

EU FOR ME & YOU

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t h e d i s a d v a n t a g e s
o f t h e E U



ISSUE 1

Released September 2018,
EU FOR ME & YOU devotes itself to be a
magazine full of opinions and interesting
new insights on the EU from a youthful
perspective.

European funds from a Slovakian
point of view

Work & study conditions in
Turkey

and much more ...

Advantages & disadvantages of the EU

GEORGIA AVGOUSTINOY - GREECE

Advantages

- It allows for easier travel throughout Europe
- The union has helped to heal the division of the past
- It has helped to reduce discrimination
- The EU has helped to modernize countries
- Tax free trading among members
- Opens up more opportunities as jobs and education
- Culture is not lost – you are part of the union but you are also you own country
- A common currency
- Laws are imposed by European committees and parliament
- Lower prices of goods and services
- Development of deprived regions
- It creates another level of international security

Disadvantages

- Wealthy countries share their wealth with smaller and poorer countries
- Communication barriers – no common language
- Leaving is a problem
- EU can throw out leaders
- High cost of membership
- Problems with single currency
- High unemployment rates
- Slow economic growth
- Unstable interest rates in the EUROZONE
- Overcrowding due to immigration



European funds

ALZBETA HAJNA - SLOVAKIA

One of the advantage of entering the Europe Union is the possibility to get money for financial support. It is for balancing the regional differences.

Slovakia and eurofunds

Most of the projects implemented by finance from Europe Union have helped Slovakia to become more modern country. Almost every of projects is implemented successful but media don't talk about them so much. It has repaired a lot of buildings from resources of Europe Union, for example many of school and hospitalities, we build new highways and create a lot of new job opportunities.

Slovak politician Rudolf Raši about eurofunds:

„I would like to be mistaken, but to set up a system for drawing on Eurofunds, which allows for clientelistic and corrupt practices, I have no hope of improving the situation. Eurofunds must be de-politicized from the ground. "

Eurofunds in Slovakia should help us, especially because we earn much more than we pay to Europe Union. That can just seems like this. Between the year 2007-2013 Slovakia received 11,3 bilions. In the fact, Slovakia used just 8,63 bilions. In that term Slovakia paid 3,34bilions. So, the real income is 5,3 bilions. In the average of years, from every 90 cents Slovakia earns one euro.

Slovakia maybe received in accounting much more than pay, but in the fact Slovakia can be in a loss. The reason is huge financing in projects, which would maybe never be supported by the government. In my opinion Eurofunds has helped Slovakia in a huge way. From new cyclo lines to repairing parks. Eurofunds helps to increase culture life in countries and be a modern country.

A lot of projects are created just by „free" money. On the end of terms to spend Eurofunds is a big chaos in finishing projects to avoid losing money. Despite all things, I am proud of my country to be a member of Europe Union



Process for agreeing

1. Priorities

EU country and Europe comision are discussing about financial priorities

2. Confirmation

Europe comision approves programs

3. Selection process

The authorities from EU country set the selection process

4. Signature

After evaluating the projects, the government of EU country signs documents

5. Payment

Europe comision paid for implemented projects.

However, if a Member State fails to submit to the European Commission, at the end of each year, a request for a payment for projects implemented in a given volume of funding, the country's euro-fund budget will be reduced.

A Czech politician about European funds:

„Sometimes it is like I'd put a hundred euros to some association and he'd give me the lips, the lint, the depilation wax, the cigarette box, and the gymnastic ribbon. All worth €150. I'm going to be "in a plus", but I think I'd buy a lot more useful stuff for myself by myself.“



Study conditions

MEHMET - TURKEY

The university needed a series of dissatisfaction and unrest in the world and Turkey has increasingly become an institution that focuses run. The need for the university to be described and transformed as a problem ball is a very widely accepted right from the right to the left, from every ideological position. It is also possible to suggest that all actors who want to change the university, which is considered to be an important area of ideological struggle, around its political ideals, are academia's transformation and reconstruction projects.

If we take a quick look at the components of the university, the problems such as the hard working conditions of the lecturers, low wages, more erosion of personal rights every day, the public value of the university and the ever-increasing mission of producing knowledge for the society are striking and burning.

From the perspective of students, the quality of education, the lack of social facilities, the concentration of disciplinary practices in the campuses, while the higher education is delivered to the market conditions, on the other hand, university

education does not promise a future, the quality of education in the presence of a large gap between universities such as the headings are the first to come to mind. For the young people prepared for the university, the table does not look bright at all: As it is almost impossible for the lower-middle classes to meet the cost of preparation for being a student of a good university, it is an extremely low probability to ivers skip class through education aç and to mention the right to education. it becomes meaningless.

The functions expected from universities have changed in the process of globalization, which has led to the weakening of the technological and cultural changes' geographical limitations and the power of economic and political experiences within the sovereignty areas of nation states.

As the control of nation-states in the circulation of knowledge, commodity and capital eroded, the function of welfare and resource distribution weakened.



Work conditions

EMRE VADI BAICI - TURKEY

Both developed, as well as being improved society, which occurred in the services sector growth, the spread of additionally flexible working conditions and possesses features that appeal to more women of these behaviors, women's working life in Turkey has led to participate in a more intense way.

