

Youth Call for European Solidarity

To counter the current crisis we need European solidarity. This open letter calls for unified European action across national borders. We want to demonstrate to our finance ministers to think about their responsibility for the whole European project. A group of young Europeans from countries all across the union formulated this letter and are reaching out to youth organizations for support. We want to publish the letter on Monday, 6th of April, in various European countries. Spread the word!

Open Letter to the finance ministers of the eurozone

We are currently at a crossroads that will determine the course of the European project. The Coronavirus has led Europe into a health and economic emergency. With a debt crisis looming, the survival of the European Union is dependent on unification instead of separation. The youth of Europe calls for our finance ministers to put solidarity first. We have grown up in a united Europe and want to be treated as equal citizens. European youth were amongst those who suffered most from the European Debt Crisis, a time in which youth unemployment skyrocketed. We do not want a repeat of this.

In line with European legislation, we call for joint action to support the member states which are strongly hit by the current crisis. Article 122 para. 2 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as amended by the Lisbon Treaty states: “Where a Member State is in difficulties or is *seriously threatened with severe difficulties caused by natural disasters or exceptional occurrences beyond its control* [emphasis added], the Council, on a proposal from the Commission, may grant, under certain conditions, Union financial assistance to the Member State concerned.”

We ask for economic and financial measures upholding European values of humanitarianism and dignity, which are seemingly forgotten at present. We are supporting the measures suggested by leading economists and Prime Ministers of most European countries. At the moment, these are debt mutualisations (e.g. coronabonds) at a European level in support with the most vulnerable countries. We are also supporting any other measures that leave austerity, oppressive conditionality and old resentments behind. We demand common and supportive action from our economic leaders, which goes beyond national interest and offers the best option from a European perspective.

In light of intergenerational justice, European liability today means European stability tomorrow. Showing solidarity now is a powerful step towards a common European future. We need to make European action and solidarity across borders a top priority, if we are to deal with the challenging issues of our time.

Signed by:

Jusos in der SPD (Germany)
DWARs, GroenLinkse Jongeren (Netherlands)
European Solidarity Network (Belgium)
Volt
Grüne Jugend (Germany)
European Student Think Tank
MigrAzioni (Italy)
Volt Deutschland (Germany)
déi jonk gréng (Luxembourg)
Rethinking Economics Malta
Rethinking Economics Lumsa Palermo (Italy)
Rethinking Economics Italy
Fridays for Future Thessaloniki (Greece)
Netzwerk Plurale Ökonomik (Germany)
Neos Magazine (Italy)
Grüne Jugend Sachsen (Germany)
Volt Ireland
Jonge Socialisten (Netherlands)
Institut Jacqueline Kennedy (France)
Erasmus UAB (Spain)
DiEM25 Deutschland (Germany)
Demokratie in Bewegung DiB (Germany)
Cusanus Hochschule (Germany)
Asociación Biodiversa (Spain)
Landelijke Studentenvakbond (Netherlands)
Extinction Rebellion Malta
Rethinking Economics Netherlands
Lipa - Lokalna integracijska platforma (Slovenia)
Verde Wien (Austria)
Students for Future Wien (Austria)
Gode Penge (Denmark)
Green New Deal für Hamburg (Germany)
Jusos Freiburg (Germany)
Federation of Young European Greens
Climate Change Society
Verband Sozialistischer Student_innen in Österreich - Sektion Wien (Austria)
Wirtschaftspolitische Akademie (Austria)
European Horizons at the University of Amsterdam
déi jonk gréng (Luxembourg)
Jusos Oberbayern (Germany)
Think-tank Tortuga (Italy)
netzwerk n e.V. (Germany)
Young Greens Southtyrol (Italy)
Rethinking Economica Italia
4lthangrund für Alle! (Germany)
Jonge Democraten (Netherlands)

FNV Jong (Netherlands)
International Young Naturefriends (Czech Republic)
Jonas Algres (Norway)
European Student Movement
Mouvement des Jeunes Socialistes (France)
EuroPeers
European Generation
SJD – Die Falken (Germany)
Jugendrat der Generationenstiftung (Germany)
Extinction Rebellion Göttingen (Germany)
European Youth Parliament Italy
Jongsocialisten (Netherlands)
European Horizons at Tsinghua
BUÉ FIXE (Portugal)
Jeunes cdH (Belgium)