

White Book for the Future of Europe

SPACE
Street Participation
for Active Citizenship
in Europe Project



Municipality of Tiggiano
ITALY



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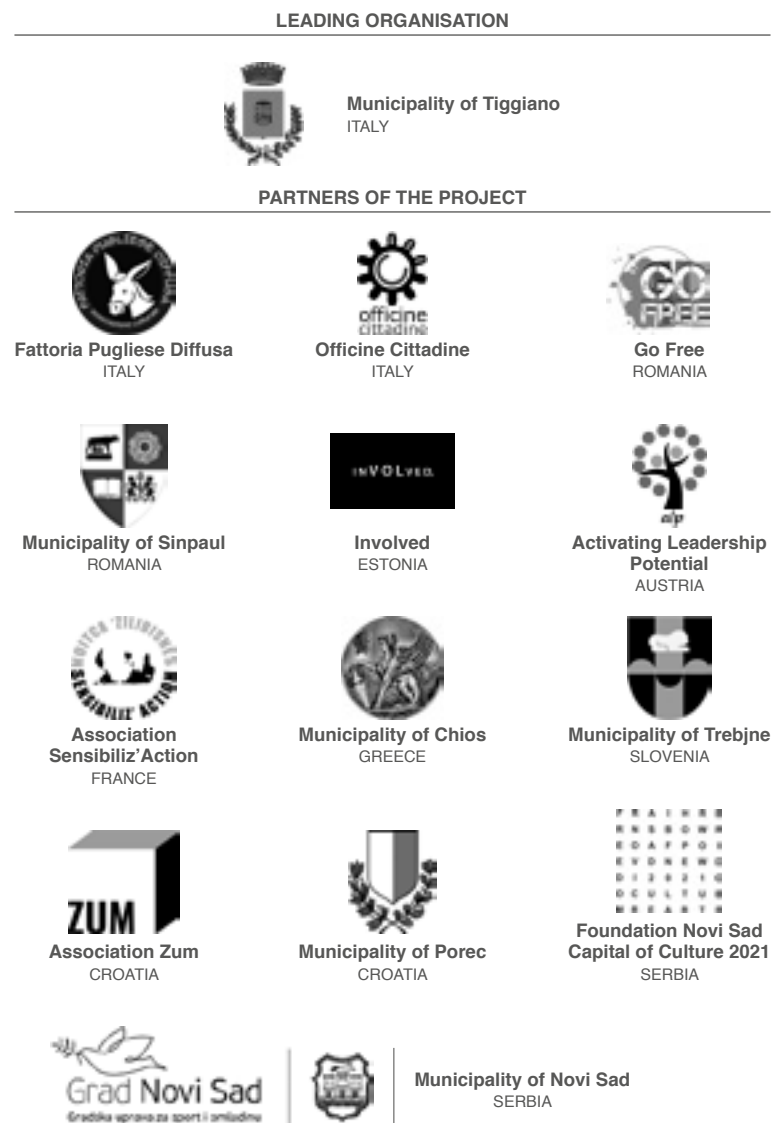
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Actors of the project



Introduction

After each European Elections, the statement is always the same: our European democracy is in crisis. Many European citizens do not participate to the main democratic process of the European Union. To face this fact and bring a positive answer to this challenge a Network of Towns decided in 2017 to create space in the street where citizens could express, exchange and debate about the future of Europe: the SPACE project.

Instead of waiting citizens in the classical European space of democracy, the street facilitators of the SPACE project went to meet citizens where they are, and it's in the street where we can meet a huge diversity of citizens. During two years, 35 street debate had been organised in several European towns: in Tiggiano and Lecce in Italy, Trebjne in Slovenia, Chios in Greece, Cluj and Sinpaul in Romania, Tallinn in Estonia, Vienna in Austria, Pula and Porec in Croatia, Novi Sad in Serbia, Orléans and Marseille in France.

Thousands of European citizens had the opportunity to express their views, share an opinions, propose an idea about Europe, and even more discovered the diversity of thought of the Citizen's Voice and the wealth of the democratic participation.

