

# **COVID-19 PETITIONS**

# **URGENCY PROCEDURE**

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# Petition No 0256/2020 by Marco Bava (Italian) on the proposal of using ozone air treatment to sanitize air-ducts for preventing the spread of coronavirus

**Petition Status: Closed** 

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner proposes to make compulsory ozone as a system of automatic air disinfection in air ducts. He thinks that this method can block the spread of the virus indoors. Besides, he proposes using Interpol to make enquiries into potential spreaders of COVID-19.

Petition No 0268/2020 by Renato Lelli (Italian), on behalf of AGSPP "genitori per la pari potesta", about the serious damage to the Italian image from the false news on the domestic origin of the virus

**Petition Status: Closed** 

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner complains about the damage to the Italian image and reputation entailing a serious impact on the country's economy. In particular, he accuses other Member States, for instance France, to have spread false news on the domestic origin of the virus. Besides, he reports, the news (published in « New England Journal of Medecine) about the possible German nationality of the 1st European patient; a 33-year-old businessman, infected during meetings (20/21 of January) at his company near Munich, from a Shanghai business partner, become ill on her flight back to China. Consequently, he is asking the EU to clarify the facts.

Petition No 0269/2020 by Jonathan Beedell (British) on help to protect the residents and asylum seekers from Covid-19 in the Aegean islands

Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner calls on the EU to do much more to protect refugees and asylum seekers in the Aegean islands. In particular, he insist that EU countries each take a fair share of child refugees and urgently implement the necessary health measures to protect the safety, health, security and rights of all those in the camps, as well as local residents, and prevent the spread of diseases, including Covid-19.

Petition No 0281/2020 by R. L. (Italian), on behalf of AGSPP "genitori per la pari potesta", about a minimum 15 -day Coronavirus lockdown in all EU Member States.

#### **Petition Status: Closed**

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner, after the WHO Director-General having declared COVID-19 a pandemic (on 11 March), addresses a request for an European lockdown to 5 EU Commissioners: Mr. Janez Lenarčič (Crisis Management), Ms Stella Kyriakides (Health and Food Safety), Ms Ylva Johansson (Home Affairs), Ms Adina Vălean (Transport) and Mr. Paolo Gentiloni (Economy). In particular, his request aims to force all EU MS' Citizens to stay home at minimum 15 days and to reshape the social-economic organisation of their works and activities.

# Petition No 0284/2020 by Aristotelis Papaevangelou (Greek) on Ryanair policies with regard to Covid-19 health concerns

**Petition Status: Closed** 

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner denounces the policy of Ryanair to continue operating flights to Italy throughout the month of March for profit, despite the health risks to passengers posed by Covid-19. The petitioner had bought tickets to Rome but decided not to travel due to the risk of contracting the virus. He reports that Ryanair ignored his claims for a refund.

# Petition No 0286/2020 by Frederic Eger (French) on the need to stop ghost flights during COVID-19 outbreak and to reach carbon neutrality in 2030

**Petition Status: Closed** 

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner considers that all EU legislation related to the transport sector that contradicts environmental common sense should be amended and, in particular, the EU should establish new legislation that would allow carbon neutrality to be achieved by 2030 and not by 2050. The petitioner points out that the airlines are taking off "ghost" flights without passengers during this period marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, as EU regulations require them to use the allocated spaces at the risk of losing them. The petitioner denounces the waste of thousands of gallons of fuel to fly empty flights across Europe. The petitioner considers that this situation is unbearable and neither the interests of the industry, nor those of the passengers or the environment are benefited by this measure. The petitioner also details a series of environmental measures that he considers that the institutions of the European Union should adopt within the framework of the "New Green Deal".

# Petition No 0298/2020 by A.K. (Polish) on EU funds to help fighting Covid-19 pandemic

Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner in this very succinct petition asks that the European Union's funds released for fighting the Covid-19 pandemic be allocated directly to the local and regional authorities in Poland.

# Petition No 0302/2020 by G.S. (German) on guidelines to prevent infection in food product markets

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner suggests a directive at EU level to introduce an architectural model for food product markets that would stay open in cases of emergency. In order to prevent infection through delivery of products food product markets he recommends certain installations and guidelines for a number of food product markets in the region. Among others, clients should only get in contact with the product located behind glass in the moment of withdrawal. These markets should operate fully automated or staff should fill up the product shelves separate from the front glass door.

