



EuroCivic Lab

**Strengthening European
Identity and Citizenship
through SDGs, Social
Activism and Living Labs
Methodology in School
Education**



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Project Partners



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University (Hungary)**



**Social Nebula
(Greece)**



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Our European Identity

Belonging, Values & Action

EuroCivic Student Toolkit — Module 2



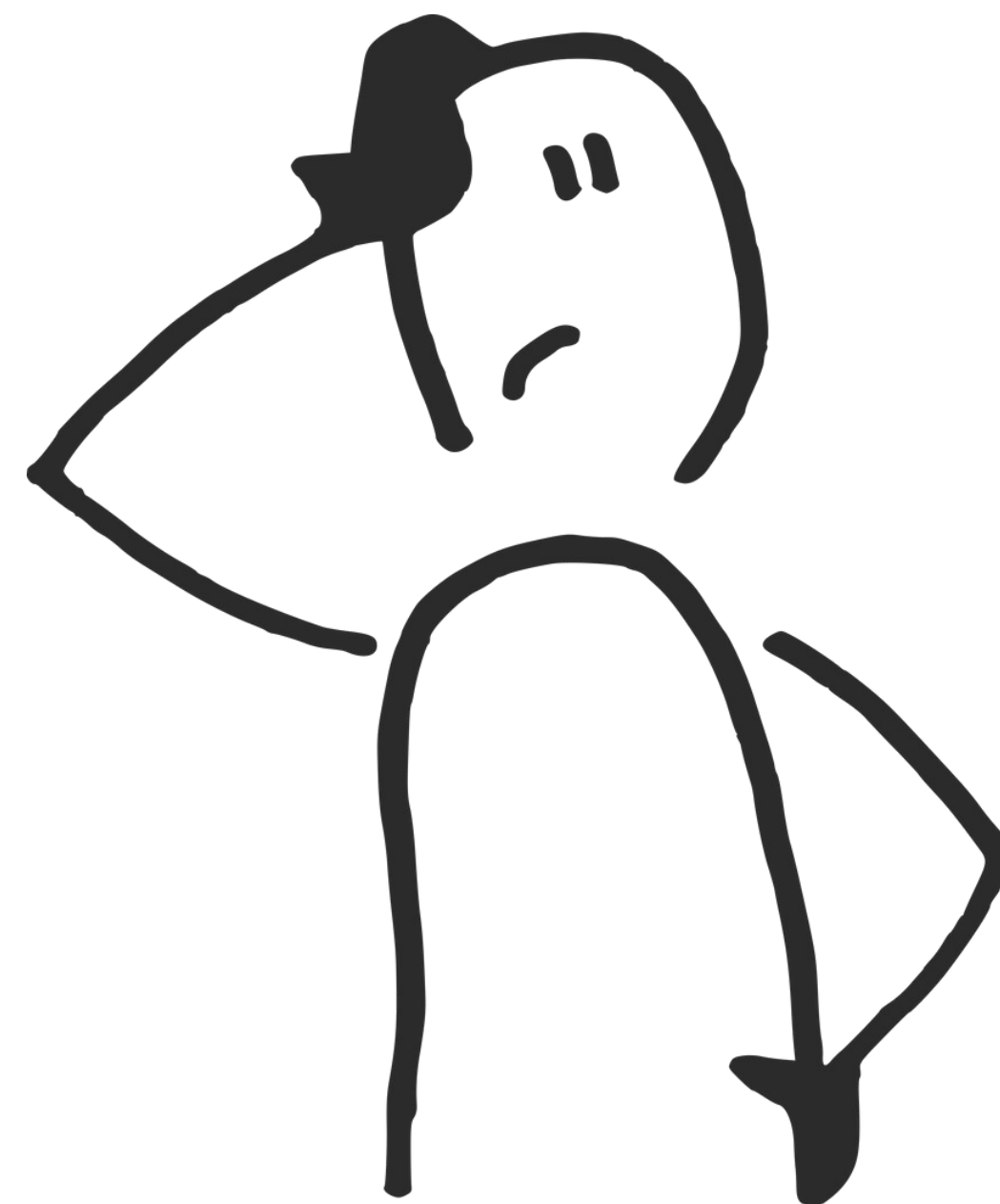
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When you hear the word 'Europe'...

