Debate questions on EU security and defence

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1. What does the rise of global tensions mean for the European Union's role in security, and how should the EU balance its defence capabilities with its diplomatic ambitions?

2. Is the idea of a European Army more a dream or a necessity? Can the EU realistically create an independent military force without risking NATO's relevance?

3. Why should young people care about defence and security policies when their primary concerns often focus on issues like education, employment, and climate change?

4. What role do education and awareness play in helping young people understand the complexity of defence and security, and how can this engagement be promoted?

5. How might young Europeans feel the impacts of European defence policies through rising military spending, and what alternative priorities could they push for in defence spending?

6. How does the Strategic Compass guide the EU's approach to collective defence, and does it truly offer a clear path forward or just a well-meaning but vague blueprint?

7. Does the reliance on NATO compromise the EU's ability to act autonomously in matters of security and defence? Should Europe be more self-reliant in military terms?

8. Should the EU prioritize economic and humanitarian goals over military spending, or is a strong defence infrastructure essential for its future stability and influence?

9. How can the EU balance the needs of member states with different defence priorities, especially when some are neutral or non-aligned, like Ireland or Austria?

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10. If the EU were to create its own army, how would it navigate the complex landscape of national sovereignty and the diverse political cultures across its member states?

11. What impact would a fully independent EU army have on relations with major global powers like the U.S. or Russia, and could it create tensions or foster new alliances?

12. How should the EU address the rising challenges posed by external threats such as terrorism, climate change, and hybrid warfare within the framework of its security and defence policies?

13. Could an EU army contribute to European youth feeling a sense of shared European identity and responsibility, or would it be viewed as a relic of a Cold War-era mentality?

14. Should the EU focus on defence innovation, such as drone warfare and artificial intelligence, as part of its strategy to stay competitive in a rapidly evolving global security environment?

15. How can young people influence the shaping of security policies to reflect their values, such as sustainability, human rights, and social justice, without compromising national or European security?

16. With the increasing presence of cyber threats and digital warfare, how does the security of young people's online lives connect to broader national defence concerns?

17. In an era of rising nationalism and populism, what can young Europeans do to advocate for a collective European defence that prioritizes unity over division?

18. What could young people do to ensure that European defence policies are shaped in ways that reflect the values of future generations, particularly in terms of ethics, diplomacy, and long-term security?

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