

Young People as Change Agents of the Future – The Future Begins Now

Economic crisis:
unemployment,
high living costs

Environmental
questions:
climate change,
air pollution

Immigration
policy:
refugee situation

Inequality,
injustice,
discrimination

Global changes:
wars, EU
integration, US
presidential
election

Education system

Technology
development

Health, aging,
wellbeing,
superbacteria

WORRIES

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Who owns the future?

Will humankind change more
in the next 30 years than in
the past 300?

Ageing population: young people
cannot cope with the future
challenges on their own. Everyone
must take action. How do we solve the
value conflicts between generations?

Young people shouldn't take the future as given, they should make it themselves

Not for young people but with young people!

1) Participation included in the education system

Educating children to participation should be started in early age. There should be a variety of ways to participate both at school and in leisure time. Children should learn debating and critical thinking at school. Children should also learn how to express their opinions and how to have constructive dialogue with others.

2) Change of attitudes and culture

Let's do it together: not for young people but with young people! Adults must see that young people are a useful and productive resource to be taken seriously, not a problem to be tackled. We must recognize wrong attitudes and discrimination and get rid of them. Teachers and other adults working with young people, together with the young, should develop new forms of participation and influence. The old democracy tools need to be reformed.

3) The law should facilitate young people's participation

Actions to promote young people's participation and youth councils should be laid down by law. There should be local youth councils in every Nordic country to bring together young people of different ages, backgrounds and regions. Youth councils must represent all kinds of young people.

Young people!
Be aware, use your
voice and be active!

Democracy is for
everyone, also
the young!