

## Young people are lost in the world of politics

The young are not interested in politics and a growing number of young people are not voting in the elections. Passivity is not unjustified, as the everyday life of young people and the world of politics does not match in their present model.

Many of the young Finns justify not being active in politics because they can't see the benefit of it to their own lives or they can't find a thing they want to influence. It's been also justified with the lack of time, the difficulty of finding a suitable candidate for yourself and the lack of suitable ways of activity for yourself. The reason may simply be that no one encourages or asks them to join in the politics.

Politics does not appear in schools and it affects young people's attitudes when political parties and society influence remain strange. Even in universities, politics are often undesirable, although highly educated people follow the politics more. Politics must be easily accessible to everyone and political activity should be encouraged in schools. Young people must not be taught out of politics, but they must be educated about it.

I have to admit that I have young people in my life who do not vote and do not have any other political influence. We have discussed the subject and I have come to the conclusion that the individualization of influencing currently leads young people's ideas of world politics. Common ideologies and political parties no longer motivate active influencing, but increasingly "I voted for a person, not a political party" is in style. I think this is not a bad direction, especially if the second option is political inactivity. Not voting is the worst possible political protest. You can not complain if you do not try to influence.

Many young people may feel that politicians have no clear vision of which direction to go to. The young's thoughts are influenced by the fact that politics is outsourced to working groups or experts and government parties take all politic moves into different directions. Young people rely on the traditional political system and are waiting for decisions to be made as quickly as possible. No practical action is seen or the information is not passed on properly. Politicians need fresh thoughts that challenge the traditional and even the conservative thinking. They have to be open to new ideas, dare to give young people the space, responsibility and power to do, and to act as support and help to develop politics in a simpler and more modern direction.

Misleading news in the media and hullabaloo of politics have led young people even further away from politics. In addition, young people's concerns do not arise in the news sufficiently largely or they are not been talked enough about. The decision-makers must provide information so that it is easy to reach. Often young people are plead guilty directly. For example, financial cuts in education are been caused by young people because they encourage unequal policies by not voting. Young people do not understand the best of the democratic system, and hence other age groups are taking over in political decision-making. It is time to update this point of view and reflect on what is wrong with the politics because they do not attract young people. Now, if ever, it's a good time to think about getting young people genuinely involved in politics.

I don't have a definite solution here, but I hope every student organization will take the initiative to encourage active citizenship and political influencing!

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