

THOUSANDS OF YOUNG EUROPEANS CALL FOR COMMON SOLUTIONS ON IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN DES JEUNES

Debates About Who Should Come

Press Release, 4th October 2011

While the Euro absorbs much attention, immigration and asylum policy are still unanswered problems in Europe: Italy, Greece and Malta want other countries to share the burden of refugees arriving across the Mediterranean, politicians from France and Germany rigorously reject this. The German minister of the interior categorically denied any common European effort.

Young people in Europe now speak out against this: **78% of young Europeans call out online for all countries to take their share of asylum seekers.** Moreover, the latest European Youth Poll also revealed a demand for a general European immigration policy: 71% want common rules – and not a lottery of different rules from country to country.

2352 young people from 43 European countries between 16 and 27 had their say in the survey conducted via Facebook by the European Youth Parliament from 13 – 26 September 2011, in cooperation with Stiftung Mercator.

Even in times of high youth unemployment, the respondents also spoke out in clear majorities for general openness towards foreign workers (76%). Opinions were split, however, on who should come: Asked whether it should be **Europe's economic interests** to determine who could come to work in Europe, almost 50% said yes, while 46% disagreed.

Greeks pro EU:

Despite conflicts running high in their country about European interference, 71% of young participants from Greece call generally for more European integration, more than the European average.

The European Youth Parliament (EYP) is a non-partisan and independent educational organization active since 1989. Today it is one of the largest European platforms for political debate, intercultural encounters, political educational work and the exchange of ideas among young people in Europe. The EYP consists of a network of 35 European associations in which thousands of young people are active in a voluntary capacity.



YOUNG EUROPEANS WANT EUROPE TO WORK TOGETHER ON IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM POLICY

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT.

Jacob Düringer
Project Manager

Sophienstraße 28-29
10178 Berlin

+49 030 280 951 46
j.dueringer@eyp.org

www.eyp.org/youthpolls

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