

¿Qué será, será? Visions and Worries of Adolescents and Young Adults for the Future of Europe

Dagmar Strohmeier, Eszter Kapéter &
the Europe2038 consortium



Topics of this workshop

1. Why is it important that **young people** think about the future of Europe?
2. What measures are necessary for a **renewed project of Europe**?
3. Why does such a renewed project of Europe need the **contributions from social work**?



Europa - Quiz



Question 1:

When did the idea of a united Europe start?

The Idea of a United Europe

- ❖ can be traced back into the 15th century
- ❖ Myth of the ancient Greek **Europa**
- ❖ Karl der Große
- ❖ Christianity
- ❖ Europe's Art, Culture, and Science

Europa - Quiz



Question 2:

*Which symbols of **European identity** do you know?*

Symbols of European Identity

- ❖ European Flag
- ❖ European Hymn
- ❖ European Passport
- ❖ Europe Day (May 6th)
- ❖ Euro
- ❖ Manifold Programmes:
 - ❖ Erasmus Programme
 - ❖ European Cultural Capital Cities
 - ❖ Partner Cities in Europe



Europa - Quiz



Question 3:

What does „I am European“ mean for you?

Europa - Quiz



Question 4:

*How much **European** do you feel?*

On a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (very much)

Why?

Topic 1

Why is it important that **young people** think about the future of Europe?

The bigger picture

(taken from M. Barrett, 2016)



- Over the past 20 years, **globalisation** and **migration** have altered the world fundamentally
- As a result of these phenomena, **cultural diversity** is now an established fact of life in most countries in the world (United Nations, 2013)
- However, cultural diversity within societies is often accompanied by **high levels of intolerance and prejudice** towards minority ethnic and religious groups, refugees and migrants (Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, 2015; FRA, 2014; OSCE/ODIHR, 2011)

The bigger picture

(taken from M. Barrett, 2016)



- Increased cultural diversity within countries has led to anxieties within majority populations about ***the threat to their national identity*** – that the presence of cultural diversity within a country is ***undermining the traditional values*** that are associated with the nation
- And this is often coupled to anxieties based on the ***perceived strain that minorities and migrants place on employment, housing and public services***
- In some European countries, these anxieties are further exacerbated by new forms of ***xenophobic nationalism*** and the rise of ***populist radical right-wing political parties*** that inflame these concerns for their own political purposes (van Amersfoort, 2011)

The bigger picture

(taken from M. Barrett, 2016)



- The escalation of hostile attitudes towards some ethnic and religious minority groups, the presence of far right political parties in many countries, and the rise of segregated societies, all pose ***a serious threat to the stability, security and well-being of European societies***
- These phenomena raise important questions concerning the most appropriate ***policy approaches*** that should be adopted for ***managing cultural diversity*** in order to achieve more cohesive and inclusive societies

The Key Question is:

How to establish more cohesive and inclusive societies?

Europe 2038 – Voices of the youth

Three questions - Seven countries

- *What **visions and worries** do young persons have for Europe 2038?*
- *What are their answers for today's **major societal challenges**?*
- *Which **measures** do young people suggest to overcome these major challenges?*

Europe 2038 – Voices of the youth

Three Activities - Seven countries

- *PAN-European Survey*
- *PAN-European Declaration*
- *Multiplier Events*

Worries and Visions for the Future of Europe

A mixed method study was conducted.

Qualitative interviews were conducted with approximately 100 young people located in the seven countries. Based on these qualitative interviews, a list containing 31 worries and 39 visions for the future of Europe was created and integrated in a PAN-European survey.

