Findings
03/05/18 Europe Dialogue

Participation and Politics for young people

key findings

- Political education as a basic element in school curricula
- Increase of political awareness among students
- Constant Dialogue between young people and politicians
- Transparency in decision-making processes by fostering and maintaining communication among all stakeholders

Proposals for Bavaria:
- Implementation of project weeks with main focus on European politics for any type of school
- More time for political education with focus on European politics in Bavarian curricula (all school types). Students should be introduced earlier to the field of social studies.
- Organizing more events to maintain the dialogue between the young generation and policy makers
- Right to vote at 16 in Bavaria

Proposals for Europe:
- The EU should fund educational school projects to raise awareness of European politics among students. (Projects such as trips to Brussels or Strasbourg, simulations at the schools)
- Young people should be given the opportunity to express their opinion on European policy issues via an online feedback platform.
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Voluntary Commitment and Youth Organizations

key findings
- More social and political recognition for voluntary work
- More information on volunteering opportunities for students and young people
- Rise of awareness of benefits of volunteering

Proposals for Bavaria:
- The method of “Service learning“ is a combination of theoretical studying in the classroom and community service to get pragmatic experiences to meet social needs at the same time. Schools should use this method occasionally to point out the importance of voluntary work.
- The age limit of youth leaders should be 14.
- Appointing of voluntary-commissioner at schools to connect students and youth organizations and raise awareness of volunteering opportunities at events, e.g. fairs, projects etc.
- Support for voluntary commitment:
  - tandem-projects with disabled people
  - refugees that have already been integrated can help other refugees to find their way into society.

Proposals for Europe:
- Creating a Volunteer ID that can be used for job applications.
- Establishing a European Voluntary Service. Secondary-and middle schools should be provided with more information about voluntary work in general.
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Environment and Sustainability

key findings

- Exemplary conduct of politicians with regard to sustainability
- Promotion of the consumption of regional products
- Political regulations for consumerist behaviour

Proposals for Bavaria:

- Shop assistants must receive trainings for a better understanding of sustainability.
- Rise of public awareness of the importance of sustainability and the dangers of unrestricted consumerist behaviour.
- School canteens etc. should offer regional products and meals should be served unprocessed.

Proposals for Europe:

- EU-standards have to be enforced.
- Recycling is crucial as even the smallest steps can have significant benefits for the environment.
- Implementation of a seal of quality for the entire production process and possibly a traffic light food labelling system.
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**Education, Training, Job Options**

### Key Findings
- Education that provides students with sufficient general knowledge about Europe (e.g. the concept of the European Union and the role of each state in the European community)
- Equal labour laws for all EU-countries

### Proposals for Bavaria:
- Youth Parliaments can help to enhance political participation among the young generation. Young Europeans should be given the chance to take an active part in decision-making processes at local, national and global levels.
- The EU should promote apprenticeships, provide more information at schools and improve its reputation.
- Implementation of project weeks with main focus on European politics to improve the general knowledge on Europe and the European Union.

### Proposals for Europe:
- Set up of a European law (equal employee protection all across the EU).
- Set up of a European minimum wage.
- Stronger focus on state fundings for apprentices
- Stronger influence of the European Youth Parliament on the political agenda.
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Generation Digital Native

key findings
- Continuous training to improve digital competence
- Criminal prosecution on the Internet
- Digital transformation of the public sector

Proposals for Bavaria:
- Continuous training with experts at schools to enhance digital skills in order to boost key competences for the job market. Thus it is necessary to introduce the students to various programs such as Microsoft Office. They also have to raise awareness of problems such as cyber bullying and the dangers of the Internet.

Proposals for Europe:
- The EU should help to boost entrepreneurship by promoting and funding start-ups.
- Fight cyber-attacks on a European level.
- Criminal prosecution on the Internet
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European Diversity

key findings
- Need for a common European asylum policy
- Better exchange of information: Agencies such as Europol have to be provided with all important information from every member state to ensure the safety of European citizens and to accelerate the process of asylum applications.
- Due to the refugee influx the EU has to encourage its citizens to look beyond cultural differences and for similarities. Intolerance may be a result of a lack of knowledge among the European people. This can only be avoided by sufficiently communicating political steps and by including the citizens in the decision-making process.
- No discrimination due to sex, ethnic background, skin colour or sexual orientation

Proposals for Bavaria:
- More interaction between refugees and the Bavarian people.
- More diversity at schools and nurseries.
- Co-housing schemes to bring old and young generations closer together
- Better training for teachers in the realm of “inclusion in the class room”
- Support projects that focus on bringing young people and people with disabilities together: Festivals or Art projects can give young people the opportunity to interact with handicapped people. Advertise the projects on social media and via several newsletters.

Proposals for Europe:
- A European asylum policy has to be established. Stricter regulations, a European standardized asylum application form and new regulations for the distribution of refugees have to be implemented.
- Implementing of a “Day of Inclusion” to create a better intercultural and social understanding.
- More support for student exchange programs with host families all across Europe regardless of school type (middle, second, high school).
- Free Interrail ticket for school graduates
- More job options for disabled people
- Promotion of the opportunity of a voluntary social year (graduates of any school type should be encouraged to embark on this experience).
Findings
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Mobility and Encounter

key findings

- More cultural encounters in order to support and promote the European identity
- Freedom to travel by improving the mobility in EU countries

Proposals for Bavaria:

- European partner schools should offer more exchange programs. Not only with Germany’s closest partners such as France, Italy and the UK, but with all the 28 States to foster intercultural understanding among the young generations in the Union.
- Improve countryside mobility for instance by providing decent transport options.

Proposals for Europe:

- Europe must play a bigger role in the curricula of all European countries (Europe-week, Europe-day, Europe as a school subject).
- EU Grants for schools to establish new exchange programs.
- Offer of more and cheaper language courses to give a broader range of learners the opportunity to become proficient in a foreign language.
Findings
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European identity and future developments in the EU

key findings

- A standardized European education system
- Further progress in the European Integration is of great importance

Proposals for Bavaria:

- Companies should fund international apprenticeship programs.
- Implementing a Foundation for European Intercultural Understanding
- During the minister of education and cultural affairs conference the Bavarian government should advocate consistent education standards on federal and European level.
- Education in social studies should also focus on European matters.

Proposals for Europe:

- The EU should still be appealing for future candidate countries.
- The European Stability Mechanism has to continue.
- A hard Brexit would set a warning for all member states. The United Kingdom should not be granted a special status outside the European Union.
- EU funding for companies to offer more apprenticeship programs/ dual educational system throughout the European Union following the German example.