

Yvote

Y Vote is a Europe wide campaign designed to encourage young citizens to make informed choices in the European Parliament elections in 2019. This will be reached by improving and developing the knowledge and skills of young people about the elections and the European institutions. We, the Y Vote core team, aim at empowering and motivating young people to participate in society and become involved in democratic processes. These actions will tackle the current low understanding of and information on European institutions, mistrust and apathy and the low voter turnout, especially among young people.

The Y Vote campaign is an AEGEE-Europe project which is supported by the European Youth Forum (YFJ), Young European Federalists (JEF) and Erasmus Student Network (ESN) and European Movement International (EMI), amongst others. Previous editions of the project organised campaigns for the 2009 and 2014 European Parliament elections. The Y Vote project contributes to the current Strategic Plan of AEGEE-Europe, namely the focus areas European Citizenship, Equal Rights, Civic Education and Youth Development.

Founded in 1985, the European Students' Forum, Association des Etats Généraux des Etudiants de l'Europe by full name, is now one of the largest interdisciplinary student associations of the continent. It is a voluntary, non-profit organization that operates without being linked to any political party. AEGEE strives for a democratic, diverse and borderless Europe, which is socially, economically and politically integrated, and values the participation of young people in its construction and development. AEGEE empowers students and young people in Europe to take an active role in society. It creates a space for dialogue and learning opportunities as well as acts as their representative towards decision-makers. Moreover, AEGEE strengthens mutual understanding and brings Europe closer to young people.

A PROJECT BY



SUPPORTED BY



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



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THE Y VOTE PROJECT CONSISTS OF 4 MAIN FIELDS



CONVENTIONS: OUR AGENDA FOR EUROPE

We want to encourage young people to make informed choices at the European Parliament elections and increase their knowledge about topics that are relevant for young Europeans. Therefore, we organise conventions corresponding to the topics of the EU Youth Agenda where participants learn about the functioning of the EU and discuss how to become active in society. As a result of each convention, participants will draft recommendations and discuss them with politicians.



LOCAL ACTIONS - Y VOTE IN YOUR CITY

In all the countries in which citizens can vote in the European Parliament elections and AEGEE is present, Y Vote will be present as well. We want to support local branches of the association to organize discussions, workshops and street actions. These will increase their member's knowledge on the European Union and the upcoming elections. Furthermore, the local actions are going to reach out to young Europeans in their cities and inform them on the importance of voting in the European Parliament elections. Therefore, young people will become actively engaged in discussions about current political topics.



MUNICIPALITIES - HAVE YOU MET YOUR MAYOR?

Europe is formed in cities. To show how much Europe is supported at the local level we want to draft pro-European statements and find at least 100 municipalities who support them. Furthermore, we encourage and empower the AEGEE network to get in contact with local politicians and build long-lasting cooperations.



VOTING GUIDE - DO YOU KNOW HOW TO VOTE?

For the European Parliament elections, every member state uses different voting systems according to their national legislation. This makes it inconvenient for the citizens to find out how to vote, especially if they are currently not living in the country of their citizenship. We believe that young and mobile people need the tools to inform themselves about the European elections and how to vote. In this sense, we have developed an app which provides information on how to vote in different countries, and can be found at www.howtovote.eu.

TIMELINE

November - December 2018: Conventions in Cluj, Passau and Warsaw
February - March 2019: Conventions in Düsseldorf, Tartu, Utrecht & Sofia
April 2018: The Final Conference of Y Vote in Torino
October 2018 - May 2019: Local actions taking place
23 - 25th of May 2019: European Parliament elections