# Petition No 0307/2020 by T.M.F (German) on travel restrictions imposed by the Czech Republic, Poland, Austria and Denmark because of covid-

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner is inquiring if the travel restrictions imposed by the Czech Republic, Poland, Austria and Denmark because of covid-19 are legal. He is of the opinion that those measures are in breach of the freedom of movement, the basic principle of the European Union and are not justified in case of those Member States. He calls on the Parliament to make those Member States abide the treaties.

# Petition No 0312/2020 by M.B. (German) on the Corona state of emergency

#### **Petition Status: Not admissible**

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner is of the opinion that the measures currently introduced at federal and regional level in most of the Member States are not adequate. The Corona virus could be compared with the seasonal flu and does not result in a higher death rate. He calls for ending the drastic measures because they destroy democracy and freedom.

# Petition No 0313/2020 by H.N. (Portuguese) on ending offshore tax havens and channelling the money to the economy to address the Covid-19 crisis

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner deplores the existence of offshore tax havens and the lack of political will to fight fraud and tax evasion more effectively. Considering the threat to the world stability posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, he requests immediate and concrete actions to put an end to offshore tax heavens and return the money to the European economy to urgently save jobs, families and small and medium-sized companies.

# Petition No 0318/2020 by Joel Galvão (Portuguese) on the establishment of a universal basic income to save the European Economy during and after COVID-19

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner claims that a 'universal basic income' is the only solution to save the European Economy during and after the pandemic crisis. He calls for the suspension of all credits and rents related to permanent own housing and for unpaid leave for all non-essential professions that cannot operate via telework. He declares that we should follow China's measures if we want this crisis to have a less damaging impact.

# Petition No 0329/2020 by Virginia Fiume (Italian), on behalf of Eumans and others, on empowering the EU to address global challenges, from COVID-19 to social, economic and climate crisis

## Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioners call the EP to implement adequate mechanisms to resume its work as soon as possible, and to organize a space for the elaboration of all possible instruments, as no state can face Covid-19 alone and the EU needs to take leadership establishing a plan with concrete actions to this global challenge.

The petitioners are of the view that the current EU institutional system has shown its weakness and it needs, with the EP at the forefront, to relaunch the initiative of democratic reform of the EU, in order to make it fit for purpose. The petitioners believe that this reform should consist of five pillars. Those entail a systemic EU response to the Covid-19 crisis, with attention to the emergency measures and respect for the rule of law; the enhancement of the EU healthcare and civic protection instruments and competences to respond to

outbreaks; the implementation of all economic, financial and monetary policy measures allowing to unlock resources and EU measures to support citizens with the consequences of the pandemic; the concept for the first stages of the Conference on the Future of Europe reshaped into a public online assembly; a global mechanism to prevent and face epidemics and pandemics.

Petition No 0332/2020 by Mireia Canals Salomó ((Spanish), on behalf of "Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía", on the need to adopt urgent measures on the field of the European penitentiary system related to COVID-19

**Petition Status: Closed** 

## **Petition Summary**

The petitioner is concerned at the lack of preparedness of prison administrations to cope with the spread of COVID-19 on the European Union and, in most countries, by the lack of consideration of the specific situation of correctional facilities in state plans of prevention and in the respective public health systems. They recall that more than 1.5 million people are detained in European correctional facilities and that, under international treaties, States are obliged to take the necessary measures to protect the life and health of persons deprived of liberty. The petitioner denounces that the deficiencies observed constitute a threat not only for the persons deprived of liberty and the personnel who work in the penitentiary centres, but also for the population in general. The petitioner believes that prisons are amplifiers of the spread of infectious diseases. However, although levels of exposure and response to COVID-19 vary from country to country, due to large disparities in the characteristics of prison systems and the performance of national health systems, it appears that, in general, the issue of prisons is ignored at European level, despite the fact that prisons are places with a high risk of transmission. In addition, some States are tempted to adopt measures to isolate those within them from the rest of the population, ignoring their rights and their families, and with the added risk of preventing the population from complying instructions. The petitioner requests the European Parliament to ask the EU Member States to guarantee the principles adopted by the CPT of the Council of Europe in relation to medical assistance inside the prisons; in relation to measures to release prisoners for humanitarian reasons; in relation to the right to communicate and the right to be informed of both the prisoners and their families.

