



**September 11, 2019  
Washington, DC  
FINAL REPORT**

**Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference**

# TRANSATLANTIC MINORITY POLITICAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (TMPLC)

*The Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC) was created in 2010 and aims to support a network of racially and ethnically diverse elected officials, address the underrepresentation of diverse populations in policymaking, and advance inclusive and equitable policies and governance.*

The Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC) annually convenes a select group of political leaders and practitioners from the United States and Europe, representing diverse political parties, civil society, and backgrounds, to exchange information on inclusive governance and leadership initiatives. Annual events have taken place at the European Parliament in Brussels and U.S. Congress in Washington D.C. since the seminal “Black European Summit (BES): Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Inclusion” as an initiative of Congressional Members of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (i.e., U.S. Helsinki Commission) in cooperation with Members of the European Parliament and other stakeholders.

## ***TMPLC has been a catalyst for global change:***

- 2019, Anti-Racism Week took place in the European Parliament hosted by civil society and the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup.
- 2018, European Parliamentarians held the first ever People of African Descent Week (PADWEEK) in Brussels. U.S. Members of Congress served as Honorary Hosts and introduced legislation in the U.S. Congress in support of PADWEEK.
- 2017, the European Parliament held its first hearing on People of African Descent in Europe.
- 2016, German, UK, and U.S. Parliaments held consultations with U.S. counterparts on staff diversity in Parliaments.
- 2015, diverse U.S. and European legislators and other leaders met in Brussels to discuss the creation of a transatlantic caucus.
- 2014, the European Parliament held its first event on “Afrophobia in the EU” in concert with the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) following the Helsinki Commission hearing in the U.S. Senate “Europeans of African ‘Black Europeans’: Race, Rights, and Politics.”
- 2013, MEP Hannes Swoboda, President of the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) party of the European Parliament launched the 2013 EuroPlus Initiative to ensure fair access to citizenship and rights for everyone in Europe, regardless of their nationality or origin, and particularly for the new generation of children and young people born, raised, living and studying in the EU.
- 2011, the Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network (TILN) was launched with the support of the U.S. State Department, German Marshall Fund (GMF), and Open Society Foundations, in conjunction with the U.S. Helsinki Commission, TMPLC, and other stakeholders. With over 200 alumni, TILN empowers diverse young leaders committed to inclusive governance.
- 2011, 15 Members of Congress and the European Parliament sent letters to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy Catherine Ashton requesting the adoption of an EU-U.S. Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality and Inclusion modeled after Brazil and Colombia agreements.
- 2010, the Migration Policy Group developed a toolkit for mainstreaming diversity in political parties; hosted national workshops to assist diversity in political parties; and published an EU report on minority and migrant political representation.
- 2009, UN Expert on Minority Issues, Gay McDougall held a forum entitled “Minorities and Effective Political Participation” at the United Nations that included TMPLC participants.
- 2009, participants of the BES: Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Inclusion adopted the Brussels Declaration stating - “recognizing the full access of racial and ethnic minorities to participate in the political sphere and relevant areas of decision making at the levels of national, regional, and locally elected government appropriate to each nation is critical to combating racism and inequality and ensuring our democratic societies.”



*Representative Alcee L. Hastings, U.S. Congress*

*MEP Hannes Swoboda, European Parliament*

*Ambassador William Kennard, U.S. Ambassador to the European Union*

*Representative Gregory Meeks, U.S. Congress*

*MEP Claude Moraes, European Parliament*

*Deputy Secretary General Maciej Popowski, European Union External Action Service*

*Minister Christiane Taubira, France*

*Secretary General Anders Johnsson, Inter-Parliamentary Union*

*MEP Cecile Kyenge, European Parliament*

*MP Diane Abbott, United Kingdom Parliament*

*MP Said Abdu, Swedish Parliament*

*Minister George Pau-Langevin, France*

*MP Helen Grant, United Kingdom Parliament*

*Representative Barbara Lee, U.S. Congress*

*MP David Lammy, United Kingdom Parliament*

*Representative Gwen Moore, U.S. Congress*

*Commissioner Domenica Ghidai, The Netherlands Equal Treatment Commission*

*MP Killion Munyama, Polish Parliament*

*Senator Vivienne Poy, Canadian Parliament*

*Senator Hassan Boussetta, Belgian Parliament*

*Minister Harlem Desir, France*

*Representative G.K. Butterfield, U.S. Congress*

*MEP Damian Dragici, European Parliament*

*MP John Abraham Godson, Polish Parliament*

*MP Momodou Jallow, Swedish Parliament*

*Dr. Hande Bozatlı, President of the Assembly of European Regions*

*Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter, South Carolina House of Representatives*

*Representative Ponka We Victors, South Kansas House of Representatives*

*MEP Emine Bozkurt, European Parliament*

*MEP Glyn Ford, European Parliament*

*MP Joe Frans, Sweden*



## TMPLC 2019 DELEGATION

*Councilor Irene Appiah  
(Hamburg, Germany)*

*Vice-Chair Domenica Ghidei Biidu  
(ECRI, Netherlands)  
European Commission against  
Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)*

