



International Youth Panel Position Paper

Perspectives on research findings and recommendation from the CATCH-EyoU project

Comment and recommendation on the Blue Paper – Putting Europe together: which Europe and what youth in the media today

CATCH-EyoU International Youth Panel
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The aim of this position paper is to provide recommendations from the International Youth Panel (IYP) members on the results of WP5 Blue paper. This document reflects the views of the IYP members on the results of the WP5 that was aimed to define a comparative cross-national quantitative and qualitative analysis on the media representation of the EU, but also trying to integrate the conclusions and the recommendations provided through the research with some further suggestions and thoughts on what young people and the European institutions should do to increase and to implement their visibility and dissemination through the media from the perspective of young people with a significant experience with youth organizations. All the IYP members are involved with youth organizations active on a European level or they have had a significant experience in the National Youth Councils. All the recommendations contained here are addressed to journalists, policy makers, teachers and researchers, opinion leader and relevant stakeholders and are intended to complement those provided by the researchers of the consortium.



Recommendation #1

European Institutions could share more their work and agenda by new Media like Twitter, Facebook and others. Moreover, they should create a forum were the citizen could discuss and present suggestions about various EU policies.

Recommendation #2

In order to avoid the democratic deficit, which is aggravated by the national media reporting the EU news from the national point of view, thus increasing the strengths and weaknesses of each country, the European Institutions should have a EU programme in any European television palimpsest to communicate and inform citizens, specially youth, about measures and opportunities.

Recommendation #3

The European Institutions could include and give more visibility to work of political representatives of all member countries, in order to reduce the perception of "democratic deficit" and decrease the news where EU appears like an abstract entity. It is essential that all democratically elected political parties within the European Institutions ensure greater communication and dissemination of the policy agenda with their national parties.

Recommendation #4

Whereas it will be young people to decide the future, we should enable them to think about all the situations that may involve their future and not limit youth to issues related to youth unemployment and education. The process of involvement young people, such as the "structured dialogue" should be further promoted through the European and national media, on social media and television campaigns dedicated both to the opportunity for dialogue that the results produced.

Recommendation #5

Taking into account that the EU is made up of countries with different economies and different social vulnerabilities, the strategies for improving living conditions, greater involvement and approach of young people as European citizens should be adapted to every country. The positive image of young people and their capacity to be entrepreneurs must be stimulated through direct dialogue and recognition of the European Institutions.