

YOUTH VOICE



The
Decade
of
Citizens



Erasmus+

CYPRUS 2021



Everyone should vote



The right to vote is a political privilege, the legal right to vote in public political elections. Although it varies from language to language, it is sometimes referred to as active suffrage to distinguish it from passive voting rights. The combination of active and passive voting is sometimes called full voting rights.

The right to vote is generally considered in terms of representative democracy, but the right to vote applies equally to referendums and initiatives. The right to vote defines not only the legal right to vote, but also the practical question of whether to put a question to the vote. The benefit of voting is diminished when important questions are decided unilaterally without comprehensive, conscientious, full disclosure and public scrutiny.

When they reach voting age, qualified citizens are given the right to vote. What constitutes a qualified citizen is up to the government's decision. Non-citizens can vote, citizens of closely related countries (for example, Commonwealth Citizens and European Union citizens), or in some countries which may be limited to certain offices or inquiries.

What does the vote mean?

Participants in a meeting choosing one of several options regarding a problem . A sign, word, or text indicating this preference. The preference made by a person for any candidate or party in elections. A vocalization used to describe various emotions.

REPRESENTATION HAS A GREAT IMPACT IN EVERY AREA OF LIFE AND CONTINUES CHANGE.

Elections are not just about who is in office. It's about what policies are implemented and where the money is spent. Decisions are made every day on issues such as health, education, fair wages, the environment, taxes, housing and public safety. When people choose not to vote, they are giving their voice and power to someone else.



Voting is more than just choosing a candidate, it's choosing people who take the right policies and interests into account when making decisions that affect our community, state and nation. When you vote, health, immigration, equal opportunity, voting rights, infrastructure, jobs, education, social security, neighborhood safety, taxes, etc. You will take an active role in decision-making on issues related to vote.

Voting only takes a few minutes, but the ripple effect your vote causes goes beyond the candidate's tenure. Would you like someone else to set the laws that affect your family and community for you? Voting gives you the power to choose how your city, state and country is governed. You can't complain if you don't vote! Go vote and make the decision before someone else does it for you.

Racism and where I stand on racism.



What is racism? In modern societies people often get discriminated in a different way for a belief of theirs, that doesn't respond to others' expectations, for an action of theirs, that people did not find acceptable, for their job, for their social status, for how they dress and even for small things like what food they eat or what type of coffee they drink. But all of those factors are a consequence of an event, a series of events and most important of all- choice. Even religion is something that can be changed under peer pressure, in order to fit to the status quo. How about changing skin color?

Racism is discrimination mostly based on the color of people's skin, as they're perceived as being biologically different as a species and in some way a lower form of human beings, compared to white people.

What is white privilege? White people rarely stop and think about the fact that they're "privileged" in society, and have benefits over non-white people, under the same social, political or economic circumstances. Unfortunately, white privilege exists in every aspect imaginable and is embedded into modern social structures.



There are countless historical examples of people being segregated due to their skin color and put under tough circumstances (e.g. slavery) or the Holocaust. Actually, it is racism that fueled Nazi ideology and policies, as the Nazis viewed the world as being divided up into competing inferior and superior races. Europeans and white people were considered being "Aryans" and having inherited superior physical and mental traits, therefore also being a superior race.

Scientific racism, sometimes called biological racism, is the belief, that empirical evidence exists to support or justify racial discrimination, but I think, that racism should not be justified. There is no excuse for racism. Especially nowadays, with the COVID pandemic going on, when people's lives are literally at risk, fewer vaccines are going to Black people, for example. COVID has also fueled up racism, as the virus originated in China, which gives racists the opportunity to blame people of color.

I think that racism is the cancer of modern society. Everyday we witness different cases of inequality due to skin color - murders, court cases with biased decisions, ruined future and life opportunities and a lot of broken hearts.

This should not be the world we live in and how people perceive one another. If racism didn't exist, humanity would be completely different – wars could have been avoided, lives could be saved, and we could all live in a better and safer society, were it not for racism.

I think that no human being should suffer in any way due to their different skin color and recognizing racism and its' presence in our daily lives is the first step towards developing a healthy society. A society without inequality.

A society without pain and suffering.

A society without racism... and therefore, a better world to live in.

Natalia Nikolova, 24, Bulgaria



THE EU IS
GREAT
BECAUSE...



The European Union is great because it makes the life of a citizen a lot easier. By its international laws and projects functioning all over the EU countries it supports European integration and helps to build up good relationships between people of different nationality, race, or religion. EU also supports non-EU countries to strengthen their economy and political situation. Here are some of the pluses of the EU that are important for me and my daily life.

