

Forum: Youth Assembly

Issue: Strengthening Youth Representation in Governance

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Position: Co-Head



Personal Introduction

Dear Delegates,

My name is Alexandros Hargitt, and I am a 9th-grade student at Costeas-Geitonas School (CGS). It is my honor to serve as this year's Co-Head of the Youth Assembly at the American College of Greece Model United Nations (ACGMUN).

My MUN experience started one year ago, with my brother's encouragement to participate in the 19th CGSMUN conference. At the time, I was clueless about what MUN could offer and did not think highly of it. However, once I experienced what MUN is like, I cannot be more grateful towards my brother, who pushed me to take part in MUN. As a delegate, MUN has taught me how to connect with people, socialize, and, more importantly, to be creative, engaging with feasible ideas that can offer solutions on the given topics of every committee.

This guide aims to provide information that can be used by you, Delegates, to create a holistic view on the topic of “Strengthening Youth Representation in Governance” and help you prepare for the upcoming conference. If any questions arise, do not hesitate to contact me at alhargittmun@gmail.com. Should you have any further questions, you can also contact the Main Chair of the Youth Assembly Akis at akisd78@gmail.com.

Best regards,

Alexandros Hargitt

Topic Introduction

Parliaments and Governments are faced with major issues regarding the youth. The deficiency of participation in general elections, which creates an imbalance in the results, the lack of visible change in laws and issues that arise, and the absence of modernization in many sectors, such as education,

are all impacts of having no youth members in governance, and why solving this problem is crucial for society¹.

Armenia, having one of the youngest average ages in parliament, has had a massive increase in the turnout of votes compared to the 2021 elections, which had a 60% turnout, and the 2013 elections, which had only a mere 40% turnout. This is a prime example of how youth representation in governance has solved a major problem of many nations having a low turnout rate². For example, due to Greece having a majority of old members in Parliament, the turnout rate has remained at a low 30%. Strengthening youth participation will create a higher turnout rate, which will create a more rounded view of the members in the National Assembly.

Enhancing youth participation in governance has already prompted changes. However, it is not complete. There are many measures and ways of further strengthening youth participation, which are crucial to society and the parliament.

Definition of Key Terms

Youth Governance

“Youth Governance is the idea and act of younger members in society bringing changes to the nation, which they govern in harmony with older, already existing Members of Parliament (MP).”³ This can help with civic involvement in many ways, such as youth expressing their opinions and having more active community service.

European Youth Parliament (EYP)

“The European Youth Parliament (EYP) is a non-profit organization for civic education, intercultural encounters, and exchange of ideas. This Parliament is run mostly by youth for youth. Its main goals are to create a place where young citizens can be informed and open-minded on topics that will be a part of their everyday life as citizens. This happens through conferences all around Europe multiple times per year.”⁴

¹International Foundation for Electoral Systems. “IFES Election Guide | Country Profile: Armenia.” *Electionguide.org*, 2023, www.electionguide.org/countries/id/12/.

² Kapa. “Why Greeks Are Staying Away from the Polls: Key Insights from the 2023-2024 Survey.” *Kapa Research*, 6 Nov. 2024, www.kaparesearch.com/understanding-voter-abstention-in-greeces-2023-2024-elections/.

³ Thompson, Hywania. “Youth in Governance.” *Community Youth Development*, youth.extension.wisc.edu/articles/youth-in-governance/.

⁴ European Youth Parliament. “EYP History / European Youth Parliament.” *European Youth Parliament*, 2017, eyp.org/who-we-are/about-us/history/.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

“Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enrol in. MOOCs provide an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills and get quality educational experiences. Some of these experiences include political guidance and how to participate actively in politics.”⁵

Civic Engagement

“Civic Engagement is defined as the participation of citizens in any activity aiming to make a change. Civic Engagement is similar to volunteering, as usually the people who participate do not get paid. However, it aims to express citizens' opinions on many topics involving politics.”⁶ Youth participation in governance can be enhanced through Civic Engagement.

