregular immigration. Without a standardised system to deal with refugee hosting, migration, and travel, individual nations will struggle to combat the issues associated with these occurrences. By enhancing measures to combat trafficking and smuggling, it can be ensured that irregular immigration does not occur and fair treatment is granted to those trying to immigrate. How will the EU handle the issue of irregular immigration? Is it possible to establish a migration policy that will benefit them on a national and international scale?

Over the past few years, the e-commerce industry has positively changed, and sales are increasing. However, there are still many challenges being faced by the EU regarding e-commerce as well, since countries all have differing views on how to handle these problems. Delivery speed is an important factor in the success of the e-commerce industry, since customers who deal with packages arriving late will not want to continue using that particular business. Technical issues are also something to consider, since cybersecurity attacks have been on the rise, and technical failures would lead to a huge loss in earnings for the e-commerce business. Finally, cross-border regulations must be taken into account, since the EU does not have policies put into place that can handle the increasing e-commerce that is occurring in Europe. How will the nations of the EU resolve these challenges to maintain the e-commerce industry?

Positions

<u>Austria</u>: The Austrian political system is composed of five political parties, with the center-right people's party (ÖVP) currently in power. After the election in 2017, the ÖVP formed a coalition government with the FPÖ, though this coalition collapsed after approximately a year and a half. The FPÖ, the far-right Freedom Party of Austria, is still the third largest party in Austria. The FPÖ has produced a significant amount of propaganda surrounding the migrant crisis, in which they denounced the government's decision to open borders.

<u>Belgium</u>: With a multi-party system, Belgium's government is currently dominated by three main political entities: The Christian Democratic and Flemish Party, The New Flemish Alliance, and The Open Flemish Liberals and Democrats. The Belgian government has been primarily dominated by the conservative Catholic Party and the progressive Liberal Party, and the one emergence of a right-wing nationalist group, the Vlaams Belang, in the early 2000's was condemned by a High Court for their policies on anti-immigration and supposed racism.

<u>Croatia</u>: The main office holders of the Croation government belong to the Social Democratic Party and the Croation Democratic Union party, which represent the centre-left and the centre-right, respectively. The majority of voter support is concentrated in these two parties. The Ustaša movement and all associated symbols, which held ideals of neo-facism, was outlawed entirely in 2003.

<u>Czech Republic</u>: Nine political parties compose this government, but usually only two-three are elected into parliament in each election. Currently, the populist ANO 2011 party and the Social Democratic Party (ČSSD) make up the government. Immigrants and migrants have had a major impact on the Czech society and economy, helping the labor market more often than not. However, the 2016 refugee crisis influenced an increase in support for anti-immigration policies and far-right policies. The Freedom and Direct Democracy party, the fourth largest in the CR, is Eurosceptic, or skeptical of the EU.

<u>Denmark</u>: The government in Denmark is under the Frederiksen Cabinet, which is a Social Democrat party whose support roots from the Socialist People's Party. Though this is currently the only political party in place, the far-right Denmark People's Party has been a part of the coalition government in the last few decades, gaining about one fifth of Danish voters. This party adopted a strict anti-immigration and anti-Islam attitude.

Estonia: The social-liberal, populist Estonian Centre Party currently dominates the seats in the Estonian parliament. However, the rising far-right Conservative People's Party (EKRE) has been rapidly gaining voter support in recent years, and is now the third most popular party in Estonia. The EKRE has adopted a clear anti-immigration stance, even declaring that only white people should be permitted to migrate to Estonia.

Finland: In the most recent election, the far-right Finns Party gained only 0.2% less votes than the left-wing Social Democratic Party (SDP). Ten political parties exist in Finland, and attempts at a coalition government including the Finns Party were unsuccessful. The current Prime Minister belongs to the SDP, but it remains evident that there is widespread support in favour of right-wing policies, like anti-immigration and anti-environmentalism.

France: The French president, Emmanuel Macron, supports the centrist and liberal En Marche! political party. During the May 2017 election, Macron defeated Marine Le Pen, leader of the National Front party. Le Pen has worked to make her anti-immigration and Eurosceptic party the mainstream of France, and the party has gained an increasing amount of support both nationally and by common parties throughout Europe.

Germany: The Christian Democratic Union and the Social Democratic Party of Germany have dominated the multi-party system in Germany since 1949, although there are a number of minor parties within the system as well. The AfD (Alternative for Germany) is Germany's furthest opposition party: it began as an anti-euro party but has pushed for strict anti-immigration policies. Although it may be difficult to obtain citizenship, Germany is one of the more open and immigration-friendly countries in Europe.

Greece: Currently, Greece is a parliamentary representative democratic republic. The President of Greece is the head of state, while the Prime Minister of Greece is the head of government within a multi-party system. An anti-immigration, nationalist party called Greek Solution is on the rise, winning 3.7% in the 2019 election and earning 10 out of the 300-seat Parliament. The Greek government has made few changes regarding immigration, but immigration reform remains a low priority.

Hungary: In a multi-party democracy, Prime Minister Victor Orbán dominates the Hungarian government with his far-right Fidesz party, and he gains more control over the country with each law that is passed. The Fidesz party has the absolute majority, while DK is the largest party of the opposition. Hungary adopts one of the stricter anti-immigration policies in the entire European Union.

