

# Consultation on the Future of Europe

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

Get involved in this consultation to express your concerns, hopes and expectations about the future of the EU. This is not about drafting EU rules and regulations. This is about making your voice heard by EU leaders to help them steer the right priorities for the years ahead. This questionnaire was created by a Panel of citizens selected on a random basis. It complements other initiatives from the European Commission on the Future of Europe.

## 1

What decisions taken at European Union level would make you prouder of belonging to the Union?

*5000 character(s) maximum*

We need a more Social & Sustainable Europe, in order to grant our Economic & Social Rights, as stated in the Charter of Fundamental Rights & the European Social Charter, Pillar of Social Rights the SDGs.

To achieve this the EU needs to embrace a transformative EU model, which sees the economy as the servant of achieving environmental & social standards & rights.

For EAPN to be prouder of being part of the EU, the EU must ensure:

- An ambitious EU poverty target translated into binding national targets, monitored through EU processes including the European Semester.
- An integrated, rights-based EU & National antipoverty strategy, which builds on the Active Inclusion approach – personalized support through inclusive labour markets, adequate minimum income & social protection & access to quality services.
- A new approach to macroeconomic policies – to ensure that growth benefits all, & economic policy is shaped as an instrument to promote well-being, reduce poverty & inequality.
- A priority to reducing inequality – particularly of income & wealth, by supporting fairer distribution & redistribution policies
- Effective & adequate guaranteed income standards that serves all households that are currently without resources (implementing the 2008 Active Inclusion Recommendation): MINIMUM INCOME SCHEMES to ensure an adequate income for a dignified life, throughout the life course. A benchmark for adequacy should be the 60% at risk of poverty threshold, underpinned by reference budgets which calculate the price of a necessary basket of goods & services for each country.
- Social Protection systems for all, beyond employment. A commitment is needed to ensure adequate protection across the life course for all regardless of their employment situation, to cover sickness benefits,

unemployment & pensions.

- Access to quality public services, with investment in universal services that can guarantee rights & social standards particularly – a universal, free healthcare system for all, education & lifelong long learning, social housing, affordable energy & transport.
- Supportive, pathway approaches to inclusive employment & quality jobs, rooted in the circumstances of the individual & featuring strong ownership of the beneficiary, in line with the Active Inclusion Recommendation (2008), promoting inclusive labour markets & actively fighting discrimination on all grounds.
- A commitment to quality & sustainability of work & employment, including living wages & an end to precarious contracts, with a concrete strategy to combat in-work poverty & ensure dignified lives for those who can work.
- Decent pensions, which provide a good standard of living, with universal healthcare & long-term care. This implies the elimination of the current gender & ethnic pay & pension gap;
- Implementing the 2013 Commission Recommendation on Investing in Children through a 3-pillar approach – investing in adequate resources (adequate wages or income support) access to quality services, & participation for children & their families.
- Extensive investment in quality & inclusive education, training & lifelong learning for all throughout the lifecycle, beginning with early childhood education & care, ensuring that education is a true path out of poverty & that it enables both the acquisition of skills that lead to decent jobs, as well as broader personal development & active citizenship.
- Attention to the most vulnerable groups, looking at the intersectionality of poverty, including a vigorous fight against all kinds of discrimination, not least based on socio-economic background
- An investment in affordable social housing & affordable private housing to ensure this fundamental right, tackle housing exclusion & to eradicate homelessness (as recommended in the 2013 Social Investment Package); A social & sustainable win-win can be achieved by investing in energy efficient social housing, which can reduce energy consumption as well as reduce energy poverty.
- A set of comprehensive affirmative actions, in all areas, to eradicate gender inequality (as established in different EU Directives on Equal Rights between men & women &, of course, the 2009 Lisbon Treaty); Specific action to close the gender pay & pension gap & to ensure better work/life balance between men & women.
- Fairer, more progressive taxes which can help to reduce inequality & adequately finance welfare states. This should include progressive income tax, wealth, inheritance & property taxes, avoiding regressive consumption taxes, & tackling tax havens & tax avoidance.
- A rejection of Austerity measures, as a means of fiscal consolidation, recognizing the tremendous social & economic costs, with a commitment to defending the European Social Model & investing in a new welfare/well-being state.

Q1. Which of the following would best describe the ideal future for the European Union?

