

EUROPEAN CITIZENS' PANEL

Intergenerational Fairness

Final Recommendations



European Citizens' Panel on Intergenerational Fairness

Final recommendations

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Introductory Statement

Over three weekends, we, 150 randomly selected citizens from all 27 EU Member States, came together to deliberate on the following question: *What should we do today to make the European Union fair for all current and future generations?* We represented different generations ourselves – from teenagers to people in their eighties – and our exchanges reflected both the richness and the tensions of the European Union’s age and geographic diversity.

It is essential that the European Union (as an institution and all its Member States) conducts its work with transparency and remains answerable to citizens of every generation. Such accountability is important to foster trust and uphold the promise of intergenerational fairness.

Our diagnosis of today

We agreed that intergenerational fairness is not being achieved today. Many of us described a sense of imbalance: younger and older generations alike feel insecure about their place in society, though for different reasons.

A recurring theme was the weakening of the unwritten agreement (“social contract”) between generations. Trust across generations has eroded, with each group sometimes feeling judged or misunderstood by others. Younger voices often feel underestimated or excluded from decision-making, while older voices sometimes feel disregarded or forgotten. Middle generations often face pressure as they juggle work, childcare, and care for older family members. Trust is further lost, with regards to the institutions that are supposed to hold this social contract together. We recognised that political and systemic pressures – like pension and social-security tensions – create real obstacles to renewing this social contract. Consideration for future generations is frequently missing from the equation.

We reflected on how this dynamic plays out in everyday life. For some, the pace of technological, ecological, and cultural change has widened the gap between young and old. For others, financial and social pressures have made solidarity harder to sustain. The sense that each generation “has its own problems” and that society is no longer addressing them collectively was a striking diagnosis of our time.

And yet, we also saw that intergenerational solidarity still exists. Families remain one of the strongest examples: grandparents care for grandchildren, parents support their children, adult children help their aging parents. However, there are also other places of intergenerational solidarity, for example at work, through volunteering or between neighbours.

We also acknowledged social protection, peace and democratic rights as legacies of earlier generations that continue to bind us together.

Our vision for tomorrow

When we turned to the future, we found hope in the idea that intergenerational fairness can be strengthened, and that doing so is not only possible but necessary for the future of the European Union and its role in the world. The responsibility to foster solidarity and Intergenerational Fairness also lies with the EU Member States and civil society such as NGOs and trade unions.

We imagined a society where solidarity between generations is renewed and where no one's wellbeing depends on sacrificing another's. In this future, intergenerational fairness is not an afterthought but essential for every decision.

The following principles express our shared commitment to build a European Union where all generations can thrive together, united by trust, respect, and a sense of common purpose. We urge the European Union to embed these principles at the heart of future policymaking.

Principles

1. Fair and Responsible Decision-Making

Intergenerational fairness should guide all decisions, ensuring that one generation's wellbeing does not come at another's expense. All policies and choices must be grounded in empathy, equity, and responsibility – judged not only by their immediate results but by their long-term impact on future generations. In many ways, this is the truest test of fairness: whether decisions today make life better, or at least no worse, for those who come after us and those after them.

2. A Renewed Intergenerational Contract

Each generation carries both a moral and practical responsibility toward others – to protect dignity, create opportunities and ensure stability for all present and future generations.

3. Dialogue and Mutual Respect

Dialogue between generations – with future generations in mind – should be natural and valued, replacing distance with understanding. All generations offer wisdom, experience, energy, and imagination to shape the shared future.

4. Preservation and Progress

Every generation must safeguard what was achieved – such as rights, peace, and well-being – while addressing today’s challenges. True sustainable progress means passing on a world that is not only preserved but improved for those who follow.

5. Human Dignity and Well-being Across All Generations

Intergenerational Fairness includes ensuring that every person can live with dignity, health, and a sense of belonging. No one should be left behind, isolated, or undervalued at any stage of life.

A shared responsibility

Intergenerational fairness is not a fixed destination but a continuous journey. Its meaning will grow and evolve as new challenges emerge, and new voices join the conversation. What matters most is that each generation acts with care, courage, and a shared sense of responsibility for the future we build together.

Taking these principles to heart, we believe that the European Union can fulfil and implement its promise of fairness across generations. We want a Union where all generations can thrive together, and where future generations inherit not only the achievements of the past but also the courage, compassion, and care of the present.

To make that vision more concrete, financial means need to be made available today. For this, united in diversity, we developed 24 recommendations to the European Commission.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

WORKING GROUP 1

A.1 Learning without age: inspiring connection, empathy, and shared knowledge across generations

A.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations, and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend promoting lifelong and intergenerational learning by creating more opportunities for people of all ages to connect, share experiences, and learn from one another. This aims to strengthen social cohesion, empathy, and mutual understanding between generations, while valuing both traditional knowledge and new forms of cultural and technological expression. All generations could feel valued in contributing their knowledge, experiences, and skills to society, if we supported inclusive education, cultural exchange and community initiatives. This approach will help ensure that no generation is left behind or disadvantaged in ongoing digital and cultural transitions.

A.3 Justification 1: Intergenerational misunderstandings, lack of empathy and lack of communication between generations create barriers that prevent society from functioning cohesively. The better we know other generations, the better we understand them.

A.4 Justification 2: Times are changing quickly with technological development and innovations – we cannot leave older people behind as this revolution takes place. Supporting cross-generational learning ensures youth can help seniors with digital skills while elders share their wisdom, closing the generational digital divide. This also combats social isolation among seniors by engaging them with younger people in meaningful roles.

A.5 Possible Connected Action 1: **Create, fund, and ease access to intergenerational learning and exchange spaces.** Community centers, cultural hubs, media libraries, “living museums”, and identity and culture laboratories where generations collaborate through workshops, exhibitions, and storytelling. We also recommend creating new types of spaces such as “Factories of imagination and possible futures”, dedicated to collective creativity and future-oriented experimentation. Develop online participatory platforms that collect, value, and connect people’s experiences and knowledge across generations (e.g., a “life Wikipedia”). Support EU-wide initiatives for cultural accessibility and shared creativity, including free or low-cost entry to cultural venues, intergenerational festivals, and digital platforms for cross-generational storytelling and expression. The EU should facilitate, initiate, and support projects that integrate these kinds of spaces, for example by transforming abandoned buildings into community living environments with a residential dimension. To make this possible, administrative procedures should be simplified.

A.6 Possible Connected Action 2: Integrate intergenerational exchange in schools and social institutions. Develop guidelines and fundings for educational programs to connect schools

with senior centers, health facilities, and local associations. Encourage “learning pairs” where young people teach digital skills and older people share life experiences or cultural heritage.

A.7 Possible Connected Action 3: Human-Centered Understanding of Technology. Promote awareness of the limits and potential dangers of technological developments and innovations, ensuring that citizens – especially younger generations – can critically understand and navigate emerging tools such as AI. Encourage the transmission of knowledge, practical skills, and life wisdom from older generations, rather than relying solely on technological solutions. Create spaces where people can openly share their concerns and questions about technological change and receive lived, experience-based feedback that helps foster a more grounded, human-centred perspective on innovation.

B.1 Bridging nations, celebrating cultures: The path to a stronger European identity

B.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend fostering a shared European identity rooted in diversity, cultural exchange, and mutual understanding between Member States. By strengthening opportunities for citizens to learn about, experience, and celebrate Europe’s many cultures, the EU can reinforce a sense of belonging and solidarity while respecting national and regional identities.

B.3 Justification 1: By sharing Europe’s cultural richness and collective stories, citizens can better see themselves as part of a common European project rooted in cooperation, diversity, and shared values, thereby strengthening belonging and unity.

B.4 Justification 2: Documenting and sharing the plural cultural heritages, including those shaped by immigration and diverse migratory histories, ensures that the experiences and creativity of today’s generations remain accessible to future ones, fostering continuity and mutual learning, and preserving memory and dialogue.