...what comes to your mind?

→ **Warm-up: collect the first words on the board.**

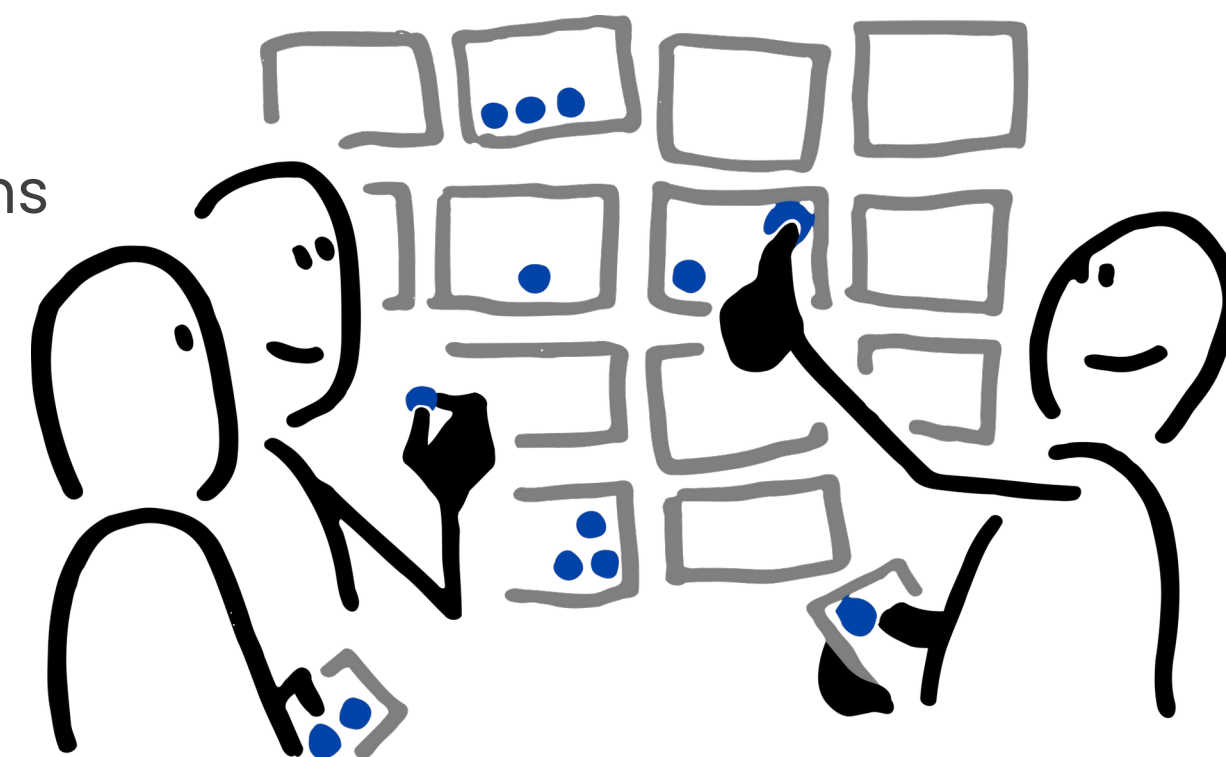


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What Will You Learn?

- Understand what European identity is
- Compare European identity and national identity
- Understand cultural diplomacy
- Explore how young people can be active citizens



What Is Identity?

Identity means who we are. It includes:

- Culture · History
- Language · Values

Identity:

- Gives us a sense of belonging
- Is social and cultural
- Often changes over time

→ Activity: name one thing that is part of your identity.



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We All Have Multiple Identities

- Local identity (city or village)
- National identity (country)
- European identity

Someone can be from Naples, Italy, and Europe.