This White Book for the Future of Europe is not a political program or a collection of revendications, but the expression of the diversity of opinions of Europe Citizens about our future. It contains various recommendations that belong only to the citizen that personally express it.

After hours spent in the street meeting, discussing, listening citizens, the Network of Towns of the SPACE project would like with this "White Book" valorise the Citizen's Voice and testify of the importance of creating democratic space based on the bottom-up approach. Indeed, Europeans citizens have a lot to share and have the will to say their words about the European Union. It is the role of the public authorities and the civil society to propose accessible space where the democracy can be concretely put in practices.

Europe need more space where people can feel citizens. The street debate methodology is part of the democratic answer to empower citizens to contribute and engage for the Future of Europe.

Bastien Fillon (Officine Cittadine)



Presentation of the SPACE project

A last Eurobarometer (European's Engagement in Participatory Democracy) were highlighting the need to empower the active citizenship in Europe. Our democracy model based on representation is in crisis and European citizens do not trust political class. As consequences, many citizens do not participate (concretized by the last EU Elections that saw in 2014 the lowest voter turnout on record) or express their views and opinions on European issues (more than two-thirds of Europeans (67%) say that their voice does not count in the EU).

On one hand, for the citizens of Europe, there are few accessible spaces for citizen's expression and initiatives and the European democratic debate do not integrate and valorise a real plurality of views. In the other hand, the Local Authorities (LAs) and the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have difficulties to reach the citizens to facilitate their participation and they need innovative methods to communicate and inform the citizens about and promote EU tools of participation.

To challenge the citizen's participation issues, a Network of Towns (LAs and CSOs) from 10 EU countries + Neighbouring Countries, usually involved in local democracy, thanks to the 2 years project "SPACE.", is bringing and carrying the European debate in the street, closer to their citizens. This project aims to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at EU level and encourage democratic participation.

The specific objectives of the project are: to create space of expression, debate and exchange for citizens about the future of Europe; to raise the capacities of LA and CSO in new form of citizen's participation; to make the voice of the citizens heard at European level; and to promote the European Tools of Citizens Participation. (ETCP).

Through some innovative methods of social interaction in the public space, 22 participants became "Street Facilitators" and after being adequately trained, they are now acting as multipliers of "Street Debate". During 35 local events, they organized several "Porteurs de paroles", a street workshop that permit a large participation of the citizens. All the views and opinions expressed are carried in a European dimension and citizen's voices is valorised and brought up to the decision makers' level. Thanks to this grass-root stimulation of democracy, the participants are also creating some innovative tools to inform in the street the citizens about the existing European tools of participation.

In total, 35 street debate had been organised in 10 countries: Italy, France, Estonia, Austria, Bosnia, Serbia, Greece, Croazia, Slovenia and Romania.

For these street debate, the Street Facilitators raised three question:

- How important is Europe for you? In order to discuss about the opinions of the Europeans about Europe in general
- What would you change in Europe? In order to discuss about the opinions about the Future of Europe.
- As citizens, how can I change Europe? In order to discuss about the European Tool of Citizens Participation.

In this white book, we have the pleasure to share with all of you some results of our participative democracy process. You can find more information on the Facebook page of our project:

www.facebook.com/streetparticipation



Presentation of Europe for Citizens - Strand Democratic engagement and civic participation

The aim of the Europe for citizens programme is:

- to contribute to citizens' understanding of the EU, its history and diversity;
- to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at EU level;
- to raise awareness of remembrance, common history and values;
- to encourage democratic participation of citizens at EU level, by developing citizens' understanding of the EU policy making-process and, by promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at EU level

The Programme is implemented through two Strands and a horizontal Action Strand 1 – European remembrance: raise awareness of remembrance, common history and values and the Union's aim. Strand 2 – Democratic engagement and civic participation: encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level Horizontal Action.

What is it for?

To foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at EU level

To encourage democratic participation of citizens at EU level

To support concrete participation in the EU policy-making process

More info:

Europe For Citizens: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/europe-for-citizens/>

To debate in the street: the SPACE methodology

One of the main objective of the project was to involve citizens in a participative and democratic process about the future of Europe. To do that, we could decide to organise the classical event such as: debate, movie, workshop in school, roundtable or conferences. However, we noticed that in this kind of event, the public is always “the same”. Indeed most of the time the participants are already convinced or agree with the purpose and finally it is not really a debate but a meeting with friends, relatives and members of other associations.

We also noticed that we were fewer and fewer. Our objective was to stimulate the participation of the citizens in the debate on diversity, so we decided to not wait for them anymore in our “activist space”, but to go where the citizens are. And where can we easily find people?

In the street!

To go where the people are, means in the geographical sense, to move and occupy the street but also in the psychological sense to move to some common fields with the citizens. In that sense, the public space (and not only the street) should be seen as a common space, the one that belongs to all of us.

Our educational work in the street allows us to come in contact, interact with and get closer to a mixed group of people. In the street we're meeting the social, cultural, political, generational diversity of our society. The street allows us in particular to touch a public far from the classical space of participation such as workers, minorities, youth and other marginalised groups. A large part of the population is out of the democratic life and the street education is proposing an alternative space of participation for them.

The agora function

The public space has a physical dimension, but also a philosophical one. It is the space where ideas and debates about society used to rise up, which is called the public opinion. The street education permits to give back to the public space its ancestral social and political function of AGORA.



To question our world with street debate

To re-appropriate the street is an efficient way of fighting individualism, to facilitate intercultural exchanges and to contribute to new social links. The street can become not only a place of movement (more and more privatized) but a space of meeting, sharing where citizens can meet each other and discuss about how the world is going on.

The word carrier, (Porteurs de paroles in French) is a street workshop used by the association Sensibiliz'Action and Diritti a Sud to permit a wider participation of the citizens during some “street debates”.

Make the public talk and listen to the public

The word carrier consists of collecting and exhibiting the words of inhabitants and passers-by. A question is written out in large and then put on a place where it is easy to see it. This question invites people to give their opinion in a given theme. We note down the opinions on panels in the chosen public area or place.

You can find further informations about our street debate in the website of the project (Guideline on Street debate).

WORD CARRIER KIT

Street debate *user instructions*



1 Find a public space where you feel well



2 Choose a question about our society that is accessible to everyone



3 Install the first answers that you collected before among your relatives or neighbours



4 The first passersby arrive, stop, read and you can start the first discussions



5 The exchanges start, between people and the facilitators



6 The facilitators summarise the discussions and write down the answers



7 Write the answer in big letters on the board



8 Hang the boards on the wall of opinions



9 Keep the exchange going until planned



Citizen's Voice: Street debate on “How important is Europe for you?”

12 street debates had been organized in various European towns: Novi Sad (Serbia), Pula (Croatia), Orléans (France), Lecce (Italie), Tallinn (Estonia), Chios (Greece), Sinpaul (Romania), Vienna (Austria), Trebigne (Slovenia). 12 street debates had been organized in various European towns: Novi Sad (Serbia), Pula (Croatia), Orléans (France), Lecce (Italie), Tallinn (Estonia), Chios (Greece), Sinpaul (Romania), Vienna (Austria), Trebigne (Slovenia).

Logically I feel like an European because I live here. For me Europe means place where I live and where I feel safe. Wherever I go people are the same for me – they are people.

Tijana, 15 y.o

From my perspective Europe is an OLD SLEEPY LADY. I have nice memories living in Europe, but not so nice memories about finding jobs.

Sandra, 40 y.o

Europe offers jobs. When there is unemployment in a country, workers can move to another. You can travel freely abroad.

Stasa, 51 y.o

Europe doesn't exist in our everyday life. For example, during the recent fires, there was no help from Europe. There could be a European body to deal with such extraordinary phenomena. Some works are being held but this is not so clear in our everyday life.