*MEP Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana  
(Germany)  
Co-President European Parliament  
Anti-Racism and Diversity  
Intergroup (ARDI)*

*MEP Romeo Franz  
(Germany) Co-President European  
Parliament Anti-Racism and  
Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)*

*MEP Evin Incir  
(Sweden) Co-President European  
Parliament Anti-Racism and  
Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)*

*MP Danièle Obono  
(France)*

*MEP Samira Rafaela  
(Netherlands) Co-President  
European Parliament Anti-Racism  
and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)*

*MP Olivier Serva  
(France)*

*Alfiaz Vaiya, ARDI Coordinator*

## SUMMARY

From September 11-15, 2019 a delegation of European legislators and experts participated in the annual Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC) Washington DC week to participate in public Congressional events and consultations with Members of the U.S. Congress, U.S. government officials, private sector organizations and foundations, and civil society to facilitate a transatlantic exchange on inclusive and equitable policies and governance.

Final recommendations from the week included:

- More measures to prevent, condemn and counter hate speech and hate crime including passing legislation such as the EU Equal Treatment Directive.
- Stronger condemnation of hate speech and scapegoating by politicians and public officials at all levels.
- Working with social media companies to counteract the spread of racism and xenophobia on the internet, in cooperation with the relevant civil society organizations at a national and international level is needed.
- More financial support and improved care practices for victims of racist or xenophobic crimes and hate crimes, and the protection of all witnesses.
- Ensure law enforcement and the military do not engage in any form of racist, xenophobic or discriminatory acts.
- Increase cooperation between law enforcement, intelligence agencies, the judiciary and civil society organizations in the fight against extremism, fascism, racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.
- Increase financial resources for civil society organizations to monitor and report hate speech and hate crime in the Member States.
- Update educational curricula, historical sites, and media to accurately portray the European presence, contributions, and experiences of People of African Descent taking into account the population is 15-20 million and growing.
- Ensure that robust legislation is in place to tackle discrimination.
- Ensure that independent equality bodies, exist and function properly to promote equality and prevent discrimination, support people exposed to discrimination and intolerance and promote diversity and good relations between persons belonging to all the different groups in society.
- Establish diversity, equity & inclusion strategies/policies ensuring full access to basic rights such as education, employment, health and housing as well as language and integration courses, acquisition of legal status, participation in public life, and family reunification.
- Recognize that integration of migrants is a two-way process but the emphasis by States should move from "integration" to "inclusion".
- Increase transatlantic and cross border coalition initiatives, including the United States should seek an observer status in plenary meetings with ECRI, as an opportunity to deepen transatlantic relationships and cooperation.
- Increase diversity in political participation and representation measures.





## **U.S. Helsinki Commission Hearing The State of Diversity and Inclusion in Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics**

The U.S. Helsinki Commission convened the hearing, “The State of Diversity and Inclusion in Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics” one week ahead of the OSCE’s annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM), which included a focus on hate crimes and Roma populations, and the European Union’s first ever Anti-Racism and Diversity Week held in the European Parliament. Helsinki Commissioner Representative Gwen Moore (WI-04) chaired the hearing and was joined by Helsinki Commissioners: Chairman Alcee L. Hastings (FL-20), Rep. Steve Cohen (TN-09), Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, II (MO-05), and Rep. Marc Veasey (TX-33). Against the backdrop of recent European elections that saw gains by xenophobic political parties, Chairman Hastings highlighted the importance of the hearing given the rise in prejudice and violence in both Europe and in the United States including from far-right extremists.

Rep. Moore reiterated the necessity of the hearing given “numerous reports from Europe of hate crimes and acts of extremism, racial profiling in cities and at borders, and discrimination at work and in the schools, with the OSCE reporting close to 6,000 hate crimes in the region over the last year, and a recent European parliamentary study concluding that people from ethnic or racial minorities in the EU experience higher risks of economic hardship, poorer-quality housing, residential segregation, unemployment, and assault.” She also raised concerns regarding



Americans being impacted by disparate treatment and related violence in Europe, following reports that U.S. military personnel and diplomats serving in Europe, students studying abroad, and tourists have been the targets of discrimination, including hate crimes.

The first panel consisted of Members of the European Parliament who lead the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup: MEP Romeo Franz (Germany), MEP Dr. Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana (Germany), MEP Evin Incir (Sweden), MEP Samira Rafaela (Netherlands), and Coordinator Alfiar Vaiya of the Intergroup. MEP Dr. Herzberger-Fofana described how Afro-German victims are often excluded from the discourse on Nazis and the Holocaust, and the need for recognition and restitution. MEP Franz stated that

despite the adoption of anti-discrimination legislation by all EU states, 80 percent of the Roma community lives below their respective country’s poverty line due to anti-gypsyism and institutionalized racism. MEP Incir called for those who believe in equal, democratic societies to stand together to counter global nationalist movements being led by right-wing extremist organizations.