Youth Parliaments

“Youth Parliaments are the annual conferences that the EYP holds around Europe and the World. They are the main way of creating an informed society on topics related to politics and Youth Governance.”⁷

AFS Youth Assembly

“AFS Youth Assembly is a global platform that focuses on exchanging ideas related to the UN and encourages students all around the world to connect. Its main goal is to create students who crave politics and become active members of them.”⁸

International Youth Parliament (IYP)

“The International Youth Parliament (IYP) is an independent organization founded in Ethiopia. It allows any student who wishes to participate without any bias on race, gender or political preferences.

⁵ Educause Library . “Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).” *EDUCAUSE*, 15 Jan. 2015, library.educause.edu/topics/teaching-and-learning/massive-open-online-course-mooc.

⁶ Augusta University . “What Is Civic Engagement?” *What Is Civic Engagement?*, 24 Oct. 2024, www.augusta.edu/online/blog/what-is-civic-engagement.

⁷ Young People's Parliament Programme. “Young People’s Parliament Programme.” *Parlamento.pt*, 2026, www.parlamento.pt/sites/EN/Parliament/Paginas/Young-People-Parliament-Programme.aspx.

⁸ Assembly, The Youth. “The Youth Assembly Dare to Reshape the World | August 12-14, 2022 in NYC.” *The Youth Assembly*, www.youthassembly.org/.

Its goals are to create a place where students who engage in politics can be seen and assisted in their dreams.”⁹

Background Information

Historical Background of Youth Representation

Rising in the late 20th century, youth representation is becoming a crucial part of society, especially in the recent technological era. Youth in governance, compared to 1978, with the election of Don Nickles, has seen massive improvement, with nations such as Armenia and Norway having a young average age in parliament. That year played an important role in achieving the status quo of youth involvement today. With the election of Don Nickles, society learns that age is not the only factor which should be considered when voting on who will be in charge of the states¹⁰. Just years later, the European Youth Parliament was founded in 1987; since that day, this organization has been supporting youth engagement in politics and is essential in maintaining the current level of youth governance.

EU Movements on Candidates Ages

Movements on changing the age of citizens running for European elections have also played a role in today's situation¹¹. Since 1979, the legal age for a member in parliament for all nations in the European Union has been under 25. Additionally, certain nations such as Belgium, Spain, Luxembourg and various others have adopted laws that allow citizens over the age of 18 to participate in the European elections as candidates.

⁹ International Youth Parliament . “About Us – International Youth Parliament.” *Iypglobal.org*, 2017, iypglobal.org/about-us/.

¹⁰ European Youth Parliament. “EYP History / European Youth Parliament.” *European Youth Parliament*, 2017, iyp.org/who-we-are/about-us/history/.

¹¹AT a *GLANCE European Elections 2024*.

[www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/749766/EPRS_ATAG\(2023\)749766_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/749766/EPRS_ATAG(2023)749766_EN.pdf).