B.5 Justification 3: Introducing projects such as Erasmus has proven to be life-changing and transformative, while also strengthening the sense of European identity.

B.6 Possible Connected Action 1: Boosting Awareness of EU Opportunities. Boost the visibility and accessibility of existing EU programmes and institutions—such as Erasmus+ and European Houses—through stronger local outreach, clearer communication, and more community events. Turn European Houses into vibrant hubs that connect citizens of all ages to cultural exchanges, volunteering, and cross-border opportunities.

B.7 Possible Connected Action 2: Integrate European identity in the civic education into school curricula from the earliest ages, and begin implementing these programmes as soon as possible, including exchanges, virtual classrooms, and lessons on how the EU and its Member States function, and on shared democratic values. Provide dedicated training for teachers to ensure they can confidently and effectively deliver this content.

B.8 Possible Connected Action 3: **Develop an open, reliable, and transparent EU knowledge online platform** that compiles cultural heritages, best practices, and the outcomes of participatory and cultural initiatives. This aims at making Europe's cultural richness and continuous dialogue accessible to all citizens. The platform should be developed in line with strong security principles and include built-in fact-checking functionalities to ensure the accuracy, credibility, and trustworthiness of all shared information.

WORKING GROUP 2

C.1 Educating all generations for a sustainable food future

C.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend that the EU promotes education and understanding around healthy, nutritious and sustainable diets by introducing a mandatory school subject for pupils and a sustainable, healthy-nutrition course for adults. Such education would enable everyone to make informed food choices, encourage intergenerational learning, and foster shared food-growing practices. This should be implemented across a variety of institutions to ensure that all generations are reached. The curriculum should include practical food label awareness, knowledge of ingredients, cooking skills, insights into how food is produced, the environmental and health impacts of different diets, and strategies to reduce food waste. A strong emphasis should be placed on reducing excessive meat and other forms of unsustainable food consumption in order to conserve land and water resources.

C.3 Justification 1: Meat consumption and overconsumption of environmentally straining farming products have a severe environmental impact due to intensive farming (e.g. livestock) and the high use of land and water resources. At the same time, there is limited awareness of sustainable practices. These challenges highlight the urgent need for education that empowers people to make informed, sustainable dietary choices.

C.4 Justification 2: Currently, most countries offer little to no education on healthy, environmentally friendly diets. As a result, citizens are not taught how to choose foods that are nutritious and have a lower environmental impact.

C.5 Justification 3: By educating all generations about sustainable eating habits, we empower them to make healthier and more environmentally responsible food choices.

C.6 Possible connected action 1: **Introduce a mandatory school subject across the EU curriculum** that teaches cooking skills, understanding how food is made, the environmental impact of different diets on resources, and practical methods to reduce food wastage. The program should include education on healthy and sustainable diets, practical food label awareness, knowledge of ingredients, cooking skills, insights into how food is produced, the environmental and health impacts of different diets, and strategies to reduce food waste. A strong emphasis should be placed on reducing excessive meat consumption and other forms of unsustainable food consumption in order to conserve land and water resources.

C.7 Possible connected action 2: **Promote alternative protein sources and dietary diversification.** Develop educational programs that teach people about finding alternative sources of protein as part of a sustainable diet.

C.8. Possible connected action 3: **Public campaigns to raise awareness on sustainable diets.** Implement policies and educational campaigns focused on the impact of dietary choices on the planet and provide information on sustainable, nutritious options.

D.1 Strengthening sustainable farming with increased EU financial support

D.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend that the EU increase financial support for both existing and future local and regional farmers to help them adopt and expand sustainable farming practices. This should include support for measures such as crop rotation and drip-irrigation technologies, as well as incentives to transition toward more sustainable agricultural models—for example, diversified agriculture, permaculture, initiatives such as Farm to Fork, direct selling and organic farming.

D.3 Justification 1: Agriculture is facing critical challenges, including environmental degradation, a declining agricultural workforce, and growing concerns about food safety. Ensuring secure food production—both now and in the long term—is essential. We need to guarantee that healthy, nutritious food can be produced reliably for current and future generations.

D.4 Possible connected action 1: **Implementation of Existing EU Agricultural Policies.** The EU should strengthen the existing policies related to sustainable farming, ensuring that current frameworks are implemented.

D.5 Possible connected action 2: **Financial Incentives for Small-Scale Farmers and cooperatives.** Provide targeted incentives to smaller farmers to help them transition to sustainable agricultural practices, recognizing that they face greater financial and bureaucratic barriers than larger agricultural operations.

D.6 Possible connected action 3: **Addressing Systemic Barriers to Sustainable Transition.** The EU should have a dialogue with farmers to find out which systemic barriers need to be dealt with for this sustainable transition to occur and should make loans available.

WORKING GROUP 3

E.1 Peace preservation and strengthening EU defence capabilities

E.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness, we recommend a comprehensive approach to preserve the European peace project. This includes reinforcing diplomatic engagement as the primary tool for conflict prevention, developing coordinated and autonomous EU defence capabilities to reduce reliance on foreign powers, and enhancing border security in light of armed, hybrid, and economic warfare. While diplomacy remains our preferred and prioritised strategy, preparedness for potential and real threats is essential.

E.3 Justification 1: Preserving peace and security in the EU requires proactive coordination. Today's security challenges—including regional conflicts and geopolitical instability—are intensified by fragmented defence policies across Member States. A more unified and coordinated EU approach is vital to effectively prevent conflict escalation, and to solidify the EU's role as a guarantor of peace.

E.4 Justification 2: The EU's dependence on foreign powers has created a significant imbalance of power, limiting its ability to defend itself autonomously.

E.5 Justification 3: Border security in some EU countries faces increasing risks due to armed conflict, hybrid threats, and geopolitical pressures. Ensuring proper implementation of existing laws, dedicating greater attention and resources to border defence, and addressing evolving threats such as illegal immigration are essential to safeguard the EU's external borders.

E.6 Possible connected action 1: **Strengthen diplomacy and the EU's peacekeeping role as the primary tool for conflict resolution.** As a first step, we propose to further strengthen diplomacy and the EU's peacekeeping role by reinforcing the use of diplomatic relations—and the role of the EU—as the primary tool for conflict resolution. The EU should present an even more united front in international diplomacy, and could deploy additional EU mediators or peacekeeping missions. This would enhance the EU's reputation and capability as a guarantor of peace, enabling it to address political and geopolitical tensions before they escalate.

E.7 Possible connected action 2: **Strengthening EU defence capabilities and autonomy.** Strengthening EU defence capabilities and autonomy—including the potential creation of an EU army and integration of existing defence structures—would reduce reliance on external actors and enable the Union to protect itself independently. Supporting defence-related industries—logistical, medical, technological, and pharmaceutical—is equally crucial for strategic resilience. Finally, citizens should have access to education on crisis resilience, including information warfare and emergency preparedness.

E.8 Possible connected action 3: **Improve border defence through increased funding and the full implementation of existing EU border security legislation,** particularly in regions facing heightened geopolitical threats. These border threats can become even a bigger challenge due to illegal immigration, which in some cases is currently used as a form of hybrid war.

F.1 Food security and sovereignty

F.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations, and to strengthen intergenerational fairness, we recommend establishing comprehensive policies to ensure EU food security and sovereignty through proper planning, support for farmers, and resilient food systems capable of withstanding natural catastrophes and future challenges. Our goal is to ensure that future generations also enjoy food security.

F.3 Justification 1: The EU is dependent on food from other regions of the world, making the EU region vulnerable and unable to meet its basic needs independently. Moreover, water scarcity is a real risk for the future.

F.4 Justification 2: Short-term thinking prevails, and the effects on resources for future generations are often overlooked.