*at most 3 choice(s)*

- Increase in organic agriculture
- A high level of security
- Reduction in food waste
- A real government for the entire European Union
- Fair and equal access to education for all across Europe
- Equal wages for the same job across the European Union
- Gender equality established everywhere
- A minimum level of guaranteed healthcare in all countries of the European Union

- Increased use of renewable energies
- A guaranteed minimum pension across the European Union

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

- A Europe of social values – democracy & participation, social justice, social rights, solidarity & sustainability.
- A poverty free Europe. EU macroeconomic policies must be reoriented to promote human rights, tackle inequality & poverty, & promote wellbeing.
- A Europe which commits to social investment in strong social protection systems & quality jobs & services, particularly public services, rather than austerity.
- A Europe which redefines its tax systems to enable this - this commitment to social investment must be funded by increased & more progressive tax revenues throughout Europe, allowing stronger wealth redistribution.
- A Europe of strong social protection systems, including decent Minimum Income schemes to ensure an adequate income for a dignified life. This means well-designed Minimum Income Schemes: guaranteeing income support for everybody who needs it, for as long as they need it, enough to live a life in dignity & fully participate in society, adapted to the cost of living in every European country. Universal social protection, which covers everybody against all risks, beyond those who are employed & throughout their lives.
- A Europe which guarantees universal access to affordable quality services, including universal, affordable education, healthcare & housing.
- A Europe which supports inclusive labour markets & employment policies, promoting personalised approaches that lead to quality & sustainable jobs with living wages, for those who can work.
- A Europe which truly implements its political commitments to fight poverty & social exclusion – notably the SDGs & the European Pillar of Social Rights. Key to this is a new consensus for a rights-based integrated European Strategy to fight poverty & inequality (based on an Active Inclusion approach with 3 key areas – minimum income / social protection, access to quality services, access to quality jobs) supported by coherent macroeconomic policies.
- A Europe which ensures meaningful space for the participation of civil society & of people experiencing poverty, which improves democracy, governance transparency & trust of EU citizens in building a positive & sustainable Europe.

## 2

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Q2. To improve each of the following areas, would you prefer to have more, or less, harmonisation between European Union countries? Or would you prefer to keep the current situation?

|                               | More harmonisation               | The same              | Less harmonisation    |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Quality of goods and services | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Pensions                      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Education                     | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Consumer protection           | <input type="radio"/>            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

|                               |                                  |                       |                       |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Animal welfare                | <input type="radio"/>            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Minimum social benefits       | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Privacy and data protection   | <input type="radio"/>            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Taxation                      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Food safety                   | <input type="radio"/>            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Environmental standards       | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Quality of agricultural goods | <input type="radio"/>            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Wages                         | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

### 3

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Q3. On immigration in Europe, what should now be prioritised for the benefit of Europeans in 20 years' time?

*at most 3 choice(s)*

- Reinforce controls at European Union borders to make sure people arriving do not represent a threat
- Impose strict limits on the arrival of new people
- Reinforce collaboration between EU countries in managing migration
- Fight illegal immigration
- Improve the situation in the countries where migrants come from
- Create a real Border Guard Corps at European Union level
- Welcome all people who need to come into Europe
- Develop a real common asylum policy
- Help to integrate migrants in the countries which are hosting them

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

#### Strengthening protection for human rights

1. Prioritising an integrated, rights-based approach to tackling poverty & social exclusion which ensures access to quality services, secure & quality jobs, & social protection for all;
2. Strengthening equality legislation to prevent discrimination in services & rights on grounds of residency status;
3. Recognition & implementation of existing fundamental rights & international rights treaties; recognition of issues specific to migrants in the delivery of the European Pillar of Social Rights & inclusion in the goals & actions under the European Semester & Europe 2020;

#### Universal access to quality services, jobs, income security & community infrastructure

4. Ensuring access to quality, affordable services, quality jobs, income security & community infrastructure services for all, regardless of their residence status;
5. Providing legal certainty to social service providers so that they can support all service users, including undocumented migrants, without fear of legal or political repercussions;