Member State	Minimum age	Legal basis in national law
Belgium	18	Article 41 of the European Parliament Elections Act 1989 as modified by Act of 12.12.2021
Bulgaria	21	Article 351 of the Electoral Code
Czechia	21	Article 6 of the European Parliament Elections Act
Denmark	18	§ 6 of the Act Concerning the Election of the Danish MEPs
Germany	18	§ 6b of the European Elections Act
Estonia	21	§ 4(5) of the European Parliament Election Act
Ireland	21	Section 11 of the European Parliament Elections Act 1997
Greece	25	Article 2(1) of Law 4255/2014 on European elections in conjunction with Article 55 of the Constitution
Spain	18	Article 6 of the Organic Law 5/1985 of 19 June 1985
France	18	Article 5 of the EP Elections Act in conjunction with Article L.127 and L.2 of the Electoral Code
Croatia	18	Article 5 of the European Parliament Elections Act in conjunction with Article 45 of the Constitution
Italy	25	Article 4 of the Law on the Election of Italian MEPs 1979
Cyprus	21	Article 13 of the European Parliament Elections Act
Latvia	21	§ 4 of the Act on Election to the European Parliament
Lithuania	21	Article 10(6) of the Electoral Code
Luxembourg	18	Article 285(1)(3) of the Electoral Act 2003
Hungary	18	Article XXIII of the Fundamental Law in conjunction with § 2:10 of the Civil Code (age of majority)
Malta	18	Article 19(1) of the European Parliament Elections Act 2004
Netherlands	18	Article Y4(a) of the Electoral Act
Austria	18	§ 29 of the European Elections Ordinance
Poland	21	Article 11 § 1(4) of the Electoral Code
Portugal	18	Article 4 of the Electoral Law for the European Parliament in conjunction with Articles 1 and 4 of the Law Governing Elections to the Assembly of the Republic
Romania	23	Article 5(7) of the European Parliament Elections Law
Slovenia	18	Article 10 of the Election of MEPs from the Republic of Slovenia Act
Slovakia	21	§ 73(1)(a)(b) of Act No 180/2014 Coll. , on the conditions for the exercise of the right to vote
Finland	18	§ 164 of the Elections Act in conjunction with § 14(II) of the Constitution
Sweden	18	Avdelning V, 4 § of the Elections Act

Figure 1¹²: Image depicting the minimum age to stand as a candidate in European elections

More recently, in the 21st century, the AFS Youth Assembly, founded in 2004, which aims to engage students with politics, has created multiple leaders in the UN¹³. The AFS has also hosted multiple conferences in the past 20 years, all of which aim for global change. With the example of the New York conference, which specifically tackled the issue of adversity in Youth¹⁴. The International Youth Parliament (IYP), founded in 2017, which mainly targets African LEDCs, has also made major changes as they aim to find students who are not able to participate in

¹² AT a [GLANCE European Elections 2024](#).

[www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/749766/EPRS_ATA\(2023\)749766_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/749766/EPRS_ATA(2023)749766_EN.pdf).

¹³ Assembly, The Youth. "The Youth Assembly Dare to Reshape the World | August 12-14, 2022 in NYC." *The Youth Assembly*, www.youthassembly.org/.

¹⁴ International Youth Parliament . "About Us – International Youth Parliament." *Iypglobal.org*, 2017, iypglobal.org/about-us/.

European-centered parliaments. This helps create young, talented leaders who aspire to help Nations find solutions to problems that may arise. Today Youth representation, with the assistance of all these organizations and movements, has managed to impact all nations, some more, some less, increasing the amount of youth occupied in parliaments and governments. However, there is much more to happen to create a balanced representation of youth with the correct privileges and abilities to change laws.

Voting Age in the Past Century Around the World

Since the end of the First World War, there have been numerous movements supporting the idea of younger eligible voters¹⁵. This has resulted in all nations steadily decreasing their voting age to as young as 16 years old. Although most Nations have their voting age at 18, this was not always the case.

From the end of the 19th century until the First World War, people accepted the fact that the voting age for elections should be 21 years old¹⁶. Citizens and Governments did not complain as they believed that young men were mature and educated enough to vote for their political preferences. Once the First World War happened, it impacted many nations with new ideas and laws, which led to younger citizens complaining for their rights. If they went to war, they should be allowed to express their political opinion. Many movements happened during the period between World War I and World War II, but no notable change was registered.

The end of World War II (1945) marked a new beginning in voting ages all around the world¹⁷. Czechoslovakia was the first to change the voting age to 18, with many nations following soon after. Another event that converted voting ages to 18 was due to the Vietnam War in 1975, which had the same arguments as World War II.

¹⁵Parliament of Australia. "2. Lowering the Voting Age – Parliament of Australia." *Aph.gov.au*, 2018, www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Electoral_Matters/VotingAge/Advisory_report/section?id=committees%2Freportjnt%2F024195%2F26301.

¹⁶Sandin, Bengt. "Age, Voting, and Eligibility Restrictions 1840–1900." *Voting and Eligibility Age in Sweden, 1866-1921*, Springer Nature Switzerland, Dec. 2025, pp. 33–52, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-95276-0_2.