MEP Rafaela discussed the importance of representative politics in preserving democracies and the need to address current tensions in the transatlantic relationship. Mr. Vaiya concluded stating, “In a majority of the 28 [EU] member states, we see far-right political parties in government [and] working with the current U.S. administration and other far-right political parties and leaders across the world [...] Jewish people, whether it’s Muslims, whether it’s LGBTI people, whether it’s people who are Roma or black [...] The shared threat is the same. It’s the populism, it’s the racism, it’s the fascism.

The second panel consisted of Councilor Irene Appiah (Hamburg, Germany), Vice-Chair Domenica Ghidei Biidu (Netherlands) of the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), and MPs Olivier Serva and Daniele Obono (France). Vice-Chair Biidu recognized the U.S. as a partner and peer in combating racism and intolerance and urged the U.S. to engage in counter-populistic rhetoric and hate speech, foster constructive and peaceful relationships with Muslim countries and between Muslim countries and Israel, assist in the fight against anti-Semitism, safeguard irregular migrants, and seek observer status in the plenary meeting of ECRI.



Remarking on the vibrant Afro-descent population in Germany, Councilor Appiah called for Germany and other countries to provide statistical data on minorities and the African diaspora to assist in the fight against racism. In discussing French diversity resulting from colonialism and African enslavement, MP Obono highlighted the need for statistics on race to address continuing racial disparities. In addressing continuing disparities between French territories in the Caribbean and France, MP Serva called for teaching of the history of slavery in the French overseas territories, increasing minorities in French media, equality data, and addressing brain drain in the territories. Other points discussed included complacency from both left and right parties in protecting western democracies, Russian exploitation of societal divisions, including utilizing racial prejudice, to disrupt democracy, and the need to strengthen efforts to address online hate while protecting free speech.



### **Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference and other Events**

Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC) Delegates participated in the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, offering their expertise and experience to three widely attended panels.

The Honorable Romeo Franz, MEP (Germany) spoke about the experience of Roma and law enforcement at the Judiciary Braintrust hosted by Congresswoman Shelia Jackson-Lee (TX), 'Policing Practices: The Continuing Search for Reform and Accountability'. The panel explored opportunities to improve policing practices in African-American and Roma communities.

Impacted persons, law enforcement, and civil rights advocates spoke about current reform efforts and the accountability needed to improve relations.

The Honorable Samira Rafaela, MEP (Netherlands) joined the panel entitled '25 Years Later: The Impact of the 1994 Crime Bill and Charting a New Way Forward'. MEP Rafaela spoke of her role as the Inclusion Advisor with the Amsterdam Police, where she worked to improve relationships and communication between disenfranchised communities and police.

The Honorable Dr. Pierette Herzberger Fofana, MEP (Germany) and the Honorable Vice-Chair Domenica Ghidei Biidu, ECRI (Netherlands) spoke on the panel entitled 'H.R. 40: Navigating the Legislative Process in the Quest for Reparatory Justice'. The discussion centered around H.R. 40 and its resurgence as a Presidential and Congressional issue.



In addition to meeting Members of the U.S. Congress, TMPLC Delegates also held meetings and speaking engagements with Reverend Jesse Jackson Jr., at Howard University and the Obama Foundation.







**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**H. R. 6239 BILL**  
**LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR TRANSATLANTIC ENGAGEMENT (LITE)**  
**MARCH 12, 2020**

To establish the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement to develop a diverse community of transatlantic leaders at all levels of government, including emerging leaders, committed to democratic institutions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement Act” or “LITE Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States diversity of backgrounds, cultures, perspectives, skills, and experiences is a national asset that has assisted in realizing United States foreign policy, security, and economic goals, yet according to recent government statistics, diverse communities continue to be underrepresented in international public service careers and leadership roles.

(2) According to census data, the United States, European, and other societies are becoming more diverse, indicating an increasing need for global leaders with expertise in policymaking and governance that can competently represent the needs of diverse constituencies and ensure that democratic values and practices are equally applied to and offer the same protections and opportunities for all.

(3) There is therefore a compelling need to encourage outstanding young people from diverse and underserved populations to pursue international public service careers.

(4) There is also a need for international leadership training opportunities for individuals serving in national, regional, and local governments and parliaments around the world, and for individuals serving as employees of Members of Congress and as employees of members of other legislatures, that includes a focus on civil and human rights and the inclusion of diverse and underserved populations in policymaking and governance.

(5) The establishment and operation of an institute for the training and development of a diverse and inclusive group of global leaders to serve in international public service careers would address these critical needs.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) The term “Institute” means the “Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement” established under section 4.

(2) The term “Board” means the Board of Trustees of the Institute.

(3) The term “Fund” means the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement Trust Fund under section 6.

(4) The term “underrepresented population” means a population of individuals who have historically been outside the purview of leadership in international or domestic public or private sector careers, based upon race, ethnicity, color, religion, gender, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, youth (under 25), disability, or other demographic factors.