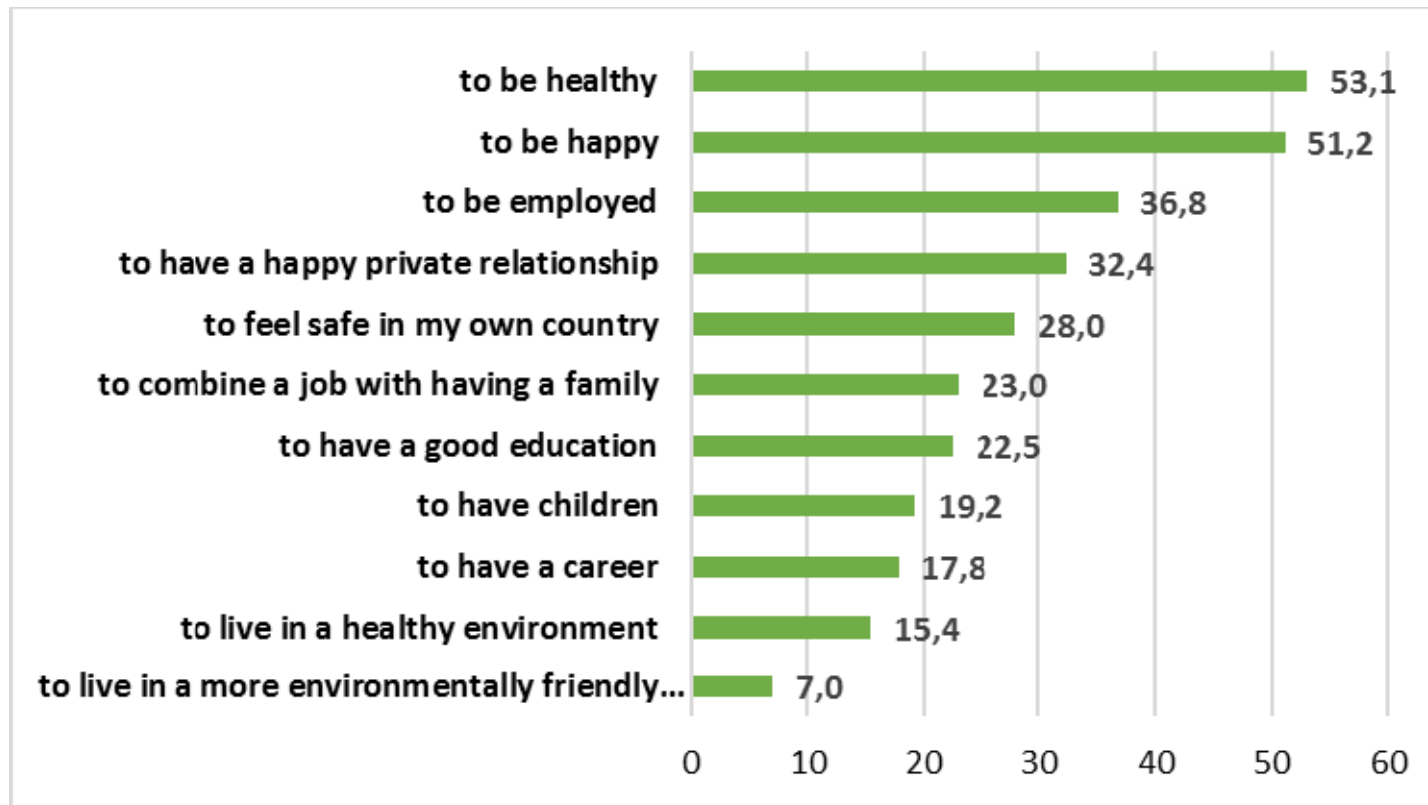
- 1. Imagine yourself in 2038, which of the following things are you worried about? Please also indicate for each topic whether this is one of your top 5 worries. (5 point-rating scale ranging from a lot - not at all)*
- 2. Imagine that you are the head of the European Union and you could set priorities for Europe 2038. Which topics are the most important? Please also mark your top 5 priorities. (5 point-rating scale ranging from very important- not at all important)*