#### Investing in specific integration supports for migrants

6. Investing in a substantial Europe-wide programme of specific integration supports for migrants in partnership with NGOs & community organisations. This should invest in areas such as language training, for community development, cultural & social orientation & targeted supports in housing & other services. This should be funded from central EU funds & should be additional to current social & regional spending;
7. Inclusion of issues & measures specific to migrants in the delivery of the European Pillar of Social Rights & in the goals & actions under the European Semester & post Europe 2020 strategy

#### Protecting the most vulnerable migrants

8. Carrying out a vulnerability assessment in relation to all migrants & awareness raising for service providers around the different challenges facing different groups;
9. Implementing a gender audit of all policies which affect migrants so as to ensure appropriate changes;
10. Strengthening Europe-wide policies to support migrant children, including unaccompanied minors;
11. Implementing a European approach to supporting people in the aftermath of trauma, including mental health interventions & counselling;

#### Upholding the right to protection under international law & ensuring safe & regular routes to Europe

12. Removing detention from all migration policy & investment in alternatives;
13. Ensuring that human rights are central to the development & implementation of migration policies;
14. Fully implementing the Geneva Convention & promoting a fair migration strategy, which offers legitimate routes to Europe & respects human rights;
15. Refraining from forcing refugees & migrants to go to a country where they do not have access to effective protection & are exposed to a real risk of human rights violations;
16. Setting up human rights impact assessments linked to funding instruments & genuine partnerships with civil society. Both EU & its member states should also consider the development of a human rights monitoring & accountability mechanism, mitigating the risks of external migration policies;
17. Carrying out a programme of regularisation of the status of undocumented workers so that they can contribute fully to the economy & society;

#### Supporting global anti-poverty & human rights initiatives to reduce forced migration

18. Committing fully to promoting development & anti-poverty goals across the world in line with EU member states' commitments under the Sustainable Development goals 2015-2030;

#### Ensuring a genuine voice & participation for migrants in decisions which affect their lives

19. Dedicating resources to outreach & listening to make sure that the diversity of immigrant needs & interests is reflected in design & delivery of policies & supports;
20. Encouraging & funding migrant-led organisations & give them a genuine voice in decisions which will affect their lives;
21. Investing in community development across migrant communities & the broader communities where they live & build inter-community dialogue, understanding & anti-racist & diversity training;

Q4. From the following list, what should be prioritised in Europe to protect the environment?

*at most 3 choice(s)*

- Invest in more environmentally-friendly forms of transport (public transport, bicycles ...)
- Increase recycling and waste sorting
- Protect biodiversity
- Develop renewable energies
- Reduce food waste
- Set stricter environmental norms for industry
- Preserve natural resources
- Reduce energy consumption
- Deal with technological and electronic waste (mobile phones, etc)

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

- Delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the principles & Sustainable Development Goals: Leaving no one behind, living within Europe's fair share of our planetary boundaries, & putting respect for human rights at the core of EU & national policy-making.
- The full implementation of the Paris Agreement by decarbonizing our economy, enhancing energy efficiency & accelerating the just & sustainable transition to clean & affordable renewable energy, based on the principles of climate justice, in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C.
- The recognition of the Right to affordable Energy for all, implementing 3 pillar strategies to fight energy poverty by raising income, reducing prices & energy consumption, outlawing cut-offs & increasing access to affordable clean energy including through community energy schemes.
- Development of the energy sector in accordance with the Energy Union priorities, including security of energy supply, & the commitments taken under the agenda 2030 & the Paris Agreement, in particular through:
  1. expansion of the generation, supply or use of clean & sustainable renewable energy;
  2. energy efficient & energy savings (with a focus on reducing dem& trough dem&-side management & the refurbishment of buildings), particularly social housing ensuring that improvements benefits low income households & costs are not passed onto them in the form of higher rents;
  3. development, smartening & modernization of sustainable energy infrastructure (transmission & distribution level, storage technologies);
  4. production & supply of synthetic fuels from renewable/carbon-neutral sources; alternative fuels;
  5. carbon capture & storage infrastructure.

Q5. How could education and training be improved in Europe?