Petition No 0333/2019 by Michel Simixis (Belgian) on a proposal for Treaty Reform in view of dealing with the Covid-19 caused economic crisis

Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner explains that due to the Covid-19 crisis, and pre-existing economic problems, a 40% degree of unemployment as well as hyperinflation might be looming.

In his view, the EU should deal with this challenge by a Treaty change, with three indivisible components: the setting up a fiscal Union, a universal minimum income guaranteed by the EU and a neutral EU army.

The petitioner reasons that the fiscal Union is needed for the general funding of these policies, but in order to make it politically viable, he believes that this should be linked with an EU funded minimum income in order to avoid reluctance by nationalistic tendencies in society. Hyperinflation and unemployment, as well as the consequences of the AI-revolution add to the need of this minimum income. Eventually a neutral EU army should, according to the petitioner be made part of this deal.

# Petition No 0334/2020 by María Cristina Cores (Spanish) on how the European Union has reacted to the COVID-19 outbreak

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner, after mentioning the different international, European and Spanish legislation related to fundamental rights where the right to health is stated and guaranteed, requests the European Union to inform what has the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control done in relation to COVID-19. The petitioner specifically requests what reports and indications has the ECDPC given to Spain and when did it give them. The petitioner wonders whether the European Union has failed to react.

# Petition No 0335/2020 by María Itamar Rodríguez Díez (Spanish) on the management of cancelled flights and trips by airline carriers and travel agencies during the COVID-19 outbreak

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner explains that on July 2019 she bought a trip with flights and hotel to New York for 12 people. Due to the exceptional circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic, they are unable to travel to New York on April 9. Iberia, the airline carrier offers the petitioner the option of exchanging the contracted flight plus hotel trip for a voucher with a deadline until December 31, 2020. The petitioner denounces that airline companies offer voucher options on the dates they decide, profiting of the legal vacuum, the petitioner finds that the rates have increased excessively, so that in addition to consuming the voucher they must pay more to be able to make the same trip on the dates that the company allows them. The petitioner considers that her rights as consumer are run over. According to the petitioner, some airlines are taking advantage of the uncertainty to ignore consumer requests, offering vouchers at best, without any European legal regulation, to the prejudice of users and consumers. The petitioner requests the intervention of the European Parliament, to regulate this situation that adds to the uncertainty that she has for the health of our relatives, she suggests to be given a voucher but without a deadline.

# Petition No 0342/2020 by Sergio Santamaría Santigosa (Spanish) on the management of the COVID-19 crisis in Spain

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner considers that the European Parliament should investigate the management of the Spanish authorities of the health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The petitioner considers that, despite the fact that the Government of Spain was aware of the serious situation in China and Italy at the end of January 2020; it did not adopt any political decision that warned Spanish citizens of the risks to public health that could cause the spread of the virus. The petitioner insists that he went so far as to minimize the danger by encouraging, contrary to scientific and international indications, the concentration of people, such as those developed during March 8, 2020, on the International Day of Working Women. The petitioner alleges that information was withheld for ideological and political reasons and party interests rather than guaranteeing the general interest. The petitioner considers that transparency and the right to information of Spanish public opinion in such dramatic circumstances should prevail. The petitioner points out that political and social responsibility must be defined and the European institutions must ensure the health and physical and moral integrity of their citizens.

# Petition No 0345/2020 by João Paulo Pereira (Portuguese) on the state of emergency created by the COVID 19

#### Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner suggest to create a fund to support the state of emergency created by the decease COVID 19 by all Member States of the European Union.

Petition No 0347/2020 by João Manuel De Almeida Silva (Portuguese) on calling all Member States of the European Union to be united during the COVID-19 outbreak

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner supports the reaction of the Portuguese Prime Minister to the Dutch Minister of Economy's speech on the COVID-19 outbreak, considering it anti-European and undermining the spirit of the European Union. The petitioner considers that there is a real risk for the European Union to break apart in view that the Member States cannot reach an agreement on how they handle this crisis. The petitioner says that many sectors are affected by this situation and that, now more than ever, Member States should steer to the same side,

be united and have a single voice. The petitioner stands for a stronger, United European Union and for a better Portugal.