Sample

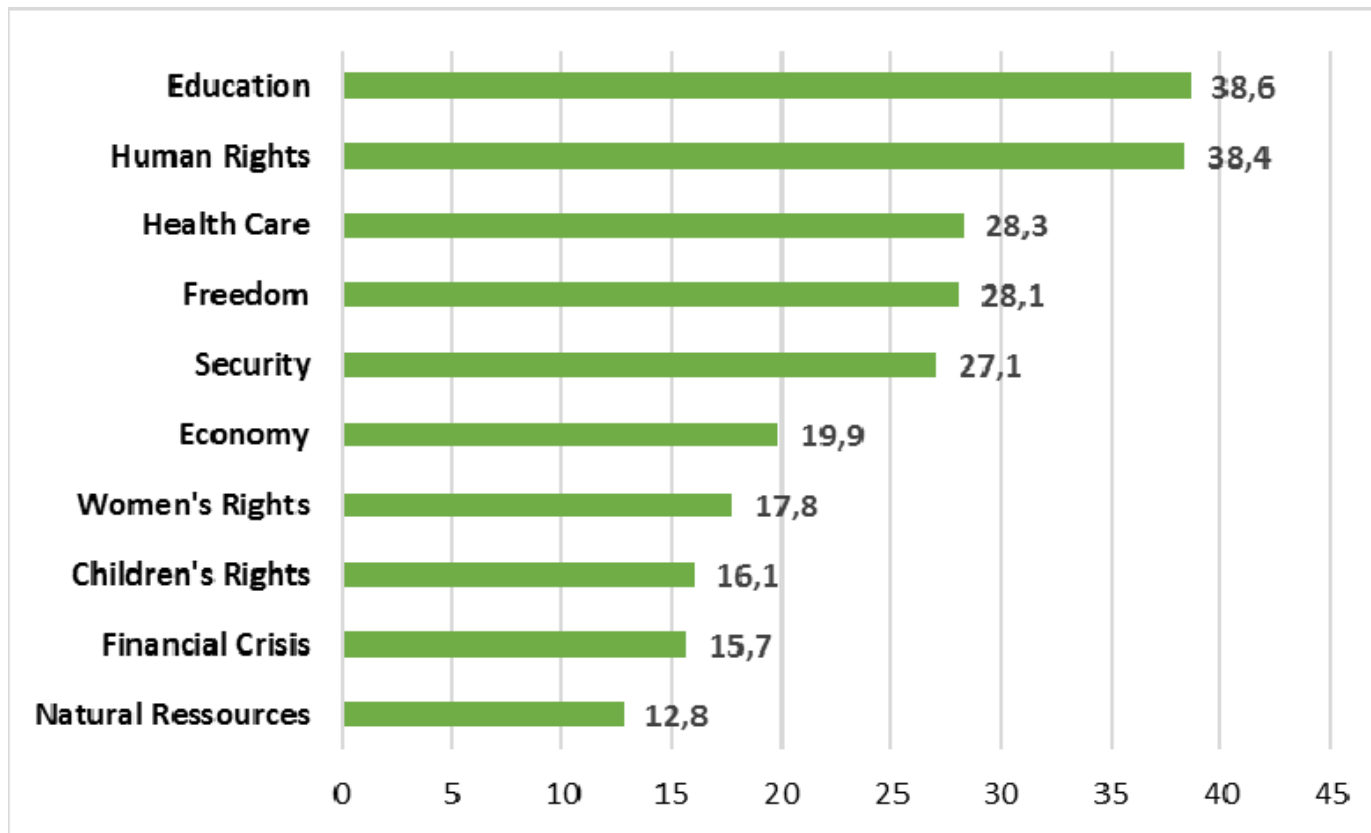
The quantitative data was collected between April and December 2016. In total, **3764 young persons** aged 16 to 25 years (37% were 20-25 years old; 40% male) answered the online-survey:

- 176 in Albania (39% were 20-25 years old; 47 % male)
- 1385 in Austria (43% were 20-25 years old; 42% male)
- 372 in Germany (58% were 20-25 years old; 41% male)
- 780 in Italy (30% were 20-25 years old; 38% male)
- 437 in Romania (19% were 20-25 years old; 38% male)
- 273 in Spain (63% were 20-25 years old; 35% male)
- 341 in UK (12% were 20-25 years old; 36% male)