*5000 character(s) maximum*

Education, Training, & Life-Long Learning: Everyone has the equal right to quality & inclusive education, training & life-long learning, to maintain & acquire skills to participate in society & manage successfully transitions in labour market. Second-chance education opportunities should be available & be accompanied by income support measures, while segregation & discrimination must be actively combatted. Education should be a right, highlighting quality & inclusiveness, & not linking it exclusively to the labour market. The concept of 'inclusiveness' should ensure equal access (i.e. including for disadvantaged groups, e.g. ethnic minorities – Roma children, & people in rural areas. Equal opportunities should be granted among rural & urban areas, & with economic support for those families with children facing economic difficulties, in order to break the circle of poverty. 1. Don't abandon policy efforts towards ensuring quality, inclusive, accessible education, training & lifelong learning, just because Europe 2020 targets are on track

Policy initiatives should be aimed at the continuous improvement of outcomes for all, rather than being mere bureaucratic instruments aimed at the artificial achievement of numerical targets. The Pillar of Social Rights should provide renewed energy & a promising guidance in actions dealing with education & social policies.

2. Tackle the roots of poor educational performance, including early school-leaving, by looking at education, training & lifelong learning in a holistic approach. Look behind each child & adult to understand their socio-economic background & challenge a complex reality of poverty, hardship, discrimination & exclusion. Such an approach would address well-being in a wider sense, & make links to reducing poverty & ensuring social inclusion & equal opportunities, especially for key groups facing difficulties, & for children living in poverty.

3. Remove financial & other obstacles faced by vulnerable groups & people in poverty in accessing education, training, & lifelong learning. Governments must do more to establish integrated measures, invest in adequate income, outreach, & wrap-around support for pupils, students, & families at risk of poverty, exclusion & segregation. 4. Promote inclusive & universal public education, ending discrimination & segregation & ensuring nobody is left behind. Back equal opportunities to education & life-long learning for all, by ensuring universal & inclusive public education services. Combat segregation & discrimination in the schooling system, as well as bullying, by adopting pro-active measures to ensure gender equality & support vulnerable groups (ethnic minorities, Roma, people with disabilities, migrants, people facing poverty etc) towards equal educational opportunities & outcomes. 5. Education is more than responding to employers' needs, & training provided to jobseekers must lead to a real path out of poverty. Adopt a comprehensive vision of education & lifelong learning that goes beyond the needs of the labour market, & ensure access for both workers & jobseekers to relevant upskilling that takes into account both personal & market needs & which leads to sustainable, quality jobs, & not to underemployment. 6. Support people's right to access education throughout the lifecycle, by providing the necessary support & second-chance opportunities. Ensure universal access to adult education, including second chance schools & other catch-up mechanisms, particularly those facing multiple obstacles, & reinforce quality & inclusive lifelong learning, by supporting informal / non-formal learning approaches, aimed at personal & community development, & recognising their value.

7. Tackle digital divide in access to education & ensure that people in vulnerable situation can reap the full potential of the digital revolution. Access to technology is a human right which governments need to guarantee, & a basic need, given the increased use of online media in education, training & lifelong learning provision. Improving both digital literacy and access is key. 8. Reverse cuts to education systems & restore adequate education funding. Fiscal consolidation has undermined the quality, availability, & affordability of education, particularly programmes reaching disadvantaged groups. Adequate public investment is needed to rollback these effects. 9. Put forward comprehensive education, training, & lifelong learning strategies, rooted in a rights-based, anti-poverty approach. Break cycle of disadvantage by tackling poverty of children & their families, as a prerequisite for better educational outcomes, & integrate anti-poverty goals in educational policies & budgets. 10. Support ownership & participation in educational systems which promote human dignity, active citizenship, & strong democracies. Put learner at heart of educational experiences, support partnership approaches between learners, families, NGOs, education providers, & Govt's

Q6. What should be the priorities for the EU to make life safer for its citizens?

*at most 2 choice(s)*

- Better control of external borders
- Combatting terrorism and radicalisation
- More cooperation between countries in defence policy
- Tackling cyber crime

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

Q7. On reducing inequalities, what areas do you think the European Union should prioritise?

