

Debate questions on EU values

citizen[★]*2*

1. What do you think are the core values of the European Union, and do they reflect the values of young people today?

2. Is democracy in the EU under threat? If so, what are the biggest risks?

3. Should the EU be more active in enforcing democratic principles in member states, or should national governments decide for themselves?

4. How do you think the EU should respond when a member state violates EU values, such as media freedom or judicial independence?

5. Do you feel that European democracy is too bureaucratic, or does it effectively represent citizens?

6. Do young people in the EU feel connected to European democracy, or is it too distant from their daily lives? What would you do to improve it?

7. What would make young people more engaged in EU politics—better education, digital tools, or something else?

8. How do you see the role of social media in shaping young Europeans' political opinions? Does it strengthen or weaken democracy?

9. Should voting in European Parliament elections be made mandatory for young people to boost participation?

10. Would you support giving 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote in European elections, as some countries already do? Why or why not?



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11. How well do you think the Charter of Fundamental Rights protects freedoms such as privacy, free speech, and equality?

13. Should the EU impose financial penalties on governments that violate citizens' fundamental rights, or is that too harsh?

15. As it is, does the EU regulate the digital space too much, as Mark Zuckerberg has pointed out?

12. What threats do you see to fundamental rights in Europe today—state surveillance, disinformation, populism, or something else?

14. How can the EU ensure that the Charter is respected in digital spaces, such as social media and AI regulation?

17. If a country refuses to uphold fundamental EU values, should it lose its right to vote in EU decision-making? Should the EU adopt an exclusion mechanism? How democratic do you think this could be?

16. Should EU member states have the freedom to interpret EU values differently, or should there be a strict, common standard?

18. Could the EU's focus on democracy and human rights ever create tensions with cultural traditions in certain member states? How should the EU navigate this?