→ **Complete this sentence: "I am from ____ , ____ , and Europe."**



Roots of European Identity

European identity developed slowly through history:

- Ancient Greece → democracy & civic participation
- Ancient Rome → law & citizenship
- Renaissance & Enlightenment → freedom, reason, human rights

→ **Which of these ideas do we still use today?**



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Europe After the Wars

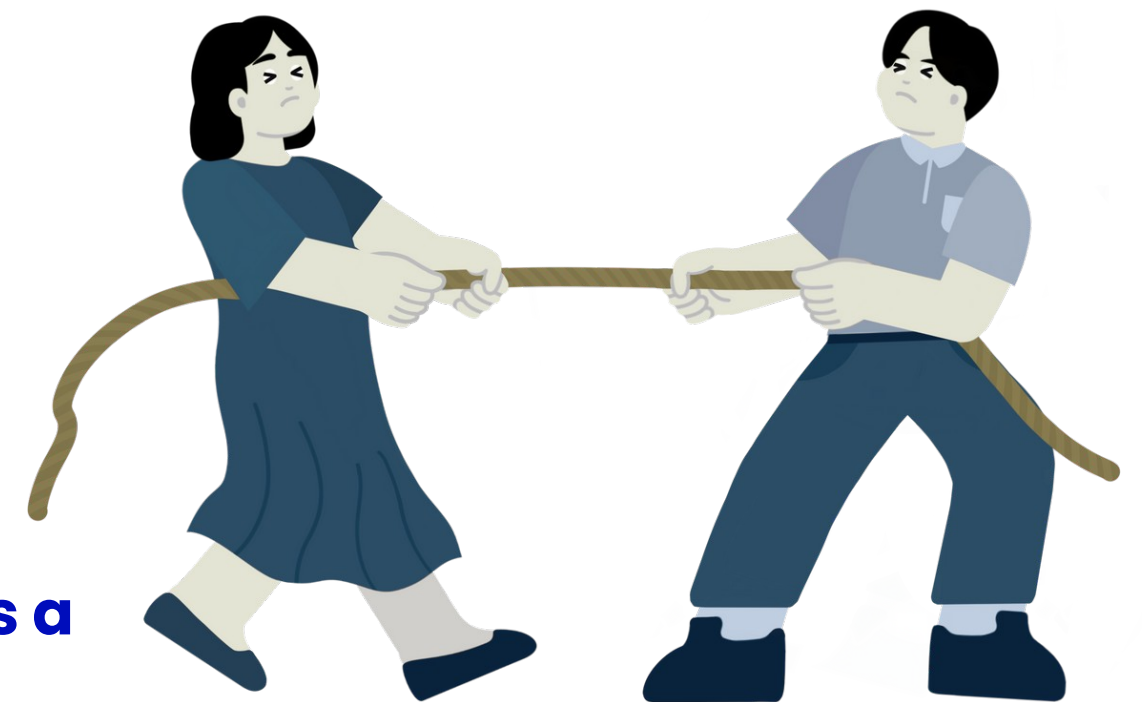
Europe experienced:

- World War I
- World War II

Lessons learned:

- Nationalism caused destruction
- Cooperation became necessary
- Peace became the main goal

→ **This led to the creation of the European Union as a peace project.**



Remember This

European identity brings together ideas from Greece, Rome, Christianity, the Enlightenment, and the wish for peace after war.

Being European means:

- Democracy
- Cooperation
- Respect

→ **It does not replace national identities — it connects them.**



What Does Being European Mean?

It means:

- Sharing values
- Working together
- Respecting differences

Key ideas:

- Democracy
- Freedom
- Cooperation

Being European is like being part of a big team.

