TDM2000 INTERNATIONAL

Agenzia Italiana per la Gioventù

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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

YOUTH WORK SEAL



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
YOUTH WORK SEAL 20
IN THE YOUTH FIELD

YOUTH WORK SEAL

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THE PROJECT

THE PROJECT AIMED TO PROMOTE THE CONCEPT OF PARTICIPATION AND RECOGNITION IN YOUTH WORK, INCLUDING IN THE DIGITAL SPHERE. FOR THIS REASON, THE PROJECT WAS BUILT AROUND THE PLATFORM HTTPS://YOUTHWORKSEAL.YOUTHDIALOGUE.EU/, WHICH SERVED AS THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PROJECT'S ACTIVITIES.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

·CONTRIBUTE TO STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION OF YOUTH WORK AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.
·CREATE NEW AND INTERACTIVE OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING.
·DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT YOUTH WORK THROUGH THE EQUAL INVOLVEMENT OF VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING YOUNG PEOPLE, POLICYMAKERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.
·SUPPORT DIGITAL DIALOGUE ON YOUTH IN THE EU THROUGH AN ONLINE PLATFORM.

THE PROJECT

HE PROJECT INVOLVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

1. LOCAL ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED IN EACH COUNTRY, SUCH AS IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AND/OR MEETINGS, SEMINARS, OR OTHER LOCAL OR REGIONAL EVENTS/PROCESSES, ROUNDTABLES, FOCUS GROUPS, ETC.

2. ONLINE SURVEYS AND QUESTIONNAIRES

3. ONLINE INTERACTION ACTIVITIES ON THE PLATFORM HTTPS://YOUTHWORKSEAL.YOUTHDIALOGUE.EU/ AND CREATION OF DIGITAL CONTENT FOR THE PLATFORM: INFORMATIONAL PODCASTS, MICROLEARNING LESSONS, 12 PARTICIPATORY VIDEOS.

4. AN INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM IN ITALY.
5. A YOUTH PARTICIPATION EVENT WITHOUT MOBILITY

INTRODUCTION TO THE RESULTS

THIS DOCUMENT COMPILES THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE YOUTH WORK SEAL PROJECT, AN INITIATIVE AIMED AT PROMOTING THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF YOUTH WORK AT THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. THE PROJECT IS SET AGAINST A BACKDROP WHERE SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES REQUIRE INCREASINGLY DIRECT INVOLVEMENT FROM YOUNGER GENERATIONS, WHILE ALSO HIGHLIGHTING NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING AS FUNDAMENTAL TOOLS FOR PERSONAL AND COLLECTIVE GROWTH.

THROUGH A DEDICATED DIGITAL PLATFORM AND A SERIES OF LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES —INCLUDING WORKSHOPS, ONLINE CONSULTATIONS, MOBILITY PROGRAMS, AND STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS—THE PROJECT HAS FOSTERED DIALOGUE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, ORGANIZATIONS, POLICYMAKERS, AND CIVIL SOCIETY. THIS PARTICIPATORY APPROACH HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO GATHER EXPERIENCES, NEEDS, AND PROPOSALS FROM DIVERSE CONTEXTS REPRESENTING THE SIX COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE PARTNERSHIP: ITALY, SERBIA, LATVIA, BULGARIA, PORTUGAL, AND FRANCE, CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONCRETE AND SHARED RECOMMENDATIONS.

INTRODUCTION TO THE RESULTS

THE ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE DOCUMENT REFLECT SOME OF THE MOST URGENT PRIORITIES FOR CONTEMPORARY EUROPE: GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, THE RECOGNITION AND STRENGTHENING OF YOUTH WORK, ACCESS TO CLEAR AND RELIABLE INFORMATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND COOPERATION, AS WELL AS THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION. IN EACH OF THESE AREAS, THE NEED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN EXISTING EUROPEAN-LEVEL STRATEGIES AND THEIR ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION IN DAILY LIFE EMERGES STRONGLY.

THE DOCUMENT THEREFORE AIMS NOT ONLY TO ANALYZE THE MAIN CHALLENGES BUT, ABOVE ALL, TO OFFER PRACTICAL, ACTION-ORIENTED SOLUTIONS, PLACING THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE CENTER AS AGENTS OF CHANGE AND AS A FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCE FOR BUILDING A MORE EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY.

