

Allianz Summer Academy 2017

Policy Recommendations

Developed by the participating students of the Central European University – Budapest, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität – Munich, Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi – Milano, University Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” – Sofia, Uppsala Universitet – Uppsala.

1. In order to combat the lack of understanding of the European Union, its values, institutions and the benefits of a united Europe, we propose a move towards a “European Civic Education” that does not interfere with national/local curricula, but fosters partnerships with regional/local actors (school districts, schools, teachers, students, parents, local political actors, NGOs).

We want to increase and improve EU presence in schools (best practices: Team Europe Junior (BG), training educators, EU Recommendations on curriculums, EU dimension to school clubs).

With regard to Information and education, we propose practical activities to keep young people close to the European Union and increase their European political understanding, such as creation of Euroclubs, and participation to Model European Union.
2. In order to foster debate in civil society about the values and reach beyond those already interested or participating in this debate, we propose to enhance current and provide new physical spaces for discussions and life-long learning about Europe and direct contact with the EU institutions on a local level.

We want to increase information and physical presence at municipality level by training current local employees to answer questions on EU matters coordinating with existing EU information centers and a municipality website sections on EU matters.
3. We want to increase information about employment opportunities in the EU, targeting unemployed by cooperating with national employment centers and connecting existing information centers to provide support for mobility.
4. With regard to electoral reform, we propose: transnational European Parliament Elections, where people would transnationally vote for MEPs; candidates for European parties, not national parties anymore; and online voting.

5. With regard to Institutional reform, the European Parliament should have the right to initiate legislation and should also have the right to nominate and vote for the President of the Commission.
6. The EU should adopt a directive by which the Member States commit themselves to enlarge access to childcare, progressively reaching universal coverage by 2025; and improving childcare quality.
7. For the next cycle of the EU Cohesion policy (2020-2027) priorities should be: improving digital connectivity; improving quality of education in rural areas; and, conditional on investments in the development of rural areas, establishing schemes of incentives for students and young professionals to locate in rural areas (e.g. rural targeted scholarships).
8. We want to enhance participation of politically passive citizens in civil society, through awareness campaigns and greater visibility in media outlets (e.g. news), support of social activity at the community level and Complementary social inclusion policies.
The EU should establish its own public service broadcaster in order to raise transnational awareness on common European challenges; improve transparency of EU policy actions; and enhance dialogue and common understanding among European citizens.
9. We want to ensure that participation of civil society actors on the European level is inclusive and democratic by advocating for more transparency, pluralism/diversification, such as through the provision of guidelines and feedback mechanisms.