# Petition No 0348/2020 by P. C. (Portuguese) on European solidarity to face the decease COVID19 between the Member States

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner want to ask all Europeans Members States to strongly help all the MS in this crisis (Covid-19). Europe, must take advantage and relaunch the Union otherwise, the European spirit will fade. He asks the leaders to have strong positions of unity and support for weak members.

# Petition No 0350/2020 by Friedrich Kohle (Dutch) on establishing an EU emergency body to deal with emergencies like the Covid-19 outbreak

### **Petition Status: Available to supporters**

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner-in view of future emergencies that may arise- asks the European Parliament to establish emergency laws, which would allow the European Commission to act swiftly during an emergency with or without the agreement of the Council, as the petitioner claims that the current crisis has shown the EU lacks the authority to deal with this crisis effectively. He further adds that such new emergency laws should be limited to the duration of the emergency, allowing the Commission to set up and coordinate emergency procedures across the European Union. Those should serve, for example, to control the flow of food supply across the EU, provide emergency funding for procurement and distribution of medical equipment and EU wide media broadcasting with regular updates on the crisis.

He further suggests that the European Parliament sets up an inquiry on the reactivity of the EU to protect EU citizens at an early stage of the coronavirus outbreak.

# Petition No 0351/2020 by Dimitrios Paicopoulos (Greek) on the removal of Josep Borrell as High Representative of the European Union

#### **Petition Status: Closed**

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner calls for the removal of Josep Borrell as High Representative of the European Union because of his allegedly racist comments against the Chinese in a recent statement referring to a geo-political component of the crisis. Furthermore, the petitioner alleges that

HR/VP Borrell is trying to stop Chinese medical supplies that are vital to stopping the Covid-19 virus from destroying his home country and killing thousands of people.

# Petition No 0352/2020 by Giuliano De Marco (Italian) on the establishment of a European Universal Income as a response to the economic consequences of COVID-19 outbreak

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner calls on the EU to help EU citizens overcome the current emergency and alleviate the economic and social distress resulting from COVID-19 outbreak. For this purpose, the petitioner urges the EU to take swift action to establish a European Universal Income in order to tackle the risks of a social crisis.

# Petition No 0355/2020 by J.M.B. (Spanish) on the coronavirus crisis

### Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner explains that given the COVID-19 crisis that Spain is currently experiencing and its extension to all over Europe in the coming months; he asks the EU to expand the financing of the following EU instruments:

- 1. Expand the European Social Fund regarding the promotion of social inclusion to fight poverty and in order to promote the social inclusion and employment of citizens in this situation.
- 2. Expand the LIFE program: promoting funding scientific research by the member states in order to reduce environmental problems and health of citizens.
- 3. Innovate through the financial instruments that the European Union has, in order that any European citizen facing this COVID-19 crisis can receive help and protection from Europe.

The petitioner thinks that Europe requires a greater consensus and union to face this global pandemic decease, if not Euroscepticism will rise.

Petition No 0358/2020 by Mario Cardarelli (Italian) on extraordinary budgetary policy measures for unexpected / unavoidable events (Covid-19)

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner invokes Articles 310-316 TFEU, and in particular Article 314 TFEU. He states that Italy uses an estimated 10 bn EUR of European funds per year. In view of the current Covid-19 crisis, which is both exceptional and unexpected in nature, he calls for Italy to be granted immediately an amount of 210 bn EUR, corresponding to its budgetary allocation over the next 3 MFFs, with a conditionality to address the current health emergency and economic crisis resulting from Covid-19. He considers this would be the equivalent of an "Outright Forward Balance Facility" (OFB) and would not require the issuing of joint debt at EU level such as Eurobonds.

# Petition No 0360/2020 by R L (Italian) on the issuing of "Coronabonds" to save the European Union

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner calls for the prompt issuing of "Coronabonds" to save the European Union from a war-like enemy such as Covid-19, which is threatening its very existence. In this regard, he calls for solidarity from all Member States, and in particular Germany, while recalling that many European countries decided to forego war reparations from Germany in the aftermath of WWII.