Maya, 35 y.o

I do not want this Europe. It should be Europe for the peoples. I want equal rights for everyone and not always the strongest countries as Germany to decide. It is important that there is a union of states, but there should be based on different terms and criteria.

Diamantis, 41 y.o

I feel that Europe offers me protection. I feel more secure in both economic and national security/border issues.

Georgia, 40 y.o

Above all it is important to me as a peace project
Irma, 62 y.o

Europe is the symbol of division, although it sounds paradoxically today, when we have supranational entity such as the EU, which we need to acknowledge as the conglomerate of nations. A hybrid entity that doesn't exist anywhere in the world (at least of such strength and importance). The important question is where the borders of this Europe are. Europe is the continent of culture and blood.

Vladislav, 25 y.o

Of course, there are great inequalities in European countries, but many of them that belong to the European Union take care of their people. Our good times were in late 1980s. Novi Sad deserves to be the European Capital of Culture and to have higher standard. It's pity that young people are leaving the country, it is beautiful here, but we lack economic stability that they can find it in the countries of the European Union.

Pavle, 49 y.o

To me, Europe means, first of all, home and that is why I believe in its importance. I am a European citizen, so I am a part of Europe. Europe is the key for citizens to grow, to educate themselves, to communicate and, in the end, to get to know the rest of the world better and to reciprocate it."

Miruna, 17 y.o

We have to be more integrated in Europe. Serbia is not part of Europe enough, i.e. European values. We only belong to it geographically.

Nevena, 50 y.o

I am not a fan of the EU, I want Europe to keep the different cultures separate

Walter, 61 y.o

This is not my problem, I am from Switzerland

Man, about 45 y.o

Europe is not important. It's all robbery.

Aleksander 37 y.o

Initially I am feeling more as an European citizen, than a citizen of Slovenia.

Nikola 43 y.o

Europe evokes positive connotations in me – in cultural, artistic and technological way. The strive for progress and liberalism are definitely important if we talk about the importance of Europe. However, I also think that Balkan people are separated, in a sense of certain prejudice that people living in the European Union have against people living in the South Europe and Balkans region.

Petar, 36 y.o

For me Europe is important especially because we have common values that we represent. Uniting the nations, and that we have the opportunity to improve and care for common good are those things that make Europe special and I appreciate them the most.

Marina 28 y.o

I see EU as something that I cannot imagine my everyday life without. I think that when we eliminated country borders, we also eliminated borders in our heads. It is important that we are active citizens of our Europe.

Mate 26 y.o

For me, Europe is very important because it is a framework in which we can develop, as a country, by having an economical, political and social collaboration with other countries and because it implies the use of a certain set of values meant to protect democracy and free will."

Ana Maria, 20 y.o

Europe goes beyond geography, it's a state of mind, a set of values, respect and diversity.

Paula 39 y.o

Europe is to me a very important thing because it seems to be easier to meet new people with a very diverse baggage of knowledge and learn from them so many interesting things."

Claudia, 13 y.o

Personally, I really don't care about Europe but the choices that those in power make have an impact on my little life. For example, for pesticides: Europe accepts glyphosate which kills bees and therefore life. That affects me. And I like honey! The real question is: what interests are served by Europe?

Cédric, 37 y.o

It's generational, for me it is important because I was born in the middle of the war. My dad and grandad made war, but I grew up with the premises of Europe and of the Franco-German friendship. In fact, we were getting very angry about that. You should have seen the face of my grandad when I brought my German pen pal to him. But things change and I am happy that my son makes Erasmus rather than war.

Yves, 72 y.o

I am more concerned about mosquito bites than about the fate of Europe, to tell you the truth. For me there is nothing concrete. To make people believe in Europe, it would have to act on our everyday lives. Otherwise, people – and me first - will continue to either not vote or to vote ever more for the right wing.