→ **What makes a good team?**





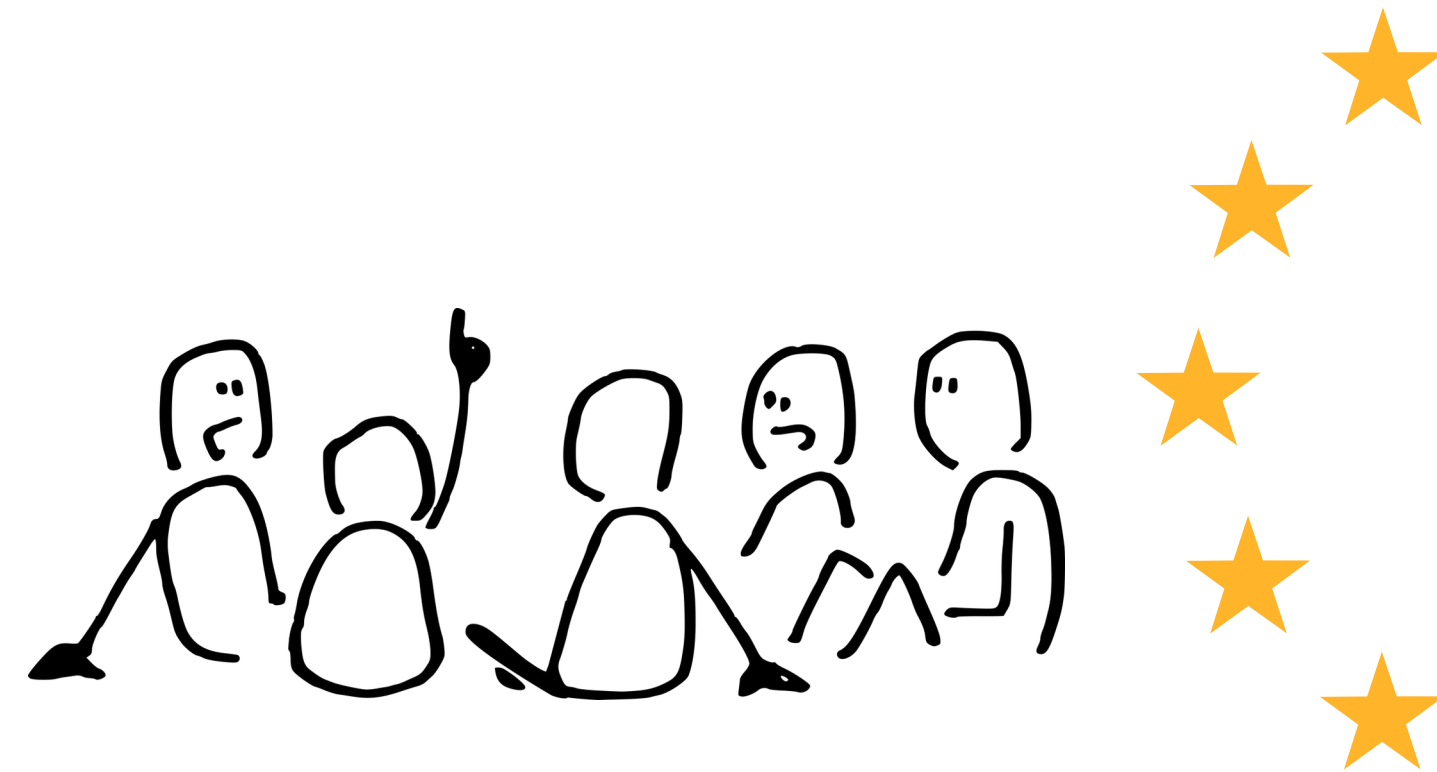
National Identity

Belonging to one country. Sharing:

- Language
- Traditions
- History
- Symbols

Having rights and responsibilities (like voting).

→ **Name one national symbol of any European country.**



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European Identity



Belonging to a European family. Sharing common values:

- Peace
- Democracy
- Cooperation

Enjoying shared rights:

- Free movement
- Study and work in other countries

→ **Why is free movement useful for young people?**



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Complementary Identities

You do not lose your national identity. European identity:

- Builds on national identity
- Creates a wider community
- Is based on respect and cooperation

One person, many identities.

→ Can you be national AND European at the same time?



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“United in diversity”

It means:

- Many cultures
- Many languages
- One European community

Europe does not erase differences, but:

- Celebrates them
- Sees diversity as strength



Symbols of Europe

- Blue flag with yellow stars
- European anthem: Ode to Joy
- Europe Day: 9 May

→ **Why do symbols matter?**



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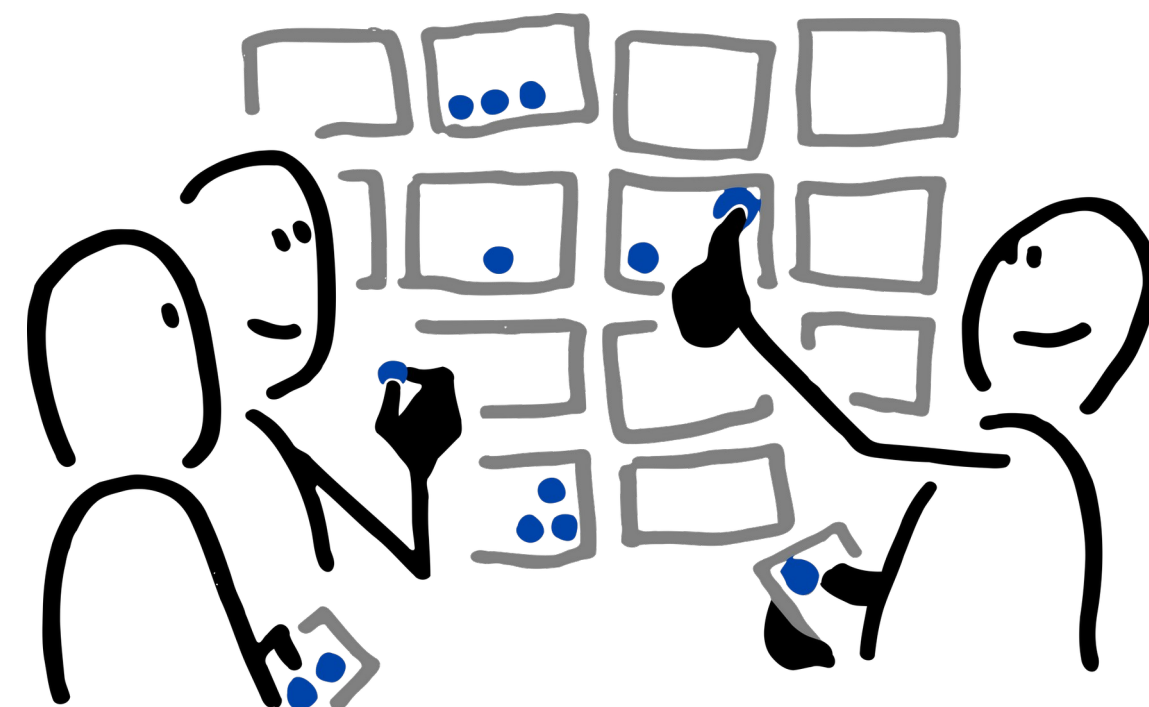
What is cultural diplomacy?

Using culture to build friendships. Sharing:

- Music • Food • Art • Tradition

Culture helps people understand each other.

→ Which cultural thing brings people together most?



Why culture matters

Europe uses culture within Europe and with other countries.