(5) The term “minority serving institutions” as defined in section 365(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067k(3)).

**SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR TRANSATLANTIC ENGAGEMENT.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the legislative branch the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement.

(b) **BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**—The Institute shall be subject to the supervision and direction of a Board of Trustees which shall be composed of five members as follows:

(1) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated by the majority leader of the House of Representatives and one of whom shall be designated by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(2) Two members appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated by the majority leader of the Senate and one of whom shall be designated by the minority leader of the Senate.

(3) The Executive Director of the Institute, who shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board.

(c) **TERM.**—Each member of the Board appointed under this section shall serve for a term of three years. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and the individual so appointed shall serve for the remainder of the term. A Member of Congress appointed to the Board may not serve as a member of the Board for more than a total of six years.

(d) **CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.**—At the first meeting and at its first regular meeting in each calendar year thereafter the Board shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among the members of the Board. The Chair and Vice-Chair may not be members of the same political party.

(e) **PAY NOT AUTHORIZED; EXPENSES.**—Members of the Board (other than the Executive Director) shall serve without pay, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(f) **LOCATION OF INSTITUTE AND REGIONAL OFFICES.**—The Institute shall be located in Washington, DC, and the Board may also establish other offices for the Institute in regions of the United States and Europe.

**SEC. 5. PURPOSES AND AUTHORITY OF LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR TRANSATLANTIC ENGAGEMENT.**

(a) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the Institute shall be to develop a diverse community of transatlantic leaders, including emerging leaders, at all levels of government committed to democratic institutions by—

(1) increasing awareness of the importance of public service careers that focus on international affairs, civil and human rights, social inclusion, and global security among underrepresented populations;

(2) providing training and development opportunities for Members of Congress, parliaments, and national, State, and locally elected or appointed government officials and their employees in the United States and abroad to become more effective and more efficient in performing their public duties and to develop their potential for accepting increased international public service opportunities; and

(3) enabling transatlantic political leaders, at all levels of government to gain significant, firsthand exposure to United States democratic institutions through visits to the United States, and for United States political leaders at all levels of government to support democratic institutions globally through travel abroad and knowledge sharing.

(b) **AUTHORITY.**—The Institute is authorized, consistent with this Act, to develop such programs, activities, and services as it considers appropriate to

carry out the purposes described in subsection (a). Such authority shall include the following:

(1) The development and implementation of training and educational programs and tools for transatlantic leaders and their staff, including Members of Congress, parliaments, and national, State, and locally elected or appointed government officials and their employees in the United States and abroad to enhance and foster excellence in their skills and abilities as public servants and to increase support for democratic institutions.

(2) The development and implementation of training, educational programs, and tools for secondary and post-secondary schools and colleges in the United States and abroad, including a focus on minority serving institutions, to encourage United States and international students to increase their civic engagement and consider international public service careers in civil and human rights, international affairs, global security, and in other areas.

(3) The development and implementation of media and telecommunications productions, as well as online and social media methods, to assist the Institute in expanding the reach of its programs throughout the United States and abroad.

(4) The establishment of library and research facilities for the collection, publication, compilation, and distribution of research materials for use in carrying out the programs of the Institute.

(c) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—The Board shall determine the priority of the programs to be carried out under this Act and the amount of funds to be allocated for such programs.

(d) GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Institute shall establish a program to award grants in the United States and abroad on an annual basis to colleges and universities, other research institutions and organizations, public departments and Federal agencies (including State, territorial, and overseas departments), private organizations or corporations, and individuals for the purposes of assisting the Institute's work in conducting research, international exchanges, education or training activities, and outreach to facilitate strengthening—

(A) democratic institutions, including civil and human rights;

(B) emerging and current political leaders and their employees at any level of government; and

(C) interest and excellence in international public service careers.

(2) APPLICATION.—Each organization that seeks a grant under this subsection shall submit an application to the Institute at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Institute may reasonably require.

(3) SET-ASIDE FOR CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—The Institute shall ensure that not less than 50 percent of amounts made available to carry out this subsection are used to provide grants to minority-serving institutions and entities that have made significant efforts to work with under-represented populations in the United States or abroad.

(4) CONSORTIUM.—One or more research institutions may constitute themselves as a consortium for purposes of seeking a grant under this subsection.

## SEC. 6. LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR TRANSATLANTIC ENGAGEMENT TRUST FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the "Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement Trust Fund". The Fund shall consist of amounts which may be appropriated, credited, or transferred to it under this section.

(b) DONATIONS.—Any money or other property donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Institute under the authority of this section shall be credited to the Fund.

(c) FUND MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT.—

(1) INVESTMENT.—At the request of the Institute, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to invest in full the amounts appropriated to the Fund. Such investments may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of the United States issued directly to the Fund.

