

Dear President Sassoli,

Dear Mr Welle,

We would like to bring your attention to the issue of the situation of the Schuman Trainees of March 2020, in the European Parliament in Brussels and in Luxembourg, and in the EPLOs.

Due to the current Covid-19 crisis, Schuman Trainees have been teleworking since the second week of their traineeship. This has had significant consequences for their traineeship experience.

The Council and the Commission have already offered their trainees the opportunity to keep carrying their traineeship and to start another traineeship in October. On the contrary, for Schuman Trainees, the options given are to either continue to telework or suspend the traineeship now and return for a new traineeship in the future. The choice has to be made before April 30th. The options that they are given are not appropriate, because of travel bans, health risks and the fact that most of them have signed accomodation contracts already, posing an additional financial burden onto them.

We would like to ask for proper measures to be taken in this particular case, prioritising current trainees and their experience over a new intake of trainees, in response to the extraordinary circumstances we all are all currently facing. Therefore, we ask that the Schuman trainees of the European Parliament will be granted the same conditions as in the other two institutions., meaning **the possibiity to remain in Brussels and work from home, and to continue their traineeship in October 2020**.

We should not be putting additional financial burdens and administrative and health risks in front of these young people, but should show understanding and give them the chance to fully benefit from the European eperience.

Sincerely,

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