F.5 Justification 3: Workers in agriculture are ageing, with fewer people choosing to work in the sector, threatening the sustainability of EU food production for future generations. Not only is ageing an issue, but agricultural businesses are increasingly less profitable.

F.6 Possible connected action 1: **Ensure EU food and water production, distribution and accessibility.** Ensure correct planning of EU food production and availability, guaranteeing equitable distribution and accessibility in the future and securing water resources.

F.7 Possible connected action 2: **Contingency planning and proper food and water management.** Invest in contingency plans for extreme weather or climate catastrophes that compromise food and water availability. In the meanwhile, proper management of food and water resources needs to be improved: first, preserve and increase the standardisation of food quality across the EU to guarantee consistent safety. Second, only accept imports of products that comply with the same standards. Third, reduce food waste and implement the measures developed during the former Panel on this topic.

F.8 Possible connected action 3: **Revitalise EU agriculture by supporting farmers in making their businesses viable.** Involve all stakeholders in this process, and foster the interest of young people in agriculture to encourage them to return to farming. Place farms in strategically suitable areas, prioritising EU production and strengthening the production of essential food items domestically. Promote agro-ecological and community-based agriculture as sustainable approaches to food production and water preservation.

WORKING GROUP 4

G.1 Improve political education for all generations

G.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness, we recommend improving political education across all generations (with

a particular focus on young citizens) through various media platforms, the education system and the development of digital competences.

G.3 Justification 1: Citizens often lack a practical understanding of the political system and democratic processes. Education about politics is too theoretical and disconnected from real life, which contributes to low youth voter turnout and limited involvement. The group gave examples of schools where “the practical aspect is zero” – students learn history and theories but never experience debate, voting, or decision-making firsthand. To have their voices heard, citizens need both knowledge of how politics works and early experiences to build confidence in participation.

G.4 Justification 2: The political processes are not easily accessible therefore many people have lost interest in politics. This may be due to a lack of political education in schooling.

G.5 Justification 3: Political education as well as incentives to engage in politics, should be open to all, with specific focus on youth. Various platforms should be used to encourage engagement: TV for older generations, social media for young adults and schooling for kids. This approach would improve everyone’s political competences and raise awareness about external threats to the democratic system, such as fake news and disinformation.

G.6 Possible connected action 1: **Embed practical civic education in all age groups’ education.** Ensure that political education is included at all levels in an age-appropriate manner: in primary and secondary school curricula, as well as in universities and vocational training. Promote political education through interactive projects and community service components. This could be accompanied by campaigns promoting civic education for adults. Particular emphasis should be placed on engaging youth in understanding voting, governance, and their rights. This could involve initiatives such as school visits to parliaments or local councils, and encouraging schools to host debates on current issues. This would ensure a practical approach to civic education.

G.7 Possible connected action 2: **Use multiple platforms to communicate and incentivise participation.** Tailor communication to different generations by using age-appropriate channels and formats. For seniors, televised discussions or radio programs can inform and encourage participation in civic activities. For younger people, social media, YouTube, and apps should be leveraged to share accessible political content, such as educational videos about elections or policies. In addition, youth-friendly online platforms — including moderated forums or live Q&A chats with policymakers — should be created to foster dialogue and engagement.

G.8 Possible connected action 3: **Raise awareness of threats to democracy and develop digital competencies.** Implement educational campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of fake news, misinformation, and extremist propaganda. Begin in schools and then extend it to the wider public by providing training in media literacy, including how to verify information sources and how algorithms can create echo chambers, etc. Encourage fact-checking initiatives where students and elders collaborate to debunk false news.

H.1 Improve and balance representation of all generations in the political system

H.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend better integration of young people in the political process, lowering the voting age, and ensuring that the interests of future generations are systematically considered in decision-making processes. The younger generations should participate in long-term planning. It is essential to ensure that the interests of future generations, who do not have a say in today's decision-making, are considered and taken into account on a systematic level.

H.3 Justification 1: Young people are underrepresented in political processes. It is important to give them a seat at the table so decisions are systematically fairer across generations. There is an overrepresentation of older generations, a lack of community participation, and a lack of diversity in political representation.

H.4 Justification 2: Future generations are not yet included or considered. Younger people must be able to participate in politics, so that all generations are involved more equally in the decision-making process.

H.5 Possible connected action 1: **Apply generation check in decision-making.** Establish a systematic 'Generations Check' within EU political decision-making processes, modelled on the existing Youth Check but expanded to assess the impact of policies on all current and future generations. Its degree of bindingness should correspond to the scale of policies' impact — for example, the ones identified as having significant negative consequences for future generations should be revised.

H.6 Possible connected action 2: **Integrate young people better in the political process and lower voting age to 16.** To strengthen the involvement of young people in the political process and foster earlier participation, quotas or other mechanisms should be introduced to ensure they have an active role in decision-making. The voting age should be lowered to 16 everywhere, accompanied by supportive measures such as mandatory political education and access to reliable information, thereby empowering young citizens to participate effectively.

H.7 Possible connected action 3: **Ensure systematic consideration of future generations' interests.** Ensure that the interests of future generations, who do not have a voice in today's decision-making, are systematically taken into account. Establish an independent EU-level council dedicated to representing these interests in policymaking ("Council for Intergenerational Fairness"). The council's recommendations should initially be non-binding, with the potential to gain greater influence over time if proven relevant. The council should consist of two components: (1) an expert body, composed of specialists in intergenerational fairness to ensure a fact-based debate; and (2) a citizens' body, made up of randomly selected individuals to bring everyday-life perspectives and provide broader acceptance and legitimacy.

WORKING GROUP 5

I.1 Safe homes, strong communities, and dignified living for all generations

I.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: we recommend that the EU's Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness prioritises safe, affordable, and dignified living spaces for people of all ages. This means guaranteeing access to adequate housing under minimum EU standards (that could be created), at accessible cost, and in proximity of necessary services (schools, healthcare, transportation) in every community. Our vision is to ensure living environments where young people can afford to start families, older people are not left without support, and everyone can access a good quality of life, whether in the city or in the countryside.

I.3 Justification 1: Investing now in basic housing security and infrastructure for all generations (decent and adequate homes, safe and efficient transport links to jobs and schools, nearby healthcare and the ability to enjoy nature) lays the groundwork for a healthier, more secure future. This approach would encourage people to have more children. It would also ensure wellbeing for future generations — though we hope to see this vision become reality during our lifetime.

I.4 Justification 2: A key solution is smart, sustainable, durable development – by investing in existing infrastructure while planning new forms of housing. Construction should prioritise reusing empty buildings and protecting the environment and farmland, rather than sprawling into greenfields. By improving infrastructure in smaller towns and suburbs, we make it viable for people to live outside big cities without losing access to opportunities.

I.5 Justification 3: The current housing crisis takes different forms across generations. Many young adults cannot find affordable homes or suitable conditions to start a family, while many elderly people live isolated in large homes that they cannot maintain and that lack nearby services they need. Meanwhile, working parents are stretched thin, sacrificing family time to afford rent and mortgages. This imbalance in housing options – too few opportunities for the young and poor support for the old – causes numerous social issues that undermine community cohesion and well-being. If we do not address this, both current and future generations will suffer due to fragmented communities and lower quality of life.

I.6 Possible connected action 1: **Invest in “smart” infrastructure to connect rural and urban areas.** Smart physical infrastructure should allow for commuting between rural areas and cities while developing digital infrastructure that allows for remote work. There should be European standards with regard to housing developments which takes into account square metres per capita, and how architecture can impact mental health. Investment in smaller cities could give young people the opportunity to fulfil their professional goals without being forced to live exclusively in bigger cities. Broader expansion of remote work could contribute to introducing demographic balance between rural and urban areas.