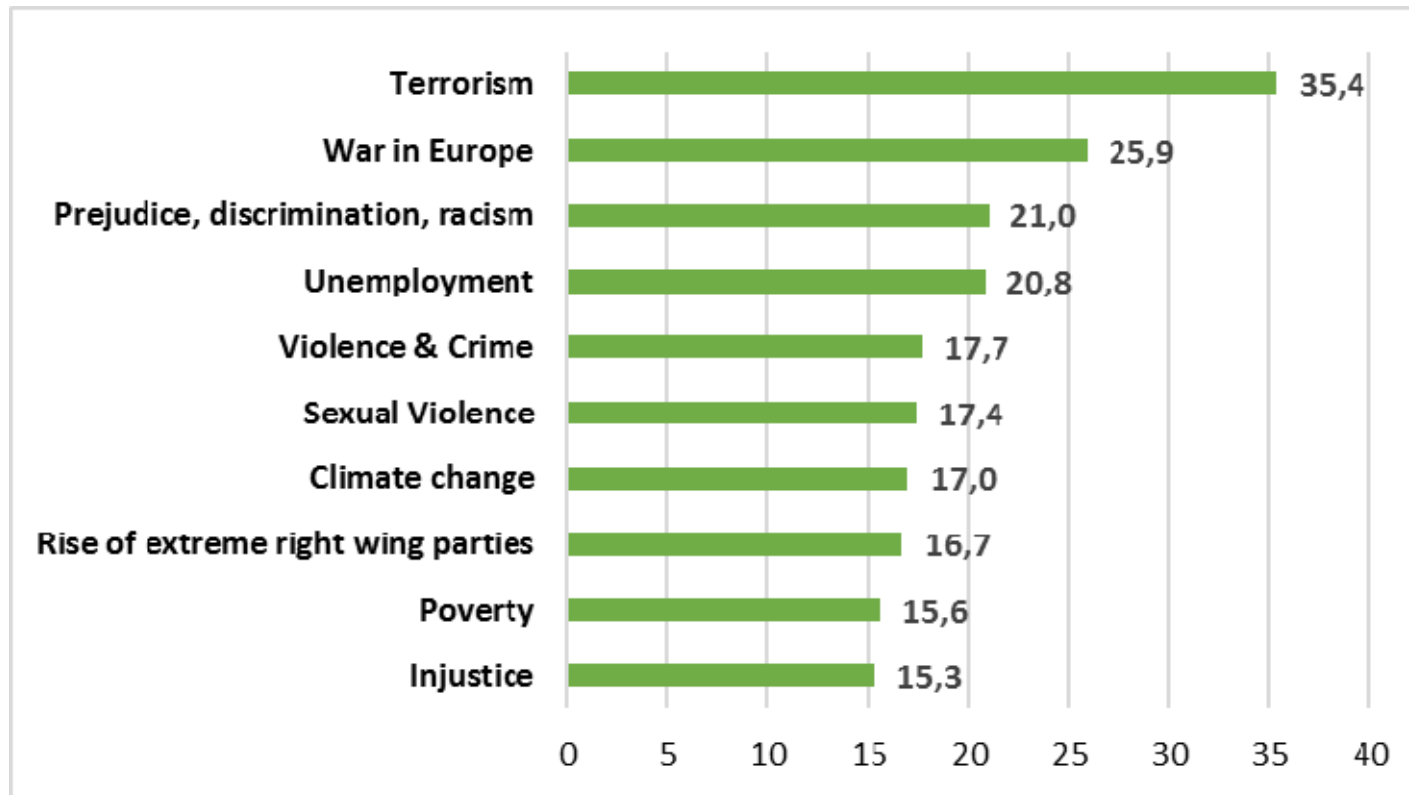
What TOP5 visions do young people have for their personal future in 2038? (N=3764)



What TOP5 priorities do young people have for the future of Europe 2038? (N=3439)



What TOP5 worries do young people have for the future of Europe 2038? (N=3631)



Question 1

What can **young people** do to help establishing more cohesive and inclusive societies?

Question 2

What can **social work** do to help establishing a more cohesive and inclusive Europe?

Visions and Worries of Adolescents and Young Adults for the Future of Europe: The Importance of Social Exclusion Experiences