¹⁷Hunt, Virginia, and Rick Livingston. "Voting Ages around the World | Years, Countries, Legal, Global Trends, & Facts." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 11 Aug. 2025, www.britannica.com/topic/Voting-Ages-Around-the-World.

Soon after, nations such as Nicaragua in 1984 and Brazil in 1988 decided to lower their voting age to 16¹⁸. This controversial change brought up many conflicts on what age the youth is considered mature and educated enough to cast their political opinion through voting procedures. Although most nations follow the system proposed after World War II, there are some nations that have still maintained an old voting age, like Cameroon and Oman, which are both LEDCs with poor quality of education, and nations that have adopted younger voting ages.

In conclusion, finding the correct voting age for citizens around the world plays a crucial role in creating a balanced and fair ground for youth representation in governance, as young citizens who can vote are the main targets of the youth getting elected.

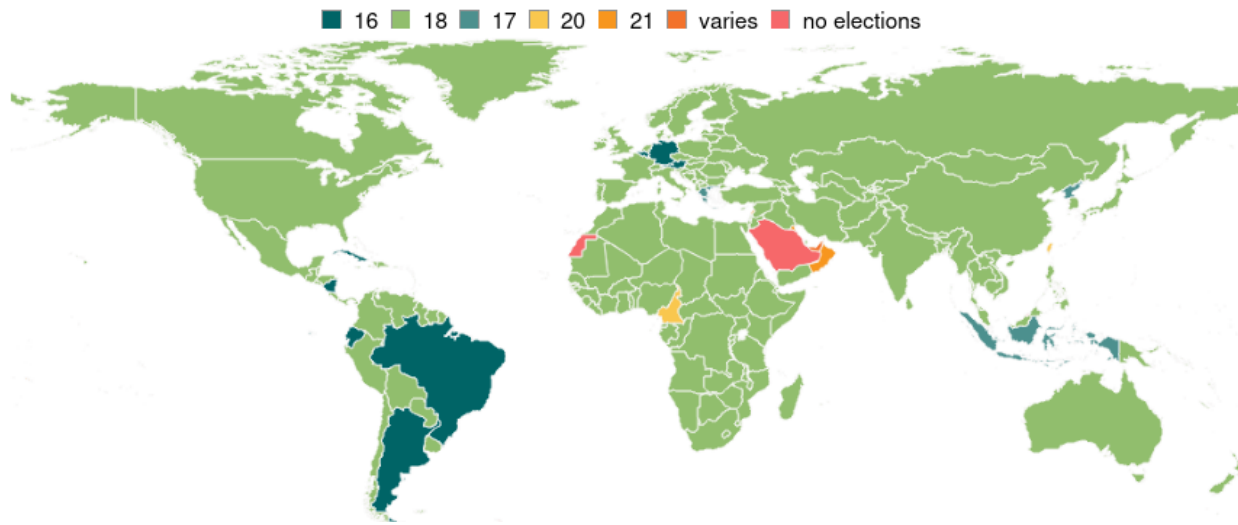


Figure 2¹⁹: Map Depicting Voting Ages Around the Globe

Effects of Youth in Governance

Youth is a considerable percentage of the population and can therefore be an impactful part of society. Youth is also the actor of the modern world. They are the main group of people who participate in volunteering, civic engagement, and nonprofit activities. Due to their significant percentage of the

¹⁸ Macnevin, Mike. "Millions of 16- and 17 Years Olds Vote in Brazilian Presidential Election, but No President Elected." *FairVote*, 23 Oct. 2014, fairvote.org/brazilian-election-2014/.

¹⁹World Population Review. "Voting Age by Country 2023." *Worldpopulationreview.com*, 2023, worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/voting-age-by-country.

population, they are becoming the main audience of the government. It is important to have a good approach towards them with ideas that are in alignment with most of the youth's beliefs. The best way to create that approach is by placing people with the same ideas in the government to gain their attention.