Travelling in EU countries is very easy and safe. 22 EU countries are in the Schengen area, where people can cross the border only by presenting a valid ID card or a passport. There are also laws for every country of the Union that ensure the safety of an EU citizen travelling outside his mother country. Citizens also have European Health Insurance Card with which you will receive the necessary healthcare all over the EU and be treated under the same conditions as people from the host country.

EU citizens have a right to study, train and work anywhere in the EU. This gives a young person many opportunities not to only get the knowledge by studying on a school or a university, but also to learn by getting to know people from other countries. This helps us to make the European Union a multicultural place where citizens understand and tolerate the others. There are also some projects organized by the EU, such as Erasmus+, which gives a student an opportunity to spend a period of time abroad by providing financial and organisational support. Since 1987, more than 5 million young people have taken part. Thanks to this project I got to know great new people and I can exchange my own experiences with them. I really have an amazing time here in Cyprus.

There are laws to protect people shopping in the EU. They protect our consumer rights. For example, we have a minimum 2-year guarantee period for products, 14 days to return goods bought online and the hidden charges and pre-ticked boxes on websites are prohibited.

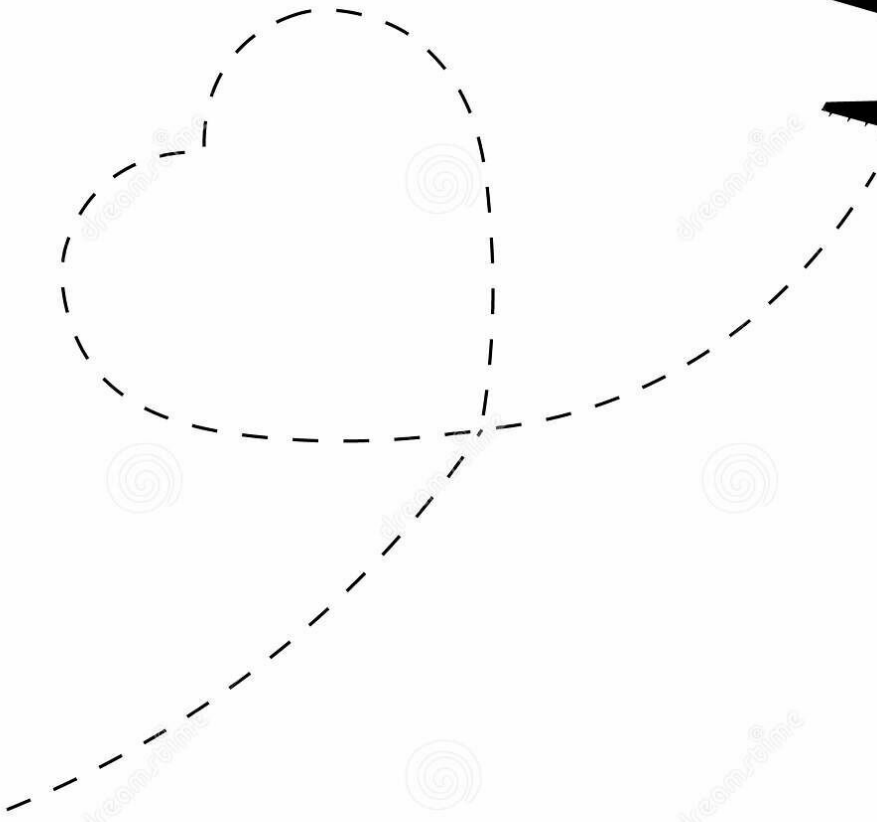
Since 2002, EU has its own currency, Euro. More than 340 million citizens in 19 countries use Euro now. For me as a Euro user, it really helps me while travelling to easily compare the prices with those in my country.

EU citizens pay prices for communication services as in their domestic country. Since 2017, there are no roaming prices, and the telecommunication providers will not overcharge you as before.

The European Union makes my life easier. Some of its international laws affect my life in a positive manner. There is still a lot to do and improve, but I think our politicians will do their best to implement suitable and functional laws in order to make the EU even greater than how it is now.

Things to know when traveling to another country

You're excited to be heading to that exotic locale for your upcoming vacation, but in order to have a carefree time, it's wise to invest a bit of time upfront to make sure you've covered your bases.