I.7 Possible connected action 2: **Expand social housing, simplify EU funding access, and support rural development.** Establish and fund EU programmes to build or refurbish affordable housing units, for young families and first-time homeowners. This should be prioritised in smaller

towns and villages, one way of doing this is through a dedicated rural housing renovation fund. Couple this with, financial support (grants and micro-loans guaranteed by the state) for rural start-ups and small businesses (e.g. sustainable farming, agri-tourism, craft industries, community-owned solar farms, small orchards, or food processing workshops) to stimulate local economies and create sustainable income streams. Make agricultural subsidies and rural funding more accessible to new farmers and women, by removing rigid requirements such as pre-existing land ownership, shifting instead to flexible, potential-based criteria that encourage newcomers. Reduce bureaucratic barriers and make support truly accessible to ordinary citizens and small community initiatives.

I.8 Possible connected action 3: **Implement long-term urban/rural planning with dedicated funds.** Encourage each Member State (with EU guidance and oversight) to develop a 10+ year housing and infrastructure plan that includes clear benchmarks for affordability and access. These plans should be reviewed and renewed every 10 years. Local governments should be empowered – and expected – to intervene against speculative land and housing price spikes. The EU can support this planning process and its implementation by sharing Best Practices and targeted funding. These long-term plans and investments should, for example, include street lighting, parks, healthcare facilities, and emergency services in both cities and small towns. This would ensure that – no matter whether one lives in a rural village or a city suburb – people feel secure, safe and have access to services needed for a dignified life.

J.1 Introduce regulatory restrictions for developers and private and corporate investors

J.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations, and to strengthen intergenerational fairness, we recommend introducing smart restrictions and fair taxation; This would prevent the concentration of property in the hands of few individuals or companies, ensuring affordable rent aligned with income levels, creating therefore a just rent system for all EU citizens.

J.3 Justification 1: The current housing market has created a profound crisis of intergenerational unfairness, where entire generations find themselves locked out of home ownership while simultaneously unable to afford rental accommodation. With rent frequently consuming entire salaries, people are deprived of the fundamental security necessary to start families and build stable lives. This vicious cycle not only exacerbates homelessness but directly contributes to declining birth rates, as people deprived of secure living spaces are barely able to afford their rent and are forced to choose against having children.

J.4 Justification 2: Property owners increasingly allocate apartments to lucrative short-term rentals, drastically reducing the availability of housing for long-term residents who form the backbone of stable communities. The extensive and largely unregulated activity of housing developers has unnaturally inflated market prices. We witness that powerful actors such as politicians have strong ties to housing developers and personally profit as property owners from rising real estate prices. Without appropriate restrictions and fair taxation, the housing market has been transformed into a speculative investment arena in which property serves as an economic tool rather than fulfilling its fundamental purpose as a home.

J.5 Justification 3: Smart restrictions and fair taxation are essential mechanisms to fundamentally rebalance the housing market, shifting priority from those who exploit housing scarcity for profit to those who need homes to live dignified lives. Laws and standards if established and implemented in the near future could help support future generations.

J.6 Possible connected action 1: **Create an EU Framework for Fair and Affordable Housing.** Develop an EU-wide framework to ensure that housing costs remain proportionate to citizens' income levels. This should promote fair access to affordable housing for example through fiscal incentives rewarding property owners who offer lower rents, and by encouraging banks to provide favourable conditions for first-time buyers. This approach would make housing genuinely affordable while discouraging speculative ownership and supporting long-term, stable tenancy. Consider introducing the rent-to-buy model on a wide scale (paying rent to the landlord as an advance toward purchasing the apartment and becoming the owner), which could apply to both private and social housing.

J.7 Possible connected action 2: **Short-term Rental Regulation.** Develop an EU-wide regulatory framework targeting short-term rental platforms, with the objective of ensuring that housing stock remains available for families and long-term residents rather than primarily for tourists. The EU should establish minimum standards for Member States to implement, including taxation guidelines for short-term rental income and limits on how many properties can be used for such purposes.

J.8 Possible connected action 3: **Anti-corruption and developer oversight.** Establish EU-level transparency requirements and anti-corruption measures for real estate development and property ownership, particularly for politicians. The EU should create guidelines on limiting property ownership for politicians to prevent conflicts of interest in housing policy. Support the development of transparent monitoring systems that ensure housing development serves community needs rather than developers' profits.

WORKING GROUP 6

K.1 Education for all

K.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: we recommend promoting and ensuring equal access to high-quality education for all by providing free and inclusive education systems that offer specific support for diverse needs.

K.3 Justification 1: A good education is the foundation of personal and societal development. If everyone has access to quality education, this would improve overall quality of life and public safety, while reducing inequality. A good education can provide everyone with the opportunity to succeed. The democratisation of education – making it equally accessible to the rich and poor – would help bridge the current socio-economic divide and ensure that citizens are well-informed. This would therefore benefit present and future generations alike.

K.4 Justification 2: Today's education systems have not fundamentally evolved alongside changes in society and technology. Many schooling systems still follow outdated models and have not evolved teaching methods. In the past, the world changed more slowly, so knowledge gained at school could last a person a lifetime. Now, however, everything changes much faster. Current schooling systems have not adapted to this pace of transformation, resulting in a decline in the quality of education. Education must support diverse needs and promote the values on which the EU was founded, such as upholding human dignity and equal rights.

K.5 Justification 3: Many people still face barriers to education. For instance, individuals with disabilities or learning difficulties often lack adequate support in schools. People from disadvantaged areas often attend underfunded schools that cannot offer the same opportunities as those in more affluent areas. These disparities mean that certain groups are particularly vulnerable to societal exclusion.

K.6 Possible connected action 1: **Guarantee free, accessible education at all levels.** Ensure education that is free for all and allows for people to learn multiple professions throughout their lifetime. Education systems should provide specific resources for diverse needs. Support should be given to those who wish to study while working by providing not only financial aid, but also additional holiday time or flexible working hours. Education should be harmonised through a comprehensive European framework, in which final examinations and diplomas are standardised across the European Union.

K.7 Possible connected action 2: **Invest in teacher quality and involve parents.** Improve teacher training and continuous professional development. Teachers should be supported with modern pedagogical methods and undergo regular evaluation or certification of their teaching skills. Establish EU-supported exchange programmes and workshops to enable teachers to share best practice across countries. Put in place exchange programmes and civic education workshops supported by the EU. At the same time, encourage parental engagement by educating parents on how they can support their children's learning.

K.8 Possible connected action 3: **Modernise curricula to meet current and future needs.** Develop up-to-date curricula that reflect modern realities – developing the ability to distinguish facts from misinformation, as well as developing civic education. Education should last a lifetime, not limited to childhood, to ensure that all generations can keep up with societal and technological changes. As artificial intelligence transforms the labour market, education must focus on digital literacy, media awareness, and collaborative learning rather than merely individual study.

L.1 Promote the Value and Dignity of Human Work Across Generations

L.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend promoting the value of human work through fair compensation, increased employment opportunities, inclusion of people with diminished capacity to work, and paid internships for young people entering the labour market.

L.3 Justification 1: Work provides income and sustains the economy. If we fail to ensure fair employment, our collective prosperity is at risk, particularly given Europe's demographic challenges. Employment supports social security systems and contributes to the stability of society as a whole.

L.4 Justification 2: Work is not sufficiently valued. Salaries are too low and young people often face rejection due to their lack of experience. They want to earn a fair wage, not work for free. Families struggle to make ends meet and many people must take additional jobs to achieve economic stability. Without proper wages and respect for human labour, our social and economic wellbeing deteriorates.

L.5 Justification 3: Many employers expect candidates to have extensive experience, yet young people are still in the process of acquiring it. Getting the first job is the hardest step and internships are often unpaid, leaving young people discouraged. At the same time, older workers with decades of experience face age discrimination and exclusion from the labour market. This is paradoxical as there is a shortage of qualified workers. This leads to barriers that prevent both young and old from participating in the workforce.