# Petition No 0368/2020 by Melanie Von Der Taubenmühle (German) on measures to protect the population from pandemics

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner points out that the current spread of COVID-19 has shown that dangerous pathogens can develop and spread in the animal industry. She further claims that the extensive use of antibiotics in animals is one of the most important causes for the development of antibiotic-resistant pathogens. The petitioner, therefore, calls on Member States and the EU to: -inform the population about the risks of diseases and virus mutations in the animal industries as well as about the dangers of the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria by the animal industries; - immediately adopt measures to protect EU citizens from pandemics, including the closure of slaughterhouses, butchers, breeding and fattening companies as well as the import ban for animal products; - adopt strict measures against food waste and promote state subsidies for vegetable farming; - inform about the connections between the animal industry and climate change.

# Petition No 0375/2020 by A.S. (German) on EU funds on the coronavirus crisis

Petition Status: closed

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner welcomes the fact that the EU grants financial support of several billion Euro in the coronavirus crisis. This would help enterprises that had to stop production or close their business because of the crisis. However, there are EU citizens that live at the poverty level and should not be financially burdened when it comes to repayment of the subsidies. This fact should be carefully deliberated.

# Petition No 0377/2020 by Ferenc Tibor Zsák (Hungarian) on covid-19 and the risk of violations of fundamental rights in Hungary

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner complains that Hungarian parliament adopted special legislation giving the government unlimited power and right of action until the end of state of emergency. He alleges that under the adopted act, the government may take exceptional measures other than legislation in the interest of human health, legal certainty and the stability of economy. He claims that it foresees sever penalties for those who disseminate information about the virus and who hinder the measures. The petitioner further explains that the act is in breach of the fundamental principles of the European Union. He says that Hungary in cynical manner co-signed the Joint Declaration, signed by 13 Member States, expressing serious concerns about the risk of violations of the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights arising from the adoption of certain measures in view of Covid-19 pandemic.

Petition No 0385/2020 by Francesco Cattani (italian), on behalf of Angeli e Demoni - #unitiperibambini, bearing 20 signatures, on a request to reject an initiative aiming at enhancing the use of article 403 of the Italian Civil Code at the time of covid-19

**Petition Status: Not admissible** 

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner contests an initiative adopted by the Italian Coordination of Services against Mistreatment and Child Abuse, which allegedly contributed to the circulation online of a petition urging the national government to adopt a decree to protect children who are victims of abuse and to enable schools and educational services to intervene in any

dangerous situation. According to the petitioner, this petition calls for urgent protective measures for children if necessary through the application of article 403 of the Italian civil code. The petitioner claims that article 403 of the civil code is a controversial provision adopted during the fascist regime, which apparently provides social services with direct and absolute powers of intervention even on the basis of anonymous complaints. The petitioner expresses serious concerns about this initiative aiming at expanding the use of article 403 of the civil code and thus at facilitating children's removals from their families especially at a time in which judicial activities have been partially suspended due to the pandemic. Therefore, he calls for the rejection of this initiative and for convening the victims' associations and lawyers to the negotiating table with the government, in order to revise the framework governing child protection, in full compliance with the principle of the best interest of child and with the rights to a fair trial and defence as enshrined in international and European laws.

Petition No 0387/2020 by Antonio Martino (Italian), on behalf of the Tax Department of DLA PIPER Italy, on the exemption of VAT for goods and services donated in the fight against and management of the pandemic due to Covid-19

Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner requests the European Parliament to call for an urgent legislative proposal in view of allowing Member States to exempt from VAT the free supply of good and services for the management and fight of the epidemiological emergency caused by Covid-19, in case these goods and services are delivered by EU-resident VAT-contributors to the benefit of States, local and regional authorities as well as other public and private entities. The petitioner further calls for this legislative proposal to also grant the persons donating these goods and services, the full deduction of the VAT they paid on the purchase of these goods and services, or the VAT paid on the acquisition of goods and services used to produce them.

Petition No 0388/2020 by Renata Sutor (Polish) on solidarity and mutual assistance in fighting consequences of COVID-19 pandemic in the EU

Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner calls for mutual assistance and solidarity in combating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of the aid directive. In the framework of this directive, every citizen of the European Union would receive EUR 5,000 non-refundable aid, in particular people who have been dismissed from work, farmers, single mothers, pensioners, homeless people and those who do not have the means to live. In addition, every farmer operating in the European Union would receive a non-repayable grant of

EUR 50,000 per farm in order not to go bankrupt as a result of the financial crisis and thus not to stop food production. Each company would receive a non-repayable grant of EUR 50,000 to avoid bankruptcy as a result of the financial crisis and not to dismiss employees. Each Member State would receive a non-repayable financial assistance to the health care services for respirators and other medical equipment needed to save people in relation to coronavirus. By agreement with financial institutions, loan repayments would be suspended (loans granted to the MS and loans to EU nationals) for a period of 6 months. Finally, the petitioner calls for a resolution uniting all the countries of the European Union in the fight against coronavirus.