RECOMMENDATIONS



FIRST RECOMMENDATION



BEYOND GENDERS

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

"CIVIL SOCIETY ACROSS EUROPE IS UNDER GROWING PRESSURE, WITH ORGANISATIONS DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FACING INCREASING THREATS. THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IS NOW DEVELOPING ITS FIRST-EVER EU CIVIL SOCIETY STRATEGY: A CRUCIAL CHANCE TO PROTECT AND EMPOWER THE ORGANISATIONS THAT KEEP DEMOCRACY AND RIGHTS ALIVE." SINCE THE EU CIVIL STRATEGY IS NOW BEING COORDINATED,

WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO BE PART OF IT AND ENSURE THAT THE DOZENS OF RECOMMENDATIONS, ON A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, THAT HAVE BEEN PRESENTED OVER THE YEARS ARE ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTED.

THEREFORE, AND BECAUSE THE TOPIC OF EQUALITY/ SOCIAL JUSTICE IS ONE WITH A WIDE RANGE OF POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS, WE DECIDED TO FOCUS SOLELY ON GENDER EQUALITY, CONSIDERING THAT LIKE END FGM EUROPEAN NETWORK EMPHASIZE WOMEN THAT ARE TRYING TO GET THEIR FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ALSO A CRUCIAL DRIVER OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

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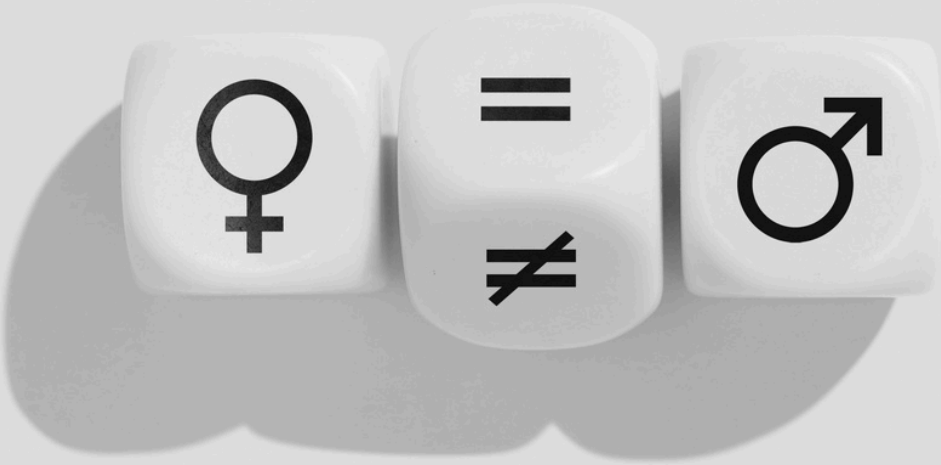

PROPOSALS

OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO FOCUS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS ALREADY ESTABLISHED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION. BY DOING SO, WE AIM TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH EU PRIORITIES AND STRENGTHEN THE PRACTICAL IMPACT OF EXISTING FRAMEWORKS. IN PARTICULAR, OUR EFFORTS WILL BE DIRECTED TOWARD TRANSLATING THESE PROPOSALS INTO CONCRETE ACTIONS AT THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, FOSTERING COLLABORATION AMONG INSTITUTIONS, AND ENHANCING THE VISIBILITY OF EU-DRIVEN INITIATIVES.

WE BELIEVE THAT MANY OF THE EXISTING EU STRATEGIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDE A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR ADDRESSING KEY SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES. THEREFORE, INSTEAD OF CREATING NEW CONCEPTS, OUR APPROACH EMPHASIZES ADAPTATION, COORDINATION, AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION. THROUGH THIS PROCESS, WE SEEK TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN POLICY DESIGN AND REAL-LIFE OUTCOMES, ENSURING THAT EU PRINCIPLES ARE EFFECTIVELY REFLECTED IN EVERYDAY PRACTICE AND CONTRIBUTE TO LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

CONCLUSION

GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ARE ESSENTIAL FOR BUILDING A FAIR, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE EUROPE. THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE A TOP PRIORITY FOR POLICYMAKERS BECAUSE IT DIRECTLY IMPACTS ECONOMIC GROWTH, SOCIAL COHESION, AND DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION. WHILE THE EU HAS ALREADY DEVELOPED STRONG FRAMEWORKS, THEIR IMPLEMENTATION REMAINS INCONSISTENT, LEAVING MANY INEQUALITIES UNRESOLVED. BY FOCUSING ON THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF EXISTING PROPOSALS, WE CAN TURN POLICY INTO REAL CHANGE.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STRENGTHENS NOT ONLY INDIVIDUALS BUT ENTIRE COMMUNITIES. IT PROMOTES DIVERSITY, INNOVATION, AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIFE. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THIS PROCESS AND MUST BE SUPPORTED AND PROTECTED. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT CAN FURTHER DRIVE THESE CHANGES, ENSURING THAT EQUALITY BECOMES A LIVED REALITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

SECOND RECOMMENDATION



THE YOUTH WARRIORS

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUTH WORK IS? YOUTH WORK REFERS TO A WIDE RANGE OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES THAT AIM TO SUPPORT PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE. IT IS CATEGORIZED AS NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ORGANIZED BY NGOS, VOLUNTEERS, AND YOUTH CENTERS.