Dominique, 53 y.o

Europe means the "EUROPEAN DREAM". I know from my parents what communism meant and it's sad that people don't make the difference between past and present. Things are better now! but still there are people who don't know who to blame for...and they blame Europe, like in UK with the Brexit. Nowadays, situation is very different, and I mean in a GOOD way. From start, now you can travel in the world just because you want to discover a new culture and not because you're looking for a job. Europe means economic development, opportunities, freedom of thought and of movement

Aleksandra, 33 y.o.

I think that we have to keep going like that. More Europe, more integration. When things are not going well it's easy to shoot against the others, people use to say "It's because of Europe etc..." but the school of my children received a lot of money from Europe, and it's the same for my municipality, the farmers, the association etc.. We have to explain better the benefit of Europe.

Sergio, 51 y.o

I think that it we could do without. Yes, I don't need to stop at the boarder when I go to see my relative in Germany, but it's the only concrete things that it change in my life. And I go there once a year, so it's not enough to make me forget the negative side of the EU.

Marco, 36 y.o

Europe is our country, so we should take care of it!

Lou, 8 y.o

I don't have a fix opinion about it. I'm born with the Europe, it's part of me, I'm European even if I don't realize it. The first time I understood that I was European it's when I went back in my favourite Chinese restaurant and that I ask to the owner if she recognize me. You know what she answer: sorry but you're all looking like the same you the europeans!

Francesca, 25 y.o

I am French and English. When people ask me which of both I feel the most like, I answer: none. Why? Because I feel European. Europe is the idea of looking beyond national identity and seeing all humans of this continent converging towards the notion that we are all sharers of common ground and values.

Tim, 25 y.o

I think that our grandparents did well to gather and create the EU. Me I'm 20 years old and when I met some others European it's not to fight them as my grand-father did but to enjoy good moment. I just came back from an Erasmus youth exchange and I had a lot of fun. I think that my grandparents would be happy to see that. They create peace and harmony in Europe and I'm proud of that.

Andrea, 20 y.o

From the beginning the Europe had been created and ruled by bankers, rich and powerful people. So I'm not surprised that the only results of EU is a common market. Now the challenge for us, simple citizens is to recover it!

Lucas, 32 y.o



Citizen's Voice: Street debate on “What would you change in Europe?”

In Marseille during the 4th International meeting of the project we prepared a street about the change that citizens would propose for the future of Europe.

These answers had been collected by the SPACE street facilitators in 09 different countries: Austria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Estonia, Slovenia, Greece, France and Italy.

“Achieve the climate goals!”
quote Greta, 16 y.o

More solidarity especially concerning refugees.
Stefan, 27 y.o

More youth in EU decision making bodies.
Gabriela, 58 y.o

More freedom for citizens that means more rights to decide.
Nicole, 24 y.o

Europe it's like the world, the law of the jungle. The weak against the strong, but I myself am like a small hummingbird and I try in my small way to promote solidarity. Be in solidarity it's the only way or one day will be found a scapegoat or someone weaker to blame, such as migrants... as if all problems arrived on a boat from Mediterranean Sea.
Francesca, 42 y.o

I'm more worried about mosquito bites that Europe's future. For me, there's nothing concrete. In order to be credible, Europe should have an impact on our everyday life or people... and so do I... we'll continue not to vote or to vote more and more for a right-wing party.
Roberto, 53 y.o

I think the biggest problem in Europe is corruption, but I think this problem will never be solved because the ordinary people can't fight with the governments and the rich people (who are corrupted)
Valentina, 23 y.o

There is nothing to change in Europe.

Tatev, 24 y.o

Europe is our future and that is why it's important to change and reduce the mistakes made in recent years. "Freedom is participation", used to sing Gaber. Citizens' need change quickly and Europe is not currently able to satisfy them. The institutions should communicate, eradicate themselves from their elite status and face the citizens in public in trying to solve their problems. We must remember that it is the people who make Europe and they need to be part of a common sense by removing the division of social classes which have contributed to impoverish Europe as a union.

Elena, 29 y.o

Nowadays, Europe is managed by money and by lobbies of large multinational companies. The whole thing makes me sick!

