

*“Sustainable  
Participation  
& Active  
Citizenship”*

*Cyprus*

***Euro-Med Youth Forum “Sustainable Participation and Active Citizenship”, took place in Larnaca, Cyprus between 18 – 22 April 2018.***

***The forum which brought together 60 delegates, youth workers and leaders, policy-makers and researchers, from both European and Mediterranean countries, had a core interest to strengthen participation, in particular of young people coming from these countries, and to further promote the concepts of citizenship and democracy, comprising the development of understanding of the EU and its values.***

***EuroMed Youth Forum was implemented in the framework of the “Erasmus+” programme, supported by the Training and Cooperation Activities (TCA) budget line and is organized by the National Agency of Cyprus, in collaboration with the National Agencies of Italy, Portugal and Greece, SALTO EuroMed and Good Practices, Larnaca Municipality, Europe Direct Larnaca and the European Parliament Information Office in Cyprus.***



# ***Euromed Youth Forum Illustrations***

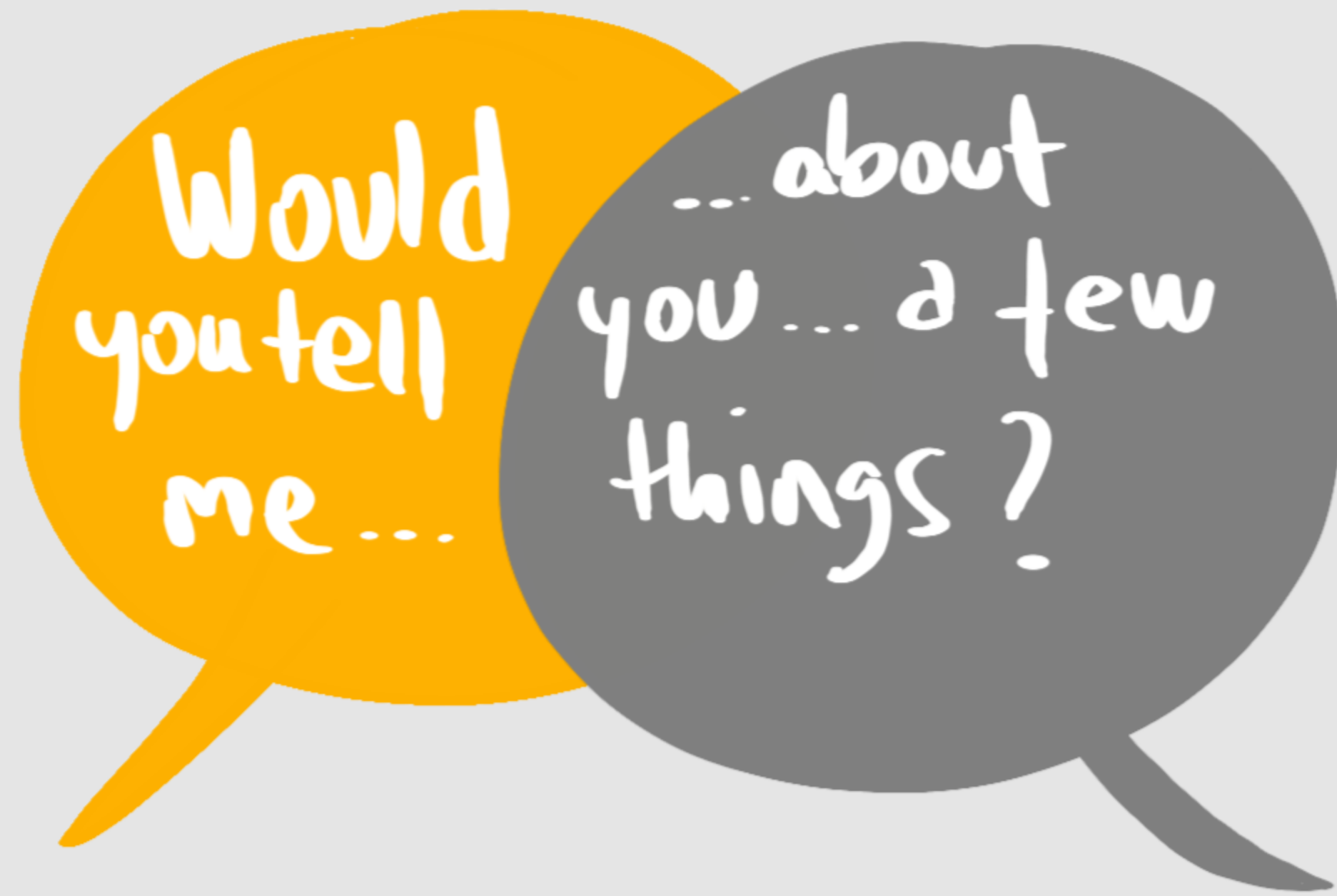
***by Paul Dumitru***

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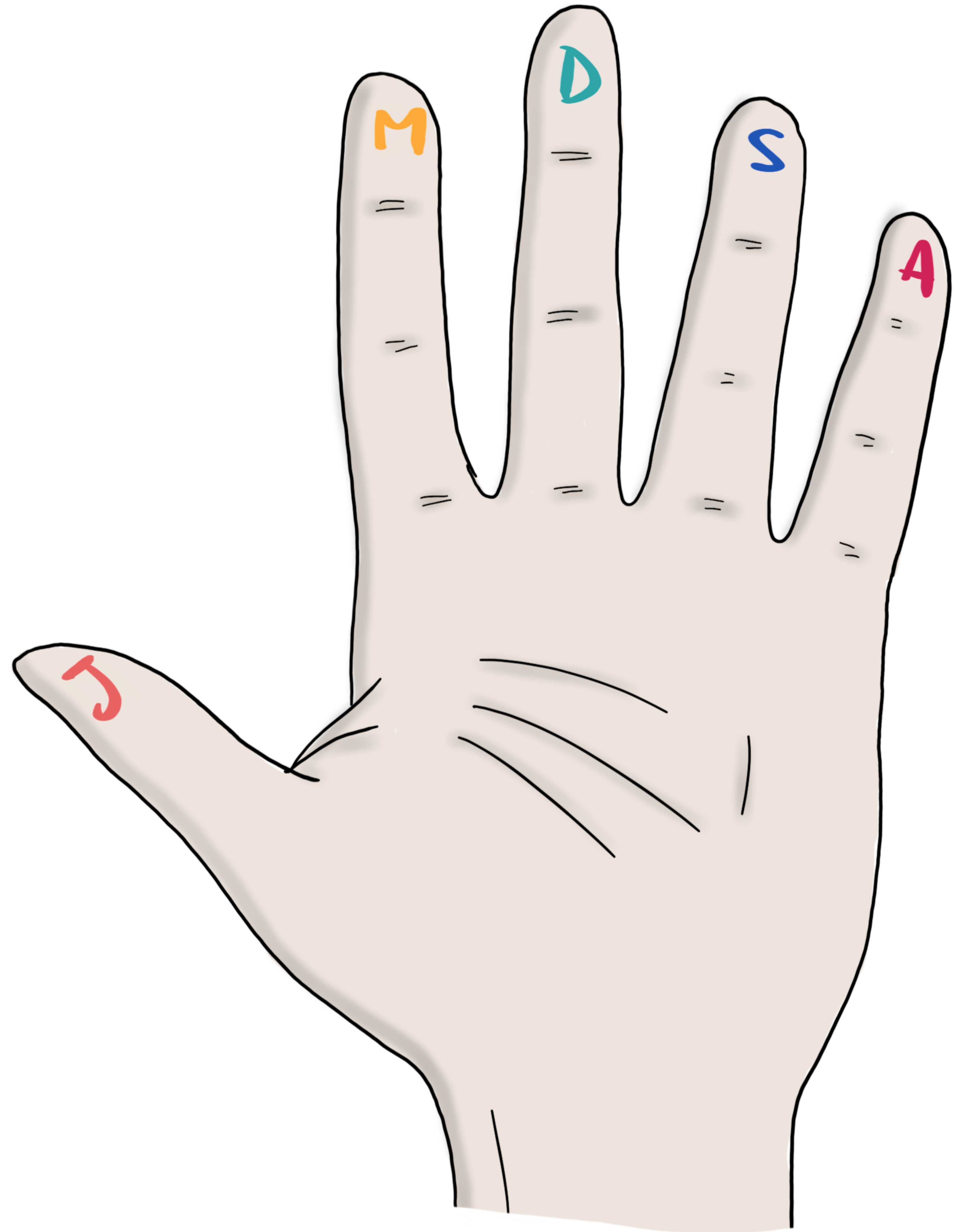
***DAY 1***

***18 April 2018***

We've got DJ SAM coming!