*5000 character(s) maximum*



- Reprogramming European macroeconomic policies to promote human rights, tackle inequality & poverty & guarantee well-being.
- Reducing income inequality by adopting an EU framework for living minimum wages at the level of 60% of the average wage, reducing the wage gap between higher paid executives, including considering a maximum wage, & increasing the wage share.
- Guaranteeing minimum income for all, through an EU framework Directive, which can ensure that everybody is taken out of poverty, above the 60% poverty threshold & linked to reference budgets of goods & services.
- Propose regulations to reduce the wage gap between high paid executives & low paid workers, particularly with new precarious forms of work & rebalancing the wage share. Redistributing income & wealth through progressive, fairer tax policies & other systems & investing in robust.
- Increasing tax revenues– we need more 'progressive' taxation, we need to see the adoption of an EU wide Financial Transaction Tax, & effective EU regulation to better tackle tax avoidance & evasion against tax havens & to ensure a level playing field on corporation tax.
- Implementing political commitments like the SDGs, which would meaningfully tackle inequality, specifically SDG10 & the principle of 'Leave No-One Behind'
- Agreeing & implementing integrated strategies to tackle poverty & inequality - which should include ensuring an adequate income from quality work or income support/social protection, reducing the wage gap between the wealthy & the working poor, redefining our tax systems, increasing tax on wealth, capital & profits of the richest companies & individuals, & implementing progressive tax systems that ensures each company & individual pays their fair share of taxes, & tackling tax secrecy, tax havens & illicit financial flows that allow billions of dollars of tax dodging each year, strangling public budgets needed to fund vital public services & pushing people into poverty.
- Tackling gender inequality, notably:
  - a) Cease gender discrimination of women in the labour market & in the institutions due to their attributed gender role in society.
  - b) Increase female labour participation & the economic independence of women.
  - c) Eliminate gender pay, earnings & pension gaps & thus fighting poverty among women.
  - d) Sanction any discrimination process against women.
  - e) Combat gender-based violence, protect & support victims.
  - f) Support maternity & child-caring as a key role in society, if this is a free decision made by women, particularly those dealing with the Social Services system.
  - g) Provide reconciliation measures for both parents.
  - h) Promote equality in decision-making within households.
  - i) Support single parent households.
  - j) Target specific anti-poverty measures to specific vulnerable groups of women, such as trafficking victims, refugees, & ethnic minorities.
  - k) Promoting the direct voice & participation of people facing gender discrimination, poverty & social exclusion.

## 8

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Q8. What do you think should be done to improve access to healthcare for all Europeans?

*at most 2 choice(s)*

- More research on health
- More medical staff in rural areas
- More physicians/doctors

- More affordable medical treatments
- More medical establishments
- More money allocated to healthcare

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

Provision of affordable quality universal public health services is vital to ensure a longer & a healthier life for all, to prevent growing poverty & inequality but also to promote more inclusive & sustainable growth. The social & economic costs of reduced access, directly impact on employment, as well as social inclusion, & impact negatively on growth. Reduced access to key public services & social protection are a key social determinant in increasing inequalities in health, & generating poverty & social exclusion.

National level: •Increase investments/expenditure in public health services taking account of growing needs. Investments should be made in prevention, as well as primary, specialist & mental health/therapeutic care. The healthcare budget should be supported by increased tax revenue through tax justice. •Promote accessibility to quality health (access, affordability, coverage, quality). Healthcare should be not just affordable but free at the point of entry, for all aspects – i.e. optical & dental treatment, but also mental health care. In terms of coverage every essential service should be included, including the link to long-term health care. The quality of care must be considered in terms of reducing waiting times & increasing geographical accessibility & proximity of services. Further privatization should be considered carefully due to increasing costs & decreasing quality, & its role in increasing inequality. •Avoid stigmatization: In many countries with insurance-based schemes, there is a “third party pay” system: people who have access to this system only have to pay the amount of money left after deduction of the reimbursement of the insurance. However, people have to ask for this themselves, which is stigmatizing & some doctors refuse. The right should be generalized & destigmatized. Higher health compensation is part of our social protection system, & makes it possible for people with low incomes to have access to affordable health care. •Tackle the social determinants of health: Growing inequality in health & in access to health services is a major challenge. Poverty & social exclusion is a major social determinant of health outcomes & cause of growing health inequalities. Key factors include the quality of employment, social protection & services. Investment in these areas is crucial to ensure better & more equal health for all as well as reduce poverty & inequality.

•Implement the SDGs & the European Pillar of Social Rights

EU level: •The EU should create an adequate framework to guarantee the right to affordable universal, quality health & care services for all, covering all essential health & care services (including prevention, primary, hospital & specialist care, dental, mental health, long-term care & the cost of medicines). • Specific priority should be given to universal, free, or affordable public health services at the point of entry & to avoid out of pocket payments that create a major barrier to access. Universal health systems ensure a buy in from the whole society, & ensure quality health provision for all. Services only for the poor are likely to be ‘poor services’ leading to low quality services & stigmatization.

