A Letter to Europe B

To whom it may concern

Hello,

this is young Europe\* speaking.

We are human being from Austria (Graz), Serbia, Bosnia, Germany (Berlin), Romania (Craiova) and Albania. Some are activists trying to help humanity and nature to exist the way they do now and trying to stop the destruction of nature. Some are persons who like music and sports. Some are not proud to be part of the EU because they are messing everything up and some are feminists.

When we think about Europe, we see a trading community and diverse people and religions living on the same continent. Countries that have a lot of potential being the new developed countries that lead the way in problems like climate change etc. but do not really use their potential to be better. Countries that are rich because they abused their power and had colonies in Africa etc. And countries that have a pretty good health and school system (not the best but still) and in which freedom is an important value. We see countries you can travel in, which have the same currency and the opportunity to discover different landscapes and cultures.

When we think about Europe, we see also a bunch of problems our generation must solve because of the ignorance of previous generations.

What we don’t understand about Europe is how every country ignores problems or sometimes even make new and how we can let people die at our borders, accept dictatorships in our Union and still strut ourselves with our human rights and democracy? How can we praise our equality even though there is none? How Europe claims to be a great political stand but ignore important stuff and let corruption happen repeatedly and why there are so many countries that hate each other? Why doesn’t Europe do more for climate change and does not help poorer counties develop more, so they can have better lives too? We see people trying to be openminded and to have equality in everything, which isn’t working all the way.

What we don’t really get: Why is Australia in the ESC?

When we think about Europe, we are angry about our refugee politic and the way of romanticising everything belonging to us but harassing other countries with equality or racism. The amount of money they spent on corona help in comparison to the money they spent on climate change. We are angry about people who want change but are not doing anything to achieve it and people that are still narrow minded and intolerant. We are angry about people saying they are against climate change and then still wanting eat meat or flying to vacations.

Human beings dying at our southern coasts because the countries refuse to rescue them from the water and leave them to drown. The wasted potential makes us angry.

The Europe I want to see in the future will be one where everyone is accepting sexualities and genders, and the accepting of refugees guarantee. Loving and caring not only about themselves but also about all humans and the nature that is necessary for all humans to live a good and safe life. An alliance that isn`t just an economic organisation but an institution that fights all problems in the world, powerful and autonomous enough to stop China from their new holocaust against the Uighurs, protects our environment and takes care of making the world a better and fair place and a place for equal opportunities for the next generations!

Dear reader, do whatever 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.