European Commission

More about Migration, Foreign and Security Policy

Young people across the EU came together to discuss the topics most important for them and ideas for Europe's future. In recent years, Europe has been confronted with large scale migration due to wars, conflicts and poverty worldwide. It has been up to the EU to manage migration and strike a balance between responsibility and solidarity amongst the Member States. However, concerns over migration, foreign and security policy need to be addressed.

Within this topic, freedom of movement was seen as one of the core strengths of the EU but it was the most politically charged topic – although generally people believed that the EU should act as a role model and promote peace through cooperation.

Furthermore, migration and refugees divided opinions as participants called for the EU to stick to its promises of support, and its processes and procedures of redistribution and vetting. However, the vast majority wanted the EU to support refugees and their integration by offering educational projects, language programmes and cultural projects, which would be available to refugees and the population of the host countries.

In this context, extremism and the rise of nationalism/populism were often discussed, which young people believed was due to a disillusionment with politics and politicians. They felt their needs and fears were not addressed and that the media publishes biased stories which aggravates the issue. Thus, dialogue, civic education and the promotion of critical thinking were seen as the means to address these issues.

The infographic focuses on the ideas that arose from the consultations and statistics relating to some of the topics young people believe the EU should prioritise. The next step is to explore the ideas and stimulate discussions based on the information and questions provided.

About the New Narrative for Europe

The New Narrative for Europe aimed to identify a new, encompassing narrative for the EU, accounting for the constant evolution of the continent and addressing Europe's core values of freedom, democracy, human dignity, equality, and respect for human rights.

Education, Youth, Sport and Culture