•Equal access for all groups & in all areas must be ensured, in terms of disability but also geographical coverage, including regional inequalities particularly rural areas.

•A specific commitment should be made to public health & an independent assessment of the impact of privatisation & liberalisation on access to affordable, quality health care for all carried out. •EU macroeconomic policy must visibly move away from an austerity focus on only cost effectiveness & efficiency in health services, giving a new priority to effectiveness, equity & access. MS with good health care systems should be warned against reducing health care access & coverage. This should be reflected in the European Semester & the CSRs. •EU mobility & transferability of rights to affordable health services must be clarified & guaranteed as part of the support to EU people mobility, ensuring that all groups can access rights, including undocumented migrants. •Transparent monitoring of EU funds spending on health (ESIF & EFSI) should be carried out with the involvement of civil society to ensure that funding supports affordable access to quality health for all. •Higher transparency must be required of the pharmaceutical industry on the EU level, with better negotiation of prices for medicines for costly treatments. •Poverty & social exclusion must be recognised as major social determinants of health inequality which lead to long-term social & economic costs.

•The users (patients & those currently unable to access health services) must be made key actors in diagnosis, monitoring & delivery as well as engaging with them together in monitoring current delivery & developing new solutions. •Implement the SDGs & the European Pillar of Social Rights

Q9. In which of the following areas do you think technology will have the biggest impact in Europe?

*at most 3 choice(s)*

- Crime
- Employment/ work
- Education
- Health
- Social protection
- Social life
- Migration
- Finance

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

New technologies aren't 'good' or 'bad' as such, but it depends on how they are used, they could offer a great opportunity for the fight against poverty & social exclusion, but depends on the model of society. Much current discourse & research on new labour market trends (particularly robotization, digitalization & globalization characterized as technological drivers of inevitable change) does not adequately account for the emerging risks of poverty & social exclusion.

Internet should be considered a basic need/human right – to access social protection & services including healthcare & education, to look & apply for jobs, to break social exclusion, to be an informed & active citizen. Technological access can't be left up to markets, the State needs to provide it & regulate it, ensuring equal & inclusive access, as well as digital training.

Access to technology (computers/internet) & learning resources for low-income families is needed to tackle the digital divide & ensure that everybody reaps the benefits of the digital revolution, rather than being left behind by it. There is a need for Better network coverage in rural & remote areas is needed, & support to cover electricity costs & internet subscriptions.

There is also a need for more efforts to ensure protection of privacy & data & that everybody is informed of & can exercise their digital rights. Vulnerable consumers need to be better shielded from data trafficking & internet scams. Equally, ICT companies have a role to play, & their high profits should translate in enhanced corporate social responsibility.

Q10. What do you think should be done to provide European citizens with economic security?

*at most 2 choice(s)*

- Fight corruption
- Guarantee a fair level of state pensions
- Provide jobs for everyone

- Harmonise social rights
- Increase welfare benefits for those with financial difficulties
- Create a universal basic income
- Stimulate economic growth

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

- Tax reform, as noted above, to provide the necessary level of funding needed for strong social protection systems (ideally social protection systems should make up 30% of GDP, EAPN's proposed 'golden rule' on financing for social protection)
- Guaranteed Minimum Income Schemes -adequate income support schemes which provide a safety net for those whether in or out of work & who have insufficient means of financial framework:
  - ADEQUATE: Adequacy is defined as a level of income that is indispensable to live a life in dignity & to fully participate in society;
  - ACCESSIBLE: is defined as providing comprehensive coverage for all people who need the schemes for as long as they need the support;
  - ENABLING: is defined a schemes that promote people's empowerment & participation in society which facilitate their access to quality services & inclusive labour markets.
- Support adequate social protection for all, regardless of employment status & across the life course. Ensure effective transitions between unemployment & other benefits
- Invest in Adequate pensions for all, prioritizing Pillar 1 – i.e. adequate state pensions as the main means to ensure adequate income levels in old age, as well as facilitating support for Pillar 2 & 3.
  