- Reduces conflict
- Builds understanding
- Encourages cooperation



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EU Enlargement

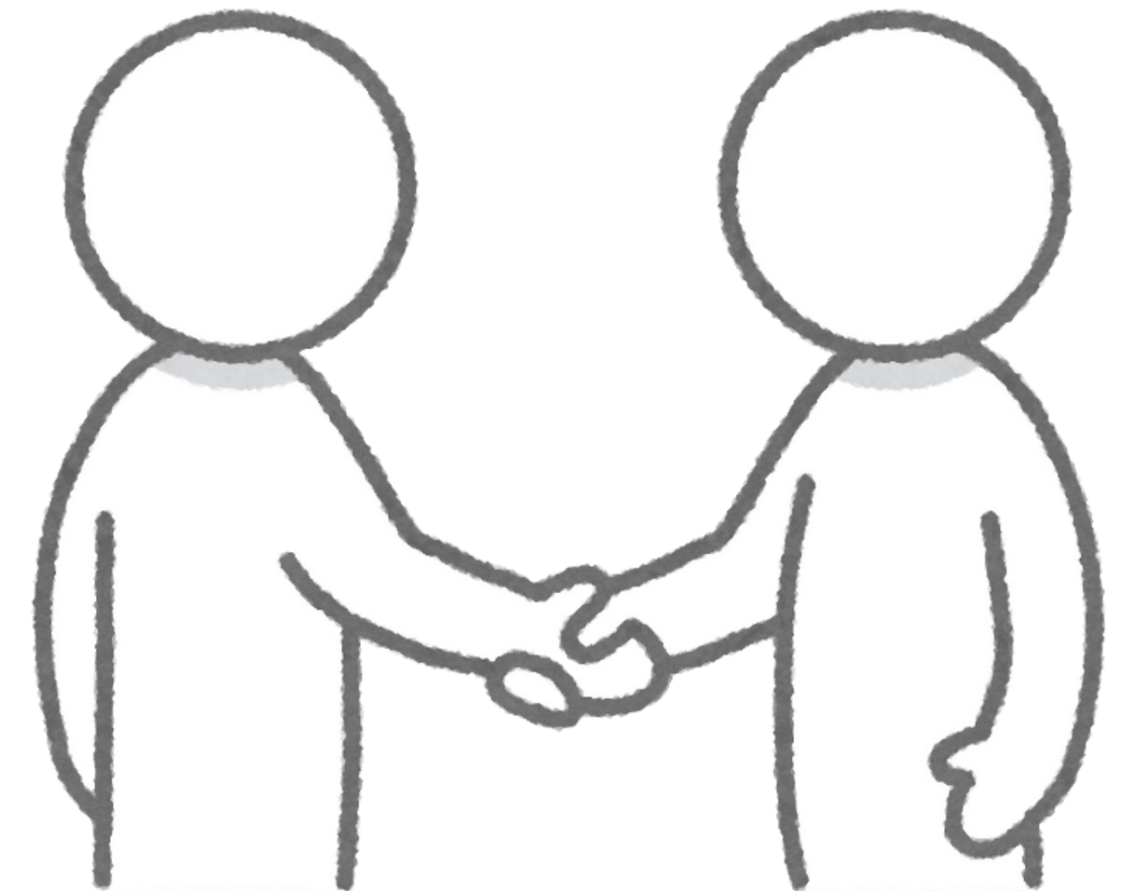
EU enlargement means new countries join the EU. Countries must respect:

- Democracy
- Human rights
- Rule of law

Membership brings:

- Rights
- Responsibilities

→ Think: why shouldn't any country join automatically?





European Integration

Countries working more closely together:

- Sharing rules and decisions

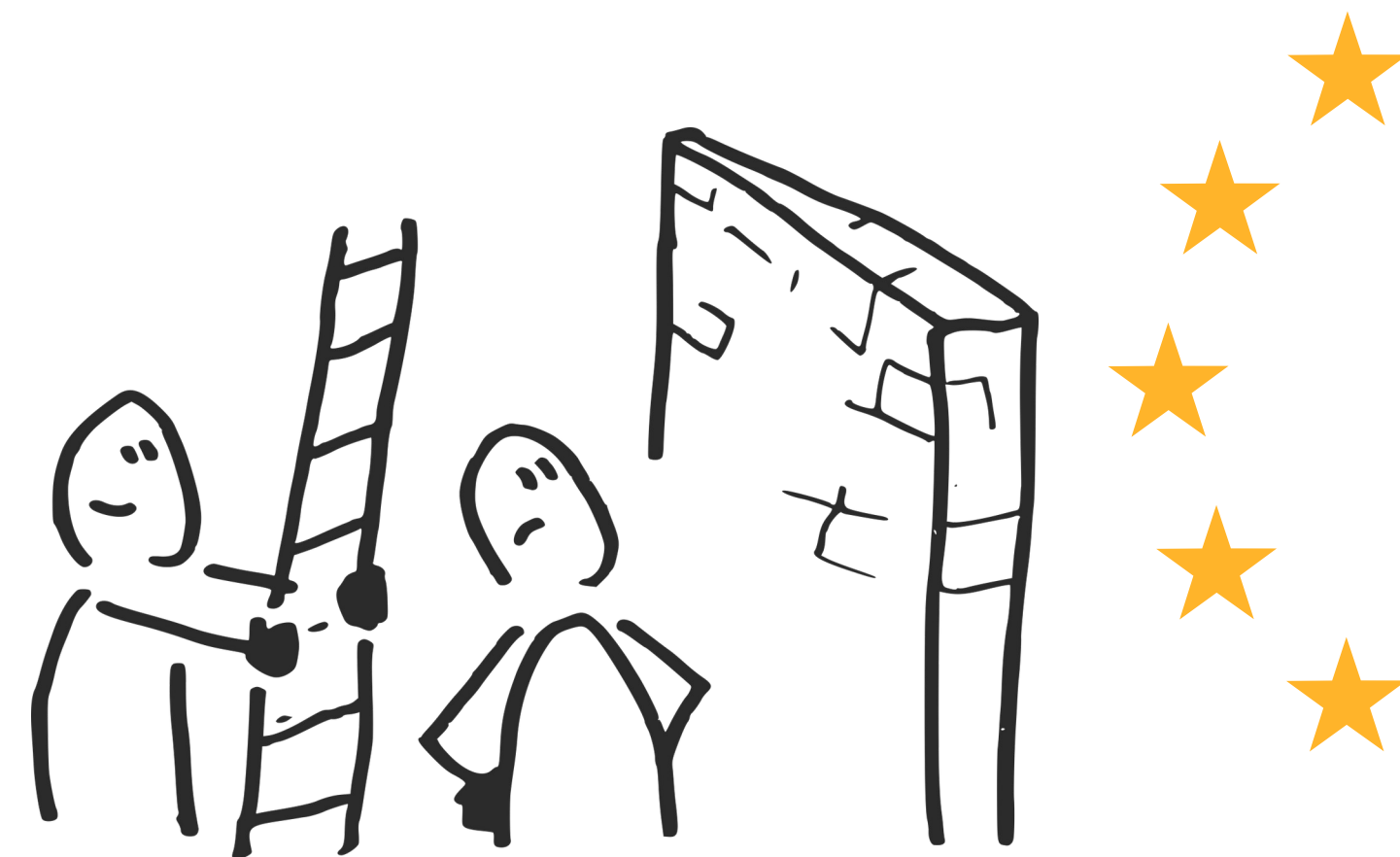
Examples:

- Common currency (euro)
- Shared laws

The difference:

- Enlargement = the EU gets bigger
- Integration = the EU gets stronger

→ Which one sounds harder: getting bigger, or working together better?



Young People and Europe



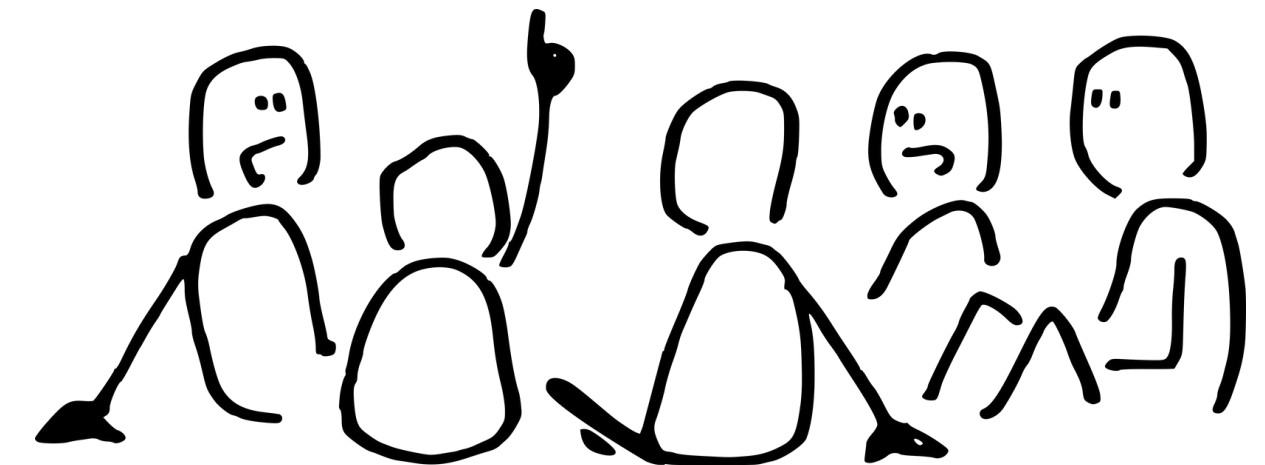
Young people:

- Are citizens now
- Can make a difference

Examples:

- Recycling
- Planting trees
- Helping others
- School projects

→ **What is one action young people can take today?**





Everyday Civic Action

Every small action counts:

- Protecting the environment
- Helping the community
- Joining youth activities
- Sharing ideas

