

CONFRONTATIONS



EUROPE

SOLIDARITY TOUR 2019

MANIFIESTO

CONFRONTATIONS EUROPE

SOLIDARITY
TOUR



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Abstract

Con el apoyo del programa [“Europa con los Ciudadanos” de la Comisión Europea](#), Confrontations Europe realizó el Solidarity Tour a lo largo del año 2019.

Este proyecto reunió a cerca de 50 jóvenes participantes alemanes, belgas, franceses, griegos, húngaros, polacos, serbios y checos en seminarios que tuvieron lugar en 6 ciudades europeas (Lille, Varsovia, Praga, Budapest, Atenas y Belgrado), y un centenar de participantes en la conferencia final organizada en la Cité Internationale Universitaire en París.

Mediante seminarios participativos e interculturales y talleres, estos jóvenes participantes de diversos perfiles – teniendo un reducido conocimiento sobre materias europeas la mayoría de ellos, y a veces procedentes de entornos desfavorecidos – intercambiaron y **presentaron recomendaciones** en distintas temáticas europeas (integración en el mercado laboral, educación, asilo y migración, movilidad, participación democrática, el futuro de la UE, ampliación...). También presentaron estas recomendaciones a responsables de toma de decisiones a nivel local, nacional y europeo que asistieron a los seminarios¹.

Estos encuentros se han dedicado a dar la posibilidad a gente joven de expresarse, especialmente a los jóvenes con poco conocimiento sobre materias europeas, y con menos oportunidades en lo referente a su trasfondo educativo o profesional. Abrir a estas personas jóvenes a Europa y darles una voz ha implicado permitirles conocer e intercambiar con jóvenes procedentes de otros países europeos, para confrontar sus experiencias concretas (p. ej. en materia de educación, aprendizaje, movilidad o integración en el mercado laboral) y darles la posibilidad de que sus voces sean escuchadas frente a responsables de toma de decisiones y partes interesadas.

Nuestro proyecto estaba dirigido a jóvenes ciudadanos europeos, ya fueran estudiantes, aprendices, jóvenes trabajadores o en búsqueda de empleo. El objetivo del Solidarity Tour era reunir un gran panel y una diversidad de trasfondos² – incluidos perfiles menos favorecidos – con tendencia a alimentar la reflexión y compartir experiencias. Frente al ascenso de los extremismos y el Euroescepticismo, la fuerza que nos une es la consciencia de un destino común y la voluntad de ocupar el lugar que nos corresponde en la sociedad civil europea y dentro de la construcción de la UE.

Más ampliamente, nuestro proyecto se marca como objetivos a los responsables de toma de decisiones, a todos los niveles. Actores decisorios a nivel local, nacional y europeo, representantes de las instituciones y de la sociedad civil europea asistieron a los seminarios del Solidarity Tour y fueron (y seguirán siendo) invitados a reaccionar sobre la base del trabajo y las recomendaciones de la gente joven.

Todo el trabajo realizado por los participantes jóvenes ha conducido a la publicación del siguiente **manifiesto**, que reúne sus recomendaciones en diferentes ámbitos temáticos debatidos durante el Tour, y que será difundido hacia los responsables de la toma de decisiones y organizaciones de la sociedad civil.

¹ Los programas detallados de los seminarios (ciudades, temas de los talleres, ponentes, visitas culturales...) están disponibles en [la página web de Confrontations Europe](#).

² Las biografías de los participantes están incluidas en la guía metodológica publicada por Confrontations Europe tras el proyecto, disponible en [la página web de Confrontations Europe](#).

Recommendations

The main recommendations expressed by the young participants are gathered in the four following “chapters”:

- Integration in the labour market and social Europe;
- Regional and international mobility;
- Asylum and immigration;
- Democracy, values of the European Union and enlargement.

These recommendations were issued by the young participants themselves, within participative workshops in the different cities of the Tour. Confrontations Europe compiled and published them to valorize their work and bring their messages towards decision-makers.

1. Integration in the labour market and social Europe

- Make **social** (minimum wage, social security, weekly working hours...) and **fiscal** (company tax) **standards converge** in Europe in order to **reduce inequalities between European workers** and **fight against social and fiscal dumping** between the member states.
- Make **education and training programmes match with the labour market’s realities and the employers’ expectations**, for example with increasing the share of practical traineeships in comparison with theoretical classes.
- **Promote apprenticeship, vocational and technical education**, especially in sectors suffering from labour shortage, and so where young people have employment and career perspectives.
- Make the **remuneration of practical traineeships** compulsory, as not paying trainees creates inequalities.
- **Promote volunteer experience** in schools and towards the recruiters, by developing national and European volunteer programmes and informing better on existing ones (e.g. European Solidarity Corps, European Voluntary Service, national civil service programmes, volunteer work within associations and NGOs...).
- Develop **awareness campaigns to fight against discriminations** targeting certain minorities or nationalities, especially regarding their access to the labour market.

2. Regional and international mobility

- **Expand Erasmus+** beyond universities, especially to vocational students and apprentices.
- **Better include rural and periphery areas in** their access to study, training and job opportunities, for example through the organisation of study, career and mobility fairs, and through the development of public transportation in these areas.
- Developing **foreign language learning** at school.

- Diversify and increase **mobility scholarships**, to allow more young people to benefit from an international exchange, including for traineeships and apprenticeships.

3. Asylum and immigration

- Build an **asylum and immigration policy managed at the European level**, with a fair and equal distribution of asylum seekers between the member states.
- Ensure the **respect of human rights** and **decent living and hygiene conditions** in the migrant detention centres.
- Ensure the **safety of unaccompanied minors and vulnerable persons** (e.g. women, disabled people), especially through decent accommodation and support (e.g. in specialised shelters) and by separating them from the adults within retention centres.
- Develop **integration through education for migrant children and teenagers** within the host country's public schools, **train teachers** to accompany these pupils, and plan adapted **language support**.
- Develop **integration through education, training and employment** for adult asylum seekers, and plan adapted **language support**.
- Provide for meeting centres between migrants and locals, to improve **mutual understanding and dialogue**, and foster the **cultural and social insertion** of newcomers.
- **Fasten and simplify asylum procedures**, to facilitate the integration of asylum seekers, shorten the time spent in retention centres or in the street, and relieve first-entry countries such as Greece.

4. Democracy, values of the European Union and enlargement

- Develop, in all EU member states, European **civic education courses**, in both primary and secondary school, to provide the citizens with knowledge on the functioning and the values of the EU, and on the history of European integration.
- Develop an **independent European media**, accessible in all member states and their languages, to inform the citizens on European news and on the other member states' news, explain the EU's functioning, inform on the European elections...

Purpose: Developing a **feeling of European belonging and citizenship**, and thus giving (young) citizens incentives to **vote in the European elections**.

- Impose **democratic standards and respect of the EU's values**, not only for candidate countries but also for the member states, and take concrete sanctions against the member states infringing these rules.
- Promote **regional cooperation**, in particular in the Balkans, in parallel to the process of EU membership (e.g. Serbia, North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo).

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