A Letter To Europe

To whom it may concern

Hello,

This is young Europe\* speaking.

We are human beings from Craiova, Romania, Berlin, Germany and Graz, Austria. We are people of this society who should have the right to vote. Some of us are funny, outgoing, some of us like to play video games. Some would describe themselves as scholars of the world and pieces of wood found adrift in the river of live. Some of us already envision a certain future for ourselves, such as becoming a successful architect. But as some of us would argue: We are not in the world to live up to somebody else’s expectations.

When we think of Europe, we don’t only see an economic association but also different cultures, traditions, religions, languages and countries. We see a multicultural society enriched by different mindsets and perspectives. As different as we may be all connected by living on the same continent.

There are quite a few things we don’t get about Europe: What’s up with our colonial history as well as modern colonial tendencies? Where is the evaluation of what happened and what we’re still doing? Why does Europe financially support War? Why don’t we do our share and do more in helping developing countries? When looking at people who got it worse than we do and the gap between rich and poor we ask ourselves: Wo does Europe actually care for? Why can Companies like Nestlé have a reign like they do?

The Europe we want to see in the future will be a Europe of independence and unity. It will cherish peace, inside and with its neighbours. It will have a close look not only what’s happening inside its boarders but will also help those countries in need. It will have developed a good climate policy and Europeans will live in equality. The live of Europeans will be filled with charity and not hate. Europeans will have learned to live together as a multicultural society, to exchange cultural values on equal footing, to learn from one another and to embrace differences. The Europe of the future we want to see is a Europe of good communication between each countries, languages and cultures through exchanges and projects. We want to see a fair economy and political representatives who cares about the economical weaker people.

If we had the chance to broadcast something to all of Europe, this is what we want to say: The same human rights for everyone! Humanity above all! Feminism is equality! Empathy is key! Black lives matter! Please, spread love, spread peace, don’t accept just everything and take it all for granted.

Dear reader, do what ever you want with this letter. School is out and we are leaving – to study more or go to the park with friends or cooking lunch for our siblings.

Sincerely

Young Europe\*

\* This letter was written as part of a workshop at the Young Europe Festival. Over two days, school classes from Berlin, Craiova and Graz watched theatre productions and communicated with each other via chat. The letter is composed of their individual and personal responses. The result is a multi-perspective but also contradictory picture of young people's demands and wishes for today's Europe.