Dagmar Strohmeier, Eszter Kapéter & the Europe2038 consortium

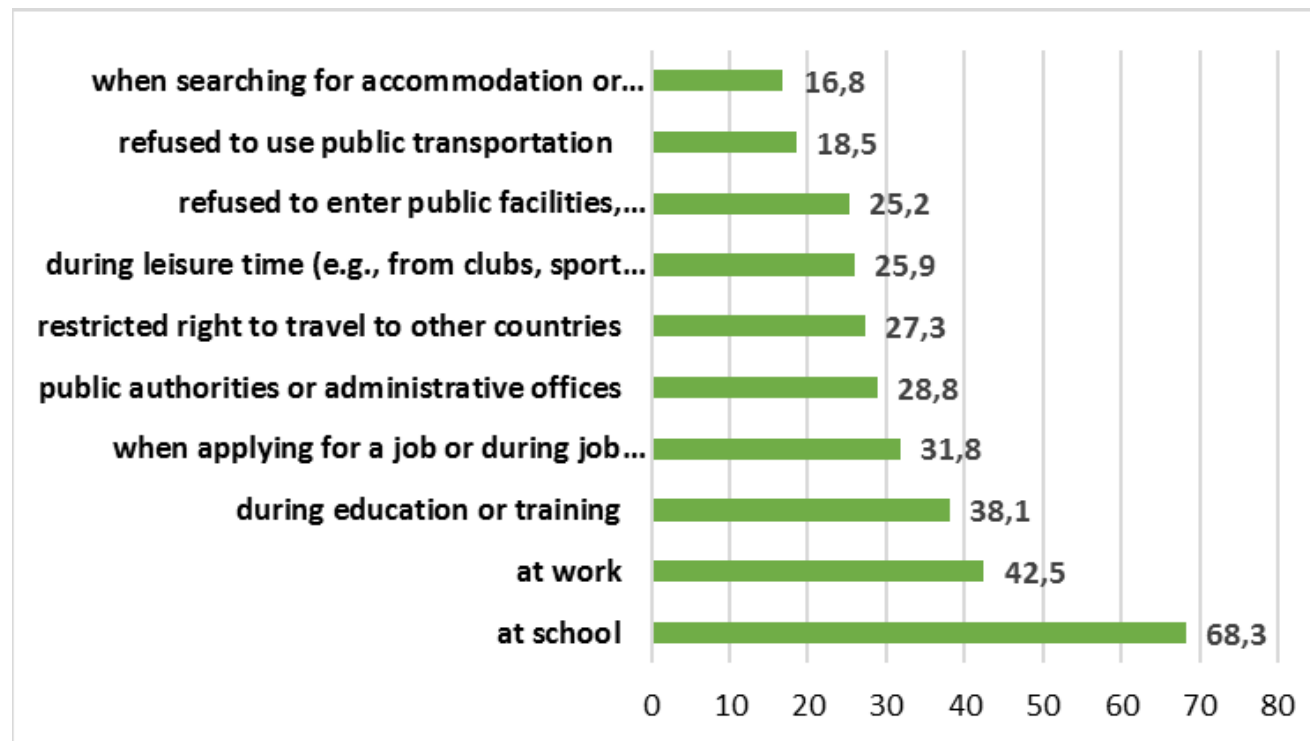


Exclusion/Discrimination Experiences

10 newly developed items, life time prevalence, 5 point-rating scale ranging from *very often* to *never*.