(2) ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS.—The purposes for which obligations of the United States may be issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, are hereby extended to authorize the issuance at par of special obligations directly to the Fund. Such special obligations shall bear interest at a rate equal to the average rate of interest, computed as to the end of the calendar month next preceding the date of such issue, borne by all marketable interest-bearing obligations of the United States then forming a part of the public debt, except that if such average rate is not a multiple of one-eighth of 1 per centum, the rate of interest of such special obligations shall be the multiple of one-eighth of 1 per centum next lower than such average rate. All requests of the Institute to the Secretary of the Treasury provided for in this section shall be binding upon the Secretary.

(d) AUTHORITY TO SELL OBLIGATIONS.—At the request of the Institute, the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem any obligation issued directly to the Fund. Obligations issued to the Fund under subsection (c)(2) shall be redeemed at par plus accrued interest. Any other obligations issued directly to the Fund shall be redeemed at the market price.

(e) PROCEEDS FROM CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS CREDITED TO FUND.—In addition to the appropriations received pursuant to this Act, the interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Fund pursuant to this Act, shall be credited to and form a part of the Fund.

(f) FUND RESERVES.—Five to ten percent of the original amount appropriated to the Fund must remain in the Fund at all times.

(g) EXPENDITURES.—The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay to the Institute from the interests and earnings of the Fund, and moneys credited to the Fund pursuant to this section, such sums as the Board determines are necessary and appropriate to enable the Institute to carry out the provisions of this Act.

## SEC. 7. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Board shall appoint an Executive Director who shall be the chief executive officer and principal executive of the Institute and who shall supervise the affairs of, assist the directions of, and carry out the functions of the Board to administer the Institute. The Executive Director of the Institute shall be compensated at an annual rate specified by the Board.

(b) OTHER DUTIES.—The Executive Director, in consultation with the Board shall appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as may be necessary to carry out this Act, including personnel to carry out duties at any locations of the Institute which are established outside of Washington, DC.

(c) INSTITUTE PERSONNEL.—

(1) STAFF APPOINTMENTS.—All staff appointments shall be made without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and general schedule pay rates.

(2) TREATMENT AS CONGRESSIONAL EMPLOYEES.—For purposes of pay and other employment benefits, rights, and privileges and for all other purposes, any employee of the Institute shall be considered to be a Congressional employee under section 2107 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) COVERAGE UNDER CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.—

(A) TREATMENT OF EMPLOYEES AS COVERED EMPLOYEES.—Section 101(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301(3)) is amended—

- (i) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (J);
- (ii) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (K) and inserting “; or”; and
- (iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(L) the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement.”.

(B) TREATMENT OF INSTITUTE AS EMPLOYING OFFICE.—Section 101(9)(D) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 1301(9)(D)) is amended—

- (i) by striking “and the John C. Stennis Center” and inserting “the John C. Stennis Center”; and
- (ii) by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, and the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement;”.

#### SEC. 8. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

In order to carry out this Act, the Institute may carry out any of the following:

- (1) Prescribe such regulations as it considers necessary governing the manner in which its functions shall be carried out.
- (2) Procure temporary and intermittent services of experts and consultants as are necessary to the extent authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code.
- (3) Accept and utilize the services of voluntary and uncompensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.
- (4) Request and utilize the assignment of any Federal officer or employee from a department, agency, or Congressional office to the Institute, including on a rotating basis, by entering into an agreement for such assignment.
- (5) Solicit and receive money and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction other than it be used for the purposes of the Institute, and to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of such property for the purpose of carrying out its functions.
- (6) Enter into contracts, grants, or other arrangements, or modifications thereof, to carry out the provisions of this Act, including with any office of the Federal Government or of any State or any subdivision thereof, and international public and private sector entities.
- (7) Make expenditures for any expenses in connection with official training sessions or other authorized programs or activities of the Institute.
- (8) Apply for, receive, and use for the purposes of the Institute grants or other assistance from Federal sources.
- (9) Establish, receive, and use for the purposes of the Institute fees or other charges for goods or services provided in fulfilling the Institute’s purposes.
- (10) Invest, as specified in section 6(c), moneys authorized to be received under this Act.
- (11) Establish advisory committees or other bodies composed of persons eminent in international affairs, global security, and civil and human rights, to advise the Board without compensation (other than travel related expenses) on matters determined to be necessary by the Board.
- (12) Respond to the request of offices of Congress and other departments or agencies of the Federal Government to examine, study, or report on any issue within the Institute’s competence, including the use of classified materials if necessary.
- (13) Work with the appropriate security offices of the House of Representatives and Senate to obtain or retain need-based security clearances for Institute personnel.
- (14) Assign Institute personnel to temporary duty with offices of the Federal Government, international organizations, agencies and other entities to fulfill this Act.
- (15) Make other necessary expenditures.

#### SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; DISBURSEMENTS.

##### (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.
- (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.
- (b) DISBURSEMENTS.—Amounts made available to the Institution shall be disbursed on vouchers approved by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board or by a majority vote of the Board.
- (c) USE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES.—For purposes of section 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954 (22 U.S.C. 1754(b)), the Institute shall be deemed to be a standing committee of the Congress and shall be entitled to use funds in accordance with such section.
- (d) FOREIGN TRAVEL.—Foreign travel for official purposes by Members of the Institute who are Members of Congress and Institute staff may be authorized by the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Executive Director of the Institute.
- (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**H. RES. 256 RESOLUTION**  
**RECOGNIZING PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT AND BLACK EUROPEANS**  
**MARCH 26, 2019**

Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. MEEKS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

- Whereas the 109th Congress passed H. Con. Res. 60 and S. Con. Res. 90, recognizing African descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean, raising awareness of the racism and discrimination faced by those communities, and leading to numerous public and private sector initiatives between the United States and Latin American and Caribbean countries to improve the situation of African descendants;
- Whereas the persistence of racism and discrimination in Europe similarly necessitates congressional action to raise awareness and promote public and private sector initiatives to stem this trend;
- Whereas the May 19, 2018, royal wedding of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, raised awareness of the long history and situation of African-descent populations in Europe;
- Whereas the terms “Afro-European”, “African European”, or “Black European” refer to people of African ancestry or descent born in, citizens of, or living in Europe;
- Whereas an estimated 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 Black Europeans live in and have long had a presence in Europe, forming an influential part of the African diaspora;
- Whereas the story of Black Europeans remains widely untold, rendering many of their past and present contributions to the political and social life of Europe invisible or forgotten;
- Whereas unlike more contemporary figures, largely unknown Blacks have made significant contributions to European history and culture, including Spanish poet Juan Latino, Italian Duke Alessandro Medici, French novelist Alexandre Dumas, German scholar Anthony William Amo, French Composer Le Chevalier de St. George, British abolitionist Oladuah Equiano, and Russian General and Governor Abram Hannibal, great-grandfather of Russian poet Aleksandr Pushkin;
- Whereas the largest estimated populations of Black Europeans can be found in France (approximately 2,500,000), the United Kingdom (approximately 1,500,000), and the Netherlands (approximately 500,000), in addition to sizeable populations in Germany, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Russia, Switzerland, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, and Austria;
- Whereas the presence of Blacks in Europe can be traced to voluntary and forced migration resulting from the geographical proximity of Europe to Africa and the Middle East, including the transatlantic slave trade, the colonization of Africa and the Caribbean, African and African-American military deployments, the movement of refugees and asylum seekers, and educational and other professional exchanges;
- Whereas although Black Europeans have made significant achievements in and contributions to European society, large numbers have and continue to be more likely than the general population to experience discrimination and be underrepresented in leadership roles in the public and private sector as a result of the color of their skin and ancestry;
- Whereas racism has long been, and continues to be, a problem in Europe;
- Whereas, on April 29, 2008, before the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, at a hearing entitled “The State of (In)visible Black Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics”, Dr. Philomena Essed stated, “Probably the only common European experience among many, if not all, Afro-descendants is their exposure to [...] racism and systemic discrimination, regardless of country, socio-economic conditions, gender, age, or level of education.”;
- Whereas, as early as 1997, the European Commission opinion poll entitled “Racism and Xenophobia in Europe” reported a “worrying level of racism and xenophobia in [European Union] member states, with nearly 33% of those interviewed openly describing themselves as ‘quite racist’ or ‘very racist’.”;
- Whereas annual reports of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (EUFRA) and both the 2009 and 2018 European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS I and II), the first European Union-wide surveys of ethnic minority and immigrant groups’ experiences of discrimination and victimization in everyday life in the 28 member states of the European Union, found that persons of African descent experience high incidents of discriminatory treatment, racist crime, and victimization, and lacked an awareness of their rights, often underreporting cases of hate crimes and other forms of discrimination to law enforcement and human rights agencies, and that the situation has not drastically improved in the years between the two reports;
- Whereas, in November 2018, the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (EUFRA) launched “Being Black in the EU: Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey”, and called for member states to develop specific solutions and guidance to address findings that 30 percent of respondents had been racially harassed, 5 percent physically attacked, 25 percent discriminated against at work or when looking for work, up to 76 percent faced unemployment in some countries, and were experiencing high rates of discrimination in housing and in the justice system, including profiling by law enforcement;
- Whereas the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights’ (OSCE/ODIHR) most recent 2017 hate crimes report found more than 1,608 racist and xenophobic incidents, including a number targeting Black Europeans, while OSCE reports in previous years found a number of deaths and violent assaults against people of African origin, and that persons of African descent are often targets of racist and antimigrant violence, especially in Eastern Europe, yet in many countries hate crimes are underreported and, legal assistance and financial support for victims while recovering from violent attacks does not exist;
- Whereas prejudice and discrimination toward Black Europeans has also been linked to changes in immigration and asylum laws as a result of antiterrorism initiatives and the growth and mainstreaming of nationalist and anti-immigrant political parties and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinheads;
- Whereas the Open Society Justice Initiative in an initial 2009 report, entitled “Ethnic Profiling in the European Union”, and subsequent reports have found that police officers in the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands routinely use racial profiling, including targeting African descendants, when deciding whom to target for stops, searches, raids, and surveillance, leading to some of the first Europeanwide

grassroots and legal efforts to end racial profiling in France, Germany, and elsewhere in Europe, and over a decade of pan-European antiracism and empowerment initiatives supported by Open Society Foundations;

