EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

6-9 JUNE 2024

EDUCATIONAL TOOLKIT

#USE YOUR VOTE

ELECTIONS.EUROPA.EU

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PURPOSE OF THIS TOOLKIT

The purpose of this educational toolkit is to provide an easy **access to educational resources** that can help you explain to young people the benefits of the European Union, the role of the European Parliament and **the importance of voting in the European elections.**

STRUCTURE

The toolkit is divided in **6 modules**. Each module has 4 parts: an introduction to the topic, guiding questions in a blue box that you can use to start a conversation with young people, a list of educational resources to support this conversation and a small quiz. Next to each resource you will see the indicated duration.

INTERACTION IS KEY

The resources in this toolkit can be combined freely in such a way as to leave space to young people for **speaking up, bringing an idea, or asking questions**.

To prepare the discussion, it's best to start from the topics that the young people care about. It's also good to think what **concrete outcome** the young person could take after the activity, such as signing up on the elections website to get a voting reminder, joining the together.eu community, talking about the elections with their family and friends, etc. *(see also module 6 – Young people take action)*.

Participatory formats are worth considering to engage effectively with young people, empower them and create a long-lasting impact.

- You can **set-up your discussion in a circle**, so that everyone is at the same level, and they can all see each other. Read more about the circle practice *(English version only)* in the classroom or look on the internet for examples of using the circle practice.
- You can **use the World Café methodology** to organise workshops. Find out more about World Café. *(English version only)*.
- Capture results of workshops using graphic recording techniques.
- A vast range of non-formal education tools can be found on the website of SALTO-YOUTH, the European network of Resource Centres working on EU priority areas within the youth field.

Download the digital version of this toolkit to have access to all the useful links available in this publication.

MODULE 1
WHY VOTE IN THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2024?

The European elections will take place between 6 and 9 June 2024[1]**.** These elections happen every 5 years since 1979. They are the largest transnational democratic exercise worldwide, the only example of citizens from 27 different countries electing together their representatives for one common Parliament.

Voting is always important, be it at local, national or European level. It is an excellent opportunity for citizens to have their say on topics they care about. European elections are not a referendum on the EU; they function in the same way as national elections, being a contest between different viewpoints and proposals – and the more people vote, the more different viewpoints will also be represented in the coming European Parliament, to make sure that Parliament's debates reflect all opinions out there in our European societies.

Like with national elections, European elections are important for two main reasons:

- **The decisions of the European Parliament have a direct and real impact on everybody's lives** (*see Module 3 – How does the EU impact my life?*). And all these decisions start with a vote. Those who do not vote, one could say, live by someone else's decisions – and, yes, in someone else's democracy.

- **Democracy must never be taken for granted**. Building it has been a collective achievement, keeping it strong remains a collective responsibility in which everyone has a role. Democracy should also never be taken as completed. It always can be improved. And the more people vote, the stronger our democracy becomes.

The **future of the European project depends on young people**, their willingness to embrace a European identity and their active engagement in the European political process *(see Module 5 – Becoming an active European citizen)*.

The act of voting as a form of political engagement is vital, and the **reasons why it is important to vote are worth discussing with young people**.

1. You will find on the website of the European elections all the rules you need to know to vote in your country of origin or residence.

Young people might say they want to vote because:

- **They want to stand for democracy:** Democracy starts with the people: they kick things off by voting in the European elections, and the decisions made there affect their lives. If people don't participate, they don't get to shape the future; but beyond that, European Parliamentary democracy loses its strength, and its values lose meaning. The European Parliament constantly pushes to improve democratic rights and ensure the respect of EU values, such as peace, freedom, rule of law, the rights of minorities or gender equality.

- **EU laws have a direct impact on their daily life:** The European Parliament adopts laws that affect directly 447 million people in the EU (gender balance, climate, single market, etc. - *see Module 3 – How does the EU impact my life?*). The vote of young people will decide which Members of the European Parliament will represent them in preparing new laws and will influence the election of the European Commission. These decisions will shape young people's daily life and that of many others.

- **They want to tackle the global challenges** that surround them (climate change, public health, economy and jobs, security and peace, etc.) and that no EU country can tackle successfully on its own. They want to use their vote to set the direction the EU should take on these challenges.

