



CULT PREPERATION MODULE

MEP BSR – Copenhagen 2024

Committee Presidents

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Committee on Culture and Education (CULT)

The question of how to motivate young people to participate in political life and set their own agendas.

Content

Opening words from the Committee Presidents	3
The importance of youth participation	4
The situation of youth participation in present day	4
EU's actions and strategies	5
How can the situation be improved?	5
Preparational Work Questions	
6	
Position paper	6
Closing Remarks	6



Opening words from the Committee Presidents

Dear delegates,

First and foremost, we are happy to announce that you were selected to take part in this year's MEP BSR session as members of the Committee on Culture and Education (CULT). *“Participation is an essential element of citizenship in a democratic society and a democratic Europe. Youth participation is not an end in itself, but a means of achieving positive changes in young people's lives and of building a better society.”* (Council of European Youth participation). This is how the Council of Europe describes the importance of Youth participation into society. The question at hand is the one on how to motivate people to participate in political life and set their own agendas. Below, we have provided useful links and sources, enabling you to prepare for a prosperous and fruitful debate. The Fact File provided to you, in combination with the links provided in this Prep Module should be your guide prior, as well as during the session. Your research before the session should be along the lines of the information presented in the aforementioned documents, but we strongly encourage you to explore the topic in your ways in the most depth possible, in order to develop a more well-rounded understanding of our very interesting, yet extraordinarily difficult topic. A great way of doing your own preparation is to research your country's view on how to handle the topic, enabling us as a committee to compare different proposed solutions out of different baseline situations. Throughout the MEPBSR session in Copenhagen, you will be constructing a resolution directed to the European Parliament, hence thorough preparation is a significant criterion for success and cooperation. We encourage you to read and think about problems and solutions within this topic, diving into how youth can be motivated in taking part in political life. Preparational work questions are provided, to help you through your reading. Please note that the material provided comes from multiple sources, including NGOs, IGOs and mainstream news agencies. Be aware that different sources may set up different portrayals of the topic.

Committee Presidents of the CULT Committee,

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The importance of youth participation

Articles:

YIP institute's article on why we need young people in politics:

- <https://yipinstitute.org/article/youth-in-politics-why-its-important-and-why-you-should-get-involved>

League of Women voters: Why do we need young voters

- <https://www.lwv.org/blog/why-we-need-young-voters>

Forbes: Learning the importance of youth vote at the University of Michigan

- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/civcnation/2023/10/10/learning-the-importance-of-the-youth-vote-at-the-university-of-michigan/?sh=3c14b16dffa8>

Video:

Jakhini Bisselink's TEDx Youth talk on why youth participation is key

- https://youtube/tOpqMWj25AE?si=5aM_6ZdVSzXfCQ74

The situation of youth participation in present day

Documents:

Understanding youth engagement in Europe through open data

- <https://data.europa.eu/en/publications/datastories/understanding-youth-engagement-europe-through-open-data>

How young people participate in European politics: An analysis with open data

- <https://datos.gob.es/en/blog/how-young-people-participate-european-politics-analysis-open-data>



Article

Taylor & Francis Online: Youth political participation in the EU: evidence from a cross-national analysis

- <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13676261.2019.1636951>

Video

Euronews video on European elections: How engaged are young people?

- <https://youtu.be/2E4gEDvzJ0k?si=b-lFEX6s3vpYC6NN>

EU's actions and strategies

Documents:

European youth forum's policy library – Youth Participation

- <https://tools.youthforum.org/policy-library/youth-participation/>

EU's Youth Goals

- <https://youth-goals.eu/youthgoals>

EU's Youth Action Plan (YAP)

- https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/youth/youth-action-plan_en

How can the situation be improved?

Articles:

Euronews article: EU elections: Europe's youngest MEP on how to engage young people

- <https://www.euronews.com/2024/01/29/eu-elections-europes-youngest-mep-on-how-to-engage-young-people>



Debating Europe: How can we engage more young people in politics?

- <https://debatingeurope.eu/activity/how-can-we-engage-more-young-people-in-politics/>

ICF: How to light up Switched Off young people disconnected from the EU?

- <https://www.icf.com/insights/engagement/engage-switched-off-young-people-in-eu>

Preparational Work Questions:

- Why is the youth voice needed in politics?
- What problems does a lack of youth participation in European politics cause?
- Are young people engaged enough in European politics?
- What problems does a lack of youth participation in European politics cause?
- What has the EU done for getting young people involved?
- What more can the EU do to get more young people engaged in European politics, while working within its jurisdiction?

Position paper

After you believe that you have done enough research on our topic, we would like you to do a short, about one-page-long position paper. The format is free and we don't want to cause any stress about this. It will not be evaluated in any way. For help, you may use the preparational questions.

Closing Remarks

As your committee presidents, eagerly anticipate crafting a constructive resolution within the CULT Committee. Our primary responsibility is to facilitate your engagement in debates and committee activities within the Model European Parliament. Additionally, we are committed to equipping you with the necessary factual knowledge and formal skills to excel in your roles. We look forward to meeting you all and we hope that all of you will contribute to the committee sessions in an effective and open-minded way, with the goal of creating excellent resolutions and strong relations to your co-delegates.

Best regards,



Baltic Sea Region MEP - Copenhagen

Nuutti Levo (FIN) and Miro Broswitz (GER)