We are the ones who choose these people whose policies, both the right and the left, use Europe to soften the situation. We citizens we have to wake up and get in front of this!

Elisa, 26 y.o

I'd change our policies for the reception and integration of refugees. Several southern European countries such as Greece, Italy and Spain cannot manage this alone. Immigration it's a recent thing and has not been accepted yet. Now more than ever is the time for solidarity to combat racism.

Stefano, 35 y.o

To address the problems, Europe should become a single state but that's impossible: there are too many differences!

Luigi, 71 y.o

Europe is very important and can be the driving force of change and of civilization, as it was in the past. Of course, it wasn't always all positive... don't forget the colonization and slavery. The Industrial Revolution changed our lives despite the difficulties. In the same way, a united Europe could lead to a world with solidarity and more durable. For example, people might follow us in the fight against global warming!

Andrea, 29 y.o

I wish there were no differences among people. I'd like to see this Europe as a Union, real union of people and countries able to love each other.

Asya, 21 y.o

I would like to change the slowdown of Economic grow and also high level of unemployment.

Narek, 20 y.o

Freedom and permissiveness are identically the same in Europe, which is challenging and full of a lot of bad consequences.

Anahit, 31 y.o

I would like European people to be more enthusiastic and warm.

Annie, 21 y.o

To make education more qualified and available for everyone, because in some of European countries education is very expensive.

Mane, 20 y.o

I am all for empowering and people rights. I think it doesn't matter how you look, what's your religion or where you from, we need to focus on people's actions and personality and if they are good or bad. Europe needs to start respect people, no matter where they come from or what they are. So the eyes of Europe needs to be changed.

Maria, 25 y.o

Reduce the gap between north and south; Less influence of big countries over smaller ones; More tolerance; Less racism and right wing ideology.

Dimitris, 28 y.o

I would improve the educational system to rise the same high quality standards in every countries and to give equal opportunities to study, wherever you live.

Céline, 18 y.o

Support the culture and languages of minorities.

Murva, 22 y.o

I believe that practically every countries in Europe urgently needs to improve their hospital conditions.

Daniel, 18 y.o

More decision making power to European Parliament.

Anonymous

I would apply the euro as a common currency in all countries and the Parliament should have bigger authorities

Vladan, 35 y.o

Increase the presence of women in EU institutions

Nicole, 20 y.o

Less complexity. Less institutions. Better EU laws and law enforcement.

Flora, 25 y.o

I would change the educational system. I propose that the EU must take care that every town, every village in Europe would have a school. Education it's very important.

Biki, 50 y.o

There are so many unhappy people who live in terrible conditions. The EU wants to let these people like that. This has to change. We are human beings. We are not refugees. We are not immigrants and we have the right to live in normal conditions. The policy toward refugees has to change.

Mina, 40 y.o

It should be done more throughout all years, not just before the elections.

Nejc, 14 y.o

I would change the salary, the cost of life. I think there are a lot of inequalities in Europe. Many people, especially from the poor countries, have to leave behind their families, their home and they have to move to others countries because they can't make enough money to have a normal life.

Giannis, 42 y.o

More facilities for working mothers!!

Maria, 38 y.o

Shift in the competences of the European Commission and European Parliament, rising of salaries in the poorest countries or at least decrease the disparity between salary.

And more visibility for women in important work role, like politics.

Isabel, 21 y.o

I would apply the euro as a common currency in all countries and the Parliament should have bigger authorities

Vladan, 35 y.o

Equal obligations for all EU members in the refugee issue.

Dimitris, 44 y.o

Make efforts to reduce the differences between North and South and take step towards the "Unites States of Europe".

Mirhalis, 45 y.o

As citizen of the Europe, I demand to the EU to have opinions and to decide together for our future. I don't like that only few countries take the decisions and the other must obey to these decisions. Is that democracy?

George, 49 y.o

Instead of raising wages for European politicians, they should raise it for European citizens.

Gaja, 15 y.o

I think that this is pointless and that nothing would change.