Young people might say they do not want to vote because:

- **They don't know for whom to vote.** Encourage them to find it out by reading the manifestos and programs of the political parties on the Internet, talking to their loved ones, or go to the website elections.europa.eu to find out more about the European Parliament's political groups and what they stand for.

- **They think politics is dirty and do not want to get involved.** Explain that politics is not only an election campaign and fighting politicians. It is also a debate about climate change, sustainable economy, energy sources, the future of work, minimum salaries, and which policies the EU budget will support.

- **They find participating in elections is burdensome.** Point out that voting is just *a few minutes* of their life, which on average lasts 80 years!

- **They are not interested in politics.** Ask if they are interested in the future of their loved ones, their own and of the planet? If so, they are in fact interested in politics.

- **They do not believe their vote counts.** Challenge them! Every vote matters in every election – local government, parliamentary or presidential. In recent elections such as the referendum on Brexit, or the US presidential elections, the difference between the options/candidates was only 2–4 percentage points. Just take the case of Brexit: significantly fewer young people voted in this referendum compared to the older generations, and the option to leave the EU won, to the dismay of young people – so every vote can make a difference.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- When was the first time you voted and why? When will be your next voting opportunity? How would you encourage your friends to vote?
- In the past not everyone could vote: in Europe, women for example obtained their voting rights starting in 1906 up until 1974, and the voting age used to be 21, not 18, until the 1970s. Who can vote is a social convention that evolves over time. While the voting age was lowered to 17 in Greece for the upcoming European elections, 4 countries (Belgium, Germany, Malta, and Austria) lowered it to 16. Do you think it should be lowered in all EU Member States and why?
- When parts of the population are excluded from voting or where people cannot express their opinions freely, what is the impact on the society, notably in terms of rights and representation?
- What are the challenges that cannot be solved by an EU country on its own?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- elections.europa.eu: The website of the European elections explains how elections work, notably with short videos of 1 minute, and provides all relevant information on how to vote. It gives a possibility to sign up to get voting reminders. It will also feature the results of the elections. *(10 minutes)*
- together.eu is a community of people who care about democracy and who want to give it real meaning as the next European elections approach. It connects people from across Europe to meet, share knowledge and learn new skills, all while encouraging others to vote in 2024. Sign up with your youngsters to get involved. *(5–45 minutes)*
- "Art in democracy" pedagogical toolkit: The Art in Democracy toolkit explores the topic of democracy and democratic values through the artwork of contemporary European artists. It proposes an adaptable module on aesthetic and experience-based learning. *(15–60 minutes)*

Access all the resources

QUIZ

1. When will the European elections take place?

- **a.** 6–9 June 2024 *(adapt to your country)*
- **b.** On 9 May as it is Europe day
- **c.** in 2025 only
- **d.** The date is not set yet

2. European elections happen every:

- **a.** 5 years
- **b.** 2 years
- **c.** 7 years
- **d.** 4 years

3. In a democracy,

- **a.** people can freely express opinions
- **b.** decisions are not taken by one person only
- **c.** people can contest decisions they disagree with
- **d.** all the above

(Reply: 1a, 2a, 3d)

MODULE 2
DISINFORMATION

A majority of young people nowadays accesses news on social media, online platforms and through direct messaging. This new form of information gathering also opens doors to disinformation attempts. False rumours, half-truths and deliberate lies designed to deceive people have always been around. However, the wide-spread use of social media has made the phenomenon worse. **Those who create and spread disinformation do it to fool and manipulate people for political or economic aims.** They push their manipulated content via:

- **Bots**: automated accounts that interact on the internet, often pretending to be a real person.
- **Trolls**: people who work to push certain narratives or to bully, distract or confuse the online debate.
- Regular citizens, who are tricked into liking or sharing content, for example because it speaks to their anger or fear; studies show that such **manipulated content has a tendency to travel much faster than factual, reliable content**.

At the same time, the techniques to catch people's attention, confuse them or trick them have gotten more sophisticated. Manipulated videos, photos and sound recordings created with the use of artificial intelligence, so-called **deep fakes**, are for example designed to make recipients think that people have said or done things they did not say or do.

Sometimes disinformation actors seek to increase divisions and polarise the debate. They exploit people's fears to pit different groups against each other and make democratic debate impossible. By undermining the trust in media, institutions and each other, **disinformation discredits and destabilises democracies**. Acting against disinformation is therefore vital to safeguarding democracy.