# Petition No 0393/2020 by R.S. (Swedish) on discrimination of EU citizens at internal border controls

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner, a Swedish citizen resident in Denmark, complains about Denmark's management of the border controls with Sweden introduced last March. According to him, there is a privileged queue for Danish citizens, while other EU citizens, including residents, are controlled in a significantly longer queue. He considers such an arrangement as discriminatory against other EU citizens.

# Petition No 0401/2020 by Pierpaolo Volpe (Italian) on claiming damages from the EU, China, Germany and Italy following COVID-19 outbreak

#### **Petition Status: closed**

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner claims that following the declaration of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the World Health Organisation on 30 January 2020 the Italian Government should have urged the European Commission to formally recognize a public health emergency pursuant to Decision No 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health. In his opinion, the European Commission failed to recognise such an emergency and to coordinate the responses of the Members States concerned. In addition, the petitioner points out that the Chinese government delayed informing its population and the international community of the severity of a disease spreading within its borders. The petitioner also accuses the World Health Organization of not recommending the suspension of the international flights from China and of declaring the Covid-19 pandemic too late. Furthermore, he complains that the Italian Government declared the national emergency in breach of Article 24 of the Civil Protection Code. Finally, the petitioner claims that his professional activity and private life have been seriously affected by the above-mentioned actions and inactions and that he is therefore entitled to bring an action for damages against

the European Union before the Court of Justice of the EU and against China, Germany and Italy before the national competent civil court.

Petition No 0403/2020 by M.P. (Italian) bearing 2 signatures, on the need for an Emergency Use Authorisation by the EU and national Health Ministries for Covid-19 medical technology

Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner claims that the EU health care systems are well beyond capacity and that hospitals need to increase capacity with emergency technology, such as open source ventilators and low-cost battery-powered blowers (PAPRs). The petitioner claims that the EU has slowed down any action to use advanced technology, developed by several domestic initiatives by imposing strict adherence to European legislation. This decelerates the pace for return to everyday activities. The petitioner claims that the European Medicines Agency has an early access compassionate use scheme for medication, and he states that, in the context of the current emergency, the European Parliament could expand this existing access scheme to medical devices. The petitioner adds that the funding of research as such does not answer the immediate needs, and therefor insists on the set-up of an Emergency Use Authorisation.

Petition No 0410/2020 by Patricio Oschlies Serrano (Spanish) on the treatment of domestic pets in the European Union during the COVID-19 outbreak

Petition Status: Available to supporters

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner shows his concern about an increase in the cases of dog abandonment during the quarantine decreed by the Spanish Government to slow the advance of COVID-19. Some people fear that their pets could spread the virus to them. This same situation would be replicating in other Member States. The petitioner states that, in countries struck particularly hard by COVID-19, such as China or Italy, animals have suffered the consequences of this widespread social panic. In China, they even went so far as to sacrifice their dogs by throwing them out the windows, while in Italy several organizations have denounced that there have already been more than 2,000 dog abandonments. In this dramatic context, some entities, as World Health Organization (WHO), remind that dogs cannot suffer from this disease or spread it, so they ask for calm from the population. For all the above, in the light of the tragedy experienced by all the countries of Europe, the petitioner would like to convey to the European Parliament the concern over this problem of the thousands of abandoned pets, all of which was aggravated in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The petitioner thinks that the European institutions should develop community emergency strategies to deal with this problem while the coronavirus crisis

lasts, promoting the opening of abandoned animal shelters, European public awareness campaigns in this regard. The petitioner believes that it would be necessary to create a specific European economic fund to respond to these emergencies, reinforcing the actions carried out by the Member States in this serious matter that also causes concern for many Europeans and associations for the defence of animal rights.