Dragoje, 21 y.o

I would like more forest to be planted.

Lenka 10 y.o

I would like to change work hours, to be shorter.

Nada, 71 y.o

I am old to change something, I give it to the youth.

Ljiljana, 72 y.o



Citizen's Voice: Street debate on “As citizen, how can I change Europe?”

With the two first street debates we asked citizens what they were thinking about Europe and the change they were hoping for the future of Europe. For the last one we decided to ask how as citizens they could contribute to the future of Europe

We don't need the magic to change the world: we already have inside us all the power that we need, we have the power to imagine better things that they are now.

Biagio, 24 y.o

As citizens, and not as consumers, I can change the world. As citizens we have rights and duties. We should feel citizens of the world to understand that these rights are universal. To change Europe, we have to put the priority to the human being and give back value to human relations.

David, 36 y.o

I can change everything alone, but I can do these few things:

- 1 To understand with who I should be in solidarity.
- 2 To be in solidarity.
- 3 To understand for what I should fight for.
- 4 To fight for.

Francesco, 34 y.o

I spend my life voting even now that I'm 78 years old. I do believe that it can make a change. When I was born, women couldn't vote. Now that I have the right to be an 100 % citizen I feel the duty to do it. I would like to do more but I'm isolated and now everything is on Internet. It sounds nice for young people but for me it's useless. Now people are discussing and debating with their phones, when I was younger we were spending hours to argue with friends or neighbours. We need to meet each other to make politics that's what we need.

Maria, 78 y.o

I think that as citizens we can not do anything. Only powerful people can change the world. It's the jungle law.

Fabio, 31 y.o

I think that it's in all the small thing of life that we can be citizens. You don't need to be a super "activist" or leader to make a concrete change. In my daily life I try to cooperate and promote positive values. I pay my tax, I recycle and I grow my child in love. It's my contribution.

Angela, 38 y.o

I'm participating to political life through online petition. I don't have time to be part of political party or association. So when I have few minutes at work I became an e-citizens.

Roberto, 34 y.o

We are very good to critic politician but every time we keep going to vote them. But we forget that they are working for us. Me at work if I don't do what my boss want, he use to shoot me and kick my ass. So I do the same with my deputy, I control them, if they go to the working session, what do they vote. And when I'm not happy I contact them to share my views.

Elena, 42 y.o

Me I'm interested in politics as much as politician are interested to me ! I'm young and without a stable job, so I'm not very optimist for my future. Maybe I should make a political career and become minister or deputy. At least I could have a job and probably do something for my peers.

Enrico, 23 y.o

For me to be a responsible citizens start with the work I'm doing. I'm farmer and I grow vegetable in an organic way. I don't want to impact negatively my planet. However It's very difficult to earn money and I'm still depending on my wife income. I hope that one day people will support us and pay the fair price for what they consume. Today consumption is a political act.

Giuseppe, 41 y.o

In my country, I was fighting for more democracy. But because of the harassment and the violence of the police I had to leave everything. Now I'm living in a "democracy" but I can't vote. But I don't give up and I keep going to be active in my association.

Ahmed, 35 y.o

We should go to elections every time.

Igor

It begins in changing ourselves. The leverage to it is the fact that verb is creative. Everything we say with strength and consistency ends up taking shape in reality. It is therefore important to say what you want to see being, including when you make observations from the past. When a group of people has a strong and constant idea, it is called an egregore. Capitalism is an egregore. Another constant thought is: "it's useless, it can't change". It feeds what you want to see disappear. However, it is possible to have a world of respect, sharing etc. When you want to take a shower, you have to get wet! So let's go, strength and consistency to say "it's possible!"

Yvonne, 56 y.o

There's a lot of work to do!

We must change the relationship between people, change the value of market goods and go through exchanges that promote human and environmental well-being. Things that should naturally be taken for granted instead of pushing for individualism, consumption and accumulation of goods, everything that is being done now.

