Are young people interested in European politics?

Radio and multimedia reporting



Adrián de la Roja Misis Journalist

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What I am going to do and who I am?

I am Adrián de la Roja, a 24-year-old journalist and political communicator who is very interested in what happens beyond the Spanish borders. This initiative consists of a personal journalistic project in which I'm going to make a radiography about the involvement of young Europeans in EU affairs and their political participation.

The report, radio (podcast) and multimedia (website and Instagram), is going to be directly connected to the European elections, which will take place between June 6 and 9. I will travel, during the election campaign, to several EU countries to collect testimonies of young people and experts from different countries to help me find answers to my questions about the political involvement of young people.



Route

-Dates: May 20th to June 10th (during election campaign and elections).

-Transport: train.

-Starting point: Madrid.

-Start and end of trip: Amsterdam-Brussels.

-Number of countries: 9.



Hypothesis and why I am doing this project?

Although in the 2019 European elections young people increased their participation, there are voices that point out that they show apathy about European Union affairs. This is a hypothesis that I intend to test in this paper.

Therefore, taking advantage of the elections, I intend to investigate through data, expert sources and testimonies the perception of young people on European politics.

Why am I embarking on this project?

Because elections are a key moment to measure and analyze the political participation of society, in this case of young people. In addition, this project allows me to get started in two of my great passions: politics and radio. In addition, to develop a journalistic work that will undoubtedly be useful to me in the future.

Target

- -Young people who feel distant from European politics.
- -Age range: from 16 to 25 years old. Generation Z.

Main goals

To understand young people's perception of European policy, the causes of their possible disengagement and what needs to be done to bring them on board.

Specific goals/research questions

- 1° To know why the European Union is important and explain why it is so.
- 2° To explain why it is important for young people to get involved and vote.
- 3° To find out if politics is relevant or not for young citizens and why (causes).
- 4° To study whether young Europeans are involved in European politics and in the upcoming elections.
- 5° To analyze and compare which are the issues that most concern young people and which are the issues that are usually on the agenda of the Parliament.
- 6° To analyze what the European institutions should do to get closer to the young population. Is it only the responsibility of the European institutions that young people are involved?
- 7° To analyze the political participation of young people in the June elections.
- 8° Multimedia objectives: to complete the project with articles, infographics and complementary posts on the European Union and young people.

Personal goals

- -The story should have an impact on at least one communication or political actor.
- -After a year in corporate communications, check if I like being a news reporter/journalist.
- -Check if freelancing is a real option.
- -Check if radio can be my future.
- -Check if I want to work in Europe in the future.
- -Profitable experience abroad and getting out of the comfort zone.
- -Carte presentation for my future as a journalist, specifically in radio and in Europe.
- -Expand my network of contacts.
- -Learn on my own and put into practice basic issues about radio and reporting.
- -To inspire other young people to undertake and take risks when they do not know how to achieve their goals.
- -Getting closer to answering a question I have often asked myself: Are young people interested in politics?

Name: Generation Z and the European elections.

Broadcasting platforms: Spotify and Ivoox.

Methodology

-Survey of contextual data and reports on European politics and political participation of young people.

-Interviews to national and international experts online and in person.

-Statements of young people in university and non-university environments.

-Interviews and content in Spanish and English.

Sources and interviewees

- -Associations: Team Europe, Together.eu
- -Political scientists: Pablo Simón, Lluís Orriols
- -Professors: José Cepeda García de León, Francisco Michavila
- -MEPs and Politicians: Ibán García del Blanco (PSOE), Adrián Vázquez (CS)
- -Correspondents: Laura Zornoza (EFE); David Vidueiro (RNE); Emilio Ordiz (20 minutos)
- -Internal communication of the Parliament: Jaume Duch, Jesús Carmona
- -Junior Politicians: Antonio Romero Jurado (PSOE), Diego Moreira (BNG), Javier Vaquero
- -International experts: European Youth Forum, Ismael Paez Civico; Gediminas VILKAS, Press Officer European Parliament
- -Anonymous university and non-university youth.
- -Experts in political participation and European institutions of each country visited.

5 Chapters

- 1° Explanation of the report, what it will be about, why the European institutions are important and why it is important for young people to vote.
- 2° Is Generation Z involved in European politics?
- 3° What are the reasons for this possible disengagement?
- 4° What should the European institutions -or other institutions- do to capture the attention of young people?
- 5° How was the political participation of young people in these European elections?
- *A few weeks will elapse between the first and the second chapter because I want to take advantage of the elections to launch the first episode even if the rest of the chapters are not ready. However, the rest of the episodes will be published later. These post-election weeks will be used to edit the report and analyze the election results. During this interim period, special chapters will be published, yet to be determined.

Multimedia

-Website

-Instagram

Website

-Name: Generation Z and the European elections.

-URL: dlroja.com

-Logo:



Website

Contents in English and Spanish:

- -Articles on EU current affairs, elections and youth political participation.
- -Infographics.
- -Opinion and analysis articles.
- -Interviews.
- -Chronicle by country.

Instagram

-Name: genz_eleccioneseu

Instagram

Contents in English and Spanish:

- -Posts: save the date, chronicle by country, infographics, anecdotes with interviewees, European current affairs in a few words.
- -Stories: daily video chronicle, daily photographs, articles of interest, reposted web articles, interaction with the audience (surveys, questions...).
- -Reel: video interviews.

Timing/schedule

9th of May	Europe Day and one month to elections	Web and Instagram Launch
20th of May		Start travel report
8th of June	Reflection day	First podcast chapter
9th of June	Election day in most countries	
10-30th of June		Special chapters and editing of the report
8-12th of July	Post-election data published, one month after the elections and one week before the constitution of the 10th legislature of Parliament	Publication of 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th chapters



THANK YOU