Whereas there have been numerous efforts by the public and private sector to address racial discrimination and inequality in Europe, including the introduction of antidiscrimination and equality laws that include the legal support for special measures or positive (affirmative) action, creation of equality bodies, media campaigns, and efforts to increase minority political participation, and campaigns to end the use of stereotypes and derogatory terms to refer to Blacks in everyday language, the media, and textbooks;

Whereas these efforts include the United Nations designation of 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent and 2015–2024 the International Decade for People of African Descent in an effort to strengthen national actions to ensure that people of African descent enjoy economic, cultural, social, civil, and political rights, as well as promote a greater knowledge of and respect for their diverse heritage and culture;

Whereas these efforts also include the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's (PA) adoption of Resolutions: "A Call for OSCE Action to Address Violence and Discrimination" in 2016, "Addressing Racism and Xenophobia Affecting People of African Descent in the OSCE Region" in 2012, and "Strengthening Efforts to Combat Racism and Xenophobia and Foster Inclusion" in 2011 that included recognition of the International Year for People of African Descent, and calling for the OSCE to implement several strategic initiatives to address racial and ethnic discrimination in the OSCE region;

Whereas, in 2011, OSCE/ODIHR held its first "Roundtable on the contemporary forms of racism and xenophobia affecting Peoples of African Descent in the OSCE region", and has since annually hosted antidiscrimination initiatives focused on People of African Descent including focused on hate crimes, women, political participation, strengthening civil society, and other issues;

Whereas these efforts also include transatlantic meetings of Black and other diverse legislators held annually at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, and in the United States Congress in Washington, DC, including the April 17–19, 2009, "Black European Summit: Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Participation" and adoption of the Brussels Declaration on political participation; and subsequent "Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conferences";

Whereas, as part of the March 24, 2011, Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC), legislators and minority leaders from North America and Europe held a Parliamentary Forum at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, to discuss a "Joint Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality and Inclusion" between the European Union and United States;

Whereas, in 2011, Members of the Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference worked in partnership with the German Marshall Fund, the Department of State, and other stakeholders to found the Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network (TILN) to increase diverse representation in policymaking;

Whereas, in October 2013, European Parliamentarians in partnership with the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) held "(In)visible Diversity" a series of debates in the European Parliament, including a debate entitled, "People of African Descent and Black Europeans: Realities of Afrophobia" and in 2015 released the first pan-European policy guide reviewing the current situation entitled, "ENAR Anti-Racism in Focus 2 - InvisibleVisible Minority: Confronting Afrophobia and Advancing Equality for People of African Descent and Black Europeans in Europe";

Whereas, in January 2017, the European Network Against Racism published, "Towards an EU Framework for National Strategies to Combat Afrophobia and Promote Inclusion of People of African Descent and Black Europeans" to urge EU member states to adopt "strong and specific policies to address Afrophobia, including its structural dimensions and impact on economic and social outcomes for people of African descent and Black Europeans, including in employment, housing, education, health, political participation, criminal justice and other sectors";

Whereas, on July 25, 2017, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights stated, "The position of Black people in Europe needs to be strengthened, irrespective of whether it concerns recent migrants from Africa or already established Black communities [...] European states must first come to terms with their own past [including] publicly acknowledge that slavery, the slave trade and colonialism are among the major sources of current discrimination against Black people.", and recommended European states implement strategies across health, education, justice, employment, and other sectors;

Whereas, in October 2017, the United Kingdom Prime Minister released the Race Disparity Audit "examin[ing] how people of different backgrounds are treated across areas including health, education, employment and the criminal justice system", which found inequalities in education, housing, income and employment, justice, and health between persons of African and Caribbean background and others, and has since published the findings online, appointed a Special Advisor, created a Race Disparity Advisory Group, and announced 90 million British pounds to implement strategies to address disparities found by the audit;

Whereas, in 2018, Polish Sejm member Killion Munyama, Rapporteur of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination authored measures that were adopted on "Promoting diversity and equality in politics" that identified challenges to political participation faced by visible minorities and due to skin color;

Whereas, on May 13 through 17, 2018, the European Parliament and European Economic and Social Committee, under the leadership of European Parliamentarian Cecile Kyenge of Italy, hosted the inaugural People of African Descent Week (PAD Week) in Brussels, Belgium, in partnership with the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI), Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference (TMPLC), Each One Teach One (EOTO), the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), and supported by congressional Members of the United States Helsinki Commission;

Whereas PAD Week featured over a hundred experts, activists, and policymakers to increase awareness of people of African descent living in Europe and to discuss solutions to address the racial discrimination and violence they face;

Whereas Member of the European Parliament Cecile Kyenge stated, "In addition to honouring the history and contribution of Europe's Black population, the People of African Descent Week reaffirms European values by developing strategic and coherent responses to make our society more inclusive in the face of rising racial prejudice and violence across Europe.";