Youth in governance can become extremely impactful with the correct organizing and attention. The recognition of young members aged under 30 offers critical benefits to our society that can help it evolve and achieve its maximum potential. First and foremost, a general impact of youth representation is that the youth can express their opinions. Having members in Parliament who are directly connected to the audience they represent will help the nation have a more holistic view of the needs of everyone who lives there. Moreover, it will help with transferring information from the young citizens in a more peaceful manner, as the youth members will be able to share the needs and wants of the citizens due to their relation to them. As seen from multiple reports, protests involving issues of youth in nations with a younger average parliament have been decreasing compared to nations with older parliaments who have seen an increased amount of non-peaceful protests on such topics.

Environmental Impacts

Another positive impact of youth representation in governance is the will shown in resolving climate change. Youth in this era have a huge focus on environmental issues²⁰. They have founded organizations that aim to decrease waste, the usage of electricity, and many more ecological matters²¹. With the prime example of Armenia, which has many anti-environmental waste movements, such as Ecowaste which is the largest organization aiming to create a stronger environment in Armenia. With these organizations Armenia has managed to account for only 0.02 % of the global greenhouse gas emissions. Engaging youth, which aims for a better environment, in the Government can assist organizations with funding, offering personnel and equipment.

Social media as a governmental tool

Social media has become part of the daily routine for most citizens aged under 25. These citizens take up approximately 40% of the entire population, which therefore showcases that social media

²⁰ Eco Aghb. "Civic Engagement." *Communitycommons.org*, 2024, www.communitycommons.org/entities/994cbf18-bf9f-4b4b-88ea-b1d49a42856b.

²¹---. "Welcome to Zscaler Directory Authentication." *Wordpress.com*, 2026, ecoaghb.wordpress.com/?fbclid=IwAR2MaEHITiAXIVO89Njgoel94s5VIBsV3bn-7ykhJRk_y0Do9mNXE9Jo2aY.

largely has reached the usage level of other conventional media²², and has become a primary source of information. Youth representation in government can use social media in various ways to inform the young citizens regarding movements and organizations. Using social media as a tool is key for remarkable change. The reason why the youth should oversee such a mechanism is simple: they know how to use it effectively. It has been there since the early years of their life, and they possess knowledge compared to most parliaments. Older-aged members lack information on when to use social media, how to use it accordingly, and they cannot relate to the idea of having such a gadget.

The role of the youth in elections and voting

Currently, in most nations, the major elections which define who will be in charge of the state have voting turnouts that do not exceed 60% of the population eligible to vote.²³ The main reasons why this has happened over the past decades are simple. Citizens either do not have time to vote due to long work shifts, or the available parties are not expressing the ideas and ideology of the usually young citizens of the Nation.²⁴

Strengthening youth representation can easily act as a solution to the lack of similar ideologies. As mentioned earlier, having members in parliament who citizens can relate to due to the lack of age gaps already existing brings the attention needed for the people to get engaged in elections. Young candidates, due to having similar ideas such as focusing on greenhouse emissions and climate change while also supporting civic engagement and volunteering, are more likely to attract young adults into voting.

Youth Governance in Education

Including youth parliaments and civic engagement programs in the school curriculum is a top priority for the future of the world. Creating informed and updated information on political aspects is a significant milestone in achieving a future with balanced parliaments, according to the percentage of the population in each age category.

²²Statista. "World Population by Age and Region | Statista." *Statista*, 2026, www.statista.com/statistics/265759/world-population-by-age-and-region/?srsltid=AfmBOooFQJczgWF45CxVJNXJ0duiK8a_YO2A0yma7zwYbwVjblmqQ1e1.

²³Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development . "Voting." *OECD*, 2025, www.oecd.org/en/publications/society-at-a-glance-2024_918d8db3-en/full-report/voting_4cc36656.html.

²⁴ University of Essex. "Voter Turnout Is Declining around the World | University of Essex." *Www.essex.ac.uk*, 22 Sept. 2021, www.essex.ac.uk/news/2021/09/22/voter-turnout-is-declining-around-the-world.