Economy is a concept which, at any age and with which status we are interested in all of us in some way, does not realize it, but pushes into various analyzes. The Turkish Lira, which melts every day against Euro and Dollar, makes life increasingly difficult and makes the future even more uncertain. Turkey also stated in the law the minimum wage and working hours do not meet the conditions present many businesses. People are forced to remain silent in this situation in order not to be in their jobs. If there are children in the house due to heavy living conditions, the employees remain silent.

The fact that the state mechanism does not experience rapid returns in such situations and the employee feels lonely under these unjust circumstances is also a great factor in this injustice.

After working in the same office for 20 years, Turkey is a country where people are refusing to go to court for compensation. This atmosphere should be observed when assessing the success, performance and performance of individuals. Workers living in Turkey receive less wages than workers in European countries shows that more work. Terms aired between European countries and Turkey. Let's come to work overtime and the weekly working hours in the law are unrealistic in the business world.

In the private sector, it is difficult to meet people who work under 10 hours. These working periods are decorated with food and tea breaks and the period of time that the worker is working is separated. Employees want to have their own private life, social life, hobbies. The most important part of his life is whether he can get a job, don't think it over, and get up and down.

According to the data of a European workers average weekly working time of 40 hours, 8-19 hours, even not reach the employee works more than one European workers in Turkey
Of course, the only difference is not working hours.



Greece vs. Belgium vs. the EU

YASSIN MOUSTAHDID - BELGIUM

What is the first thing that comes up in your mind when you here EU?

Georgia: The flag. (laughs)

Evi: That it started after the Second World war.

Georgia: That there are lots of countries in it. Like 28 countries. I'm not sure though.

Evi: That you can travel ...

Georgia: ... around! I can use just my ID and I don't need any other documents.

Do you like the EU?

Georgia: Yes! But it would be better if we kept our own currency. I was cheaper with the Greek Drachmas. Now everything got more expensive in our own country.

Evi: Yes, because we didn't have a war since. I think that the EU offers a lot of possibilities to the younger generations.

Georgia: The Erasmus+-program for example! (laughs)

What would be a disadvantage of the EU in your own country?

Georgia: That we have to give back the money to Germany. (laughs)

Evi: I think that the disadvantage is that we lose a part of our local or national countries culture. We become all the same. It loses its exclusivity somehow.

Georgia: I can relate to that. We export lots of Greek products and import lots of foreign goods. That's not a bad thing, but we lose for example old recipes that our grandparents used to know. But we also create new ones, so it's normal. What I also liked about the EU is the reduced discrimination, except that nowadays we have a rise of discrimination in the whole of Europe.



What would you consider to be the EU's biggest advantage?

Evi: I think that we have lots of advantages, like: health, culture, etc. But I don't think that there is just one advantage. So yeah...

Georgia: The trade, I would say. And off course the whole economic situation. I mean the single currency helped to improve and increase tourism. And the European Single Market if you trade your . They make it easier. The European Single Market. Same coin, increased tourism. Increased tourism, centre of region. On the path to the capital of the region.

What would you like to change the EU?

Georgia: To reduce the power and control of bigger countries on smaller countries. Sometimes I feel trapped. All the countries should have the same power. (She plays with hand to show balance)

Evi: No, not really. I'm ok with the EU staying like it is. It's a better place than for example the United States.

Is there something that the EU could learn from your countries?

Georgia: How we live, that how we understand the point life, to have parties and not just work. Under these economic conditions, we are still optimistic. We don't lose our positive attitude. We are all together if something bad happens. If we need to solve it we need to work together.



Evi De Mesmaeker (25) lives in Belgium, not that far away from Brussels and Ghent. The city where she lives is renowned for a Abbey-style beer, also called Affligem. She studies social work in a college in Ghent. Being from Western Europe and from the country that houses most of the European institutions, she has other view on matters than other European countries.



Georgia Avgoustinou (24) lives in a quaint little city in the northern part of Greece, called Florina. As a unemployed teacher (primary school) she doesn't like to sit still and will start a second study to specialize as a kindergarten teacher. Being from Southern Europe, she has a different view and therefore a different perspective of the EU and it's institutions than Western Europe.

EU POPQUIZ

1. Which of these statements is FALSE?

- A) Many words in European languages have common roots, for instance 'Europe' and 'democracy' (Greek) or 'union' (Latin).
- B) Many art forms originated in one European country and spread across the continent and often even further... Jazz music is one example.
- C) European countries have developed a set of common values, such as freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

2. Which of these statements is FALSE?

- A) In the aftermath of the Second World War, the initial idea was to secure peace in Europe by bringing nations together as equals.
- B) The founding members of the EU were Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Spain.
- C) More than 80 million people were killed in the two world wars, many of whom were civilians.

3. Which of these is NOT a value on which the EU is founded?

- A) Respect for human dignity and human rights
- B) Free trade
- C) Freedom

4. In which city was the latest treaty signed?

- A) Rome
- B) Amsterdam
- C) Lisbon

5. Do you know which it is?

- A) Energy, environment and agriculture
- B) Transport and the internal market (i.e. the EU's single market offering free movement of goods, services, people and capital)
- C) School education and training

DO YOU AGREE, DISAGREE, DON'T CARE AT ALL?

JOIN US AND THOUSANDS OF OTHERS IN THE
WONDERFUL WORLD OF ERASMUS+.
WE CAN PROMISE YOU ONE THING:
YOU WILL NOT FORGET THE EXPERIENCE.
THE REST IS UP TO YOU. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!


*This magazine was created by Mehmet Betka,
Evi, Emre, Georgia & Yassin with love and care.*