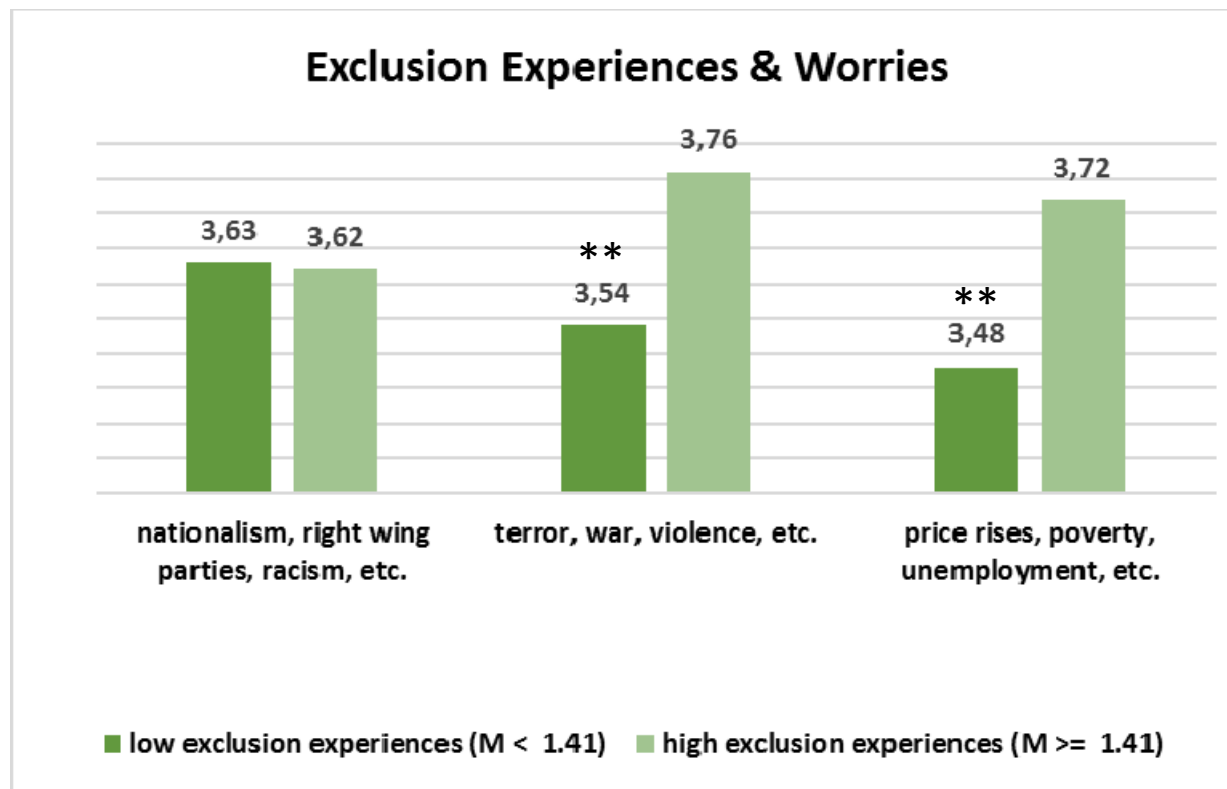
1. I was unfairly treated or excluded when applying for a job or during job interviews.
2. I was refused to enter public facilities, restaurants, pubs or shops without any justification.
3. I was unfairly treated or excluded during education or training.
4. I was excluded during my leisure time (e.g., from clubs, sport facilities, etc.) without any justification.
5. I was unfairly treated by or excluded from public authorities or administrative offices.
6. I was unfairly treated in school.
7. I was unfairly treated at work.
8. I was refused to use public transportation without any justification.
9. My right to travel to other countries was restricted.
10. I was unfairly treated when searching for accommodation or when flats were assigned.

What kind of exclusion/discrimination experiences do young people in Austria face?



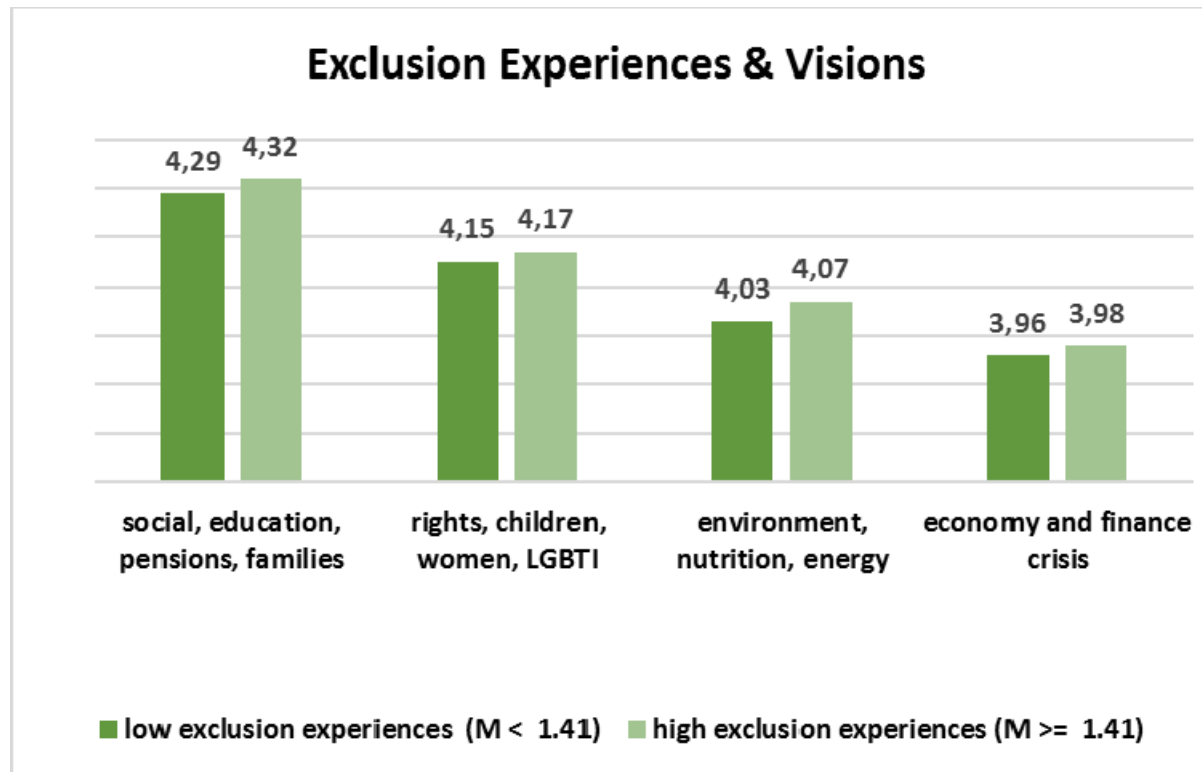
10 items, $\alpha=0.86$; Median= 1.40 (55 % \leq 1.40); Modus (N=180) = 1.00; Range: 1.00 – 5.00