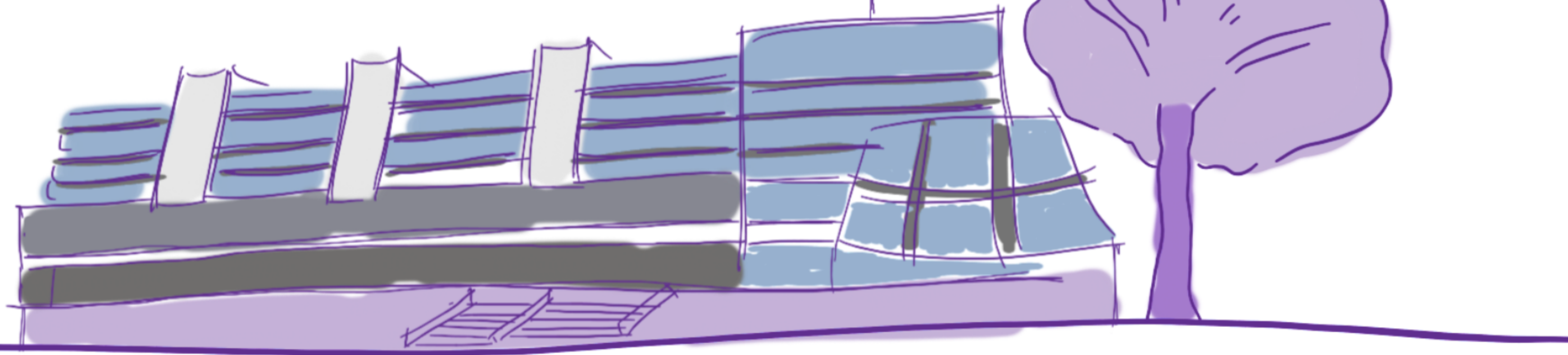
Dream  
Joke  
Secrets  
Answers  
Mood



***DAY 2***

***19 April 2018***

# CoE



PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC LIFE OF ANY COMMUNITY IS ABOUT MORE THAN VOTING OR STANDING FOR ELECTION, ALTHOUGH THESE ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS.

PARTICIPATION & ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP IS ABOUT HAVING THE RIGHT, THE MEANS, THE SPACE AND THE OPPORTUNITY AND WHERE NECESSARY THE SUPPORT TO PARTICIPATE IN AND INFLUENCE DECISIONS & ENGAGING IN ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES SO AS TO CONTRIBUTE TO BUILDING A BETTER SOCIETY.

But what do you think?

...?!?

Yes, you!