Making curriculum conversions in education can help all students, regardless of whether they want to participate actively in politics. This new education they will and are already receiving in many nations, in association with Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), which are at very low costs and can educate students on various topics, including political ideas and politics in general, and can thus help them gain knowledge on voting procedures and different ideologies. This will lead to a higher turnover rate and accurate voting according to the now educated citizens.

However, students who actively want to engage further in politics are not ignored. With multiple parliaments available, such as the International Youth Parliament, the European Youth Parliament and conferences hosted for Model United Nations, students can participate in them. All aim to solve realistic scenarios that affect today's world, for various topics that may interest them, thus enhancing the overall participation of the youth in politics.

In conclusion, educating students in school about topics that are related to politics functions as a step toward a better future. As these students will lead on to making better choices in their future elections and will also already be seen in Ethiopia, create a more active parliament of Youth.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

Armenia

Armenia contains the second largest number of members in Parliament under 45 years of age, with over 70%²⁵. Armenia also has the youngest average number of members in Parliament. With various organizations, such as EcoWaste, established recently, focusing on improving the environment, Armenia is becoming extremely productive due to its younger members in Parliament, and it works as the epitome of Youth Participation in Civic Engagement and Governance.

Denmark

Denmark, in the previous election, although having a high turnout rate in the 21st century, had over 35% of its members in parliament aged under 40. This fact is important, as in Denmark, the number

²⁵ *World Youth Report, Agenda, 2026,*

www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=digitalibrary.un.org/record/3868785/files/WorldYouthReport-2030Agenda.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwiCwMyV5ruSAXVS0QIHUROPliQFnoECD8QAQ&usg=AOvVaw0K-5Vp170LjiPS_LeGeW4j

of citizens aged under 40 is around 40%. This figure showcases that Denmark has achieved a balance in their elections with a close to equal number of voters according to each age group. Moreover, governmental efforts actively push for the increase of youth participation in national politics, particularly through funded projects and initiatives.

Lithuania

Lithuania in the 21st century has seen steady increases in voting turnouts for every election. From the 2002 elections to the 2024 elections, the voting turnout has increased by more than 10%²⁶. This is due to the higher number of parliament members, who, similarly to Denmark, have been in the same age group according to the population of each age group. This is crucial for a society with more youth members in parliament since Lithuania was able to create a balanced voter-to-member ratio according to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) reports. The Lithuanian government consistently aims to improve youth participation in national politics, such as through regular updates on social media and educational programs which introduce students to politics.

European Youth Parliament (EYP)

The European Youth Parliament is the largest organization supporting and pushing the representation of Youth in Governance. It aims to create a realistic parliament, as it is run uniquely by youth, to make students share their ideas and knowledge on topics of each conference, and it is a form of civic education. The main way it functions is by conferences hosted all around Europe, which are entirely made up of students and aim to tackle issues on current political topics.

AFS Youth Assembly

The AFS Youth Assembly is a parliament that engages students and young adults with issues of the private sector or of civic society. These issues stem from global problems of the 21st century, which impact a large percentage of the Nations and require urgent attention. The way the AFSYA works is by hosting sessions that tackle these issues and make the members discuss and share their ideas. The reason it particularly aids in enhancing youth participation in governance can be attributed to the large number of alumni it has, who are still helping society evolve and are active citizens participating

²⁶ Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. "Youth Representation in Politics: Government at a Glance 2025." *OECD*, 2025, www.oecd.org/en/publications/2025/06/government-at-a-glance-2025_70e14c6c/full-report/youth-representation-in-politics_dfc55f4e.html.

in civic engagement. Therefore, the AFS Youth Assembly has had a positive impact on youth participation in politics, both through direct and indirect initiatives.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of Event
2 September 1945	Establishment of the first movements on voting age
2 January 1981	Election of Don Nickles
January 1984	Nicaragua's controversial voting age change
January 1987	Introduction of the European Youth Parliament (EYP)
March 2004	Foundation of the AFS Youth Assembly
June 2013	Establishment of MOOCs
2014	Foundation of the International Youth Parliament (IYP)
2018	Foundation of EcoWaste