# Petition No 0416/2020 by Frantisek Magyarics (Slovak) on alleged problems at a nursing home in Slovakia during Covid-19 pandemic

**Petition Status: Not admissible** 

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner is concerned about the state of social services at the nursing home in his city. He evokes that recent case of the infection of Covid19 has been revealed at that nursing home. In his opinion the situation on the wake of this is unacceptable: the personnel is forced to work despite their quarantine, untested and stressed. Some residents of the home are also in a catastrophic health condition. The living conditions are allegedly appalling. The petitioner is concerned about the lack of professionalism of the home's management.

Petition No 0422/2020 by P.S. (Italian) on air passengers' rights to reimbursement or to compensation ex EU Regulation 261/2004 for flight cancellation in COVID-19 time

Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

n 18 March 2020, the European Commission issued a Communication C (2020) 1830 final, entitled « Interpretative Guidelines to EU passenger rights regulations in the context of the developing situation with COVID-19», including this statement: the Commission considers that, where public authorities take measures intended to contain the COVID19 pandemic, such measures are by their nature and origin not inherent in the normal exercise of activity and are outside their actual control.

According the petitioner, the health emergency due to COVID19, as a case of force majeure outside the direct Airlines' control, could be considered an exceptional circumstance only within a maximum of 5 or 6 weeks after WHO's announcement of the pandemic (on 11 March 2020); but it cannot be a defensible argument at more than a month after this announcement. So, in this prolonged legal uncertainty on the air passenger rights, many low-cost Airlines hide behind the extraordinary circumstances, even though they have cancelled the flights (sometimes, even at the last minute) for deferring, indeed refusing, to reimburse passengers in the forms and ways provided for by Regulation EU

261/04. And notwithstanding the clear guidelines on the air passenger' rights concerning their tickets, updated on 14th of April by the Italian Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC) and the European Consumer Centre in Italy. In this regard, the petitioner mentions the abuse of unfair restrictive or deceptive clauses, such as the request of the proof of payment, the proposal of either a voucher or a change of flight, notwithstanding the current unpredictability on the remaining duration of the confinement period. He insists too on the lack of transparency on how to enjoy of reimbursement rights through accessible on-line forms or free international phone numbers. Last but not least, the defaulting low-cost Airlines continue to send him offers for new flights at bargain prices, as they are still pursuing their own marketing goals, even during COVID19 confinement period. For all these reasons, the petitioner asks EC for a new communication revising the former guidelines (18 March) on EU passenger's rights in order to oblige Airlines to provide effective tickets reimbursement and only to offer alternatives, provided that they meet the real passengers' needs and not the commercial airlines' interests.

Petition No 0424/2020 by L.B. (Italian) on a possible action for damages causeed by the COVID-19 emergency against the European Commission jointly with Germany and Italy

**Petition Status: Available to supporters** 

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner, a lawyer, complains about considerable economic damages further to the lockdown in his city (Taranto) due to COVID-19. He announces his will to bring action for compensation before the CJEU (see info n.1), against the European Commission jointly with Germany and Italy (as well as action for damages before national Courts against Germany, China and Italy). In particular, he denounces the Italian Government EU and the EU for not having fulfilled their respective tasks in demanding and recognising a public health emergency, following the WHO statement of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (on 30<sup>th</sup> January) and the publication of the situation report n.11 (on 31<sup>th</sup> January), informing about the first two confirmed cases in Italy, 6 cases in France, 5 in Germany and 1 in Finland (see info n.2).

On this legal basis and according to art. 168 TFUE (on public health), the petitioner claims that the EU Commission could have coordinated actions among all concerned Member States, and in particular, it could have obliged Germany and France to follow the Italian initiative, implementing the precautionary principle, in order to block immediately all the flights from/to China, and in general, to impose operational targeted bans on travelling through the Schengen area.

He criticises the German decree (lifted on 19 March) prohibiting the export of medical protection equipment (masks, gloves, suits, etc.) to other Member States, Italy included.

# Petition No 0428/2020 by M.H. (German) on proportionality of safety measures by Germany and France due to COVID-19

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner lives in Germany while his spouse lives in France. Due to safety measures introduced by Germany and by France face-to-face contact has not been possible for a while. The petitioner is of the opinion that it is a bigger interference with fundamental rights in personal cases like his than when it comes to vacation trips or visits by acquaintances. He asks the EU institutions to help facilitating face-to-face contact of spouses in cross-border relationships. National safety measures should be adapted and to specific living situations of these people and coordinated between Member States.