L.6 Possible connected action 1: **Ensure fair wages and reduce employment barriers.** Increase people's income through fair taxation and reduced administrative burdens for employers. Lowering taxes on employment could encourage hiring and long-term contracts. Special incentives should be put in place for people in precarious situations or with a diminished capacity to work. Define minimum wages for key professions, ensuring workers are paid properly and have access to dignified working conditions. This could make employment worthwhile. With regards to care work, we recommend that care work should be remunerated. We need to pay people who educate children, and pay them properly. Stay at home parents, as well as grandparents should also be paid for the work they put into childcare.

L.7 Possible connected action 2: **Create supportive and family-friendly work environments.** Promote workplaces that support families and personal development. Complement education with mentoring programmes and paid training opportunities. Encourage employees to view work as a meaningful and inspiring challenge, not merely an obligation. To safeguard workers rights trade unions must be protected as they push for the respect of workers' rights. Protect European companies which uphold the principles of inclusion and the wellbeing of their employees through European and national policies.

L.8 Possible connected action 3: **Promote employment of youth and elderly through incentives and paid internships.** Ensure that all employers pay for their interns. Reward companies that value and invest in their workers, and withdraw subsidies from those that exploit jobs unfairly. Encourage intergenerational collaboration by highlighting the advantages of working with older people. Support initiatives such as summer work-study and exchange programmes with European families for students.

L.9 Possible connected action 4: **Protect people from the impact of AI.** Create a strategy for safeguarding jobs in the age of AI. Establish a fund for people who are losing their jobs which are being replaced by technology.

WORKING GROUP 7

M.1 Clean Energy for Everyone

M.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: we recommend ensuring universal access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy across the EU through a European public energy system that guarantees the production, distribution, and commercialisation of energy, coordinates national energy infrastructures, and drives an ecological and fair energy transition. This European public energy system should be grounded in the principles of environmental and social profitability. Access to energy should be recognised as a universal right and regulated like a public good. We should also promote responsible consumption alongside affordability, ensuring the lowest energy use possible at a fair price.

M.3 Justification 1: We face an urgent problem in the European Union regarding polluting energy sources and equal access to energy resources. This divides costs and benefits across generations, so that young people do not pay for the mistakes of past generations and can access new green jobs within this new sector. The transition should be shared, fair, and sustainable, both environmentally and socially, ensuring equitable access to energy and boosting the participation of younger generations so that they are actively involved. Our governments have the responsibility to make this possible.

M.4 Justification 2: Energy must be recognised as a public good. This approach addresses the EU's dependency on non-EU countries, redresses the abuses of major actors, and helps alleviate energy poverty for all citizens. It also helps tackle the problematic waste and pollution generated by different energy sources, including fossil fuels and nuclear energy. It reduces waste and pollution, and it is one of the ways to address climate change.

M.5 Justification 3: Investing in local communities would reduce costs and enhance the impact of the transition. All European governments should be aligned in this energy transition, adopting coordinated, non-polluting energy sources to minimise waste and decrease dependency on non-EU countries. Achieving the energy transition will also require significant changes in infrastructure.

M.6 Possible connected action 1: **Transform energy infrastructure and reorganise budgets for clean energy.** We need to change energy infrastructures, and we can further develop this idea. We must reorganise budgets to prioritise cleaner energy and establish a long-term plan at both the EU and national levels.

M.7 Possible connected action 2: **Prioritise clean, non-fossil-fuel energy sources and ensure universal access.** We need to specify the types of energy the EU should prioritise; they must not rely on fossil fuels or create dependency on non-EU countries. We should promote their use across communities and ensure that households have access to clean energy sources. Biogas and green hydrogen are crucial technologies for implementing this transition.

M.8 Possible connected action 3: **Establish comprehensive impact assessment and control mechanisms for clean energy.** Impact assessments for clean energy are not mandatory everywhere. We need a body or organisation that oversees these issues and determines which company will conduct audits in order to prevent these problems.

N.1 An environmental accountability committee at the European level

N.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen intergenerational fairness, we recommend: establishing a European Environmental Accountability Committee to coordinate and harmonise environmental policies, share best practices, and create EU-wide incentive systems for sustainable practices. The main functions of the committee will be the following: gather best environmental practices from EU countries; systematise and analyse these practices; promote innovation in environmental practices by introducing pilot projects and evaluating them; prepare implementation recommendations tailored to local circumstances; support governments in implementing these practices; monitor the implementation of the practices and apply sanctions when necessary. This committee should be composed of diverse actors, including representatives from civil society, the scientific and technical spheres, governments, and financial and legal sectors.

N.3 Justification 1: It would be easier to track methods and progress in a uniform manner across Europe, ensuring simpler access to information on the best environmental practices. This approach would promote greater consistency and accountability in environmental policy across all EU countries. Such information should be accessible not only to the governments of European countries but also to citizens and civil society.

N.4 Justification 2: Another problem being addressed is the motivation and incentive for citizens to recycle – not only to start, but also to maintain the practice over time. Strengthening this commitment would improve recycling across all Member States and have a positive impact on the environment.

N.5 Justification 3: This approach promotes the avoidance of pollution, the sustainable use of energy and resources, responsible production and consumption habits, and the creation of a viable environment for the future. It also helps reduce air pollution and increases awareness among young people on environmental issues.

N.6 Possible connected action 1: **Implement circular economy standards and limit single-use items.** We should encourage the sale of items individually or in bulk with as minimal packaging as possible. Single-use items should also be limited; where they remain necessary, they should be made from biodegradable materials such as biopackaging or hydrosoluble materials derived from bamboo, fungi, and similar sources. We should extend the lifecycle of household appliances and guarantee the availability of spare parts for longer periods. Legislation should also address planned obsolescence and promote innovation and research in biopackaging. In pursuing these goals, we will take into account the progress already achieved within European countries. We should prioritise the use of glass over plastic materials and encourage the reuse of glass rather than simply recycling it.

N.7 Possible connected action 2: **Establish coordination mechanisms and information sharing systems.** Designate a representative in each EU country to share progress and feed into the work of the committee. Advance information collection and information sharing amongst authorities, and explore ways to make these ideas operational, including by working with the European Environmental Agency. Engage young people by promoting collaboration between the educational sector, civil society and private companies.

N.8 Possible connected action 3: **Promote sustainable energy production.** We should encourage the production of sustainable energy sources, not only solar, wind, geothermal, and wave energy, but also sustainable fuels from biowaste and biomass.

WORKING GROUP 8

0.1 Prevent negative impacts of artificial intelligence on employment and the standard of living

0.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness, we recommend that the Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness focuses on supporting the adaptation and requalification of the workforce to technological transformation. Measures may include promoting responsible employee selection practices and providing incentives for companies to retain and retrain existing staff, requalifying rather than dismissing them. Encouraging the integration of young people into the labour market through mentorship programmes and targeted support mechanisms is equally important. In addition, the EU should promote self-employment and new business creation in sectors resilient to automation, financed by productivity gains from AI, to sustain employment and economic stability.

0.3 Justification 1: AI should be easily accessible to people. The EU should reduce its dependency on the US and China, which operate outside EU regulations. The EU should address the challenges posed by AI in ways that benefit people and promote their inclusion on the labour market.

0.4 Justification 2: The main concern is that citizens are being replaced by technology and AI. Everyone should have access to professional training to be well equipped for the future. There is concern about employment and job security. AI is already leading to job losses across various professions, and we need to take action to preserve those jobs.

0.5 Justification 3: The challenges ahead are significant, especially the financial difficulties faced by those who will lose their jobs. Middle-aged people, as well as younger generations, will bear the brunt of these changes. The focus should be on cooperation rather than competition, and AI should serve to support, not replace, human beings. The loss of jobs is inevitable, as companies tend to prioritise their financial interests. A large number of jobs will be lost, and the number of working hours is already decreasing.