→ **Even without voting, your voice matters.**



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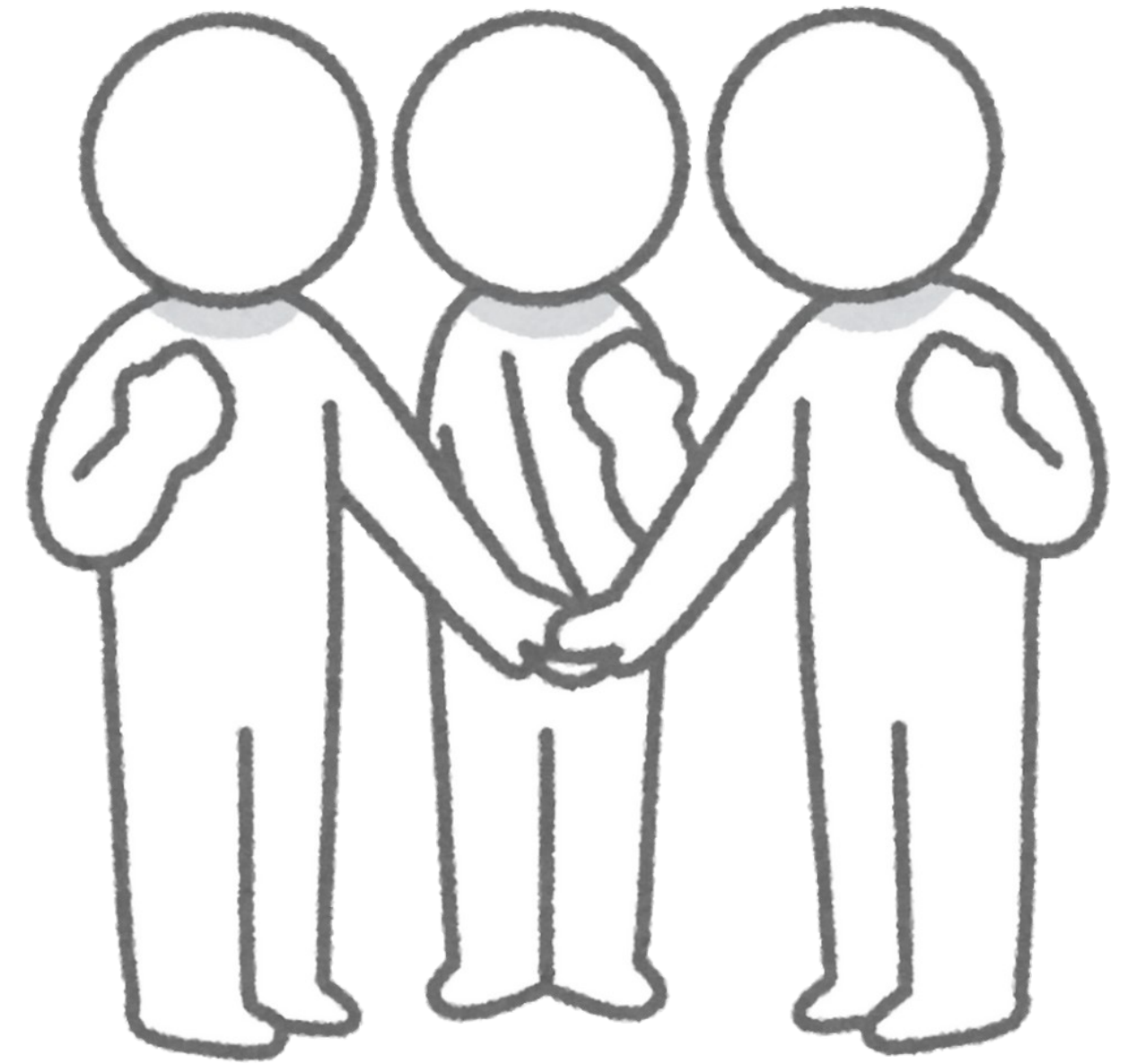
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Final Reflection

- Identity connects people
- Participation strengthens democracy
- What does being European mean to you?

"One word I connect with European identity is..."

→ **You belong to Europe.**



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