

We, the students of the Europeaness Erasmus+ project, declare that the following demands on cultural diversity are vital for the Europe we want to live in:

Richness of cultures and lifestyles

We demand greater public awareness of the richness of different cultures and lifestyles across Europe. This is important because the diversity of people not only characterizes Europe, but our schools, workplaces, regions and countries. Citizens need to become aware of the diversity that surrounds them and should have the chance to learn about it through public events and forums of exchange.

Education

We demand a greater focus in education on both the preserving of regional cultures and the studying of different points of views from different cultural backgrounds. Education is the key to maintain regional languages and cultures. And it is the key to respect and tolerance and the preservation of peace. Students need to learn more about cultural diversity to thwart prejudices and counter cultural misunderstandings. There could be a school subject on cultural diversity for example, one hour per week, in which students talk about different cultures and lifestyles and do practical projects like cooking and eating food from other countries, listening to and making music together and trying traditions from other parts of the world.

We demand that young people are much more encouraged and enabled to explore the vast amount of cultures we have in Europe. Too many students do not get the chance to see other countries because it is very expensive. The Erasmus+ programme should be further extended to enable student exchanges at an even larger scale on school and university level. There should be cheap or even free interrail tickets for young people to travel across Europe during school holidays or after leaving school so that they can experience other countries and become more open-minded.

Immigration

We demand that immigrants are being welcomed all over Europe. Because it is us that want to be welcomed if we decide to study, or look for work or live in another European country. This is what Freedom of Movement in Europe is about.



Cultural Diversity

We demand that human rights are respected towards immigrants irrespective where they come from. This includes fighting prejudices against immigrants. Refugees seeking shelter in Europe from war or persecution have to be given fast access to education and finding jobs according to their qualifications to enable them to live in dignity and to support their fast integration into our societies.

Diversity of ideas and lifestyles

We demand that the diversity of ideas, opinions, religions and lifestyles is to be preserved and strengthened in Europe on the basis of democracy and freedom of speech. The state should stay neutral in terms of religion and is to fight any discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or people's outer appearance.

We demand that the sexual orientations of LGBTQ+ and their specific lifestyles are fully accepted in our societies because there is still a lot of prejudice about these people and their choices. People should be more informed about this theme and LGBTQ+ people given a larger stage in the media to present themselves as an integral part of our societies. There should be a law in all European countries that every gender can marry another and have children together.