

Cluster A: “United or divided. Is there a way between individualism and collectivism?”

Abstract:

Individualism and Collectivism – two strong words that are somehow united but also divided. Cluster A of the conference “Europe shall hear you” defined these two contradictory terms and determined three different problematic topics which are important for them. Four young ambassadors present in this policy paper their solution and thoughts which have been produced during several discussion rounds and the conversation with an expert, the representative of the European Commission in Tallinn, Mathias Juust.

Communication gap between youth and politicians has been a well discussed topic for many decades. Politicians do not understand the perspective of the younger generation, while youth, which is in many cases overheard, lacks profound political education at school. We propose that a uniform political education system in Europe and more accessible communication platforms between pupils and politicians would be a good start to build a bridge between them.

Lobbying as an influential power in politics has been increasing more and more, as well in local politics as in institutions of the European Union. Although there are regulations and special policies for avoiding lobbying, these are still not effective enough to support transparency and prevent misuse of power behind the

backs of citizens. We suggest that politicians should be controlled stricter for any collaborations with private companies, and for transparency purposes, everything which can influence third parties should be made publicly available.

The Baltic Sea is one of the most important transport ways and has been always used for logistic and travel purposes. Although several steps have already been taken in regard to sustainability of ferry lines and cargo ships, there are still many concerns which need a fast proceeding. In regard to cargo ships, the lack of efficient technology and the cost of the existing one are the biggest problems. In order to solve that, we propose a cooperation between governments, companies and population, each striking from a different angle, so that complete and broad solutions can be offered. As almost all of the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea are in the European Union, this organization is an important factor for the mediation and discussion of this topic, offering a common meeting point for the definition of new policies.

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