

CENTRAL EUROPEAN

YOUTH MANIFESTO



My Resistance
My Democracy

INTRO

During the project **My Resistance – My Democracy**, young people came together from four different European countries (Austria, Italy, Slovenia, and Poland) on the topic of resistance against fascism and democratic transition and collaborated on an international level to create a common manifesto.

At international youth conferences in Bologna and Kraków, they shaped their ideas and created this manifesto. They worked in 10 groups on 7 different topics, and created the following pages full of political ideas to create a better future.

WHY ARE WE HERE, WHY THIS MANIFESTO?

We should remember history, learn from it and prevent it from repeating itself. It's important for the youth to participate in projects related to EU and try to voice their opinions.

We believe young people should have a voice in shaping their future. We're here to change the perception of European institutions on the opinions of young people. Young people have ideas, and they need to be heard!

We are here to defend the ideology of democracy. To fight against discrimination and be more politically active and involved.

We are here because we want to change things. We want to have an impact on the world, because we think that everyone can do so. We are here to think beyond our little world - to think bigger.



CLIMATE CHANGE



- **WE DEMAND AN EFFICIENT** net of public transport that is cheap, or even free, and safe to use with EU funding.
- **WE WANT A BAN** on short flights (less than 1 hour), as it is possible to take the train/bus.
- **PUT A LIMIT** on using mostly renewable energy and help countries transition (with money or help from experts) until 2030. Fossil energy should not be used after 2030.
- **THERE SHOULD BE** greater consequences for companies that have historically polluted the most. Taxes on selling in the EU - to invest in environmental causes, local products, and more ecological companies.
- **REFORESTATION PLAN FOR THE EU:** There should be a (natural) reforestation plan for Europe. Strict consequences should be implemented for countries that do not meet the demands in time (report why, more taxes, get less financial help).

HUMAN RIGHTS

- **MORE FUNDS** for health care and education.
- **EVERY WORKER** should get a sustainable minimum salary.
- **OBLIGATORY LESSONS** of 2 hours every month about human rights, respect, equality, and current problems in schools.
- **PROVIDING SHELTERS** for homeless people in every big city with basic necessities.
- **SUPERVISING TEACHERS** in schools should assist pupils with making their voices heard.



SPARE TIME & CONSUMPTION

- **HIGH-SPEED RAIL** should become an EU matter. Right now, high-speed rail is often good when you're travelling inside of a country (e.g. France, Italy) but it is poorly connected between countries. Making high-speed rail an EU matter along with agreements with Serbia, Switzerland and Norway would solve this issue.
- **REGULATION CAP:** often in technology-related regulations, the time it takes for one to come into effect is unnecessarily long. We should combat this by introducing a limit as to how long they should be able to take to go into effect.
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** In many EU member states, the public transport systems need improvement. To achieve this, we could utilize EU funds for public transport projects as well as subsidies and scholarships for public transport engineers.
- **EXPAND THE PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS** that are already spreading knowledge on the topic i.e. make more of them. For example, non-technology stuff like galleries, parades, exhibitions.

SPARE TIME & CONSUMPTION

- **RESTRICTIONS ON ADVERTISING:** For example, ad time for things that aren't essential for survival (e.g. cars) should have a stricter limit per hour than other things (e.g. food). We can introduce two different limits for ad time (e.g. 9 minutes for essentials and 3 minutes for non-essential things per hour instead of 12 minutes per hour on everything).





EDUCATION

- **THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH:** make teachers more aware of the effects mental health has on the performance of students in school.
- **TEACH LIFE AFTER SCHOOL:** implement specialized classes in the last year for a period of time (taxes, rent, health insurance, ...)
- **A MORE EMPATHETIC SYSTEM:** adding feedback on how to improve grades.
- **TEACH INDEPENDENT THOUGHT:** implement debates in school curriculums.
- **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION:** students should be able to express their opinions anonymously and consult with other students on important matters.
- **FREE TIME:** instead of homework, students should just spend more time in school, and not have any further assignments when they leave.