O.6 Possible connected action 1: **Free and accessible training programmes across the EU.** Such training programmes should be free of charge and accessible across all EU Member States, to all generations.

O.7 Possible connected action 2: **Progressive work-time reduction with income protection and long-term social funding.** Progressively shorten the standard workweek to support existing jobs, while preserving current income levels. Promote requalification and continuous upskilling through training programs co-financed by the state.

O.8 Possible connected action 3: **Support for entrepreneurship and new job creation.** Provide incentives for self-employment and new business creation in sectors that are more resilient to AI's impact, financed by productivity gains from AI. In the long term, establish a fund for basic income and a pension fund filled with tax revenues based on increased productivity from AI to ensure fair distribution and social peace.

P.1 Establish boundaries for AI use to ensure responsible access, ethical standards, and mitigate potential risks

P.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend that the Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness incorporates clear limitations on the use of Artificial Intelligence, addressing not only its application by students and young people but also its growing role in the workplace. Establishing defined boundaries for AI use is essential to ensure responsible access, safeguard ethical standards, and mitigate potential risks associated with unregulated adoption.

P.3 Justification 1: Access to AI is closely tied to social rights and educational opportunities. Currently, access to AI is unevenly distributed among people, largely depending on education levels and resources. Children across EU Member States may not have equal opportunities to pursue higher education or benefit equally from technological advancement. We must ensure that access to education and technology is not discriminatory, and benefits society as a whole. All individuals, regardless of social status, should have the chance to develop the skills needed for the future.

P.4 Justification 2: The main issue is the uncontrolled spread of AI among people, particularly students and in professional environments. There is currently a large gap between perception and the actual ability to collaborate and work effectively with AI. Without laws to establish clear limits and proper frameworks, we risk being left behind. AI can replace both people and their voices, creating challenging situations that require careful management through clear rules and proper training.

P.5 Justification 3: The problem is not AI itself, but its inadequate implementation, which can threaten democracy. AI may increasingly replace social networks as a main source of information, which is essential for democratic processes. This leaves room for manipulation through fake news and information bubbles. A particular danger is our dependence on American and Chinese AI systems. It is our responsibility to establish rules that set clear limitations, ensuring that humans ultimately maintain control over AI.

P.6 Possible connected action 1: **Reduce technological dependence and develop European AI capacities.** Foster the development of “home-grown” European AI by establishing dedicated investment mechanisms and infrastructure, including models, datasets, and computational resources. This will reduce dependence on American and Chinese AI systems and decrease exposure to foreign influence and interests that may not align with European values. At the same time, equitable access to AI tools and services for all citizens be guaranteed. Strategic autonomy of Europe in this critical domain should be maintained.

P.7 Possible connected action 2: **Guidelines on AI education and strong EU regulations.** At the EU level, guidelines should be introduced to incorporate AI education into school curricula, ensuring that citizens understand how AI functions and are protected against fraud. Additionally, the EU should also protect personal data and personal rights within the AI frame.

P.8 Possible connected action 3: **Prevent fake news and misinformation.** We need strong regulations to prevent fake news, information bubbles, and non-transparent algorithms. This should include tagging AI-generated content, verifying information sources, and detecting false information.

WORKING GROUP 9

Q.1 Strengthen practical and life-long learning of democracy (“Democracy at School and as a School”)

Q.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend creating concrete, hands-on learning paths that engage people in democratic processes. For the young ones, from the start of primary school, through training in schools that encourages participation and collective decision-making, direct participation in democratic activities, and strengthening connections between schools and institutions involving different generations with a perspective of lifelong learning for all age groups. It is a responsibility of all ages to be part of the development of these kinds of programmes.

Q.3 Justification 1: People and in particular students often lack practical understanding of democratic processes, including group decision-making, which contributes to low participation in voting. Education is often too theoretical and disconnected from real-world projects or democratic participation. Practical training is limited, teachers are overwhelmed, and institutions and companies are not fully involved.

Q.4 Justification 2: People, in particular many young people, are not automatically connected to educational or civic programmes, or to lifelong learning, which makes it difficult for them to participate and contribute. Schools play a central role in educating, but society as a whole must also take responsibility. Integrating intergenerational learning can help bridge gaps, foster civic awareness, and encourage participation across all ages.

Q.5 Justification 3: Creating common knowledge frameworks and extending practical training helps ensure comparable education across Member States, promoting mobility, competitiveness, and

economic cohesion within the EU. It must be considered that decision making processes involving young people take more time, because they're learning and participating at the same time.

Q.6 Possible connected action 1: **Facilitate creation of concrete, hands-on learning paths.** Design and implement training in schools that encourages participation and collective decision-making (also on intergenerational fairness in itself). Schools should design hands-on projects that allow students to practice teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving, making them protagonists in their own education. Timing for these activities should be carefully planned to maximize youth participation, even if this requires longer planning and communication efforts. Intergenerational exchange must be a part of these programmes.

Q.7 Possible connected action 2: **Enable direct participation in democratic activities.** Participating directly in democratic activities, such as helping with elections or counting votes, or being a class representative of your institution could help people better understand the value of elections and civic participation.

Q.8 Possible connected action 3: **Make EU programmes more accessible and strengthen links between education and civic participation.** EU programmes should be made more accessible to everyone, not only to those already engaged. There should be stronger links between school education and civic or political participation, for example by learning more about political participation already within the school environment. The topic of IGF should be featured prominently in Erasmus+. Participation in Erasmus+ should be encouraged.

R.1 A harmonised educational system across the EU featuring practical training and intergenerational exchange

R.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend fostering a new European educational model based on intergenerational exchange and practical training. With this new model of education we aim to improve the access to knowledge and the job market resulting in a better quality of life for everyone. To achieve this, we recommend connecting schools closer with society and developing intergenerational and peer learning programs.

R.3 Justification 1: There is a persistent lack of connection between theory, which remains fundamental and practice in education. While students may graduate with strong academic knowledge, they often lack the practical skills and hands-on experience needed for life and employment. Traineeships and practical periods are too short. Schools alone cannot educate people - society also needs to play its part. However, building this link between education and society costs money and requires coordination.

R.4 Justification 2: Different generations in education are disconnected. University students, younger pupils, and older generations rarely cooperate. This leads to a loss of intergenerational learning, where young people could share digital skills and older people could share experience. Access to

higher education materials is unequal. Many useful university courses are paid or restricted, limiting equal learning opportunities for all.

R.5 Justification 3: Within EU Member States there are big differences in literacy and in education. Recommending common framework competence trainings would help ensure comparable education across Member States, promoting mobility, competitiveness, and economic cohesion within the EU. Hands-on experience in companies, including civic involvement and volunteering, would equip students with relevant skills, improve innovation capacity, and strengthen EU competitiveness in science and technology. Implementing practical projects and democratic engagement requires longer planning, more resources, and active communication to reach as many people as possible.

R.6 Possible connected action 1: **Secure funding within a common EU framework.** Funding and resources must be secured to support accessible, theoretical and practical learning across the European Union. Establishing a common framework and securing sufficient funding for its implementation across EU member States. There's a need to harmonise common frameworks across the EU – for example, identifying minimum knowledge levels in economics and finance. Additionally, the EU could finance an online platform offering free access to university-level courses, increasing accessibility and equality in education.

R.7 Possible connected action 2: **Exchange between schools and the wider society and adding practical activities to all curricula.** Schools should collaborate with the wider society to enhance civic education. Everybody, but especially children could learn about societal issues directly in schools, while communities provide complementary experiences through intergenerational activities. Addition of practical and project-based activities to all study programs, not just theory. Implementation of hands-on company experience like internships beyond technical schools. Humanistic values (empathy, tolerance, solidarity, etc...) should also be integrated into the Europeans' learning processes.