Young people with higher levels of exclusion experiences have more fears for the future of Europe!



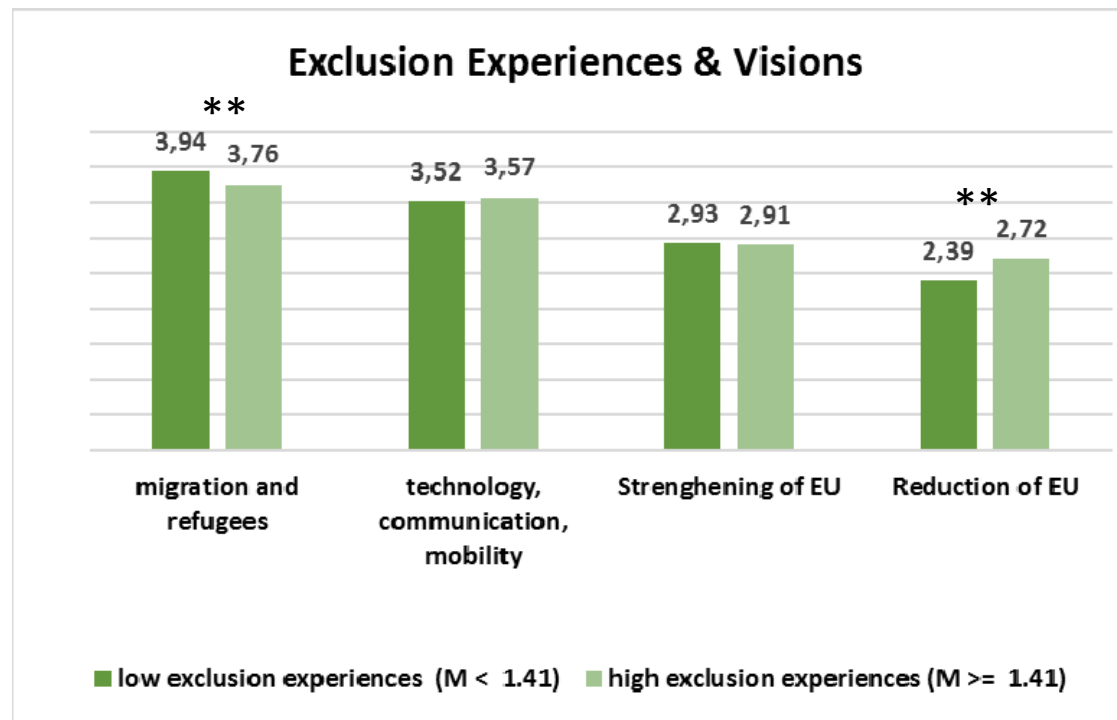
Gender, age and first generation immigrant status were controlled in the analyses.

All young people would equally prioritize social topics, human rights, environment and economy!



Gender, age and first generation immigrant status were controlled in the analyses.

Young people with higher levels of exclusion experiences would prioritize migration & refugees less, BUT would prioritize the reduction of the EU more!



Gender, age and first generation immigrant status were controlled in the analyses.

The Key Question still is:

How to establish more cohesive and inclusive societies?

- **What can we do?**
- **What can social work do?**

Your voice is needed !!!

Please prepare a short message
(video, audio, written) for the
European Parliament.

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