The EU takes the challenge from disinformation seriously. New laws to tackle disinformation, such as the Digital Services Act, have been adopted by the European Parliament to regulate the online sphere and limit the spread of disinformation.

Everyone can contribute to the fight against disinformation by:

- Familiarising themselves with the topic;
- Being aware of the tools and techniques used to fool people ;
- Taking a pause and thinking twice before liking or sharing content found online;
- Sharing this knowledge with friends and family.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What is disinformation? Why is it a problem – for you as a citizen, for society and for democracy?
- In which ways can disinformation affect elections?
- What is being done by the EU and in our country to tackle disinformation? Who is involved – government, civil society, media, fact-checkers? Find out who is active in our country.
- How can you spot disinformation? What are the signs you should look out for?
- What can you do to help limit the spread of disinformation?
- What should you do if you spot disinformation?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- Disinformation compass "How to spot when news is fake" – an 8-step guide from the European Parliament on how to spot disinformation. *(10 minutes)*
- The EU Democracy in Action' educational toolkit includes an exercise on Media literacy that teaches young people how to identify potentially manipulative content and lets them discuss how to avoid falling for it. *(55 min.)*
- Spot and fight disinformation, this toolkit from the European Commission is comprised of an editable PowerPoint presentation (which includes real life examples and group exercises) and an instruction booklet for teachers. *(45 – 100 minutes)*
- "Guidelines for teachers and educators on tackling disinformation and promoting digital literacy through education and training". These guidelines from the European Commission include practical tips, activity plans, insights on topics and cautionary notes grounded in what works as concerns digital literacy and education and training. *(up to 45 minutes per activity)*
- European digital Media Observatory Hubs – located in all EU countries, they also organise media literacy activities at national or multinational level.
- The website EUvsDisinfo is run by the External Action Service of the European Union to expose pro-Kremlin disinformation and propaganda. It includes a learning platform with useful tools, games, podcasts and other resources to build or strengthen the resilience to disinformation (only available in 13 languages, among which the following EU languages: ES, DE, EN, FR, IT, PL and RO).

QUIZ

1. Disinformation is false or misleading content that:

a. is spread with an intention to deceive
b. is spread to obtain economic or political gain
c. may cause public harm
d. All the above

2. How many EU citizens believe they have been exposed to disinformation at least sometimes over the last seven days?[2]

a. 61%
b. 71%
c. 81%
d. 45%

3. What can you do against disinformation?

a. Stop informing you
b. Like or share information you find online as quickly as possible to avoid being wrongly influenced
c. Be aware of the tools and techniques used to fool you
d. None of the above

2. Eurobarometer Media & News Survey 2022 (April-May 2022) – number combines answers 'sometimes', 'often' and 'very often')

(Reply: 1d, 2a, 3c)

MODULE 3
HOW DOES THE EU IMPACT MY LIFE?

Sometimes it can be difficult to see how many people are impacted by the outcome of the European elections. But the past years have demonstrated over and over again how decisions by the European Parliament directly affect everyone: large countries and small communities, powerful companies and young start-ups, the global and the local. **EU laws tackle most people's priorities:** the environment, security, migration, social policies, consumer rights, economy, rule of law and many more. **Today, every important national topic also has a European angle.**

EU countries have gradually granted powers and responsibilities to the European Union to take decisions in many areas where they have a bigger impact of negotiating weight when working together. Consequently, **around 70% of all national legislation is determined at the EU level**, and the European Parliament is a co-legislator which defends the interests of the European citizens.

The following are some of the different areas that EU law touches upon and where the Parliament made a difference in the past legislature:

- Freedom of movement – possibilities to travel, study and work abroad
  - More budget for the Erasmus+ programme
  - Travel initiative DiscoverEU
  - Free roaming abroad

- Economy and jobs
  - Common standards for decent minimum wages in all EU countries by 2024
  - Equal rights and opportunities for women (wage and management positions)

- Climate policy, nature restauration, clean air (everything that doesn't just „stop" at national borders)
  - Clear objectives to reach climate neutrality by 2050
  - Common charger with USB-Type C port for phones, laptops, and other small electronic devices

- Democratic values, such as freedom of thought or speech
  - Set of rules and principles for social media or artificial intelligence