YOUTH WORK INCLUDES A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERSONAL, SOCIAL, AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE OF FORMAL SCHOOLING. IT TAKES PLACE THROUGH YOUTH CENTERS, NGOS, VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS, AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS, GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN THROUGH EXPERIENCE, TEAMWORK, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

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DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

THE PROBLEM LIES IN THE CORE OF ITS BEGINNING. YOUTH WORK IS CATEGORIZED AS NON FORMAL EDUCATION AND IS VERY OFTEN UNDERVALUED BECAUSE OF IT. YOUTH WORK IS NOT WELL KNOWN BECAUSE IT LACKS VISIBILITY, INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND FUNDING FOR SPREADING THE WORD. MANY PEOPLE ARE UNAWARE OF HOW YOUTH WORK CONTRIBUTES TO PROMOTING INCLUSION AND STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE. AS A RESULT, MANY YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS AND WORKERS STRUGGLE TO CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITIES, DESPITE THEIR ESSENTIAL ROLE IN HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE GAIN SKILLS, FI ND CONFI DENCE, AND BECOME ACTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY. WITHOUT STRONGER RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT, THE FULL POTENTIAL OF YOUTH WORK IN SHAPING EUROPE'S FUTURE REMAINS UNEXPLOITED.

PROPOSALS

PROVIDING MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS:

THE EU SHOULD DEVELOP A STABLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT PROVIDES CONTINUOUS FUNDING FOR YOUTH NGOS, INSTEAD OF ONLY SHORT-TERM PROJECT GRANTS. MANY ORGANIZATIONS STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE BETWEEN FUNDING CYCLES, WHICH LIMITS THEIR IMPACT. A LONG-TERM SYSTEM, WITH SIMPLER APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL LOCAL NGOS, WOULD MAKE YOUTH WORK MORE SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN EVERY COMMUNITY.

ENCOURAGE GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE YOUTH WORK IN NATIONAL POLICIES:

THE EU SHOULD RECOMMEND THAT EACH MEMBER STATE INCLUDE YOUTH WORK IN ITS NATIONAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES. BY DOING SO, YOUTH WORK WOULD GAIN STRONGER INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION AND ATTRACT MORE RESOURCES AND PUBLIC ATTENTION.

CONCLUSION

YOUTH WORK IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL TOOLS FOR SHAPING ACTIVE, RESPONSIBLE, AND CONFI DENT YOUNG CITIZENS. HOWEVER, ITS IMPACT OFTEN GOES UNNOTICED BECAUSE OF LIMITED RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT. STRENGTHENING YOUTH WORK MEANS INVESTING IN THE PERSONAL GROWTH OF FUTURE LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND CHANGEMAKERS. THE EUROPEAN UNION SHOULD CONTINUE PROMOTING COLLABORATION BETWEEN SCHOOLS, NGOS, AND GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE. RECOGNIZING YOUTH WORK IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND WILL HELP BUILD A MORE INCLUSIVE AND UNITED EUROPE.

THIRD RECOMMENDATION



CLEAR AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

INFORMATION IS AN ABSTRACT CONCEPT THAT REFERS TO SOMETHING WHICH HAS THE POWER TO INFORM. AT THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL LEVEL, IT PERTAINS TO THE INTERPRETATION (PERHAPS FORMALLY) OF THAT WHICH MAY BE SENSED, OR THEIR ABSTRACTIONS.

IN MODERN AREA WE HAVE THE CHANCE TO HAVE INSTANT INFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA. THE PROBLEM IS, IT CAN BE RELATED BY ANYONE. THE SPEED OF INFORMATIONS IS ONE OF THE GREATEST BENEFI TS, BUT CAN ALSO BE A DANGER. WHAT ARE THE LIITS OF A CLEAR AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION ? SOCIAL MEDIA CREATE A BARRIER BETWEEN REAL LIFE AND THE INFORMATION FL OW. WE DON'T ALL HAVE THE SAME ACCES TO INFORMATION.

ON SOCIAL MEDIA, PEOPLE CAN TRY TO MANIPULATE YOU ,BY SHOWING THINGS WHITH NO EXPLANATION. WHEN WE HAVE ACCES TO A LOT OF INFORMATION, IT CAN BE MANIPULATED EASIER, WE LET SOME NONSENSE BE THE MAIN INFORMATION AND REPEAT IT WHILE THE REAL IMPORTANT THINGS REMAIN HIDDEN.



DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

NOT ALL OF US HAVE THE SAME ACCES TO INFORMATION, IN SOME PART OF THE WORLD, PEOPLE DON'T HAVE INTERNET ACCESS OR IT IS CONTROLED BY THE GOVERNEMENT. IN UNITED STATES, SOME BOOKS ARE BANNED, IT REDUCE THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION. THE BANBOOKS ARE CHOOSEN BY THE GOVERNEMENT, THE MAJORITY OF THE AUTHORS, WHOSE BOOKS ARE OVERWELMINGLY TARGETED OFTEN EXPLORE THEMES WITH RACE AND RACISM, GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUALITY, OR DEPICT SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THER WORK. IN SOME COUNTRIES, THE INTERNET IS VERY CONTROLLED, WHERE ONLY GOVERNEMENT PEOPLE CAN USE IT AND THAT UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS, SPREADING PROPAGANDA. ONE MISTAKE, WRONG SENTANCE, SAYING SOMETHING BAD ABOUT THE CONTRY COULD LOST THEIR LIVES, EXAMPLE IS NORTH KORREA, IN WHICH HUNDRETS OF PEOPLE LOOSE THEIR LIFES, THROUGH THE REGIME. IN SOME COUNTRIES, SUCH AS AFGHANISTAN, ONE OF THE WORST THINGS IS THAT WOMEN ARE DENIED ACCESS TO INFORMATION, AS WELL AS THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION, SO THAT THEY DO NOT RAISE THEIR VOICE FOR THEIR RIGHTS.

SOME WEBSITES GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF PROVIDING REAL INFORMATION, BUT SOMETIMES SOME OF THEM CAN MISLEAD US.

PROPOSALS

ONE THING EROPEANN UNION CAN DO TO GIVE ALL OF THE YOUTH AN CLEAR AND ACCESSIBLE ACCES TO INFORMATION IS TO CREATE A WEBSITE WHERE THE INFORMATION IS CAREFULLY CHECKED. SOMETHING WHO LOOK LIKE WIKIPEDIA BUT WHITH A BETER VERIFI CATION, THIS WOULD BE D BIT PRICY, BUT WORTH IT.

ANOTHER THING WILL BE TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF AI, EU SHOULD REDUCE THE ACCESS TO THE ONLY AI ACCOUTS AND DO A SPECIFI C LAW ,THAT FORCES AI TO SPECIFY, IN THEIR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS, THAT IT COMES FROM AN AI.

AI ACCOUNTS BECAME QUITE COMMON AND SOME ARE SO REALISTIC, PEOPLE COULDN'T SEE ITS NOT REAL.

PROPOSALS

INTRODUCE MORE LEVELS OF DEFENSE IN ACCESSING INFORMATION FOR SPECIFI C MATTERS. THAT WE HAVE MORE STEPS THAT WE HAVE TO COMPLETE IN ORDER TO GET TO THAT INFORMATION.

TEACHING PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE SOURCES - TO CHECK WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THE NEWS, WHEN IT WAS PUBLISHED, AND ON WHICH SITE. INCLUDE MEDIA LITERACY IN SCHOOLS - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO LEARN HOW SOCIAL NETWORKS AND ALGORITHMS WORK.

MARKING OF SOURCES AND VERIFI CATION OF CONTENT, ADD A "CHEK INFO" TAG. TRANSPARENCY OF ALGORITHMS - SOCIAL NETWORKS SHOULD REVEAL HOW THEY PROMOTE CONTENT AND WHAT INFL UENCES THE SPREAD OF NEWS.

CONCLUSION

WE HAVE GREAT POSSIBILITIES IN ACCESSING INFORMATION AND WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL. A WISE MAN SAID THAT EVERYTHING IS GIVEN TO US FREELY, BUT WE MUST KNOW IF IT IS USEFUL FOR US

FOURTH RECOMMENDATION



OUR FUTURE, OUR NATURE

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION ARE AMONG THE MOST URGENT CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME. AS YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING ACROSS EUROPE, WE FEEL THAT OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON HOW TODAY'S DECISIONS SHAPE OUR PLANET FOR TOMORROW.

THE EARTH'S CLIMATE IS CHANGING, THE TEMPERATURE IS RISING, EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS ARE GROWING, ECOSYSTEMS ARE UNDER STRESS, AND MANY SPECIES ARE DYING. IF THE ENVIRONMENT SUFFERS, SO DO COMMUNITIES, ECONOMIES AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.



DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SUCH AS CARBON DIOXIDE AND METHANE ARE CAUSING GLOBAL WARMING. IN THE EUROPEAN UNION, EMISSIONS ARE NOW 37 % BELOW 1990 LEVELS, SHOWING THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, CLIMATE ACTION). HOWEVER, EVEN WITH THAT IMPROVEMENT, THE AVERAGE CARBON FOOTPRINT IN THE EU REMAINS HIGH 10.7 TONNES OF CO_2-EQUIVALENTS PER PERSON IN 2022 (EUROPEAN COMMISSION). SOME SECTORS, ESPECIALLY TRANSPORT, ARE STILL DIFFICULT TO DECARBONIZE, AND EMISSIONS THERE CONTINUE TO RISE IN MANY COUNTRIES (EUROPEAN COMMISSION). AT THE SAME TIME, THE CLIMATE IS ALREADY CHANGING. EUROPE FACES MORE EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS, INCLUDING FLOODS, DROUGHTS, AND HEATWAVES, WHICH DAMAGE PEOPLE'S HEALTH, NATURE, AND INFRASTRUCTURE. ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION SUCH AS LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY, DEFORESTATION, SOIL EROSION, AND POLLUTION INTERACTS WITH CLIMATE CHANGE AND MAKES ITS IMPACTS EVEN WORSE.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

IT IS OUR FUTURE AT STAKE. AS YOUNG PEOPLE, WE WILL LIVE WITH THE LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF THE DECISIONS MADE TODAY. CLIMATE CHANGE ALREADY THREATENS OUR HEALTH, FOOD SECURITY, CLEAN WATER, AND SAFE LIVING CONDITIONS, NOT JUST IN FARAWAY PLACES, BUT HERE IN EUROPE TOO. ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE MAKES THINGS EVEN WORSE, DESTROYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR LIVES AND ECONOMIES. WHEN SOIL DEGRADES, SPECIES DISAPPEAR, AND WATER BECOMES SCARCE, TOURISM SUFFERS, FARMERS LOSE THEIR INCOME, AND COMMUNITIES STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE. THIS IS A GLOBAL PROBLEM, BUT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE A SPECIAL ROLE TO PLAY, SINCE THE EU IS ONE OF THE LARGEST ECONOMIC POWERS IN THE WORLD AND ITS POLICIES INFLUENCE MANY OTHERS. IN 2023, THE EU ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 6.0% OF GLOBAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT). CLIMATE CHANGE ALSO HAS A HIGH PRICE, WE ALREADY PAY FOR THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY FLOODS, DROUGHTS, AND HEATWAVES. IT IS ALWAYS CHEAPER AND WISER TO ACT EARLY THAN TO PAY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES LATER.

PROPOSALS

MAKE ENERGY CLEANER BUT ALSO SMARTER

WE AGREE THAT THE EU NEEDS TO MOVE AWAY FROM COAL, OIL, AND GAS, BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT SOLAR PANELS AND WIND TURBINES ARE NOT PERFECT. WE THINK THE EU SHOULD SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO BETTER, SAFER, AND MORE EFFICIENT ENERGY SOURCES FOR EXAMPLE, IMPROVING THE WAY SOLAR PANELS ARE MADE, OR CRITICALLY THINKING WHERE TO PUT WIND TURBINES. THEY SHOULD ALSO LOOK INTO NEW TYPES OF ENERGY, LIKE HYDROGEN, GEOTHERMAL, AS PART OF THE MIX. WHAT MATTERS MOST IS MAKING ENERGY SYSTEMS THAT ARE TRULY SUSTAINABLE NOT JUST CLEAN WHEN THEY RUN, BUT ALSO FAIR AND SAFE TO MAKE AND RECYCLE.

MAKE TRANSPORT GREENER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE

THE EU SHOULD FOCUS ON MAKING BATTERY RECYCLING SAFER AND DEVELOP NEW STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE LESS HARMFUL. MAYBE IN THE FUTURE, WE'LL USE BETTER BATTERIES OR OTHER ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS THAT DON'T DEPEND ON LITHIUM. FOR NOW, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, CAR-SHARING, AND BIKING SHOULD BE THE FOCUS, NOT JUST REPLACING EVERY PETROL CAR WITH AN ELECTRIC ONE.

PROPOSALS

PROTECT NATURE AND SUPPORT GREEN FARMING

WE THINK EU SHOULD PROTECT FORESTS, WETLANDS, RIVERS, AND WILDLIFE BY CREATING MORE NATURE RESERVES AND STOPPING HARMFUL ACTIVITIES LIKE ILLEGAL LOGGING AND POLLUTION. FARMERS SHOULD GET MORE FINANCIAL HELP TO USE ECO-FRIENDLY METHODS THAT PROTECT THE SOIL AND REDUCE CHEMICALS. YOUNG PEOPLE CAN JOIN LOCAL CLEAN-UP PROJECTS, PLANT TREES, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW FOOD AND NATURE ARE CONNECTED.