WE WANT  
TO START &  
SUPPORT  
FURTHER

SPEAK UP

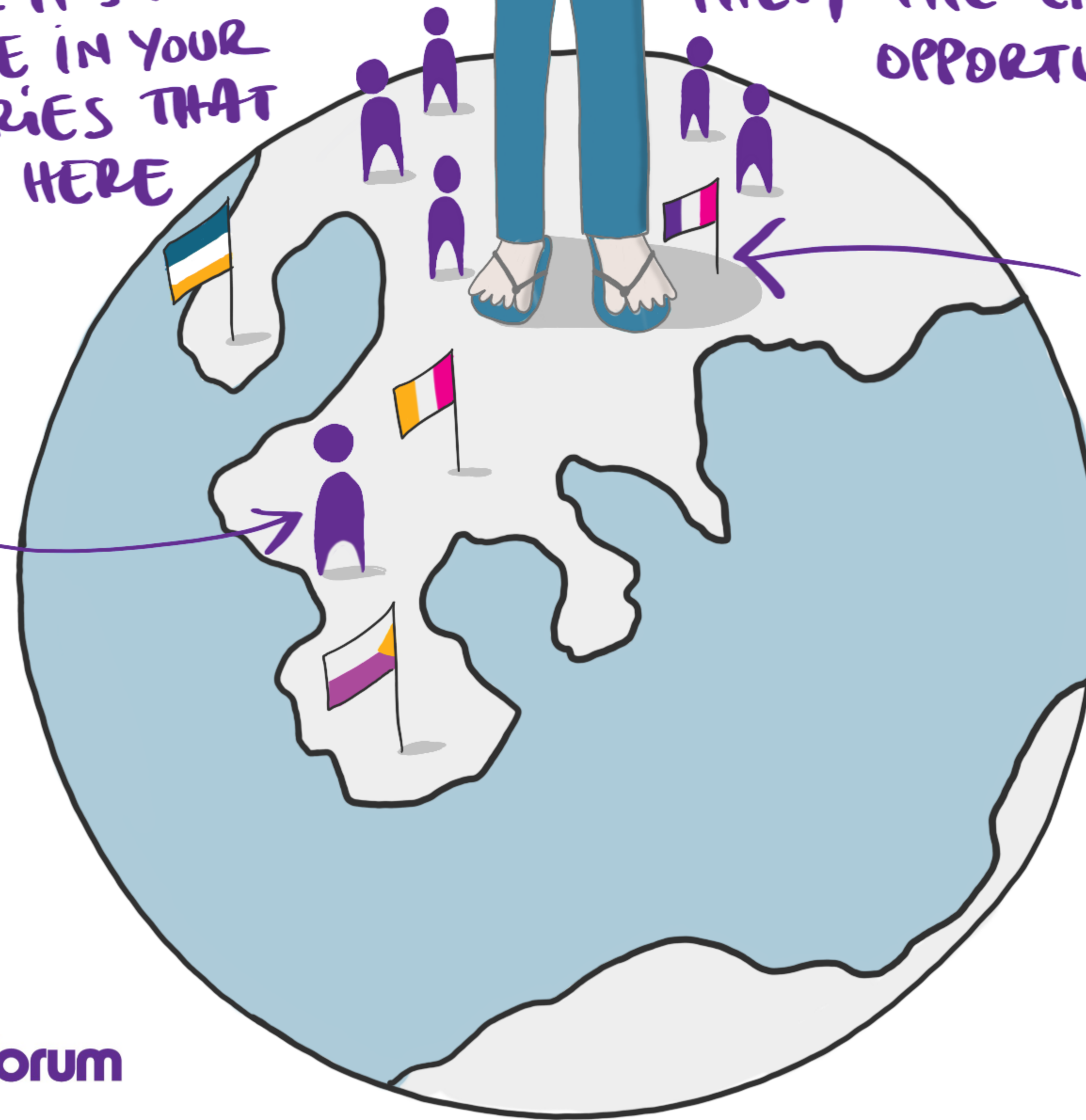


THIS ISN'T ABOUT  
YOU. IT'S FOR THE  
PEOPLE IN YOUR  
COUNTRIES THAT  
AREN'T HERE

HOW CAN WE BRING  
MORE PEOPLE AND SHOW  
THEM THE ERASMUS+  
OPPORTUNITIES

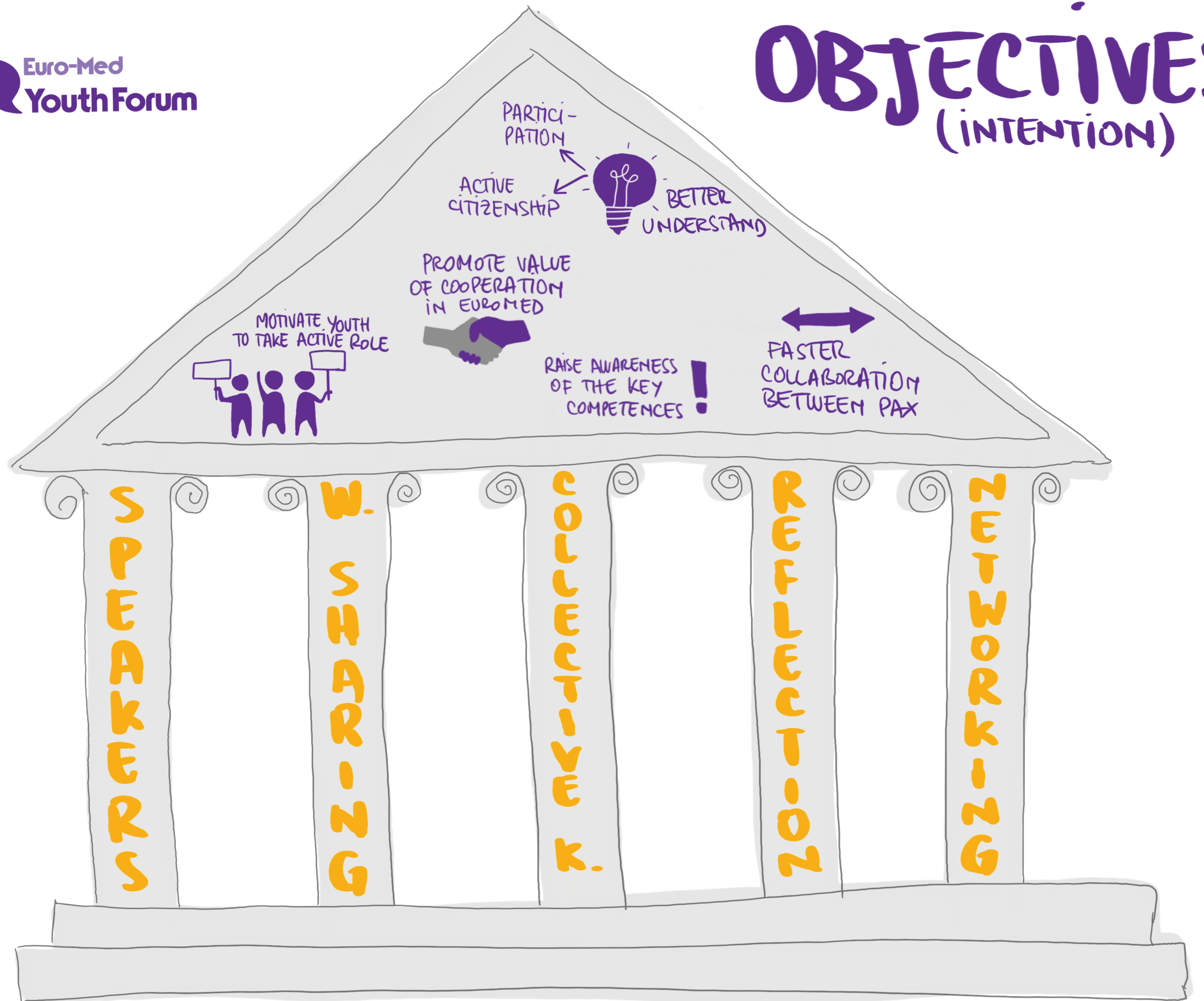
HOW  
CAN WE  
INVOLVE  
THEM

HOW CAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
SUPPORT BE OF  
HELP?





# OBJECTIVES (INTENTION)





Change happens  
when you really  
listen!

The personal is  
political and interests  
us all!

Being humble  
is being grounded

It's important to stay  
sincere with ourselves.

Are we going where  
we want to be going?

Strategy is crucial. People  
trust us more if we know  
what we want to do.



**STALO LESTA**

- CYPRUS-BASED ACTIVIST -



WHETHER WE ACCEPT IT OR NOT,  
**We are all**  
**DIFFERENT**

THEREFORE, WE MUST FIGHT FOR DIVERSITY,  
FOR INCLUSION AND FOR MORE ACCEPTANCE

—STALO UESTA







Let's  
share our  
ideas!



***DAY 3***

***20 April 2018***

THE TRUST OF YOUTH IN GOVERNMENTS IS WOUNDED

THEY CAN HELP TO BUILD DEMOCRACY

THIS FAIRYTALE IS NOT TRUE



WE CAN ACQUIRE VALUE THROUGH THE IDEAS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

THE LACK OF YOUTH INVOLVEMENT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE UNINTERESTED.