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- In which areas of your life does the European Union take action? Do you have any concrete examples, close to you, of where the EU impacts your life?
- If the EU wasn't there, what would you miss the most? What is still lacking and should be addressed by the next Members of European Parliament?
- The EU costs on average less than 1€ per day and per person. What can you do with one euro? What could all your friends do together if you would all donate 1€? What should the European Union spend its budget on?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- The European Parliament YouTube channel features 2 minutes videos on the action of the EU on topics such as climate change, human rights, health, or the economy. *(up to 5 minutes)*
- EP Timeline: milestones in the EU's fight for women's rights (video of 2 minutes) followed by a list of actions the EP has taken until 2021 to improve gender equality. *(15 minutes)*
- The educational tool 'Europe@school – Active lessons about the European Union' includes a game on the "EU in our daily lives," with some concrete examples of EU legislation. *(20 minutes)*
- The website What Europe does for me presents in one-page formats concrete examples of what Europe has done, filtered by regions, areas of life and selected policy areas. *(15-60 minutes)*

Access all the resources

QUIZ

1. EU intends to reach climate neutrality by:

- **a.** 2030
- **b.** 2050
- **c.** 2040
- **d.** None of the above

2. When I travel within the EU, I can

- **a.** Use my phone without paying additional charges
- **b.** get medical care under the same conditions as residents
- **c.** if I'm 18, get a free travel pass and local discounts
- **d.** All the above

3. Two of the four statements about the Erasmus+ programme are correct

- **a.** It helps young people to study in their own country.
- **b.** It is only for university students and does not include other ways of learning.
- **c.** It provides opportunities for partnerships amongst schools, universities and organisations from other EU countries.
- **d.** It includes areas such as social care, the environment, culture, youth, sports and development cooperation

(Reply: 1b, 2d, 3c-d)

MODULE 4
WHAT ISTHE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT?

Virtual role Play game

The European Parliament is the only directly elected EU body. Every 5 years, **450 million Europeans voters** choose the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) to represent them. Members work on their behalf, debating, shaping and passing laws on issues central to the daily lives of people. The Parliament:

- defends freedom, equality and the rule of law across the EU
- promotes democracy, fair elections and human rights around the world
- elects the president of the European Commission and makes sure EU institutions are doing their job properly
- controls how the EU's money is spent by deciding together with the EU Member States on the EU budget
- monitors how the EU budget is used by controlling the EU Commission and all EU institutions on their spending.

The European Parliament is the link of citizens to the decisions that matter. It shapes what the European Union is and how it will be in the future. Young people should use their vote to choose the vision that is dearest to them.

The European Parliament has been steadily gaining powers through successive amendments of the European treaties. In 2024, a new generation of young people will have the opportunity to decide who represents them in the European Parliament, a chance that their grandparents did not have, as direct elections to the EP were introduced only in 1979. **In 2024, citizens will elect 720 Members, with each EU country being represented by a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 96 Members.** The Members from different countries and political parties form several political groups united by common aims and visions of Europe.

The work of the European Parliament is spread every month between Brussels and Strasbourg. Law proposals coming from the European Commission are first discussed by one of the **20 parliamentary committees in Brussels**. These committees, composed of a small number of Members and focusing each on different topics and policies, examine the proposals, amend them and vote on them. The proposals, as amended, are then discussed, amended again, and voted on by all Members during **plenary sessions in Strasbourg.**

In their work, Members must respect a Code of Conduct, which sets guiding principles on how to conduct their work with disinterest, integrity, openness, diligence, honesty, accountability and respect for the European Parliament's dignity and reputation. The Code of Conduct was strengthened in 2023.