Petition No 0430/2020 by Fotios Batzios (Greek) on the possibility that Covid-19 originated from experiments conducted in 2015 by several universities and the Wuhan Institute of Virology

#### **Petition Status: Available to supporters**

# **Petition Summary**

The petitioner claims that, in a 2015 publication in the world's largest scientific medical journal Nature Med (1.a, b), some Chinese and American authors and researchers describe some experiments, which were conducted and completed in 2015, at the same time and in direct collaboration, by several universities in North Carolina and Arkansas, the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China and universities in Zurich.

He claims that these experiments were aimed at, and ultimately achieved, the engineering, with artificial genetic methods, of the monster chimeric virus SARS-SHCO14-MA15-CoV, which is extremely dangerous for humans and the construction of which can only be explained for its use as a biological weapon of war.

The petitioner claims that this virus has the same genetic and biological sequence of Covid-19 (SARS-2-CoV), which has caused the current pandemic.

He calls for an immediate in-depth investigation to clarify what exactly was done during these experiments. The researchers and their respective laboratories should be obliged to disclose all data and results of the experiments to the audit and judicial authorities. They should also be obliged to give the authorities biological samples of the monster chimeric virus they created, including its series of nucleotides-genes RNAs, to enable its full genetic and biological analysis and study in direct comparison to the RNA of Covid-19.

Finally, the petitioner calls for the referral to the International Criminal Court of the researchers who directly performed these experiments and all the politicians and other actors who may have collaborated with them in any way, directly and indirectly.

Petition No 0431/2020 by R.L. (Italian) on claims for compensation of damages caused by COVID-19 outbreak

#### **Petition Status: Closed**

## **Petition Summary**

The petitioner points out that in the United States class-action lawsuits have been filed against the Chinese government seeking damages over COVID-19 outbreak. He also refers to international media accusing the World Health Organization of connivance and submission to Chinese interests in the management of the pandemic. Finally, he refers to a study by the Henry Jackson Society, which claims that China's conduct with respect to COVID-19 violated the International Health Regulations, in particular the obligations of timely notification and information-sharing and that therefore China could be brought before the International Court of Justice. For these reasons, the petitioner calls for an investigation to determine who is responsible for COVID-19 pandemic and to bring an action for damages before the competent judicial authorities.

# Petition No 0439/2020 by Svilen Iliev (Bulgarian) on a Bulgarian bank refusal of moratorium of a mortgage loan during COVID-19 outbreak

### Petition Status: Available to supporters

### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner's father applied to get a moratorium on his mortgage loan but the bank (part of bank group based in Hungary) refused to put the mortgage under moratorium on the basis that his father is retired. The bank stated that his income is not affected by the COVID-19 situation but the petitioner explains that that is not the case. The family is struggling financially due to COVID-19: half of the father's pension goes towards paying the loan and the petitioner's salary is used to buy food and essential medicine for his father's medical condition. Due to COVID-19 the petitioner's employer was forced to put him on unpaid leave. Without his salary the family cannot pay the mortgage and have enough money left for food and essential medicine. As the family income was affected by COVID-19 it should be possible to put the loan under moratorium and in that way follow the guidelines provided by the securities market regulators in Bulgaria and other EU countries.

# Petition No 0470/2020 by Helen Portal (Luxemburgish), on behalf of Inclusion Europe on the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities in the COVID-19 crisis

# Petition Status: Available to supporters

#### **Petition Summary**

The petitioner draws the attention to the situation of people with intellectual disabilities and their families across the European Union in the time of the COVID-19 crisis and the lockdown. Many people would not have access to their habitual health treatments or personal assistance. People are being locked down in the so-called care-homes with no possibility for

visits from family members or to go live back with relatives. On the other side, structures have closed down and families are left alone completely helpless on how to take care of their loved ones with intellectual disabilities. Coronavirus and the lockdown highlight the ongoing segregation and discrimination of people with intellectual disabilities, especially in access to healthcare. As for the immediate health response, the EU must ensure that it is compatible to both the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities. The petitioner calls for disability related services as a matter of priority, among the first to open in the "lockdown exit". Furthermore, post-Corona financial measures would be needed not only reaching out but starting with people with intellectual disabilities and their families