SEEC PA

GENERAL COMMITTEE
ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND SCIENCE

Sofia, 17 March 2020

RESOLUTION

Reaffirming the principles enshrined in the Charter of good neighborly relations, stability, security and cooperation, signed in Bucharest in 2000, as the founding document of the SEECP;

Following the Declaration on the Inauguration of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly adopted on May 10, 2014;

Guided by the Rules of Procedure of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly adopted on 10 May 2014 which establish the functioning of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly;

In accordance with the Work Programme 2019/2020 adopted June, 2019;

Emphasizing the importance of SEECP as a forum that promotes the further enlargement of the EU and underlining the commitment to the principle of all inclusiveness, as an important element of regional stability and sustainable development;

After conducting an in-depth discussion on the Committee's annual work topic:

The General Committee on Social Development, Education, Research and Science, which was convened in Sofia on March 17th, 2020:

Gives priority to policy areas regularly identified as decisive in fighting poverty and social exclusion, including education and training, the creation of quality jobs guaranteeing social rights and inclusion in social security systems, the guarantee of minimum family incomes and the reform of social security systems to face current challenges (as demographic developments);
2.

**Emphasizes** that a multi-pronged approach is needed to foster dynamic, open and mobile labour markets for young people, by implementing measures and using appropriate resources focused on the creation of more and better jobs, high quality learning outcomes, and better match between skills supply and demand, including through the spread of work-based learning across SEECP area;

**Encouages the SEECP PA participants** to develop targeted measures for groups in need of special protection and support, to prevent phenomena of “ghettoisation” wherever possible and to foster democratic participation across society and reaching out to those who are marginalised or at risk of social exclusion,

**Recomends the SEECP PA parliaments** to encourage the civil society organisations and the voluntary sector in order to reach out to those excluded in a proactive and effective manner;

**Stresses** that promoting gender equality and facilitating the inclusion of people with disabilities is as much a measure of support for the region’s growth potential, benefiting all, as it is a matter of principle aimed at improving the lives of the individuals concerned;

**Appeals on policy makers** to promote equal opportunities for young people and to empower them participate actively in a lifelong learning which may enhance their employability. Future efforts are needed for promoting cooperation between education authorities, employers, youth organizations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen the links between informal and non-formal learning and formal education in order to strengthen young people’s key competences for life and foster their active participation in society;

**Strongly recommends** intensifying cross-sectoral cooperation at all levels including the European levels in order to meet the needs of all social groups in need and ensure coherent social inclusion policies;

**Calls on SEECP PA participants** to work further to align their social strategies with the EU 2020 strategy that aims for “a sustainable economy, putting people and responsibility first with a sustained fight against exclusion and a transition to a green economy”;

**Invites the SEECP PA parliamentarians** to share and apply the good practices exchanged between SEECP participant’s within the work of the General Committee on Social Development, Education, Research and Science and enclosed contributions of the SEECP PA parliaments.