TEACH AND INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE

CLIMATE EDUCATION SHOULD BE PART OF EVERY SCHOOL IN EUROPE. EVERYONE NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS HAPPENING AND HOW THEY CAN HELP. THE EU SHOULD ALSO LISTEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE MORE WHEN MAKING CLIMATE POLICIES. WE WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, NOT JUST WATCH OTHERS MAKE DECISIONS FOR US. MORE YOUTH PROGRAMS, EXCHANGES, AND PROJECTS COULD HELP US SHARE IDEAS AND TAKE ACTION TOGETHER.

PROPOSALS

1NATURE IS NOT ALWAYS PART OF CITY PLANNING

THE EU SHOULD ENCOURAGE CITIES TO ADD MORE PARKS, TREES, AND GARDENS TO HELP CLEAN THE AIR. THE EU SHOULD GIVE MORE MONEY AND SUPPORT TO CITIES THAT HAVE MANY PARKS, TREES, AND GREEN SPACES. THIS WOULD ENCOURAGE CITIES TO PLANT MORE TREES AND MAKE MORE PARKS. CITIES WITH MORE GREEN AREAS HELP CLEAN THE AIR AND REDUCE POLLUTION FROM CARS AND BUSES. THE MORE GREEN SPACE A CITY HAS COMPARED TO ITS POLLUTION, THE MORE FUNDING IT SHOULD GET. THIS WAY, CITIES WILL WORK HARDER TO PROTECT NATURE AND MAKE PLACES HEALTHIER FOR PEOPLE.

CONCLUSION

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT JUST A PROBLEM FOR THE FUTURE IT IS ALREADY HERE, AND IT AFFECTS ALL OF US. AS YOUNG PEOPLE, WE WANT LEADERS TO UNDERSTAND THAT OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT THEY DO NOW. EUROPE HAS THE POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY TO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE WORLD. ACTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE CAN ALSO MAKE LIFE BETTER WITH CLEANER AIR, SAFER JOBS, AND HEALTHIER NATURE. WE KNOW THAT NO SOLUTION IS PERFECT, BUT DOING NOTHING IS THE WORST OPTION. THE EU SHOULD INVEST IN FAIR, SMART, AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGES THAT LAST.

WORKING TOGETHER, COUNTRIES CAN FIND A BALANCE BETWEEN PROGRESS AND PROTECTING THE PLANET. YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE A REAL VOICE IN SHAPING THOSE CHOICES. OUR GENERATION IS READY TO HELP BUILD A GREENER AND FAIRER EUROPE. THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

FIFTH RECOMMENDATION



PEACE AND COOPERATION

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

IN A WORLD FULL OF CONFLICTS, POLARIZATION AND GROWING MISTRUST AMONG EVERYONE, IT HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION AMONG YOUNG. YOUTH PLAY A VITAL ROLE AS BRIDGE BUILDERS ACROSS CULTURES NATIONS AND IDEOLOGIES. BY EMPOWERING THEM THROUGH EDUCATION, DIALOGUE AND DIFFERENT INITIATIVES, WE CAN CREATE LASTING FOUNDATIONS FOR PEACEFUL AND BETTER EUROPE.

FOR MAINTAINING STABILITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EU, AS WELL AS HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE AND COOPERATION ARE ESSENTIAL. HOWEVER, RISING POLITICAL TENSIONS AND SOCIAL DIVISIONS THREATEN THESE VALUES.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

THE 2023 GLOBAL PEACE INDEX REPORTED THAT JUST 12 EU COUNTRIES SHOWED IMPROVEMENT REGARDING PEACE AND 25-EXPERIENCED DECLINE. THIS SHOWS THAT WE NEED TO ENGAGE AND INCLUDE YOUNG PEOPLE MORE IN PEACEBUILDING.

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT, YET THEY HOLD THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR RECONCILIATION.

ACCORDING TO EUROBAROMETER, OVER 60 PERCENT OF EUROPEAN YOUTH BELIEVE COOPERATION BETWEEN EU MEMBER STATES IS KEY TO ENSURING PEACE. NEVERTHELESS, MANY FEEL EXCLUDED FROM MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN PEACE RELATED INITIATIVES, EDUCATION SYSTEMS OFTEN FAIL TO PRIORITIZE CONFLICT RESOLUTION CRITICAL THINKING OR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION. MOREOVER, ONLINE SPACES WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE SPEND MOST OF THEIR TIME CAN EITHER UNITE OR DIVIDE. HATE SPEECH AND DISINFORMATION CONTINUE TO SHAPE PUBLIC OPINION, DEEPENING MISTRUST BETWEEN GROUPS.