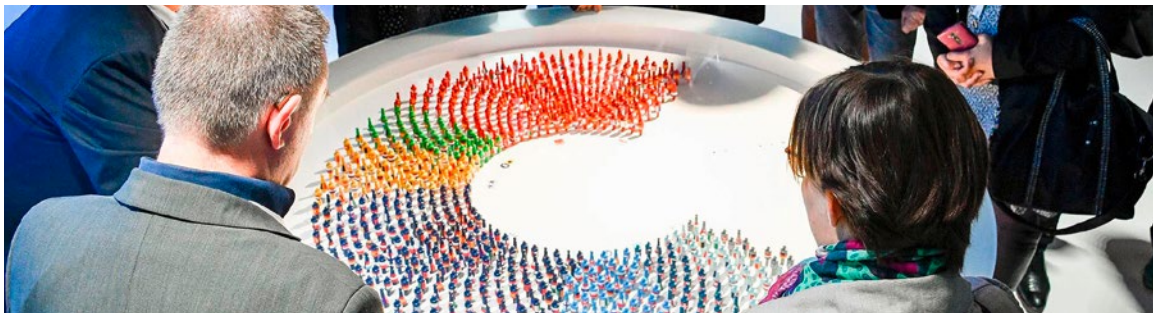
Be an MEP

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Members of European Parliament are EU citizens just like you who engage themselves for shaping the EU of tomorrow. How many does our country have? What are the personal qualities these MEPs should have when representing you?
- Members of the European Parliament sit in different political groups. What are these groups and what differentiates them from one another (notably in terms of ideas)?
- How do Members of European Parliament work? How do they become knowledgeable about all topics they are asked to debate and vote on?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- The animated videos series "How it works" provides explanations about the EU, including answers to questions such as "What powers does the EU have?", "What does the President of the European Parliament do?" or "What is the State of the European Union debate?" *(up to one minute long)*
- Be an MEP is a virtual reality experience that will allow young people to immerse themselves in the role of a Member, from the work in their office to voting in a plenary session. *(10 minutes)*
- Experience the Parliament in 360° is a virtual tour of the Parliament buildings in Brussels and Strasbourg that will allow young people to meet Members of the European Parliament and better understand how they work. *(20 minutes)*
- The together.eu e-learning video "What is the European Parliament and how does it work" explains the basics of the EP and how decision-making process works. *(35 minutes)*
- The European Parliament timeline shows how the Parliament gradually emerged as a key player in the EU decision-making process, highlighting key legislation and challenges. *(15–30 minutes)*
- The virtual role play game, designed for a group of 12 to 40 players, will allow young people to step into the shoes of a Member and experience the whole legislative process and notably how Members of the European Parliament collaborate and make compromises. *(90 minutes)*
- The educational tool "Europe@school - Active lessons about the European Union" also includes a traditional role-play game that will turn your classroom in the European Parliament itself. *(60–120 minutes)*
- The website of the European Parliament features various tools to compare the results of the European elections since 1979, download the data and even play to form a majority in the Parliament once the results of the next elections will be out.
- The House of European History has developed a range of educational resources that informs, challenges, reflects, and allows the questioning and learning of the influential role that history plays in our modern world.



European Parliament Ambassador School Programme (EPAS)

QUIZ

1. The four cities below are the seats of European Institutions, but only one hosts the official seat of the European Parliament:

- **a.** in Brussels, Belgium
- **b.** in Strasbourg, France
- **c.** in Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- **d.** in Frankfurt, Germany

2. How many MEPs will be elected in 2024?

- **a.** 705
- **b.** 751
- **c.** 720
- **d.** None of the above

3. What are the roles of the European Parliament?

- **a.** it elects the president of the European Commission
- **b.** it shapes and passes laws
- **c.** it decides on EU budget
- **d.** all of the above

(Reply: 1b, 2c, 3d)

MODULE 5
BECOMING AN ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZEN

EYE

European elections 2024

Voting in the next European elections between 6 June and 9 June can be young people's first step towards becoming an active European citizen. To facilitate this, they can get informed by:

- Visiting the Elections website at www.elections.europa.eu. It provides information on when and how to vote in each country, and allows signing up to the remind me to vote feature.
- Joining together.eu and getting access to:
  - information on European elections and how they can help spread the word;
  - list of activities and events they can participate in, as well as;
  - learning resources and training on how to spread the information about elections to their family, friends and peers.

Engagement opportunities for young people in the EU

Democratic engagement does not stop with the elections. It accompanies the decision-making process throughout the mandate of the elected representatives. It is about **understanding what is at stake** well enough to make informed decisions. It is about making one's voice heard beyond the act of voting. It is about **spreading the word** and helping **raise awareness about issues** that concern citizens and their future.

There are different ways in which young people can share their ideas and shape the discussions on the future of Europe.