R.8 Possible connected action 3: **Integrate intergenerational and peer learning programs.** Strengthening intergenerational exchange and peer learning programs, where older students support younger ones and teach older generations digital skills, should be integrated into the school curricula.

WORKING GROUP 10

S.1 Harmonised tax equity system across borders and tax revenue redistribution to promote Intergenerational Fairness and repay public debts

S.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations, and to strengthen intergenerational fairness, we recommend establishing a harmonised tax equity system and a single European tax for multinational corporations operating in multiple EU countries. This would reduce fiscal inequality across Member States, align tax burdens with living costs, ensure fairer contributions,

and prevent corporate tax dumping. It would also reduce public debts and ensure a fair redistribution of revenue within the EU to promote intergenerational fairness.

S.3 Justification 1: Large multinational companies in profitable sectors (including but not limited to new technology/AI companies) exploit differences between national tax systems to pay less tax. This creates unfair competition with smaller national businesses. Some countries engage in fiscal dumping, weakening others. Ongoing tax dumping, where countries lower tax rates to attract investment, creates unfair competition and weakens other national economies, while wealth and profits are unevenly distributed across the EU. The lack of fiscal coordination and redistribution mechanisms among Member States undermines cohesion and trust within the Union.

S.4 Justification 2: High and rising public debt across Member States places a heavy burden on future generations, requiring new and fair mechanisms to reduce it. Persistent fiscal inequality among Member States undermines social and economic cohesion within the EU. Tax harmonisation, by contributing to debt reduction, is directly linked to intergenerational fairness. Although tax reform is a complex and technical topic, discussing it helps policymakers understand citizens' concerns and priorities, ensuring more transparent and inclusive policymaking.

S.5 Justification 3: Lack of alignment between tax burdens and living costs leads to disparities in citizens' real purchasing power and fairness. The absence of a harmonised tax framework prevents genuine equality and integration within the EU single market. Fragmented national tax policies reduce the EU's overall competitiveness and limit its ability to finance common priorities.

S.6 Possible connected action 1: **Introduce EU solidarity taxes on large corporations and ultra high-net-worth individuals.** Establish a solidarity tax on large profitable corporations with a presence in multiple EU countries. These companies should include, but not be limited to, large multinational IT/AI companies as well as high-pollutant companies. Ensure corporations pay taxes proportionate to their real profits, promoting fairness and preventing tax avoidance (dumping) across the EU and profit shifting outside the EU. In addition, we suggest a high-net-worth solidarity tax on individuals for a more equal redistribution of income, which is essential for intergenerational fairness. This is not only preventing tax evasion, it is also promoting fiscal equality through fairer taxation. Both should support causes related to intergenerational fairness in the EU.

S.7 Possible connected action 2: **Dedicate EU solidarity tax revenues to repay public debt in Member States.** Dedicate a portion of national tax revenues to repay public debt, ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability and allowing future generations starting from the same level.

S.8 Possible connected action 3: **Require transparency and accountability.** Require annual public reports showing the exact percentage and destination of collected EU solidarity taxes to guarantee transparency and accountability.

T.1 Create a fair and sustainable pension system across EU Member States

T.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations, and to strengthen intergenerational fairness, we recommend establishing a pension system that is fair for all generations and financially sustainable in the long run, in the face of growing elderly populations and a shrinking younger population in employment. We understand that an increasingly ageing population and declining fertility rates are threatening the pension systems' sustainability in the future. We stress the need to address this issue urgently, as it directly affects intergenerational fairness now and in the future, across all ages and for everyone in society.

T.3 Justification 1: The sustainability of the pension system is under severe threat due to low fertility rates, technological advances (AI replacing parts of the workforce) and increasing ageing populations.

T.4 Justification 2: The issue of a sustainable pension system affects every person at all stages of his or her life.

T.5 Justification 3: The sustainability of the pension system is a core issue related to Intergenerational Fairness; the current system is deeply unfair to young populations today and in the future, as well as financially unsustainable.

T.6 Possible connected action 1: **Introduce a mandatory corporate pension benefit for all employers in EU countries.** In an effort to build pension sustainability, we suggest that companies and corporations contribute to a joint European Pensions Support Fund, proportional to their financial capacity. This would complement national pensions for people according to individual needs.

T.7 Possible connected action 2: **Introduce an additional EU pension which will complement national pensions in Member States.** This EU complementary pension is necessary to ensure that fairness between generations, alignment with needs, and minimum living standards are upheld.

T.8 Possible connected action 3: **Introduce measures to support the working population, families with children, women, and caregivers.** These could include measures to value family care/reproductive work as much as productive work, support increased migration in the workforce, and provide family benefits. Pension systems should consider time spent outside employment when the individual is providing critical services to society (such as care for other family members or children), or when an individual is unable to work due to important reasons (such as a serious illness).

WORKING GROUP 11

U.1 Cultural and social integration of migrants

U.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness, we recommend creating comprehensive integration systems that ensure

migrants can become active, valued members of European communities, while addressing rural depopulation and promoting human dignity for all. This includes providing language and cultural education, ensuring fair distribution of responsibilities across EU countries based on the specific situations and needs of each country. We also recommend that adequate living and working conditions for migrants are provided, encouraging an integration process that acknowledges the differences between rural and urban areas: making sure that rural areas offer opportunities that are as competitive as urban ones, so that integration can happen in different areas of each country.

U.3 Justification 1: One of the basic premises of the EU is equality: we want to converge the standard of life among Member States. When we host people, they should be hosted with dignity, migrant or not. Currently, we see migrants abandoned with little being done at the EU level. Migrants need to have a job in order to have means for proper living conditions. It is not enough for them to come and get some support if they have to live in undignified conditions. If we need migrants to contribute to social and economic life, we need to provide them with decent conditions as an initial phase of the integration process.

U.4 Justification 2: Integration needs to be a priority. Only by ensuring that, we can have a long-term perspective as a society. Many problems are caused by insufficient integration already. Integration can help people become members of a community and fully benefit from it.

U.5 Justification 3: Migration can have a positive impact on the demography of the EU if it is properly managed. With the ageing population, we will have an increase in the demand for healthcare and long-term care. At the same time, we face the depopulation of small villages, since young people go to cities to pursue different lifestyles, but also to earn a living. By integrating migrants, we could make sure healthcare and long-term care are more sustainable in the long run and help stimulate the repopulation of rural areas and the refurbishment of rural buildings, landscapes, and infrastructure.

U.6 Possible connected action 1: **Establish comprehensive integration support systems.** Offer language courses, potentially taught by elderly people to create intergenerational connections. Involve people already living in the country in helping immigrants settle. We need to involve people from different generations in childcare systems, enabling older people to be in touch with younger people. Ensure migrants understand that we want them to be part of our countries, but that we don't want them to erase their own cultures.

U.7 Possible connected action 2: **Ensure fair distribution of migration responsibilities and adequate conditions across the EU.** Develop a clear EU-level estimate of how many people and what kind of labour force we need in Europe now, and forecast this for the future. Share efforts across countries based on local needs and different situations the countries experience. Currently, Southern European countries have to disproportionately deal with migration. Ensure migrants have jobs when coming to Europe and provide decent living conditions. Address the gap between standards and requirements, so as to guarantee that individuals' existing qualifications are recognised or supporting them in developing their qualifications. In doing so, they could fulfill European requirements to work in the EU. Provide proper training to do the jobs our society needs.

U.8 Possible connected action 3: **Promote the attractiveness of rural areas.** Governments should promote housing accessibility: this includes providing tax benefits, remuneration, or state subsidies, offering lower rents to people who live in rural areas, and supporting those who want to help migrants integrate by employing their own resources, especially if it involves using abandoned or unused houses more productively in society. Incentivize people to move to villages by making them attractive: create better roads and transport systems, hospitals, state services, and financial services. Give incentives to companies to settle in small cities. Ensure education and other opportunities in rural areas.