Whereas PAD Week final recommendations call on European Union institutions and national governments to specifically adopt a set of initiatives for Black Europeans, including—

(1) recognize past injustices and contributions; adopt a European Black History Month and Remembrance Day for Victims of Colonialism and Enslavement;

(2) fund Black European led initiatives to address continuing disparities and discrimination, and support empowerment initiatives through the creation of caucuses, civil society funds, and fellowships;

(3) adopt a Parliamentary Resolution and EU Framework for National Strategies for Inclusion of People of African Descent in Europe; and

(4) support transatlantic exchanges to support common solutions to common issues of racial prejudice and discrimination; and

Whereas in addition to EU institutions affiliated with PAD Week, international entities, such as the OSCE Personal Representative on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination and OSCE/ODIHR Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Unit, EUFRA, the COE Human Rights Commissioner and ECRI, and the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Independent Expert on Minority Issues, and Experts Working Group on People of African Descent, have documented ongoing racism and xenophobia, and racial and ethnic discrimination, and called for an increase in initiatives to combat racism and inequality and foster inclusion: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) encourages the recognition and celebration of the collective history and achievements made by people of African descent;

(2) reaffirms the importance of inclusion and the full and equal participation of people of African descent around the world in all aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life;

(3) recognizes that, as a result of their skin color and ancestry, many Black Europeans have wrongfully experienced injustices in the public and private sector;

(4) welcomes parliamentary activities, including those of the European Parliament (EP), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), and United States Congress, to engage in efforts to promote racial equality and combat racial discrimination through efforts such as introducing legislation, speaking out against racism, increasing the political participation of diverse populations through initiatives such as the Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference and Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network, and working with Black European and other diverse communities to develop relevant policies;

(5) urges European governments and members of civil society and the private sector, in consultation with Black European communities, to develop and implement initiatives to combat racial discrimination and promote racial equality and inclusion in Europe, by—

(A) drafting and implementing an EU Framework for National Strategies to Promote Inclusion of and Combat Discrimination towards People of African Descent and Black Europeans;

(B) drafting and implementing anti-discrimination, special measures, hate crimes, migration and integration, inclusion, and other laws and policies to address discrimination and disparities and promote equality, noting the recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Experts Working Group on People of African Descent (WGPAD), the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (EUFRA), the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism and Independent Expert on Minority Issues, Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner and European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), and the OSCE Personal Representative on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination and OSCE/ODIHR Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Unit;

(C) promoting and funding research, including the collection of national census data on Black Europeans and its inclusion in the annual reports of the EUFRA and other official reporting at the EU and national levels;

(D) providing technical support, training, and funding to Black European civil society and private sector groups and experts working to combat racism, discrimination, and inequality, uphold basic human rights in Europe, and to increase economic opportunity and empowerment;

(E) introducing national measures to counter stereotypical images of persons of African descent, by revising textbooks, increasing efforts to include Black Europeans in history and heritage institutions, and remembering victims of colonialism, enslavement, and other atrocities;

(F) developing or increasing financial support for funds to assist victims of hate crimes with legal assistance and compensation when incapacitated due to physical or emotional injuries;

(G) developing specific initiatives that address the special concerns of Black European men, women, and youth, including increasing initiatives related to migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers;

(H) actively promoting racial and ethnic representation and participation at all levels of national, regional, and local government through the education of civil and political rights, including the legislative process and advocacy of legislative issues relevant to racial and ethnic communities, development of targeted professional advancement and hiring strategies, increased youth and community outreach, and self-organization and other empowerment initiatives; and

(I) recruiting, training, hiring, and retaining Black Europeans for professional positions in support of these initiatives;

(6) urges the Secretary of State and Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to—

(A) provide technical assistance and other support for European governments and members of the civil society and private sector to fulfill the initiatives described above, including by expanding United States Government efforts with the OSCE to increase the capacity of members of African Descent communities to address discrimination;

(B) increase support for the WGPAD and International Decade for People of African Descent; and

(C) by establishing a Global Office of African Descent Affairs within the Department of State headed by senior officials to develop and implement global foreign policy and assistance strategies to improve the situation of people of African descent around the world, create a Department of State “Fund” to support antidiscrimination and empowerment efforts by African descent led civil society organizations around the world, and include a section on discrimination faced by people of African descent in the Department of State’s Annual Country Reports Human Rights Practices, and working with USAID and other United States Government agencies to implement the strategy;

(7) supports the adoption of a “Joint Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality and Inclusion” between the European Union and United States modeled after similar United States agreements with Colombia and Brazil, and implementation of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Resolutions on People of African Descent and addressing racial and xenophobic violence and discrimination to assist in fulfilling the initiatives above; and

(8) urges the Secretary of State and the Administrator of USAID to provide a report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate on Department of State and USAID efforts to address global racial and ethnic discrimination, including any funding efforts or international exchange opportunities for civil society.



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