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Motion

Proposer:

Title: **Building Democratic International Institutions Towards a World Federation**

Motion text

Strengthening International Institutions Towards a Democratic World Federation

JEF Europe is committed to strengthening existing international frameworks and institutions, and promoting federalism on a global level in close collaboration with like-minded peoples. The objective is to empower all peoples through **growing interdependent and joint decision making**, a codified and democratic system of global governance, with the ultimate goal of establishing a World Federation. Yet it does so recognising that this process must be voluntary and done in consultation with, as opposed to being pushed onto, the world's various political communities. A World Federation would reorganise global power by replacing geographic divides and hegemonic dominance with the equal realisation of human rights and potential globally. Achieving this requires providing citizens with the resources to participate democratically while consolidating and reforming existing global governance into inclusive, multi-level federal institutions that protect international democracy.

Therefore, JEF Europe:

- **Recognizes Global Federalism as an ideology and institutional process that believes that federalism, the process of sharing power between many different actors and levels, is the most fitting form of governance and power distribution to govern human societies.**

- **Recognizes Global Federalism as an ideology that can be realized in**

different ways, whereby all schools of thought on how to realize global federalism, share the fundamental direction to further federalist cooperation on global issues. All of them are legitimate as far as they are based on the principles of democracy and sovereignty. Independent of the question if Global Federalism should be realized as a cooperation of states or continental regimes, as a global federation sui generis, or as a federal world state with or without a world government, JEF Europe does not commit itself to any specific school of thought on how to realize global federalism. Instead JEF Europe stands for the general direction towards global federalism and commits itself to pursuing the discourse on how to realize it.

- Affirms that **any** form of the **Global** Federation must be established by democratic means, be democratically accountable, representative and transparent to all peoples **affected by it**, and be founded on the principles of subsidiarity—exercising **supranational oversight** powers only to address issues and crises that cannot be solved at the national, regional, or local levels—and cosmopolitanism—recognising all peoples as part of one global community;

- Commits to strengthening international frameworks, defined as binding structures of rules and agreements, as well as intergovernmental institutions that countries voluntarily participate in to cooperate on shared global challenges, such as war, climate change, unregulated AI development, the weakening of the international rule of law, and hybrid threats, among others;

- **Welcomes the creation and development of non-European regional/continental frameworks and institutions founded on values similar to those in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), such as the African Union (AU), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR);**

- **Encourages the expansion of non-European regional/continental frameworks** as the most feasible path to federalism on a global level while actively breaking with **all forms of** neocolonial power dynamics that undermine trust in international governance, and supports the European Union (EU)’s collaboration with these organisations through wider international fora **such as the United Nations (UN) and Group of 20 (G20);**

- Understands the long-term goal not as abolishing political communities or more centralised governance, but forming a cosmopolitan, democratic and cooperation-based political culture that stands in contrast to

contemporary transactional and zero-sum notions of international affairs connected to unrestrained

and destructive interpretations of national sovereignty which contradict international law;

- Respects that there are different political and cultural traditions and that there is not one model that can be replicated everywhere, but commits to the promotion of multiparty cosmopolitan democracy, separation of powers, respect for human rights, and the rule of law;

- Recognises the need to respect and protect the diverse identities of all peoples, and underlines the importance of fostering, alongside these identities, a shared sense of global belonging and common responsibility as an essential cosmopolitan foundation for addressing global challenges and building a fairer, more peaceful and more prosperous future;

- Realises that furthering federalist goals requires flexibility and openness to institutional innovation, and that the structures developed after the Second World War, including but not limited to the UN, may require substantial reform or even replacement to **further Global Federalism**;

- Observes the global increase in the recent development of international migration; acknowledges its continuing increase in the future considering the state of the world; and regrets the complete lack of a unified understanding and commitment within states to provide safe and dignified channels for migration.

In order to realise these goals, JEF Europe calls:

1. For the EU to use its collective political, economic, and diplomatic weight to defend democratic systems of governance and human rights in its relations with external actors and involvement in institutions of global governance, like the UN;

2. For the EU to prioritise cooperation with regional institutions where possible, **noting that successful co-operations must respect the agency and autonomy of all participating actors,** with the objective of supporting their development into democratic bodies that promote human rights, sustainable development, and environmental protections;

3. For the EU, regional institutions, and aligned nation-states to work towards consolidating human rights governance, prioritising the ratification and implementation of existing treaties and international agreements, and to take action against those who fail to do so in line with international law, including but not limited to the suspension of trade agreements and the issuing of sanctions;

4. For the EU to work with platforms and other actors on transparent mechanisms to counter disinformation, avoiding regulatory overreach that threatens free expression while ensuring information spaces are protected;

5. For the proliferation of the Rome Statute to as many nation-states and regional institutions as possible in order to expand the reach of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and for the EU to advocate this as a core chapter of its foreign policy;

6. For **France to relinquish its seat on the UNSC in favour of a common EU seat should a common EU policy be established through Treaty change and, in the meantime, urges** the EU to deepen its coordination with the French Permanent Mission to the UN to ensure more active EU participation in the UN Security Council (UNSC), through actions including but not limited to the establishment of a European External Action Service (EEAS) bureau on secondment inside the French Mission and non-binding French consultations with fellow EU member missions and the EU Delegation prior to UNSC votes;

7. For the UN to reform in ways that deepen collaboration with regional bodies **such as** the EU **and ASEAN**, maximise institutional accountability and transparency, and expand citizen engagement through consultative assemblies – including an interim UN Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA);

8. For UN members to reduce the amount of earmarked funds and increase the amount of non-earmarked funds for UN operations;

9. For the UNSC to be placed under greater UN General Assembly (UNGA) oversight and for reforms to the UNSC's veto power system, noting specifically the "Franco-Mexican" proposal, endorsed by 127 member states, to restrict vetoes during times of mass atrocities as a possible basis for immediate reforms;

10. For the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and state parties to the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol to assess the feasibility of

an oversight mechanism—specifically via the ICJ dispute resolution or an independent UN treaty committee—while launching a global diplomatic campaign to maximise framework adoption, ratification and full domestic compliance;

11. For the ICJ to be reformed in a way that means it becomes more effective, including but not limited to the expansion of its jurisdiction to cases initiated by a single state or appropriate non-state actor;

12. For international condemnation of the sanctions, threats and intimidation attempts against the ICC, aimed at deterring judges and prosecutors from enforcing International law;

13. For World Trade Organisation (WTO) member states—and the United States in particular—to recommit themselves to the principles of the WTO and stop obstructing the proper functioning of the dispute settlement mechanism by blocking the appointment of judges;

14. For all countries to engage in broad multilateral cooperation on the most pressing issues listed in the previous section;

15. For JEF Europe itself to strengthen its cooperation with the World Federalist Movement, **the Young World Federalists, the federalists group around the world** and other youth-led federalist initiatives to tackle ongoing and emerging global challenges by promoting peace, sustainability, citizens' participation and global democracy.

Reason

The resolution establishes a comprehensive JEF Europe position on world federalism and democratic global governance. It proposes strengthening regional organisations, reforming the United Nations and its Security Council, advancing a UN Parliamentary Assembly, reinforcing international courts and human-rights mechanisms, and deepening cooperation with the World Federalist Movement.