



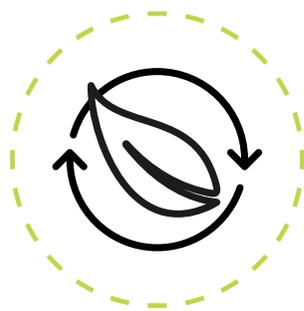
THE YOUTH VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF EUROPE



Europe's young people have had enough of hearing that we will end up worse off than our parents. The reality which was created for us is one in which resources are spent in an unsustainable way; in which public governance is made to systematically exclude us; and in which what used to be human rights are now privileges that only few can enjoy. We need to come together as society to fix this, and to focus on creating a better future.

We, young people, will get behind those who contribute to, and who can commit to, our vision for the future of Europe.

A EUROPE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS



As young people, we are angry at unsustainable consumption habits, that so much food goes to waste while many people still starve, and so much plastic is used unnecessarily, clogging our seas and oceans and destroying their delicate ecosystems forever. We are angry that we are the generation left behind by progress. Our future, and that of our children, looks grey.

In our vision of Europe, politics rise above individual interests and are based on values and ideals. In our Europe, decisions about the society, the environment and the economy are made in a way which contributes to achieving sustainable development. Social, economical and environmental justice are paramount in the Europe we want; it's a Europe based on rights that is considerate not only of current generations, but of future ones as well.

Our Europe is one that works for people and planet. Clean air, water and urban spaces are our rights, which need to be upheld. To be able to practice these rights, our cities need to be greener, with public transport that is affordable and with quality cycling facilities. Our Europe is a positive force that does not live off the rest of the world, spreading poverty and environmental damage.

We, young people, commit to making the personal sacrifices that are needed to contribute to making this possible and to changing our consumption habits. However, we expect everyone, especially political leaders, to join us and to assume their own responsibility for taking care of our planet.

A EUROPE OF DEMOCRACY



We, young people, are not satisfied with politicians that only speak for those who will get them the most votes. It is our right to be heard. The days of politicians engaging with young people through solely tokenistic meetings and photographs are over.

We witness non-transparent and populist politicians refusing to take responsibility for their failures, and increasing hate speech in the media. We see a visionary Europe, but most do not: why is Europe incapable of communicating its success stories to its citizens?

We demand a Europe that puts the citizen at the centre of its decisions. We demand that barriers to running for election be removed, with women and young people just some of the groups most affected. Background, wealth and personal networks should not determine who can represent the people. We demand that political parties be made to be open and transparent about where they get their funding from, and how they spend their money. We demand that 16 year-olds be given the right to vote, and hope for a Europe where not just 0.5% of parliamentarians are under the age of 30.

We dream of a Europe where young people know the impact their vote can have, as well as the consequences of not voting. Their education ensures they develop the critical thinking skills needed to challenge populists and misinformation in the media, and to ensure their rights are upheld.

Our Europe is based on a coherent democratic structure that embraces subsidiarity and allows everyone's voice to be heard, while ensuring that decisions are taken at the most appropriate level, from local to European. It embraces and values young people's creativity and is reactive to large citizen-led movements and protests. It innovates and is open to new ways of including citizens in policy making.

We, young people, will engage with a politics that is innovative in how it includes citizens. We will get behind politicians who commit to meaningful dialogue with young people. Without including us, politicians cannot expect our generation's support. It is our right to be included, and we will take our seat at the table.

A EUROPE FOR ALL



We, young people, are angry that our rights have become empty words and are easy for governments to violate. We are angry that inequality continues to spiral out of control, and those who need the most help are seeing their rights decimated. We live in times when people can't afford to live a decent life despite working around the clock. Cuts in social benefits are killing people. We are angry that the most vulnerable in society have to pay for the mistakes of politicians and banks. Financial resources are limited, and how we as a society choose to spend our share embodies the very definition of who we are as a people. Let's be a continent where money is spent on those who are the most vulnerable, and where peace is waged instead of war.

Rights are rights, inviolable and universal. Our Europe is a place where rule of law and all human rights are respected. Young people and marginalised groups are embraced and empowered to claim their rights, and fulfil their responsibilities. In our Europe, rights are guaranteed even when political and economic circumstances are tough.

Our Europe leaves no one behind. It ensures that all people live a life in dignity, free from poverty or exclusion. Neither our social background nor our gender should dictate how successful we are on the labour market. A young person has the right to have a job that is relevant for their level of experience and skills, and that enables them to live in dignity without relying on their parents' support. In our vision for Europe, education is free for all, and the unique path and experience of each young person is recognised and valued in society, no matter how they got it. In our Europe, vocational education and training is seen as a quality choice and path.

We dream of a Europe where we feel safe, anytime and anywhere. Our Europe is one where healthcare and good mental health support and services are accessible for all. Our Europe makes us realise being different is a good thing. It is a place where we can hold hands with our same-sex partner in public without being afraid, and where nobody gets disapproving looks in the street because of the way they look or the clothes they wear.

Our Europe is a safe place where decisions are made for all, not the fortunate few. As young people, we are open-minded and we welcome those in need of shelter.

MAKING OUR EUROPE REALITY



Our Europe is one that makes us dream, that gives us hope of a better future for us and for our children. It shouldn't be just a dream, however, as we believe any tolerant, pro-European and decent politician and human being should share our vision for the future.

Our Europe is one that does not rely on peace as the only reason to exist, and looks beyond the outdated system of nation states in its politics. People who take responsibility and do not blame others for their own failures lead our Europe. Our Europe is a resilient one, which can counter populist movements and external threats.

We, as young people, are willing to make sacrifices in our everyday lives and work hard to make this vision a reality. We believe in democracy and will continue to fight for it. We are the most skilled, educated, mobile and well-connected generation ever.

Through youth organisations, we promote cross-border pan-European work and inter-cultural understanding. We educate citizens through youth organisations' democratic structures and provide essential skills, such as teamwork. As civil society movements, we play a key role in shaping strong, resilient, participatory and democratic societies. We need the right conditions, including more spaces for dialogue and sustainable support, to be able to carry out our activities and involve more young people from different backgrounds.

**We, young people, are united behind our vision
for the future of Europe.**

We work together and help each other, despite our differences.

**We are the most pro-European generation,
and will continue to fight for the Europe we dream of.**

Don't let us down!