Ireland: Ireland adopts a multi-party system that is dominated by Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael, both as centre-right parties, with Fianna Fáil being the largest in each election. The National Party is a minor far-right nationalist party, believing in a strict anti-immigration platform and a hatred of the EU. However, Ireland's strong economy allows it to withhold a friendly immigration system that allows for skilled immigrants to work in the country.

Italy: The PD is a social-democratic party which is part of the centre-left coalition. Matteo Salvini is a key figure in the nationalist aspect of Europe, leading the right-wing League and the Lega Nord right-wing party. Italy is one of the easier countries in the EU to immigrate to, as they do not have a strict immigration policy. However, illegal immigration to Italy has dropped throughout the years, and anti-immigration sentiments have been on the rise.

Latvia: The Prime Minister is the head of government in a multi-party system and the President is the head of state in Latvia. The right-wing political party, named "All for Latvia!" merged to create the National Alliance in 2011 and opts to make citizenship laws more restrictive. Latvia was greatly affected by the Great Recession, which increased emigration rates sharply. Latvia is the fourth poorest country in the EU, although some are attracted to Latvia by its low living prices. The Immigration Law of Latvia issues temporary living permits, and allows for more immigrants to enter the country.

Netherlands: The Party for Freedom is the right wing nationalist party in the Netherlands that is the third largest party in the country, they are assimilationists when it comes to immigration. This greatly opposes the two leading parties in the Netherlands, which are the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy, and the Labour Party. There is a rising popularity of anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim ideals, although the general public adopts a more tolerant attitude.

Poland: Right-wing parties politically dominate in Poland, with the Law and Justice political party being the largest, therefore being in the most control. This party holds traditionalist views and opposed the quota system for mass relocation of immigrants proposed by the European Commission, unlike the Civic Platform Party which supported the proposal.

Portugal: The Socialist and Social Democratic Parties have the most control in Portugal, although the CDS - People's Party along with the Portuguese Communist Party have been present in some governments. Portugal has a positive migration balance, and tends to welcome immigrants.

Romania: After being part of the Communist Party of Romania until 1991, Romania has a multi-party platform in which parties form coalition governments together with each other.

None of the extreme right parties have made a political breakthrough, although there are still a few in existence. Romania has the second highest rate of immigration from non-EU countries.

Slovakia: The most recent coalition government of Slovakia was composed of the The Direction - Social Democracy (SMER-SD) party, the Christian Slovak National Party (SNS), and the inter-ethnic Most-Híd party. In the 2020 Slovak parliamentary election, no party won a clear majority of seats, and a coalition government is still in the process of being formed. The popular vote, though, is largely in favour of the Ordinary People party, which supports populism and anti-corruption. The People's Party Our Slovakia, on the far-right, has gained an increasing amount of support for it's neo-facism and extremism.

Slovenia: Currently, the Slovenian Democratic Party is in power in Slovenia, advocating for Slovenian nationalism and right-wing populism. Though this party does not participate in right-wing extremism, the Slovenian National Party is both Eurosceptic and in opposition of Slovenia's NATO membership. Additionally, the anti-immigrant Slovenian Democratic Party (SDP) was the largest party in the last election, advocating for the security of Slovenia first.

Spain: After entering parliament for the first time in April, the far-right Vox Party rapidly gained support throughout the country, becoming the third most popular party in Spain in the last election. The Vox party aims to ensure Spanish unity by ridding the nation of all illegal immigrants and increasing restrictions on borders. However, the two parties ahead of the Vox party, the social-democratic Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) and the Christian-democratic People's Party (PP), largely oppose far-right beliefs.

Sweden: The primary Swedish political party in power is the Social Democratic party, which advocates for positive attitudes surrounding migration, leading Sweden to be one of the most immigrant and refugee-friendly nations in Europe. However, the anti-immigration Sweden Democrats (SD) party, which has earned nearly one fifth of voter support in recent elections, urges for stricter controls on migration. Beginning with ties to neo-Nazism, the party has strongly opposed multiculturalism and the ideals of the EU.

Bibliography

Anonymous. "International Affairs." Migration and Home Affairs - European Commission. December

06, 2016. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/international-affairs_en.

Anonymous. "The History of the European Union." European Union. November 20, 2020.

https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/history_en.

"Europe and Right-wing Nationalism: A Country-by-country Guide." BBC News. November 13, 2019.

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36130006.

"European Economic Community." Wikipedia. January 31, 2021.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Economic_Community.

Jackson, Paul. "Totalitarianism in the Twentieth Century and beyond." OpenDemocracy. August 27,

2019.

https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/countering-radical-right/totalitarianism-twentieth-centur

y-and-beyond/.

Serhan, Yasmeen. "The EU Watches as Hungary Kills Democracy." The Atlantic. April 02, 2020.

https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2020/04/europe-hungary-viktor-orban-cor

onavirus-covid19-democracy/609313/.

"Stopping the Authoritarian Rot in Europe." Human Rights Watch. October 28, 2020.

https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/27/stopping-authoritarian-rot-europe#.

Thomas, Daniel, and Marcos Andronicou. "Murder, Media Frenzy, and Poor Refugee Integration in

Cyprus." The New Humanitarian. September 30, 2020.

https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2020/09/29/Cyprus-migration-xenophob

ia-refugee-integration.