

## YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Young Europeans are engaged and willing to invest time and effort for a better society. Involving them in policymaking is not just a matter of democracy, it is a matter of making good policy decisions.



7 out of 10 young people (15-24) say that they often or always vote

But there are large national variations and fewer young people voted in the 2024 European elections compared to 2019.

Source: Eurobarometer European Parliament Spring 2023

## Many young people are active in an organisation

The most popular type is:









18%

Youth organisation



17%







Cultural organisation



10%

Environment and climate change organisation



8%

Political organisation





Almost 60% of young Europeans have a positive perception of the EU.

Source: Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy, 2024

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## Young people's expectations on the EU



Reinforce peace, international security and cooperation



Fight poverty and inequalities



Promote human rights, democracy and common EU values



## GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE ON POLICY

From climate change and social inclusion to education and employment, the EU offers multiple ways for young people to voice their views and drive change in society. Many initiatives are being developed or strengthened, here are some examples:



EU Youth Dialogue enables 30 000-50 000 young people to play a role in policymaking during each 18 month period.



Youth Check by the
European Commission
ensures a youth perspective
on relevant EU-level policy
initiatives.



EU Children's Participation Platform offers engagement opportunities to those under 18.



President's Youth Advisory Board will meet for the first time in 2025 to provide advice directly to Eureopean Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen.



Youth Policy Dialogues are held annually with European Commissioners throughout the current mandate of the European Commission.



Youth Ambassadors'
Networks focus on specific
policy areas such as climate
or energy.



European Youth Week is a biennial event that promotes youth engagement, participation and active citizenship.



'Defence of Democracy' package fosters political engagement among young citizens, especially first-time voters, by promoting citizenship education, school election simulations, and youth-friendly campaigns.



Erasmus+ and the European
Solidarity Corps provide
funding and concrete
opportunities for youth
participation and civic
engagement. So far, more than
15 million people, mostly young
people, have benefited.







