

EU PARLIAMENT DECLARATION ON ENERGY AND THE ECONOMY

WHEREAS the oil era is coming to an end within the first half of the 21st Century;
and

WHEREAS Climate change now imperils the livelihood of human beings; and

WHEREAS in the context of its EU2020 sustainable growth targets, the European Union has committed its member states to a 20% reduction of Global Warming Gasses, based on 1990 levels, a 20% increase in energy efficiency, and a 20% increase in renewable energy, by the year 2020; and

WHEREAS The EU has yet to achieve the Lisbon agenda of becoming the world's most competitive economy; and

WHEREAS The EU, with its 500 million consumers and the associated partnership regions with 500 million consumers, comprises potentially the largest market in the world; and

WHEREAS the next step of European Union integration is the creation of a seamless communication network, electricity grid, and logistics infrastructure to create a single, unified market; and

WHEREAS creating the World's most sustainable and vibrant economy will require a new EU economic vision and game plan; and

WHEREAS the great economic revolutions in history occur when new energy regimes converge with new communication revolutions; and

WHEREAS Internet technology is beginning to converge with renewable energies to create a Third Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS in the 21st Century, hundreds of millions of human beings will be generating their own green energy in the homes, offices and factories, and sharing it with one another across distributed intelligent electricity networks — an

Intergrid — just like they now create their own information and share it on the Internet; and

WHEREAS The Third Industrial Revolution will have as significant an impact in the 21st Century as the First Industrial Revolution had in the 19th Century and the Second Industrial Revolution in the 20th Century; and

WHEREAS The EU Parliament endorsed the Third Industrial Revolution as the long-term economic vision and development model for the member states in a formal declaration passed in June 2007; and

WHEREAS the Third Industrial Revolution is not just a consequence of convergence between new energy and new communication but depends on the uptake of this convergence by a large majority of consumers and end users that turn these developments into a “revolution”; and

WHEREAS information to all civil society groups to engage in and drive forward these changes is key because such a Revolution will require a fundamental change in their behaviour, and

WHEREAS the five pillars of the Third Industrial Revolution are: 1) shifting to renewable energy; 2) transforming the building stock of every continent into micro-power plants to collect renewable energies onsite; 3) deploying hydrogen and other storage technologies in every building and throughout the infrastructure to store intermittent energies; 4) using Internet technology to transform the power grid of every continent into an intergrid that acts just like the Internet. When millions of buildings are generating a small amount of energy locally, onsite, they can sell surplus back to the grid and share electricity with their continental neighbors; 5) transitioning the transport fleet to electric plug in and fuel cell vehicles that can buy and sell electricity on a smart, continental interactive power grid; and

WHEREAS the creation of a renewable energy regime, loaded by buildings, partially stored in the form of hydrogen, distributed via smart intergrids and connected to plug in zero emission transport, opens the door to a Third Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS when these five pillars are joined together, they make up an indivisible technological platform—an emergent system, whose properties and functions are qualitatively different than the sum of its parts; and

WHEREAS the synergies between the pillars that should be designed such as to benefit European energy consumers and end users create a new economic paradigm that can transform the world; and

WHEREAS all consumer groups should be enabled to equally profit from the Third Industrial revolution while their privacy concerns linked to the prominent role of the new communication technologies must be taken on board, and

WHEREAS energy must remain affordable, accessible and available and the democratization of energy fundamentally alters the power relationships in society; and

WHEREAS The Third Industrial Revolution favors small and medium sized businesses and cooperatives that generate their own green energy and share it peer-to-peer across regions; and

WHEREAS laying down a five pillar Third Industrial Revolution infrastructure will create thousands of small and medium sized enterprises and cooperatives and millions of professional, technical, skilled and semi-skilled green jobs; and

WHEREAS SMEs represent 99% of all companies in the EU, and are the biggest sector of the EU economy, with 23 million enterprises employing around 75 million people; and

WHEREAS SMEs are responsible for the creation of one in every two new jobs and produce more than half the EU's GDP; and

WHEREAS Europe has more than 160,000 co-operative enterprises, representing more than 123 million members; and

WHEREAS the European Trade Union movement, representing millions of workers, will be employed in implementing the five pillar infrastructure of the Third Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS The EU is ideally positioned among the governments of the world to make the historic transition from the sunset energies, technologies and industries of a mature Second Industrial Revolution to the sunrise energies, technologies and industries of an emerging Third Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS The European Commission is pursuing many of the components that make up the five pillars of the Third Industrial Revolution, it has yet to create a comprehensive plan by which a Third Industrial Revolution infrastructure could be laid out across the EU; and

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED THEREFORE that the European Parliament calls upon the European Commission to submit to the Parliament a comprehensive legislative plan with adequate means for the implementation of a Third Industrial Revolution Infrastructure in the member states; and

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED THEREFORE that the members of the European Commission each submit legislative initiatives to integrate and harmonize their own policies, programs and initiatives within the larger, overarching agenda of transitioning into a post-carbon Third Industrial Revolution economy.

Endorsed by:

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