THEREFORE, THE CHALLENGE IS NOT ONLY POLITICAL BUT ALSO EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL. THE QUESTION IS HOW WE CAN TRANSFORM YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND THEIR WORK INTO A FORCE FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE,


peace

PROPOSALS

CREATE A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF TRAINED YOUTH AMBASSADORS WHO PROMOTE INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE, NON-VIOLENT COMMUNICATION, AND MEDIATION IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES: THIS WOULD EMPOWER YOUNG LEADERS TO SERVE AS ROLE MODELS FOR PEACEBUILDING.

ENCOURAGE EU MEMBER STATES TO INCLUDE PEACE STUDIES, COOPERATION SKILLS, AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION MODULES IN FORMAL EDUCATION: LEARNING TO MANAGE DIFFERENCES CONSTRUCTIVELY SHOULD BECOME A KEY COMPETENCE IN ALL EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

EXPAND ERASMUS+ AND EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS PROGRAMS WITH A STRONGER FOCUS ON CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RECONCILIATION PROJECTS: YOUTH FROM DIVERSE REGIONS (INCLUDING CONFLICT-AFFECTED OR MARGINALIZED AREAS) SHOULD WORK TOGETHER ON SHARED COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

PROPOSALS

1DEVELOP EU SUPPORTED ONLINE SPACES WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES CAN DEBATE, COLLABORATE, AND SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES SAFELY WITHOUT FEAR: THESE PLATFORMS SHOULD PROMOTE TOLERANCE, CRITICAL THINKING, AND DIGITAL LITERACY TO COUNTER ONLINE HATE AND MISINFORMATION.

ORGANIZE AN EU-LEVEL EVENT ONCE A YEAR ON BRINGING TOGETHER YOUNG PEACE MAKERS, NGOS, EDUCATORS, AND POLICYMAKERS: THIS WOULD HIGHLIGHT BEST PRACTICES AND ENSURE YOUTH VOICES INFLUENCE EU PEACE AND FOREIGN POLICY.

CONCLUSION

PEACE AND COOPERATION ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY HELP PEOPLE LIVE TOGETHER WITH RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING. WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO WORK TOGETHER AND LEARN MORE, THEY CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS WITHOUT HATE OR VIOLENCE. THIS BUILDS STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FOR EVERYONE. WE NEED SAFE AND PEACEFUL FUTURE FOR NEXT GENERATIONS.

SIXTH RECOMMENDATION



MORE CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION ARE AMONG THE MOST URGENT CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME. AS YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING ACROSS EUROPE, WE FEEL THAT OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON HOW TODAY'S DECISIONS SHAPE OUR PLANET FOR TOMORROW.

THE EARTH'S CLIMATE IS CHANGING, THE TEMPERATURE IS RISING, EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS ARE GROWING, ECOSYSTEMS ARE UNDER STRESS, AND MANY SPECIES ARE DYING. IF THE ENVIRONMENT SUFFERS, SO DO COMMUNITIES, ECONOMIES AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPIC

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SUCH AS CARBON DIOXIDE AND METHANE ARE CAUSING GLOBAL WARMING. IN THE EUROPEAN UNION, EMISSIONS ARE NOW 37 % BELOW 1990 LEVELS, SHOWING THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, CLIMATE ACTION). HOWEVER, EVEN WITH THAT IMPROVEMENT, THE AVERAGE CARBON FOOTPRINT IN THE EU REMAINS HIGH 10.7 TONNES OF CO_2-EQUIVALENTS PER PERSON IN 2022 (EUROPEAN COMMISSION). SOME SECTORS, ESPECIALLY TRANSPORT, ARE STILL DIFFICULT TO DECARBONIZE, AND EMISSIONS THERE CONTINUE TO RISE IN MANY COUNTRIES (EUROPEAN COMMISSION). AT THE SAME TIME, THE CLIMATE IS ALREADY CHANGING. EUROPE FACES MORE EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS, INCLUDING FLOODS, DROUGHTS, AND HEATWAVES, WHICH DAMAGE PEOPLE'S HEALTH, NATURE, AND INFRASTRUCTURE. ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION SUCH AS LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY, DEFORESTATION, SOIL EROSION, AND POLLUTION INTERACTS WITH CLIMATE CHANGE AND MAKES ITS IMPACTS EVEN WORSE.