Relevant UN Resolutions, Treaties & Events

- [International Year of Youth \(2010–2011\)](#)
- [Reform of the electoral law of the European Union \(A9-0083/2022\)](#)
- [Security Council Resolution 2535 \(2020\)](#)
- [Security Council Resolution 2250 \(2015\)](#)

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

Inter-Parliamentary Union for National Parliaments (2021)

In 2021, the Inter-Parliamentary Union hosted a meeting on the 10 years of supporting Youth representation in the national Parliament with new proposals on how to increase it. Some of the ideas discussed were increasing the amount of student rallies on various topics, such as climate change, in order to have a more active school society, which in the future would have more civic engagement. While they also proposed having more equal voters to members in parliament to create a balanced environment in parliament. Overall, this solution and the proposals suggested have had a positive impact on youth participation in politics and continue to have a positive effect on increasing the role of the youth in parliaments globally.

Conference of Council of Europe on Youth Representation (2023)

The Council of Europe in 2023 held a conference on the topic of strengthening the opinion of Youth in the Parliament²⁷. This initiative aimed to push the participation of youth in governance by attempting to increase the power of youth in real parliaments. This was attempted through measures such as debating between all members of parliament on the given issues at the time or assigning youth members to specific branches of the parliament according to their interests. Although they were successful in preparing youth for real parliament, they were not as successful in giving youth the power in the parliaments.

European Parliament's Youth initiatives (2023)

In 2023, the European Parliament proposed ideas on how to create a more interactive base for youth to vote in the European elections due to the general low turnout rate. Some of the ideas were related to decreasing the eligible age of participation in these elections in order to get the attention of the young citizens and using forms of media such as social media to create a more interactive form of the elections for the youth, which uses social media daily. So far, the actions taken by the European Parliament on the overall issue of youth participation have been proven fruitful, leading to the continuation or initiation of such projects.

Possible Solutions

²⁷COE, *International Youth News-2023*, 2023, www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=www.coe.int/en/web/youth/news-2023&ved=2ahUKEwjAwMP26LuSAxXkRf4FHbD2EmwQFnoECBwQAQ&usg=AOvVaw2-fcSEiVgQDVUz-D2d-IjL.

Curriculum Reforms

A possible solution could be to create school curricula that focus on students' involvement in politics. This could benefit Youth representation in Governance as it can create an informed and updated school community on political issues and spark interests for political engagement. This reformed school curriculum can educate students on how they can get involved in parliaments, for example, through the European Youth Parliaments or the Model United Nations. Its importance is highlighted by the fact that it gives space for the youth to take an active role in politics, during a revolutionary technological era, and shows them the general benefits of having political knowledge for any career path they may choose.

Enhancing student-led parliaments

Another feasible solution could be the establishment of national parliaments that allow students to create real impacts on our society. These parliaments would be funded by the government and be given simple, minor issues for them to be later debated and solved by interested students. This is crucial in order to evolve youth identification in government, as it allows students to have a direct impact on their nation. It creates a type of pressure on the students as they are debating real-life issues instead of scenarios in Model Youth Parliaments. For this, however, to be successful and feasible, it is necessary that governments around the world agree and set a specific agenda for young citizens, which can be impactful enough so that the youth have a direct effect on national politics.

Improving accessibility in national governments

Making the government easily accessible for all mature age groups, over 16, is important for students who want to actively get involved in politics, as it will help them get accustomed to the real government instead of International Youth Parliaments. Lowering the eligible age of participation as a candidate in national elections and creating a form of an exam that contains various questions related to politics, such as important laws and events, especially for young candidates, can indicate which citizens should be able to take part actively in politics. In addition, promoting minor parties created for young candidates, meaning they contain ideologies similar to most young citizens, through digital platforms such as social media can assist with acquiring the attention of students interested in politics.

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