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INVITATION TO A BRAINSTORMING MEETING ORGANISED BY BEPA ON INTERGENERATIONAL FAIRNESS

Introductory note

Deterioration and crises in the economic, social, demographic and environmental realms, which have developed over time and under our own generation's gaze, pose long term implications; decisions taken now risk having notable effects on the generations to come. Future policy makers and citizens alike risk having to bear the costs of the unresolved problems of today. The current economic crisis is a prime example. The quest for sustainability for younger generations relates to the economy as a whole, natural resources and other public goods.

The Bureau of European Policy Advisers is organising a meeting on intergenerational fairness, with the aim of clarifying the complex multidisciplinary dimensions of a very topical question. Debates will be organised around four themes which have key intergenerational dimensions: i) Education, Health and Social Protection ii) Sustainability and Resource Efficiency iii) Efficient Governance iv) Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth. The meeting will assemble those involved directly in EU policy making in the European Commission, across a broad range of DGs whose work requires consideration of intergenerational issues, and representatives of informal networks involved in these policy areas.

In the form of a one day brainstorming session accompanied by a working lunch, the aim of the meeting is to shed light on different dimensions of intergenerational fairness, and encourage a deeper analysis of policy options which could help to lay the foundations for long term well being. Through brainstorming and debate, the event aims to initiate a collective analysis of the current obstacles to intergenerational equality, as well as a discussion of potential solutions to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.