European Commission

Civic Engagement

As an EU citizen, it is important to be engaged in political and civic issues, and to participate in elections. Public disaffection may be due to a lack of information, or a feeling that politics is inaccessible to young people. Which of the ideas below are important to you?

Ideas for the future of Europe

- Connect the EU with Youth: Organise events or roadshows to bring the EU to rural and remote areas and hard to reach youngsters.
- Promote critical thinking, and combat fake news and extremism.
- Find a champion and role model for young people who can promote youth rights but who also understands how young people mobilise and engage.
- Make information and news about the EU available through innovative media channels in multiple languages, such as films/series and simulation games.
- Develop creative, experimental, immersive learning experiences, and cultural and arts events. This could help young people to engage with policy issues that affect them, and come up with solutions.
- Introduce votes for 16 year olds and an e-voting system to make voting more attractive for young people across the EU.

Topics young people believe should be a priority for the EU

83% ***compulsory learning*** *about European matters at school*

64% ***participation in elections*** *voted in an election (local, regional or national) in the last 3 years*

23% ***EU news and information*** *should be available through films, series of simulation games in multiple languages*

Source: 2017-2018 Flash Eurobarometer

Next steps...

Want to explore these ideas further and get more involved in the European narrative? These questions may help stimulate your discussions.

How can the EU make it for young people to be involved in the EU issues easier?

Do you feel you belong to Europe? In what ways?

Think about how these topics may impact you and come up with your own ideas – no matter how 'out there' they may seem – to improve Europe for you, for the better, and for the future.

What's your role in the future of Europe?

Education, Youth, Sport and Culture