1. The EYE (European Youth Event) brings together at the European Parliament in Strasbourg and online **thousands of young people (16–30 years old) to share and shape their ideas on Europe's future** by interacting, inspiring each other, and exchanging their views with experts, activists, influencers, and decision-makers. Ideas are collected on the website youthideas.eu and during the event and compiled in the Youth Ideas Report distributed to all Members of the European Parliament. Some participants are then able to further develop the most inspiring ideas and present these directly to the MEPs during the EYE Hearing.

2. The Euroscola programme in Strasbourg brings together students from the age of at least 14 years old from all 27 EU countries, applicant countries and the United Kingdom to **debate, take sides, negotiate, amend, vote, and finally adopt resolutions on real European issues**. The students get an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the workings of the European institutions, to discuss democracy, fundamental rights, European values and to express their personal opinions on the decisions taken at the European Union level.

3. Apart from the EYE and Euroscola, the European Parliament's youth offer boasts many other opportunities to get active. You can check it out on the Youth Hub. The Youth Hub is designed exclusively around the needs of young people, with filters that allow users to tailor their search and find the experience they are looking for: **from learning and discovering to networking and debating.**

4. The European Commission, as the only EU Institution who can propose new laws to the European Parliament and EU governments, regularly seeks the **views of citizens and stakeholders when it develops policy and legislation** on the website Have your say.

5. Citizens can also call the European Commission to propose new laws with the European Citizens' Initiative. Once an initiative has reached **1 million signatures**, citizens will have the opportunity to present it at a public hearing at the European Parliament. The Commission will then decide on what action to take.

6. Once a European legislation is implemented, **citizens can also petition the European Parliament** to request an ongoing reality check on the way in which European legislation is implemented and measure the extent to which the European institutions are responding to their concerns. This can be done on the petitions' web portal of the European Parliament or in paper form.

7. Young people can also take part in the EU Youth Dialogue, which is a mechanism between young people and decision makers taking place in the framework of the **EU Youth Strategy**. Until 2027, it will focus on three main core areas **"connect, engage and empower"**. Contact the national contact points to get involved. Their idea could be featured in one of the next resolutions of the Council of the European Union (representing EU governments).

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- You have an idea about a new policy or measure at EU level. How could you present it to the EU?
- You think European legislation is not adequate or not implemented well. Who can you contact to express your concerns?
- You are looking for ways to engage with the European Parliament and support democracy on an ongoing basis. What has the Parliament to offer for young people?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- The animated videos series "How it works" provides explanations about the EU, including answers to questions such as "How can you make your voice heard?" or "How do you shape the EU institutions?".
  (up to one minute long)
- The Youth Hub is a single online gateway to the entire youth offer of the European Parliament.
- The "EU Democracy in Action" educational toolkit encourages students to take an active role in European issues with four interactive lessons on democracy in the EU and the European Citizens' Initiative.
- The European Youth Portal offers European and country level information about opportunities and initiatives that are of interest to young people who are living, learning, and working in Europe.

Access all the resources

Euroscola

QUIZ

1. Together.eu is a platform where people can:

- **a.** look for traineeships and jobs
- **b.** find events and trainings to stand for the European democracy
- **c.** look for funding for projects run by young people
- **d.** meet and connect in pandemic times

2. The right to petition allows EU citizens and residents to:

- **a.** present a complaint or an observation on the application of EU Law
- **b.** request the European Parliament to adopt a position on a specific matter
- **c.** take an active part in the debate of their petition by the relevant parliamentary committee
- **d.** All the above

3. Young European citizens can:

- **a.** call the European Commission to propose new laws
- **b.** have their say about planned European legislation
- **c.** share their ideas for the future of Europe with the Members of the European Parliament
- **d.** All of the above

(Reply: 1b, 2d, 3d)

European Charlemagne Youth Prize

MODULE 6
YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE ACTION

The purpose of the last module is to provide young people with **ideas of actions that they can take** to make a first step towards becoming an active citizens and create the change they want to see.

The ideas presented below are split in 5 sections, depending how much time young people want to dedicate to their actions: 5, 15, 30, 60 minutes or more.