V.1 Local intergenerational pact to unite generations

V.2 Explanation: For the benefit of present and future generations and to strengthen Intergenerational Fairness: We recommend establishing local intergenerational community spaces where people of all generations unite to resolve the paradox of young people not having housing and older people suffering from isolation. These spaces would be part of a network linking social cohesion and intergenerational cooperation, where some people gain stability to study or build families, while others gain a dignified role in the community.

V.3 Justification 1: Young people face a growing uncertainty due to increased costs of living – they cannot look to the future and build families because of a lack of housing and insufficient financial means. Currently, young people cannot achieve autonomy. Access to housing is one of the obstacles for families and the birth rate: many young people want to build families, but they cannot. At the same time, older people suffer from loneliness and sometimes lack a dignified role in society.

V.4 Justification 2: There is a lack of mutual trust between different generations, and it is difficult to be in contact with each other, creating a generational gap. Contact between younger and older generations is extremely important: if the experiences of the elderly are not shared, their learnings will be lost forever. Lack of trust comes from a lack of time – when we spend so much time working, we don't have time to create connections and share with other generations.

V.5 Justification 3: With intergenerational pacts where younger and older people unite in community spaces, young people would have stability to study and build families, while older people gain a more active role in the community.

V.6 Possible connected action 1: **Create accessible intergenerational housing solutions.** Governments should encourage renovations of empty/ abandoned houses and prioritise their access for people in need of housing or intergenerational community programs. Provide tax benefits, remuneration, or state subsidies to people who live together with the elderly. Benefits like lower rents for these types of houses need to be created. In addition, lower rents for families could incentivise people to have more children.

V.7 Possible connected action 2: **Establish intergenerational community programs and spaces.** Involve people from different generations in childcare systems, enabling older people to be in touch with younger people, for example by inviting elderly people to schools to speak to children and tell them stories about their own childhood or careers. Create social intergenerational projects and

support existing ones where generations take care of each other in small societies where people trust each other. People who no longer work could be encouraged to help children. Build community spaces in buildings where younger and older people come together, which would increase their sense of belonging.

V.8 Possible connected action 3: **Develop networks for intergenerational fairness.** Build networks across European countries that foster social cohesion and intergenerational collaboration, incorporating already existing communities and taking them as example. Ensure that there is support for organisations that help with integration between generations. We should create buildings with common spaces that increase the sense of belonging, and provide opportunities for artistic expression or learning crafts. This way, the needs of every generation can be satisfied through cooperation and shared learning focusing on fairness between generations.

WORKING GROUP 12

W.1 Linking health, environment and good living conditions (education, social justice, housing) and ensuring healthcare for future generations

W.2 Explanation: For the benefit of current and future generations, and to strengthen intergenerational equity, we recommend shifting the focus of health policy from acute treatment to preventive healthcare, and ensuring healthcare for future generations as well. People must become more aware of the connection between a healthy environment that provides good living conditions for all (education, social justice, fair economic system, housing), and individual health. At the same time, in addition to providing healthcare today, the provision of healthcare for future generations must also be ensured. This focus on prevention in the long-term perspective must be accompanied by appropriate awareness-raising measures, and comprehensive health education for all age groups.

W.3 Justification 1: Good living conditions (education, social justice, fair economic system, housing), a balanced environment, and healthy people are closely linked. People can only remain healthy in a balanced environment. This broad understanding of prevention is crucial, because it recognises that health is not only about individual lifestyles, but also about living conditions. Only when we have a balanced environment and people enjoy healthy living conditions, will people remain healthy.

W.4 Justification 2: Prevention measures and methods should play a greater role - also in the training and ongoing education of medical personnel. Greater importance should also be given to easily accessible preventive medical check-ups. Strengthened prevention can reduce the burden on medical staff and thus help to ensure comprehensive and sustainable high-quality healthcare. Studies show that investments in prevention can reduce the costs of treating diseases by a factor of 1:10.

W.5 Justification 3: Commitment to broadly defined prevention must be continuous and long-term. This is about a perspective spanning many decades, not about one legislative period. Even if prevention initially generates higher costs, in the long run it is more cost effective and efficient than

curing diseases. Giving more attention to present and future generations in terms of mental health, will lead to a society that is struggling less from mental health issues.

W.6 Possible connected action 1: **Tax policy for health promotion.** Taxes should be higher on damaging substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and other substances. We propose to tax products which are associated with a negative impact on health, such as food products with too much sugar, too much grease, too much salt etc. The additional revenue should be used for prevention. Healthy foods should be made more accessible.

W.7 Possible connected action 2: **Education and awareness.** Many people are not sufficiently aware of the connection between a healthy environment that provides healthy living conditions for everyone and individual health. We need information and education programs that address health in all its facets. Invest in appropriate information and education programs and ensure a regular EU-wide exchange of good and bad experiences in this area over the coming decades.

W.8 Possible connected action 3: **System reform and access.** To pursue a more preventative approach in healthcare across generations and ensure healthcare for future generations, the entire system must be reconsidered. The EU should demand that nation states find solutions that will work for many decades and support them in finding new ways forward together. It should also facilitate access to medical studies and EU-wide recognition to attract more doctors. It should support greater recognition of nursing professions to ensure adequate care in the long term.

X.1 Reform public health systems: Equal access, sustainable funding, cooperation and knowledge exchange

X.2 Explanation: In the interests of current and future generations and in order to strengthen intergenerational justice, we recommend that the European Union supports Member States in establishing high-quality health systems for all. It is important to ensure equal access for all, regardless of income, education or place of residence, and to secure long-term funding, even in an ageing society.

X.3 Justification 1: Currently, social security in healthcare is characterised by unequal treatment and limited access in rural areas. Equal access to high-quality healthcare on national and regional level can stem the exodus of healthcare workers to other countries within the EU or outside the EU offering better working conditions and lower workloads. Addressing the persistent inequalities between rural and urban areas would provide everyone equal access to high quality healthcare.

X.4 Justification 2: It is good that there is already a regular exchange of knowledge and experience on health issues between Member States. If this knowledge is shared more effectively and quickly across Europe, countries can learn from each other and adopt successful models. The focus should be on how to ensure high-quality healthcare that is accessible to all, even in an ageing society.

X.5 Justification 3: Sustainable solutions must ensure that people of all ages can rely on a high-quality healthcare system in the long term, i.e. across many generations. To this end, financing systems must be developed that work on a non-profit basis and will remain viable over the next 100

to 200 years, even with a rising life expectancy. The EU should support Member States in finding long-term sustainable solutions in this area. In addition to adequate public funding, mechanisms could be created to ensure that people of different ages support each other in the long term.

X.6. Possible connected action 1: **Equal access to the healthcare system**. The EU should support Member States in ensuring good healthcare provision in both rural and urban areas. This applies to both acute healthcare and preventive measures.

X.7 Possible connected action 2: **Knowledge exchange and professional development**. The European Union should support Member States in ensuring continuous, high-quality and efficient professional development for doctors. Scientific research should be supported, and findings shared across the EU. To ensure that more medical professionals are available, medical studies and training should be easier to access, more attractive and accessible with appropriate qualifications and motivation. To access medical studies and training, there should be EU-wide recognition of relevant qualifications (including those from countries outside the EU), accompanied by EU level integration of medical training systems. It should also be guaranteed that a certain period of professional activity is carried out in the country where the studies and training were completed.

X.8 Possible connected action 3: **Sustainable financing of healthcare systems**. The EU should support Member States in finding and implementing long-term sustainable financing of healthcare systems. This can be achieved through knowledge sharing and EU-wide guidelines, based on positive experiences from Member States.