ALLIANZ SUMMER ACADEMY 2013

Policy Recommendations

Developed by the participating students of the Central European University – Budapest, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies – Geneva, Ludwig Maximilians University – Munich, Oxford University, Princeton University

We agree that the European Union should pursue the following long term goals:

1. The EU should continue and increase cooperation between Member States in all political, economic and social endeavours. It should be committed to ensuring that human rights are respected, promoting a higher standard of human rights and democratic values inside and outside its borders, particularly through multilateral cooperation.

2. Member States work towards deeper integration, to increase the EU’s competitiveness in political affairs. The EU strives towards instituting a more coherent common foreign and security policy and actively shaping the global governance architecture.

3. The EU should enhance its legitimacy and democratic accountability and foster a common identity. To this end, EU institutions strengthen their bonds with national governments and civil society. To this end, the EU should institute a framework for Union’s civic education and to strengthen citizenship and public engagement for the political life of its citizens.

4. The EU works towards good relations with its neighbors and stays open to new members, upholding the standards of integration previously achieved.

5. The EU should promote deeper scientific collaboration and investment in scientific and technical studies as a key for Europe’s future. Competitiveness and innovation will provide a platform for growth and a coherent and independent role for the EU in a new world order. With new innovation in the field of green technology, EU should become a model for the other regional organizations and nation states. The EU should promote Responsible Innovation as a Global Agenda.

We make the following proposals:

6. The EU should expand its supranational economic competences and promote international economic regimes, for instance investment regimes.

7. The EU should reduce scarce resources import dependency, decrease its vulnerability by diversifying supply sources and invest in energy technologies, particularly in renewables, energy efficiency and storage, and infrastructure that can be shared amongst Member States.
8. The EU should reform the Common Agricultural Policy by phasing out subsidies and lifting the trade barriers on agricultural products over the next ten years.

9. The EU should continue the Turkish accession process and strengthen institutional integration of other neighboring countries. In order to guarantee the effectiveness and credibility of the conditionality principle, EU membership should be granted if and only the accession criteria are met.

10. In the area of defense and security policy the European Union and its members strive for better cooperation and coordination. European state building mission should combine military and civil efforts as well as economic know-how through European based development banks. The EU should take a leading role in the area of cyber security and establishes a joint cyber command to reduce threats to European infrastructure.

11. The EU should improve and tighten border controls as an internal security strategy against criminal networks, terrorism and irregular immigration by closely cooperating with the originating countries.

12. The EU should assert more boldly its legitimacy and credibility through stricter enforcement of its values in current member states. If violations are persistent, the process to bring sanctions against offending member states should be simplified by amending Article 7 of the Lisbon Treaty.

13. The EU should clearly delineate the competencies of existing institutions serving the promotion of democracy, rule of law and human rights, identify potential synergies through regular communication, and tailor these instruments to specific needs of single regions/countries. The efficient empowerment of civil society in conflict regions shall be the main objective of all EU measures taken within these instruments.

14. The EU should promote an EU-focused Civics component in compulsory education programmes in Member States. The education of European citizens should be encouraged through providing schools with books and digital educational materials on different cultures in Europe; launching programmes such as “Teach for Europe” (EU funding for recent graduates to teach civic education courses in another Member State) and supporting collaboration between schools in different Member States.

15. Although the establishment of a European rating agency failed recently, the EU should pursue its objective of establishing such an agency to decrease its dependency on US rating agencies.