**Manfred Weber,** *on behalf of the PPE Group***.** – Mr President, the debate today showed that Jean-Claude Juncker can count on the support of Parliament for this programme and we showed political diversity. That is the nature of a parliament.

I just want to react to three points. One is about the debate on legal migration. Everybody is in favour of high‑skilled workers being able to arrive in Europe with a blue card. There is no debate about this. But we have to be frank. Do we really think that more legal migration to the European Union will solve the illegal migration problem? How many Africans do we invite to come to Europe? Do we really think that this will solve the problem? On behalf of my Group, I think that, first of all, we have to bear in mind the millions of young Europeans who at the moment have no jobs. We cannot say to them that we are opening the door for more legal migration when they themselves have no jobs.

The second point is about the transnational list. Everybody wants to strengthen European democracy and I have to be clear to Jean-Claude Juncker that the PPE is not in favour of this transnational list because we are not convinced – Guy – about the main argument because, yes, the European Parliament is more than 27 individual votes. That is clear. But, sorry, the overwhelming majority of all the Members of this Parliament show every day that we are not only national MEPs, but we are doing a transnational job today. We think in all our interests and that is why an additional list is not necessary for this. I am from Germany. I cannot elect Angela Merkel in my constituency in Bavaria because in Germany we only have regional lists. So if that works even in Germany, it can also work in Europe.

Finally, on the social union, so for Gianni. First of all, very seriously, when we talk about climate change, the Socialists are in favour of fighting against climate change, as are the Greens and the PPE. When we talk about trade, then we have a good understanding that we are in favour of trade and when we talk about a social union, then please admit that other Groups are also defending social principles in this European Union. Social policy is not occupied by the Socialists, frankly speaking, it is an issue for all of us.

When you ask us, as the PPE, to look into the social union, look first at reality. In countries where the Socialists govern or governed – France or Italy for example – we have a big unemployment problem, and in a lot of countries where the PPE is governing – in Germany and in Ireland – we have a good economic situation. That is why we are working on the social union and you are only speaking about the social union.

*(Applause)*