Local EYEs

In 5 minutes

- **Follow the European Parliament on their favourite social media**. The European Parliament is present in Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, LinkedIn, Reddit, Spotify, X and YouTube.
- **Retweet, share on their story, or like and comment on the posts of the European Parliament**. By sharing posts with their networks, young people will help their friends and networks see what the Parliament is up to and help them make an informed decision in the 2024 European elections.
- **Make a story/post about the 2024 European elections with a call to vote**. This could be simply about announcing that there will be elections, with the dates (6–9 June 2024) or focus on a particular area of interest, where the EU should (continue to) take action in the next five years.
- **Sign up on the elections website** to get voting reminders and ensure young people do not forget to use their vote.

- **Register on** together.eu and invite three people they know to do the same.
- **Hang out a European flag** in a visible spot!
- Ask the school to **hang an elections poster** on the billboards.

together.eu

In 15 minutes

- Organise a **crash intervention** of students in another class. The purpose of this 15-minute intervention is to raise awareness of other students about the European elections and to provide them with 2-3 reasons to go to vote and/or encourage their friends and families to vote. While the intervention should be arranged in advance with the educator who will be interrupted that day, it is the surprise element that will make presentations more powerful!
- **Take on the online quizzes** of the European Parliament:
  - The educational tool 'Europe@school – Active lessons about the European Union' also includes an online quiz made of 12 questions (2020)
  - How much do you know about the EU's single market? (2022)
  - How much do you know about human rights in the EU? (2020)
- **Create a quiz on** their favourite online platform with questions on the EU and send it to their friends and families with the hashtag **#EUelections2024** to test their knowledge on the EU. The quiz should ideally end with a call to vote.

In 30 minutes

- **Browse once a week through the** news section of the European Parliament's website to **find out what the European Parliament has worked on** that week. Select one topic and deepen their knowledge on it. Explain it to a friend or a member of family.
- **Visit the website of the MEPs** of your region and find out what they have been active on over the last week. If they have a question on their activity, send them an email.

In an hour or more

- In case young people know civil society organisations, online influencers, or private organisations which would be able to help with the official 2024 European elections campaign, they could:
    - Reach out to them and see if they would be interested in contributing to the defence of the European democracy;
    - Invite them to sign up on together.eu;
    - Contact the European Parliament at youth@europarl.europa.eu.
- If they are in Brussels, **visit the European Parliament's Info Hub**. This new facility has put a vast array of resources and interactive activities at disposal to stimulate the curiosity of visitors: from open-access research materials, to tailor-made

information sessions, topical talks and events, as well as a brand new 'Elections Experience Path' helping citizens to make an informed decision based on what Europe does for them.

- **Request an online Youth Talk** for the school to get the opportunity to learn more about the power, role, and activities of the European Parliament with a 60-minute online presentation and question and answer session adapted to the group's interests.

Visit the European Parliament

In a day or more

Visit the European Parliament. There are many offers for visitors available for free, some of them being open 7 days a week.

In Brussels and Strasbourg:

- **Visit the European Parliament buildings**. They can book individual or group visits on the website VisitEP. The visit to the Hemicycle – the heart of European democracy - often leaves a strong impression on visitors! Booking a one-hour presentation and a Q&A session with a professional speaker on all the 24 official languages is a unique possibility for young people to get closer to the European decision-making process.

- **Visit the Parlamentarium**, an interactive and modern museum for all ages dedicated to European democracy. More than 2 million citizens have already visited it!

In Brussels and online:

- **Visit the House of European History**, located in Brussels that takes visitors on a journey through Europe's past. How did we get here? What did it all mean? Visitors from abroad can also experience the museum online and get a free virtual tour.

Across the European Union:

- If they cannot come to Brussels or Strasbourg, they can visit instead the Europa Experience in the nearest EU capital. **Europa Experience is a multimedia space with** interactive tools that offer visitors a direct and fascinating insight into how the European Parliament works to tackle today's most important challenges.
- The **European Parliament Liaison Offices** (EPLOs) in your country are working in close cooperation with the educators' community. They also run the **European Parliament Ambassador School** (EPAS) **programme** which is designed for secondary schools.

The purpose of this educational toolkit is to provide an easy access to resources that can help you explain to young people the benefits of the European Union, the role of the European Parliament and the importance of voting.

The resources can be combined freely in such a way as to leave space to young people for speaking up, bringing an idea, or asking a question with respect to the European elections.

Sign up now to get voting reminders and ensure you don't forget to use your vote.

European Parliament