



MULTIMEDIA MANIFESTO



Introduction

Why this Multimedia Manifesto?

Europe4all Multimedia Manifesto is a set of declarations on issues important to a group of young adults, both local natives and immigrants, from five different EU countries. Co-created to conclude the Erasmus+ Project Europe4All, the Manifesto highlights principles and suggestions for changes in the EU that local groups of young adults believe should be made. As well, it represents a communication tool to contribute our shared concerns, experiences, and visions to the global debate about the role of media in processes of migration.

The Multimedia manifesto is organized around 5 priorities which we think are essential for the building of a more inclusive Europe:



Right of access to all educational levels for everybody



Support migrants and refugees in their integration process, also through a fairer refugees' policy which respects human rights



The environment has to be protected



Equal employment opportunities



Enhance the representative power of the European Parliament: it should be an institution closer to the European Citizens

To define those priorities, each Europe4ALL project partner has worked with a local group of participants to produce a national multimedia manifesto. The six national manifestos are available here.

Project participants who contributed to this text offered their individual reflections on the following four questions:

- 1: In Europe the following aspect works really well
- 2: In Europe the following aspect should be improved
- 3: My proposition to improve this situation is
- 4: My message to the Members of the European Parliament

All contributions have been shared and discussed among partners, who have agreed on the methodology of gathering the information and the suggestions made in the national manifestos. The content of the manifesto presented here does not necessarily reflect the personal opinions of the partners organizing the Europe4All project but rather the opinions of the young adults, both migrants and natives, involved in the project.

Before illustrating the contents of the manifesto, a disclaimer is necessary. At the time of working on the manifesto, we received tragic news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and no political solutions were planned.

Furthermore, on October 21, 2023, the EU decided on a temporary reintroduction of border controls, justified by the “rise of the threat of violence within the EU following the attack on Israel, risk of possible terrorist infiltration, constant migratory pressure by sea and by land, increase in the Central Mediterranean migratory flow; land border with Slovenia.”¹

The statements from the Europe4All participants presented in the Manifesto have been collected between June and September 2023. For this reason, the issues raised do not take into account the situation between Israel and Palestine since October 7, 2023, and the temporary reintroduction of border controls within the EU.

1| Temporary Reintroduction of boarder controls, quoted on November 27th 2023 from:
https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen-borders-and-visa/schengen-area/temporary-reintroduction-border-control_en

5 priorities for a more inclusive Europe



1. Right of access to all educational levels for everybody

The young adults who participated in the production of the national manifestos appreciate the study opportunities that the EU guarantees through the Erasmus programme. They also believe that both natives and immigrants have good access to education and healthcare and may find employment. Fundamental rights are respected, aiming for an inclusive Europe.

Funding opportunities are available for young people and adults for social projects, scholarships for universities, and international internships. Despite these positive aspects, some criticism emerges in all countries, for instance, concerning bureaucracy or the lack of intercultural practices, which may cause some problems in daily life. We have also perceived a general dissatisfaction with the lack of recognition of foreign qualifications.

Our proposals for change

- We demand that the EU promotes education and cultural exchanges, reducing bureaucracy.
- We demand that the recognition of foreign qualifications become easier to ensure that individuals with degrees from other countries can more easily find jobs in their fields in Europe. This would not only benefit skilled immigrants but also contribute to local economies.
- We demand that everyone has access to education and can attend school.
- We demand making education and professional training more accessible to poor people.

These demands reflect the willingness of project partners and participants to make these changes happen.

5 priorities for a more inclusive Europe



2. Support migrants and refugees in their integration process, also through a fairer refugees' policy which respects human rights

For many of our respondents, the freedom of movement in the EU is a fundamental principle and value within the framework of the European way of life. For those who have arrived and settled, living in Europe means being welcomed, and for many migrants, Europe has become a safe home. Nevertheless, integration into Europe's diverse societies is not easy for everybody, and the EU policy on migration and asylum seems not to be compatible with European values. According to our respondents, migrants should receive more help in the EU, also at the national and local levels. Additionally, some of our respondents complained about the lack of a shared migration policy. The life of migrants is better in some countries and worse in others, and it affects especially the youngest migrants.

Our proposals for change

- We demand a change in the current refugee policy, which is costing too many people their lives.
- We demand that the EU promotes the inclusion of migrants, not their assimilation.
- We demand that welfare and the integration of immigrants in Europe become a political priority.
- We demand that the EU encourages inclusive policies, access to healthcare, and education.

5 priorities for a more inclusive Europe



3. The environment should be protected

Participants appreciate that the EU policy has a focus on environmental sustainability practices and international regulations, such as the reduction of plastic materials and awareness campaigns on carbon footprints. What is seen as working well is the protection of biodiversity and the promotion of sustainability and green energy practices, also through the financing of research projects and industrial research.

However, there is some room for improvement in this area, especially regarding the energy transition to renewables.

Our proposals for change

- We demand to foster green and renewable energy in all countries, avoiding nuclear energy.
- We demand to promote local actions to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment in the urban areas.

5 priorities for a more inclusive Europe



4. Equal employment opportunities

Many of those involved in the drafting of the manifesto have settled, live, and work in Europe. Their lives have improved in several aspects, such as education levels and better employment. Despite these improvements, our participants have noticed at various levels that the road to substantial equality is still long, especially for people with fewer opportunities who suffer from a lack of employment inclusion and decent jobs.

How to achieve this goal?

- We demand to promote job trainings for everybody to enable them to get decent work;
- We demand to get easier access to personal documents. Documents should be provided not only to stay in the country the person lives in but also to travel.
- We pay special attention to working conditions and related labour market laws.

5 priorities for a more inclusive Europe



5. Enhance the representative power of the European Parliament: it should be an institution closer to European Citizens

Most of our participants consider Europe their home. The attitude of EU policymakers toward peace and cooperation among its citizens is appreciated. The EU is seen as founded on a solid rule of law, and the division of powers is clear. It makes the institutions work well for the interests of EU countries and citizens. While these elements ensure a solid architecture for the entire EU system, the main challenge is seen in a more active involvement of citizens in EU policies. Participants stress the need to enhance the dialogue between institutions and citizens. The European Parliament, in particular, is often perceived as too removed from citizen concerns, and its procedures are not considered transparent.

How to achieve this goal?

- We demand that the EU promotes the involvement of citizens in the decision-making process of the European Parliament.
- We demand that the EU informs better about the processes of how Europe in general and the European Parliament, in particular, works. This will probably increase - both for locals and the newly-arrived - the identification with what is, in principle and actually in practice, a very open institution.
- We demand that the EU strengthens the dialogue with young people. Because they are not just the future, they are also the present.

The national manifesto's



Greece



Italy



Germany



Austria



Cyprus



The Netherlands

Imprint

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This publication and further publications and tools produced in the project can be downloaded free of charge at : www.europe4all.net

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