



**SVENSK  
UNGDOM  
RKP-NUORET**

EU manifestoto 2024





## SU TO THE EU - FOR A UNION FOCUSED ON PEACE, EDUCATION AND A FUTURE OF POSSIBILITIES

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Finland's place is in the European Union. Over the years, the EU has enriched the lives of Finns and made everyday life easier in many ways. Despite this, we often tend to take this progress for granted.

Swedish Youth of Finland works for an EU based on the principles of freedom, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law. We want the cooperation between member states to also be based on the above-mentioned values and the policies pursued to prevent populism. Especially at a time when Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine is still ongoing, it is more important than ever that the Union is strong in its cooperation and support.

## SU TO THE EU - FOR CONTINUED COOPERATION FOR PEACE IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

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Finland has long been a peacemaking nation. Diplomacy should be a central part of our foreign policy both in national action and as part of the EU. At the same time, both the EU and Finland must be prepared to take a clear stand in global conflicts where negotiations are not seen as a viable option.

In a rapidly changing world, characterized by the climate crisis, the loss of biodiversity and a new geopolitical arena, our time is characterized by uncertainty and conflict. This poses new challenges for the EU and its Member States' cooperation. The European Union must present itself as an active player in the geopolitical environment to promote security in Europe and globally.

The EU must ensure a fair and supportive asylum and migration policy that takes into account international conventions and human rights. Responsibility sharing between countries should work and integration should also include inclusion by removing barriers in the labor market and working towards a better understanding of other cultures and backgrounds among the population.



**Therefore the Swedish Youth wants that:**

**THE EU INTENSIFIES** its defense and security cooperation.

**ALL MEMBER STATES** follow a safe and fair asylum and migration policy.

**THE EU SEEKS** to strengthen its strategic autonomy both militarily and economically.

**THE EU CONTINUES** and intensifies its economic and military support to Ukraine.

**THE EU SHOULD** be a pioneer in democracy, human rights and equality and have the capacity to intervene in the event of violations of these issues.

**THE EU SIGNIFICANTLY** increases the production of ammunition.





## SU TO THE EU - SECURING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION AND MOBILITY

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Education is a cornerstone of our society. The EU must fulfill its role in enabling the free movement of knowledge and education. It should be easy to study in another EU country and education should be transferable between Member States and skills identified and recognized. Opportunities for internships with fair working conditions should be ensured and the EU's position against unpaid internships should be enshrined in law.

In a world that is increasingly international, multicultural and digital, it is important that Erasmus+ continues to offer various opportunities for young Europeans to discover new cultures, improve their language skills and professional competences. The funding of the program must therefore be ensured. Finns who have gone on an Erasmus exchange have stated that their time abroad has taught them to adapt to new situations, appreciate different cultures, and that their self-confidence and openness was strengthened during the exchange.

As the cost of living rises, the scope of Erasmus scholarships should also be expanded to enable exchanges for all. The co-funded Erasmus Mundus programs should be made more accessible and extended to more disciplines and faculties to enable greater geographical and socio-economic diversity in Europe's top universities.

**Therefore, the Swedish Youth wants to:**

**REDUCE** the bureaucracy of studying abroad and unify the system.

**ENSURE** the funding of the Erasmus+ program and increase the amount of scholarships for students.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** for study abroad leading to a degree should be made more accessible.

**EXTEND** Erasmus Mundus programs to more fields of study.

**BAN** unpaid internships across the EU.

**EUROPEAN** University Alliances should not replace mobility periods such as Erasmus exchanges.



## SU TO THE EU - BECAUSE CLIMATE CHANGE REQUIRES ACTION

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Environmental and climate policy is not a separate policy area, but must be taken into account in all decision-making. Swedish Youth works actively for a climate-friendly EU that adapts to and counteracts climate change and its consequences. Climate-friendly and sustainable policies are essential to achieve the EU's climate goals. The Paris Agreement is an important tool in the fight against climate change, but in order to achieve the goals of the agreement, the Union must act decisively. At the start of the new period, the EU will set interim targets to reduce emissions by 2040 in order to reach zero emissions by 2050.

The EU should invest in the development of public transport infrastructure that is clean, safe and supports the transition to low-emission technologies. The EU should promote positive incentives to choose rail transport over air transport wherever possible and where connections are sufficient.

Finland must play a leading role in EU policy on the Baltic Sea, which is a strategically important area for Finland. The loss of biodiversity must be stopped both in the Baltic Sea and worldwide. It is important that we increase protection measures for our sea to promote a clean and rich Baltic Sea. The EU must work to ensure that unique environments are protected from exploitation and that the rights of indigenous and local populations are respected.



**Therefore, the Swedish Youth wants that:**

**THE EU** supports research and product development to make green energy forms more profitable and efficient.

**THE EU** acts to safeguard biodiversity.

**THE EU** introduces stricter directives on eutrophication.

**THE EU** is introducing stricter directives on the discharge of hazardous substances and waste that harm the seas, including the Baltic Sea.

**THE EU** is pursuing policies that respect the unique environment of the Arctic and its indigenous and local populations.

**THE EU** is preparing for the impact of climate change in Europe and globally.





## SU TO THE EU - FOR GROWTH THROUGH COMPETITIVENESS AND A STRONG SINGLE MARKET

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Achieving economic growth in the Union requires a strong internal market. Free trade allows member states to specialize their production. It is also in our national interest that the EU's internal market functions smoothly and adapts to the digital advances we see in technological development.

Digitalization brings innovations, including in the green transition. We must support entrepreneurship and facilitate business activities that extend beyond the borders of the Member States. The Union must take a central role in technological development in order to influence the framework for operations globally.

The Swedish Youth of Finland is convinced that a climate-friendly policy is a sustainable economic and social policy, and welcomes the goal of a climate-neutral EU in 2050. To succeed, the EU must support a competitive market and circular economy, green technology and climate-friendly forms of energy, which enable a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and an improvement in energy efficiency. The EU's energy market must be harmonized, creating a more resilient energy supply and reducing costs. The EU should phase out fossil fuels, consistent with the Paris Agreement.





### Therefore, the Swedish Youth wants that:

**EU TRADE POLICY** should be developed to adapt to today's digital and rapidly changing world.

**THE EU** should actively work against all kinds of discrimination in the labor market.

**THE EU'S LABOR MARKET** should benefit young people with joint efforts to reduce unemployment among the younger generations.

**THE EUROPEAN YOUTH GUARANTEE** should be adequately resourced and implemented in each member state.

**THE EU** takes a central role in technological development at global level.

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