

Create European Synergies: A Young Professionals' Proposal on a Curriculum for the Next Generation

There is nothing more important to Europe's future than getting it right for the next generation. We will only be able to continue living in liberty, peace and prosperity if tomorrow's young Europeans have the right skills, the right attitude and the right environment.

At United Europe's Young Professionals Seminar in Helsinki, 26 young Europeans from a wide array of national and professional backgrounds spent two days debating this issue. These are their conclusions on what the European synergies for the next generation should be.

I. Changes in mentality

- 1) Foster a strong sense of solidarity and empathy, of embracing diversity and engaging in critical thinking
- 2) Decide on a new narrative that will allow for a proud co-existence of a national and a European identity.
- 3) Focus on openness for change
- 4) Encourage willingness to take responsibility for European challenges

II. Changes in policy

- 1) Complete the single market and ensure coherent national and European policies
- 2) Improve leadership: one face for Europe
- 3) Create European initiatives, for instance for:
 - Introducing a European Identity Card
 - Introducing an EU travel card and a museum card for young people
 - Agreeing a common immigration policy
 - Promoting our common culture

III. Changes in Education

- 1) Introduce Mandatory bilingual education. Everyone in Europe should be taught part of his or her school lessons in English
 - 2) Teach all school children about our common European culture, religion, history and geography.
 - 3) Introduce exchange programmes at all levels (schools, universities, business, students and teachers). Introduce E-Pals.
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