- 1. Make sure your passport and visa are up-to-date**
Make a photocopy of the information page of your passport and the visa page(s) for your destination(s). Pack them separately from your passport.
- 2. Check for health advisories and travel warnings and advisories**
The continuing impact of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus (which causes the COVID-19 disease) is still unfolding and is affecting different countries across the globe in different ways. Before your next trip, check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website for the most current information, including updates on COVID-19 testing and vaccinations that may be required for international travel.
- 3. Stock your wallet with acceptable methods of payment. Choose one or two credit cards to take with you, and call the issuers shortly before you leave to tell them which countries you'll be visiting. Otherwise, your credit card could be denied, as the issuer may find the international activity suspicious. Reduce fraud risk by leaving behind any cards you don't plan to use on your trip.**
- 4. Doing research is the most important. The more you know about the history and customs of your destination countries, the more you will enjoy and benefit from your journey.**



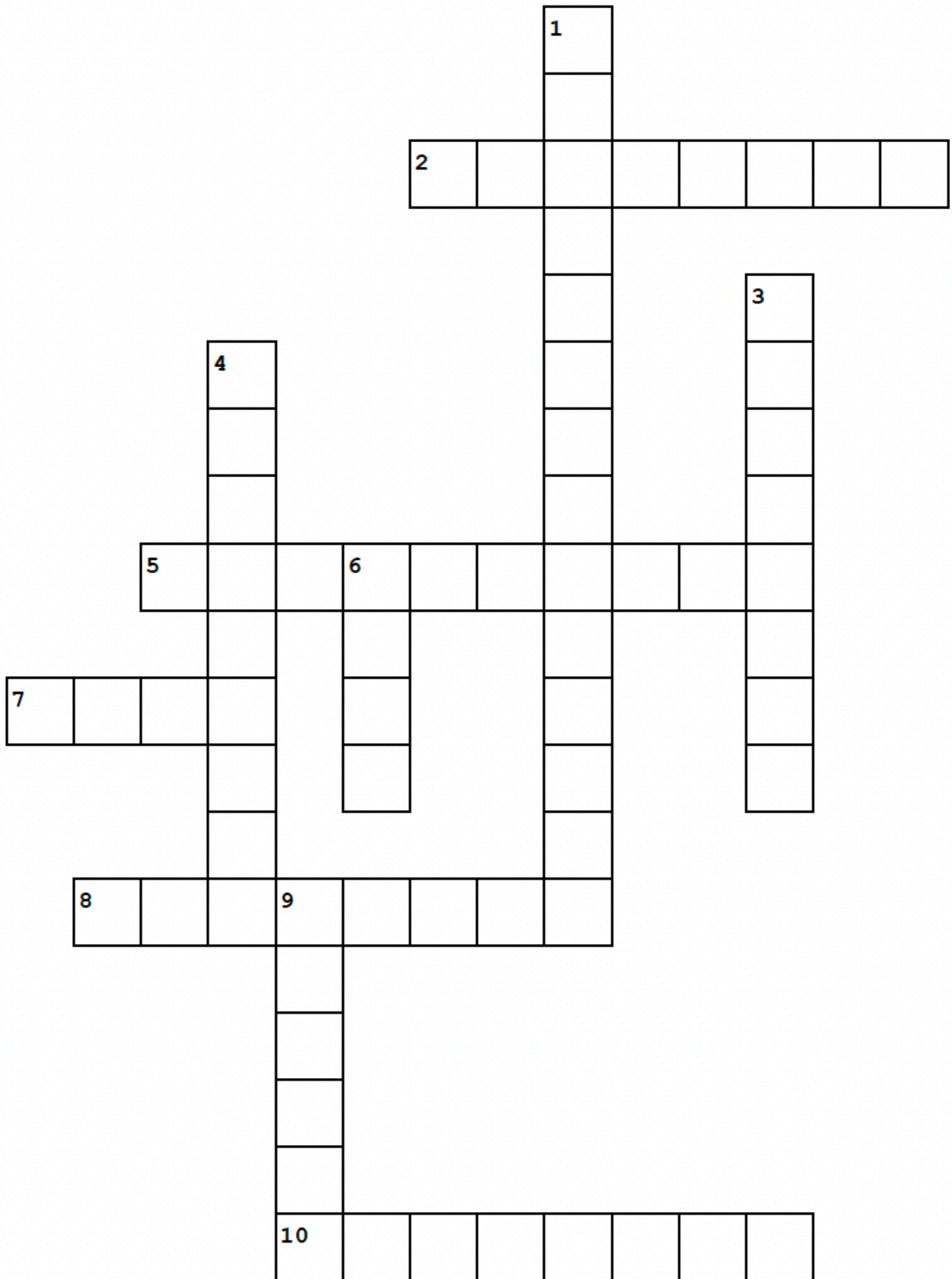
Across

2. an official document with personal information and a photograph allows a person to travel to foreign countries
5. a vote in which all people in a country decide about an important political or social question
7. an official mark in a passport that allows you to enter or leave a particular country
8. a vote in which all people in a country choose someone for a political or official job
10. area in the EU where the EU citizens can travel with ID card

Down

1. treating a person differently or worse from the way in which you treat other people, because of their skin colour, sex, sexuality
3. the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe
4. willingness to accept behaviour and beliefs that are different from your own, although you might not agree with or approve of them
6. currency of 19 EU countries
9. an island country in the eastern Mediterranean Sea

Game - crossword





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