

European Movement International

Conference on the Future of Europe: The European Movement International's recommendations for the Working Group on Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

[European citizens' recommendations](#) from the panel "Stronger economy, social justice and jobs / Education, culture, youth and sport / Digital transformation" envision a Europe that listens to young people's demands and prioritises culture in all its forms and expressions. Echoing that sentiment, and in line with the [Policy Positions](#) adopted by a diverse set of organisations that comprise the European Movement International network¹, these are our recommendations:

- We advocate for continued financial support and participation of all European partners including EEA countries and candidate countries in **student mobility programmes** and the strengthening of existing **educational activities and youth initiatives** such as Erasmus+, the Youth Guarantee, the Skills Agenda and the European Solidarity Corps, as well as ensuring better access to EU funding for youth organisations. (Recommendation 36).
- The improvement of the Key Competences Framework and the European Qualifications Framework could help Member States to adopt a more uniform approach towards **skills development** by creating a shared understanding of competences and qualifications, while allowing them to tailor programmes to country-specific needs (Recommendation 3).
- **Bringing the EU into schools and universities** should be part of regular education programmes and include information about available e-democracy tools. It is crucial to **foster digital competencies** and media

¹ The European Movement is the largest pan-European network of pro-European organisations. It is present in over 30 countries and encompasses 38 pan-European networks, bringing together European civil society, employers, trade unions, NGOs, political parties, local authorities and academia.

literacy in schools to encourage active e-citizenship participation early on (Recommendation 24).

- The EU should work towards **strengthening the role of youth participation in policymaking** and addressing the issue of intergenerational justice.
- Lowering the **voting age to 16** could strengthen the representation of young people in decision-making forums.
- Education should not only focus on cognitive and transversal skills, but also on **civic education** aimed at fostering responsible citizens.
- We call on the Member States to adopt a **certified minimum standard of education in core subjects** commencing in primary school. This is to ensure that all citizens have **equal access to a standard quality of education**, securing fairness and equality and defending the right to quality and inclusive education, training and life-long learning in order to maintain and acquire skills that empower them to participate fully in society and manage successful transitions in the labour market (Recommendation 37).