EDUCATION

- **ACTIVITIES WITH TEACHERS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL:** without talking about school matters, to improve student-teacher relationships.
- **MORE FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS:** repurpose European funds and close the gap between the countries & free transport for students - in high school and universities - by 2025.
- **MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF COURSES:** mandatory critical thinking classes (e.g. *social studies class, politics, etc.*) and creative classes, spending more time/classes in nature + increase/add public transport for schools + more privacy (example: *do not reveal grades in front of the class*).
- **DIFFERENT FORMS OF TEACHING:** education of teachers themselves (European standard) to put more focus on non-formal education and more discussion.

EDUCATION

- **ACTIVITIES WITH TEACHERS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL:** without talking about school matters, to improve student-teacher relationships.
- **MORE FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS:** repurpose European funds and close the gap between the countries & free transport for students - in high school and universities - by 2025.
- **MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF COURSES:** mandatory critical thinking classes (e.g. *social studies class, politics, etc.*) and creative classes, spending more time/classes in nature + increase/add public transport for schools + more privacy (example: *do not reveal grades in front of the class*).
- **DIFFERENT FORMS OF TEACHING:** education of teachers themselves (European standard) to put more focus on non-formal education and more discussion.

EDUCATION

- **RESTRUCTURING EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS** (European standard), more practical lessons for teachers by 2026.
- **OBLIGATORY SEX EDUCATION** for teenagers, more time for sex education, and a more inclusive way of teaching sex education.
- **STOP PRIVATIZATION:** create EU law controlling private schools, rebuild the private system, free schools for everyone by 2035.

MIGRATION


- **EASIER AND FASTER** employment procedures.
- **STANDARDIZATION OF MIGRATION POLICIES** across the whole of the European Union.
- **FREE LANGUAGE COURSES.**
- **A JOINT EUROPEAN** migration policy.
- **ENABLING DUAL CITIZENSHIP** in the EU.
- **BROADER RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION** from third world countries.



MEDIA & INFORMATION

- **WORKSHOPS** for better understanding of social media and safer internet use for all generations, until 2030.
- **CREATE A LAW** for media transparency.
- **SOLVE THE ISSUE** of censorship in the media.
- **MORE SAFETY PROTOCOLS** for the use of personal information.
- **MORE CONTROL** over the darknet.
- **CREATE STRICTER FILTERS** that ban traumatizing content on the internet.
- **INTRODUCE** a new subject in schools about media and information, to be taught by experts in those fields.
- **CREATE A SERIES** of universal laws (valid and accepted in every country) protecting the privacy and security of all citizens and preventing big companies from selling their personal data.

HEALTH CARE

- 
- **CREATING A EUROPEAN MEDICAL BUDGET** by 2030, to improve the quality of the services in the European Union, especially in the poor countries.
 - **CREATE AN EU CENTRAL MEDICAL AGENCY** (as part of the EU health union), that has authority to order medical equipment and medicine, joined for every interested member state, so the price would be reduced, and every member state could afford more medicine and medical equipment *with the same budget* (cutting out the middleman).
 - **LEGALIZED ABORTION UNDER CERTAIN MINIMAL STANDARDS:** safe abortion of non-vital fetuses, psychological help and counseling to make the decision, abortion in case of high risk to the pregnant person, etc.

HUMAN RIGHTS

- **LEGALIZED ABORTION:** create a EU law that makes abortion a fundamental right.
- **EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN:** create a law codifying how women and men should receive equal pay. Fine employers who do not respect the law.
- **FREE HEALTH CARE:** the European Union should finance health care or have member states finance it. Improve the structure of health care with European finances.
- **FREE EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:** the European Union should finance education or have member states finance it. Children should receive textbooks and other educational aids for free.
- **NORMALIZATION OF GENDER DIVERSITY:** create a law legalizing same sex marriage across the EU, as well as protect their rights.

IN CLOSING

We believe that most of our demands will not only benefit a small number of people, or even just ourselves, but a broad range of people in our society – most likely, they will benefit everyone.

WHY DID WE COME TOGETHER?

We are here to meet different people from different countries. To discover more opinions of different people and get to know, what's going on in other countries. We are here to be part of something and know, that we're working for the best. We want to make international connections, share different opinions, and learn from each other.



NEVER GIVE UP.



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

A zesty team of over 80 young individuals from Austria, Italy, Poland and Slovenia.

PROJECT PARTNERS



My Resistance, My Democracy is (co-) Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. The European Union cannot be held responsible for them.