PROPOSALS

MAKE ENERGY CLEANER BUT ALSO SMARTER

WE AGREE THAT THE EU NEEDS TO MOVE AWAY FROM COAL, OIL, AND GAS, BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT SOLAR PANELS AND WIND TURBINES ARE NOT PERFECT. WE THINK THE EU SHOULD SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO BETTER, SAFER, AND MORE EFFICIENT ENERGY SOURCES FOR EXAMPLE, IMPROVING THE WAY SOLAR PANELS ARE MADE, OR CRITICALLY THINKING WHERE TO PUT WIND TURBINES. THEY SHOULD ALSO LOOK INTO NEW TYPES OF ENERGY, LIKE HYDROGEN, GEOTHERMAL, AS PART OF THE MIX. WHAT MATTERS MOST IS MAKING ENERGY SYSTEMS THAT ARE TRULY SUSTAINABLE NOT JUST CLEAN WHEN THEY RUN, BUT ALSO FAIR AND SAFE TO MAKE AND RECYCLE.

MAKE TRANSPORT GREENER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE

THE EU SHOULD FOCUS ON MAKING BATTERY RECYCLING SAFER AND DEVELOP NEW STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE LESS HARMFUL. MAYBE IN THE FUTURE, WE'LL USE BETTER BATTERIES OR OTHER ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS THAT DON'T DEPEND ON LITHIUM. FOR NOW, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, CAR-SHARING, AND BIKING SHOULD BE THE FOCUS, NOT JUST REPLACING EVERY PETROL CAR WITH AN ELECTRIC ONE.

CONCLUSION

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT JUST A PROBLEM FOR THE FUTURE IT IS ALREADY HERE, AND IT AFFECTS ALL OF US. AS YOUNG PEOPLE, WE WANT LEADERS TO UNDERSTAND THAT OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT THEY DO NOW. EUROPE HAS THE POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY TO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE WORLD. ACTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE CAN ALSO MAKE LIFE BETTER WITH CLEANER AIR, SAFER JOBS, AND HEALTHIER NATURE. WE KNOW THAT NO SOLUTION IS PERFECT, BUT DOING NOTHING IS THE WORST OPTION. THE EU SHOULD INVEST IN FAIR, SMART, AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGES THAT LAST.

WORKING TOGETHER, COUNTRIES CAN FIND A BALANCE BETWEEN PROGRESS AND PROTECTING THE PLANET. YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE A REAL VOICE IN SHAPING THOSE CHOICES. OUR GENERATION IS READY TO HELP BUILD A GREENER AND FAIRER EUROPE. THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

CONCLUSION

THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT EMERGED FROM THE YOUTH WORK SEAL PROJECT CLEARLY HIGHLIGHT HOW THE CHALLENGES FACING EUROPE REQUIRE AN INTEGRATED, PARTICIPATORY, AND ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH. ISSUES SUCH AS GENDER EQUALITY, THE RECOGNITION OF YOUTH WORK, ACCESS TO INFORMATION, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, PEACE, AND CIVIC EDUCATION CANNOT BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION BUT MUST BE ADDRESSED AS PARTS OF A SINGLE PATH TOWARD A MORE JUST AND RESILIENT SOCIETY.

A CENTRAL ELEMENT RUNNING THROUGH ALL THE PROPOSALS IS THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING POLICIES. ALTHOUGH THE EUROPEAN UNION HAS DEVELOPED ROBUST STRATEGIC FRAMEWORKS IN MANY AREAS, THEIR IMPACT OFTEN REMAINS LIMITED DUE TO INCONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION. IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL TO TRANSLATE THESE STRATEGIES INTO CONCRETE ACTIONS AT THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, PROMOTING GREATER COOPERATION AMONG INSTITUTIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, AND YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

CONCLUSION

THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE EMERGES AS DECISIVE: THEY ARE NOT MERELY BENEFICIARIES OF POLICIES, BUT KEY ACTORS IN BUILDING EUROPE'S FUTURE. INVESTING IN YOUTH WORK, EDUCATION, AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION MEANS STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY, FOSTERING SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND STIMULATING INNOVATION. AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ADEQUATE TOOLS TO NAVIGATE A COMPLEX CONTEXT CHARACTERIZED BY RAPID DIGITAL TRANSFORMATIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES, AND SOCIAL TENSIONS.

THE PROJECT IS REALIZE UNDER THE ACTION 154 YOUTH PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES (KA154-YOU) OF THE ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMME. THE IDEA OF THIS PROJECT IS COMING FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT EXPERIENCES, IN PARTICULAR THE PROJECT "YOUTH WORK SEAL. TAKING THE YOUTH WORK TO THE NEXT LEVEL" WHICH IS EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF IT AND THE DESIRE TO CREATE A PATH OF DIALOGUE, INCLUSION, ENHANCEMENT, AND PROPOSAL THAT, STARTING FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL, CAN ALSO BRING ITS EFFECTS IN THE EUROPEAN SPHERE.

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