**Jeppe Kofod (S&D).** – Mr President, I would like to thank President Juncker for this White Paper. We need a strong Europe and we need leadership on the challenges of globalisation that no country can deal with by itself. That is clear. We need to harvest the good side of globalisation but we also need to deal with the negative side.

We need a solidarity pact between the European Member States and the EU as such, to stop the race to the bottom, for example on tax and corporate taxation. We can see that there is a race to the bottom on tax payment, we can see the EUR 1 trillion cost every year of tax evasion and tax avoidance in Europe: EUR 2000 per citizen per year, money that could be spent to protect our welfare state.

We also need to stop the race to the bottom on workers’ rights, decent salaries and decent working conditions. So we need a solidarity pact that can protect the worker in the age of globalisation, and we need leadership on the migration crisis, not only patrolling our EU external borders but also fighting the root causes of migration and the refugee crisis, which is the biggest refugee crisis since the Second World War.