- Ensure living wages for all workers – a wage which provides a worker with a basic, but acceptable, standard of living. Note that a Living Wage is often distinct from a National Minimum Wage, because the latter is often fails to meet the requirements to have a decent, quality of life, leaving the employee to rely on Government programs for additional income support.

11

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Q11. What are the main risks/threats for the European Union in the coming years?

*at most 5 choice(s)*

- Disagreement between Member States
- Pollution
- Terrorist attacks
- Political extremism
- Conflicts with countries outside the EU
- Poor management of immigration
- Natural disasters
- Armed conflict within the EU
- Brain drain
- Declining birth rate
- Another country or countries leaving the EU
- Diseases, epidemics
- Ageing population

Another country or countries joining the EU

If other, please specify:

*5000 character(s) maximum*

• Failing to meaningfully tackle poverty, inequality & social exclusion. Not recognizing that continuing to base Europe on political, economic & moral systems which allow some 113million people to live at risk of poverty & social exclusion is a recipe for disaster. These systems need to be urgently reprogrammed, other the European Union risks the spread of Brexit & large-scale protest movements. A post-EU 2020 strategy which has clear & ambitious targets to eradicate poverty in Europe would be a good start, as part of an overarching social & sustainable Strategy that can deliver tangible results for people & planet, & to defend social & environment rights & standards

## 12

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Q12. Regarding the future of agriculture, fishery and food production in Europe, what are the main actions that the EU should prioritise?

*5000 character(s) maximum*

Is there anything else you would like to add to express your concerns, hopes and expectations about the future of Europe ?

*5000 character(s) maximum*

EAPN's priorities are to achieve binding EU targets on poverty & an EU integrated antipoverty strategy, which supports inclusive employment, decent & stable jobs, decent pensions, adequate & effective minimum income & social protection, investment in children & child well-being, extensive, affordable & quality healthcare, educational investment; effective social services; attention to excluded & vulnerable groups, a wide range of social housing, affirmative actions for gender equality, a redistributive tax reform & greater & better participation of society in European democracy.

EAPN is working for more inclusive, social & sustainable scenario that would allow us to move forward together. We need to build a more participatory, more democratic & more social Europe but we need to have a clear instrument to defend our proposals to fight poverty, as part of the EU policy hardcore. We know that the change is possible, at local, national & European levels. What we need most in 2019 is the transformative implementation of high level political commitments, to ensure meaningful changes to the lives of people experiencing poverty on the ground, particularly regarding the European Pillar of Social Rights & the Sustainable Development Goals This must be achieved through binding obligations & hard law, as well as effective coordination instruments like the European Semester & EU funds.

The Charter of Fundamental Rights must govern in the Member States not only for European legislation, but also for national legislation. The European Social Charter should be fully enforced. Poverty & exclusion rates that are scandalously high should not be accepted any longer. The distribution of income & wealth is increasingly unequal & employment is no longer the way to social inclusion for several million Europeans, who have a job &, despite this, live in poverty.

Tackling inequality means strong action on distribution & redistribution: to reduce the income & wealth gap between the wealthy & the poor, investing in progressive & fair tax systems, as well as ensuring access to education & key other universal public services as a public good.

Leaders should commit to securing a Social & Sustainable Europe, a Europe free of Poverty, characterized by equal rights, opportunities & social cohesion.

We need a "sixth scenario": a more sustainable, social, fair & democratic Europe, with more harmonization & a main driver: Putting people first. This means a political commitment to make the EU Poverty Free; making Europe Poverty Free is a political choice which recognizes citizens' rights, ensures access to those rights, & reflects the solidarity felt by Europeans.

Participation must be at the heart. People want to be part of the solution – the EU must lead with participative dialogue processes at national & EU level that engage people facing poverty & NGOs in meaningful dialogue that delivers concrete results.

13

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\* [I agree with the personal data protection provisions](#)

Country

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Andorra
- Angola
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia

- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Brunei Darussalam
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Côte D'Ivoire
- Cabo Verde
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Costa Rica
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea



- Estonia
- Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guinea Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Madagascar
- Malawi

- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- North Korea
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Qatar
- Republic of Moldova
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Rwanda
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- San Marino
- Sao Tome and Principe

- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Swaziland
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Venezuela
- Viet Nam
- Yemen
- Zambia
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