Jérémie, 36 y.o

There are so many things I can do! It involves my way of life, my relationship to consumption and society, but also trying to convince those around me who still believe that solutions will come from the same people who create or participate in problems. So I would say: regain power over myself, over my environment and over the very notion of citizenship.

Bill, 39 y.o

Smile at everyone and all the time. It's really a powerful weapon. Open up to others, demonstrate by example.

Georgia, 33 yo and Gaël, 37 y.o

For example, I don't have a car, when others use it for superfluous things. We must live in a more eco-responsible way, with less packaging and waste, and make our own simple cleaning products instead of buying hyper-chemical products that kill the environment. It's not easy to change your lifestyle, but you can start with a group of people to exchange tips, and it's fun too!

Jérôme, 48 y.o and all his teeth (c'était écrit comme ça)

By taking ecological actions, paying attention to water, consuming locally, and changing jobs!

Arnaud, 36 y.o

In our daily lives to change things, to consume less water because it's going to be a very big problem. We are talking about climate change and it is water that will eventually run out. I'm ready, but for example here: disposable plastic cutlery, disposable plastic plates, disposable plastic cups, in a festival like this, it shouldn't be.

Yves, 66 y.o

As Rockin' Squat says, the solution is individual before it is collective! With your question you will get answers like "go to vote" when it is useless in our "democracies". I am aware of everything: food is shit, the coltan from our smartphones is picked up by 6-year-olds in Gabon, but without your smartphone you don't do anything in our society anymore! I think that if we don't change our habits it's because we're afraid of losing our comfort.

Nicolas, 41 y.o

Everyone can make changes in's own environmental and through that we make changes also in Europe.

Alen

We can't make changes in Europe because whole Europe in being corrupted.

Sebastijan

By taking an active role in an NGO, becoming an official member & contributing to development of an organization that works on a topic you think is important. Volunteering, donating, initiating activities, promoting recognition of organizations is the way everyone can contribute to change Europe for the better!

Anonymous

Europe is our wide spread home. To stay so, we have to preserve it as we wish to have it now in Slovenia - save and peaceful.

Martina

By being open minded, embracing diversity and tolerance and giving example to other around you! By standing in front of racism, homophobia, gender, violence and inequality and fighting against them. You can change Europe by changing yourself, and trigger small changes in your friends & family, whether it is in their habits, their attitude or their vision fo the world.

Anonymous

Of course one can change something. I understand that refugees is important topic now. I know that some people have been imprisoned when they have helped refugees. Maybe something could be changed in this field?

Tairi, 23 y.o

For example, I would create some kind of an employment system in EU where it is not possible to see the nationality of the candidate applying for a job.

Marko, 28 y.o

I would look up to the Scandinavian countries and introduce one ID number for everything you need in the administration.

Martina, 32 y.o

I would like to have a community where young people could not only develop themselves, but also feel that they can stay and contribute at the constant improvement of that community on a long period of time.

Alexandra, 18 y.o

I would start with myself. With our own changes we have the opportunity to change the environment, and therefore the society and the community. Step by step.

Marko, 29 y.o

We (citizens) are the one who must change because those thieves in power will not.

Stjepan, 62 y.o

I would change the meaning of happiness in society.

Ivan, 55 y.o

Smaller groups of people such as local communities should be organised in order to make neighbours cooperate.

Jelena, 41 y.o

Today society looks like a drama movie where everything is going down and there is no happy ending. We need to start change first us, start to change our mentality, opening our minds; accept all shortage of the world and start to change them slowly.

Katarina, 25 y.o

By changing the television programmes and the way we raise our children.

Biljana, 49 y.o

I cannot change my community because I am not a hero. I am just a youngster who wants to get involved in some activities, to mobilize the other youngsters around me to take action and perform their favourite activities, so that all of us build a big youth community where we respect, meet, understand each other and eventually the atmosphere will be great for us

Darius, 14 y.o

I could change the community by including everyone in as many activities as possible and by calling out for youngsters to take action.with me

Georgi, 17 y.o



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