

sharing experience

building solidarity

☛ In a destabilised world, the **European project** is at risk of derailing. The neoliberal austerity policies have deepened inequalities; these — combined with a dramatic rise of migration movements — that Europe proved to be unable to manage in solidarity, let alone to prevent — alienated its citizens from the European project, making them susceptible to the sirens of the extreme right, nationalisms and other populisms.


✓ *“The need to promote improved working conditions and an improved standard of living for workers, so as to make possible their harmonisation while the improvement is being maintained”* (Article 117 of the EEC Treaty) is merely an echo of a distant past of a desire to **build a Europe based on solidarity**.

✓ It is this desire that needs to be revived and **the contribution of trade unions in this effort is irreplaceable**.

☛ Against the background of Brexit, the coming **European elections** risk a further step towards disintegrating Europe. The **European Public Service (EPS)** of which we are part and parcel will be directly affected by any change in this direction (cf. ‘Shutdown’ in the USA).

✓ Defending socio-professional interests is only defensible if it is consistent with a citizen’s commitment. Our trade union action is an integral part of the defence of a democratic, open, inclusive and environmentally friendly Europe. Trade unions, aiming at uniting workers, are inherently incompatible with nationalisms, which divide them.

☛ A low level of unionisation in our institution, corporatist sirens and the chimera of a staff representation exclusively governed by the Staff Regulations, are aggravating risk factors for our collective future, that of the EPS. The method of disseminating false or misleading information (see definition of [Propaganda](#)) has made its way up to all levels of public life (Member States, Institutions, staff representation).

 The **EPSU CJ** General Meeting held on 19 March 2019 adopts this Resolution, which defines the frame of action of the Executive Committee to be elected by universal suffrage of members:

1. We reject **corporatism**, akin to nationalism. Our discourse must be defensible both within and outside the institutions. Our solidarity with national trade unions will be meaningful and not just apparent.

We engage in truthful, objective and clear **information** and in frank **dialogue** between us and and with all our interlocutors: the contrary of disinformation, where facts and law are distorted to reach a conclusion set in advance. In particular, we oppose practices of legal bluff and 'fake law', even when they seem to argue in our favour.

2. We visualise a **Court of Justice** that will be less compartmented, less stratified, more transparent, less phobic, less suspicious, where the 'duty of discretion' does not spill over to all areas of activity and loyalty is not confused with allegiance.

If the workload is increasing while staffing stagnates, it is necessary to address the root cause by claiming an increase in staffing levels; trying to tackle frustrations and failures that derive from that is just not enough; however, this will require **a different balance of power**, namely **a high level of trade union membership**.

3. Our objective is to have a **Staff Committee** which will work in the same direction as — and not in competition with — **the representative trade union**, in accordance with the distinction of roles set out in the Staff Regulations.

We will need a strong, competent Staff Committee, combining an overall view with the knowledge of the terrain, with a trade union that operates democratically at the institution's level and is well placed to negotiate at an interinstitutional level.

4. A structured **social dialogue** with independent interlocutors (trade unions) adds value to the institution. Decisions taken in agreement with the trade union are better and more effective for all, as we have proven in the past. To this end, the institution must provide the trade union with adequate resources.

Our trade union has a **long experience** in the institutions' staff representation. It is becoming urgent to transmit it: **Sharing Experience, Building Solidarity!** Solidarity requires permanent structures: it is by organising that it can become a force for change.