EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

A CALL FOR CHANGE
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES AND PROTECTED AREAS
Who made it?

• Around 40 young people
• Aged 16-25
• At two workshops
Scotland
The Manifesto is a document that is a source of ideas and inspiration for decision makers in NPs, PAS and rural areas, to ensure the involvement and empowerment of young people.

Young people are the future and underrepresented in any decisive board; yet we are capable and willing to give input and implement changes if given the chance. Here we offer straightforward solutions to engage a technology-based next generation.

2018 is the year of young people in Scotland and the initiative to create a youth manifesto was started. Together with Leader, Scotland and Finland organized two workshops where 30 young people aged 16-25 from ... countries came together. Coming from different backgrounds, all ideas and issues have been merged into one document, the Youth Manifesto, to ensure the voices of youth all over Europe are heard.
Finland
WHAT DO YOU LOVE IN YOUR HOME AREA?

Wheel of problems & solutions
- ask people to come up with solutions

STAND
- Slideshow (photo/video of workshops)
- Whiskey/shortbread
- Large poster of bullet points
- Case studies to hand out
- Manifesto summary

Ways, pens, etc.
We want to create more self-sufficient, diverse and resilient rural communities across Europe, we want to learn about, care for, sustain and SHARE our local cultural and natural heritage.
EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

What is a manifesto?

Several definitions:

• “a written statement declaring publicly the intentions, motives, or views of its issue”
• “a public statement stating your views or your intention to do something”
What is our message?

• We want to protect and conserve our environment.
• We need to create more self-sufficient, diverse rural communities across Europe.
• We want to connect to each other, across generations and share our ideas.

We can help build these communities!
Youth Empowerment

• We are **under-represented** in the decision making process
• We are **capable** and **willing** to give input and implement **change**
• We can help **empower** the next generation to develop skills to become **future leaders**

→ We want to be heard and entrusted with the opportunity for direct involvement in decision making!
Youth Empowerment

What do we need you to do?

• Establish youth councils
• Use online platforms to connect with us
• Provide a place on boards for one youth
• Create a youth project fund
• Deliver an induction scheme for the adult board members on youth representation
Living

We want to stay in our protected areas!
But:
• They are often difficult to reach and travel around
• Connections are not good

You cannot afford young people to continue to leave, and we need support to stay.
This is our call to action!

Let’s co-design a sustainable future – now!