

RE-PHRASING THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

Delivering and (im)proving Europe

In the present reflection period, YEPP is entitled to lead a positive approach on the future. We need to prepare the EU for the future, we have a commitment with the next step, a step towards a stronger Union, a step to be first taken by the citizens. Our task is to defend all the progress that the European Union has brought to our society but at the same time not to close our eyes for the things that are not functioning correctly. We must be honest about the cooperation within the EU Only than the European Society and European Institutions may finally come together in order to face our common future.

Deepening our efforts to communicate what EU is and what it could be, shaping confidence

As one of the largest youth political organisation of Europe, YEPP should assume its responsibility in taken responsibility for the European cooperation. We must speak up, and not in terms we already know. We are surely a very experienced and thoughtful pack, but all of our political legacy would mean nothing if we are not able to "translate" it to young people and reflect in a critical way on our own role in European policy.

To most of the Europeans, the EU is a misty landscape, a bureaucratic chaos in which their daily worries get lost without a trace. This feeling cannot be neglected, by neglecting the feeling of citizens the EU will finally undermine its own legitimacy. At the same time politicians should not attack the EU in a populist way. They have to show leadership and vision.

In that regard the EU is not a goal to reach in it self, but a source and instrument that is more than necessary to face the challenges we meet. As Europeans we can't take European Political Culture for granted. One of the elements in this process is the fact that campaigning and education on national level is essential. Real understanding of what the European Union is about and what the supranational interest is which we share can only be understood if people are educated and thought. In that sense people can make up there minds in how they think about European policy and European cooperation This issue we have to work on it everyday.

Delevering and improving Europa

The EU should now focus on delivering content and good policy for its citizens. This is the only way to strengthen its role and trustworthiness.

Concrete Europe

This should be done by focussing and showing results on;

- 1. subsidiarity (what should the EU do and what not)
- 2. enlargement and neighbourhood policy and strategy (being strict on criteria and open process)
- 3. transparency (open meetings of the European Council on legislative meetings)
- 4. creating jobs for young people

other issues are like justice and how affairs / migration.

The constitutional process and the Convention that headed, it has been hardly understood by Society, but unfortunately, it did not reach this objective. The Treaty was originally intended to unify and simplify legislation, to draft a text in which people from all over Europe could recognise a common spirit. The means were mistaken, the message is not. And we must not forget this. Sometimes it seems European politics have moved from scepticism to fear in the months that followed France's and Netherlands' "NO". Well, we should be the first to fight this new "Euro-fear", for it is far worse than the good-old "Euro-scepticism". The best weapon to face fear is facts.

EU has brought peace, justice, freedom and prosperity. EU changed war into trade, hatred into confidence and isolation into respect. EU should be felt and valued by everyone in Europe for these historical achievements, and not for the past years' mishaps. We are a political organisation, and politics is not only brain-made, but mainly heart-made. That is the challenge we are about to restart. That was the deal we made to the youth of Europe.

Adopted at the YEPP Council, 17th June 2006, Palma de Mallorca