

*Letter from UBI-EI (Unconditional Basic Income – European Initiative),
To Members of European Parliament, datet: 12th of September, 2022*

Annex

Resolutions, Papers and Statements of the European Parliament and the European Commission

- **European Parliament: Resolution of 9 October 2008 on promoting social inclusion and combating poverty, including child poverty, in the EU (2008/2034(INI))**
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52008IP0467>

The European Parliament “7. Agrees with the Commission that social assistance in most Member States is already below a level which makes poverty a risk; insists that the central objective of income support schemes must be to lift people out of poverty and enable them to live in dignity; calls on the Commission to examine whether an unconditional basic income for all could be an effective tool for combating poverty;“

The European Parliament “8. Calls on the Commission to provide a detailed report on whether welfare provision in the Member States (inter alia, minimum income schemes and related benefits, unemployment, invalidity and survivors' benefits, statutory and supplementary pension schemes, early retirement benefits) provide for incomes above the Union's at-risk-of poverty threshold of 60% of national median equalised income;“

The European Parliament “9. Suggests that the Commission should consider establishing a common method of calculating the minimum subsistence amount and the cost of living (a basket of goods and services) in order to ensure comparable measurements of the poverty line and define the criterion for necessary social intervention;“

The European Parliament “13. Considers that the risk of falling into poverty is greater for women than for men, particularly in old age, because social security systems are often based on the principle of continuous remunerated employment; calls for an individualised right to an adequate minimum income which is not conditional on employment related contributions;“

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- **European Parliament: Resolution of 20 October 2010 on role of minimum income in combating poverty and promoting an inclusive society in Europe (2010/2039(INI))**
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52010IP0375>

The European Parliament “having regard to International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions Nos 26 and 131 on minimum wage fixing and Nos 29 and 105 on the abolishment of forced labour,“

The European Parliament “J. whereas the risk of falling into extreme poverty is greater for women than for men, particularly in old age, because social security systems are often based on the principle of continuous remunerated employment; whereas an individualised right to a poverty-preventing minimum income should not be conditional on employment-related contributions,“

The European Parliament “X. whereas the role of social protection systems is to ensure the level of social cohesion needed for development guaranteeing social inclusion and mitigating the social repercussions of the financial crisis, which implies a national poverty-preventing individually guaranteed minimum income,“

The European Parliament “34. Believes that the various experiments with minimum incomes and with a guaranteed basic income for everyone, accompanied by additional social integration and protection measures, show that these are effective ways of combating poverty and social exclusion and providing a decent life for all; therefore calls on the Commission to prepare an initiative to support further experiments in the Member States, taking into account and promoting best practices, and ensuring various individually guaranteed poverty-preventing adequate minimum and basic income models as a means of fighting to eradicate poverty and guarantee social justice and equal opportunities for every individual whose need can be established on the basis of the relevant regional yardstick, in keeping with the subsidiarity principle, and without calling into question the specific situations in each Member State; takes the view that this Commission initiative should lead to the drawing-up of an action plan, designed to accompany the implementation of a European initiative on minimum income in the Member States, in accordance with different national practices, collective bargaining and Member States' legislation,“

The European Parliament “36. Believes that the Commission initiative on a guaranteed minimum income should take account of Recommendation 92/441/EEC, which recognises ‘the fundamental right of the individual to sufficient resources in respect of human dignity’, while insisting that the central objective of income support schemes should be that of taking people out of poverty and allowing them to live a decent life, decent invalidity and retirement pensions

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being included; with this in view, recommends that the Commission consider establishing a common method for calculating a minimum survival income and a cost-of-living minimum (a ‘shopping basket’ of goods and services), with a view to ensuring the availability of comparative measurements of poverty levels and establishing means of social intervention;“

The European Parliament “40. Criticises Member States where minimum income schemes do not meet the relative poverty threshold; reaffirms its demand to Member States to remedy this situation as soon as possible; demands that good and bad practices be addressed by the Commission in the evaluation of national action plans;“

The European Parliament “41. Points to major age discrimination regarding minimum income schemes, such as setting the minimum income for children below the poverty threshold or excluding young people from minimum income schemes due to a lack of social security contributions; stresses that this undermines the unconditionality and decency of minimum income schemes;“

The European Parliament “44. Calls on the Commission and the EU Member States to examine how different models of unconditional and poverty-precluding basic incomes for all could contribute to social, cultural and political inclusion, taking especially into account their non-stigmatising character and their ability to prevent cases of concealed poverty;“

Footnote 10: “The national poverty threshold is set at 60% of the national median income, [...]“

- **European Parliament: Resolution of 24 October 2017 on minimum income policies as a tool for fighting poverty (2016/2270(INI))**
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:52017IP0403>

The European Parliament “having regard to International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions Nos 29 and 105 on the abolition of forced labour, ILO Convention No 102 on social security, and ILO Recommendation No 202 on social protection floors.“

“F. whereas according to the methodology developed by Eurostat, the at-risk-of poverty threshold is set at 60 % of national median equivalised disposable income (per household, after social transfers); whereas given the existing divergences between Member States and different national social policies, this percentage should be considered together with other indicators such as reference budgets; whereas income is an indirect indicator of living standards and a reference budget reflects the diversity of consumption patterns and the cost of living across Member States;“

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The European Parliament “20. Reiterates its position, as expressed in its resolution of 20 October 2010, on the role of minimum income in combating poverty and promoting an inclusive society in Europe;“

The European Parliament “24. Stresses that minimum income schemes should ensure an income that is above the poverty line, prevent severe material deprivation, and lift households out of such situations, and should be accompanied by the provision of public services such as health, education and childcare;“

The European Parliament “39. Believes that Member States, when setting adequate minimum income schemes, should take into account the Eurostat at-risk-of poverty threshold, set at 60 % of national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers), together with other indicators such as reference budgets; considers that reference budgets could be used to better tackle poverty and to test the robustness of the level of minimum income and of the above-mentioned threshold, while respecting the subsidiarity principle;“

- **European Commission: Reflection Paper on the social dimension of Europe, COM (2017) 206 final of 26 April 2017**
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52017DC0206>

Page 23: “At the same time, all countries are led to innovate in a national or European context. From the testing of universal basic income in Finland to the roll out of a guaranteed minimum income in Greece, there is a growing tendency to try out new models to fit new realities.“

- **“The new European Consensus on development ,Our world, our dignity, our future““**

Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission, June 2017 (2017/C 210/01)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A42017Y0630%2801%29>

“37. To combat inequality, the EU and its Member States will also support efficient, sustainable and equitable social protection systems to guarantee basic income, prevent relapses into

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extreme poverty and build resilience. They will assess the determinants of and trends in economic and social inequalities and will strengthen their tools and approaches to make them more effective in addressing inequality. The EU and its Member States will mainstream the reduction of inequality in their development cooperation and support innovative social practices.“