THEY FIND ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE THROUGH ART

THEY CAN BE A CATALYST OF CHANGE



HOW CAN WE MAKE THIS TRANSFORMATION?



Out of 17 teachers, only 3 wanted to talk about issues that concern me!

Can we really say that we are in Europe?

Why should there be someone else creating a political future for me?

How can I have dreams about the future when I don't feel represented?

It's a youth forum and we've only got 20' to speak

There is not enough space for us to speak.

I can't change something myself, but there's another one like me, and another. And one day we'll be enough to change things!

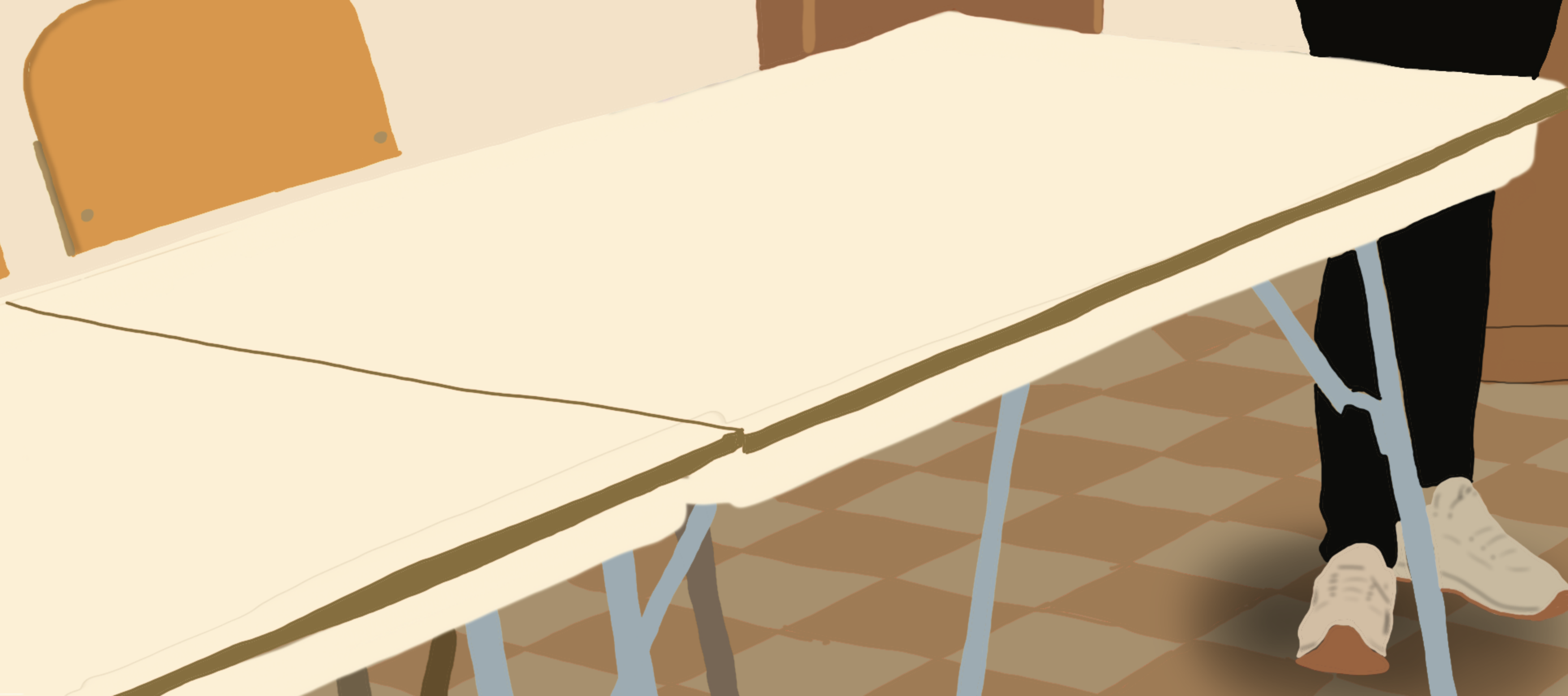
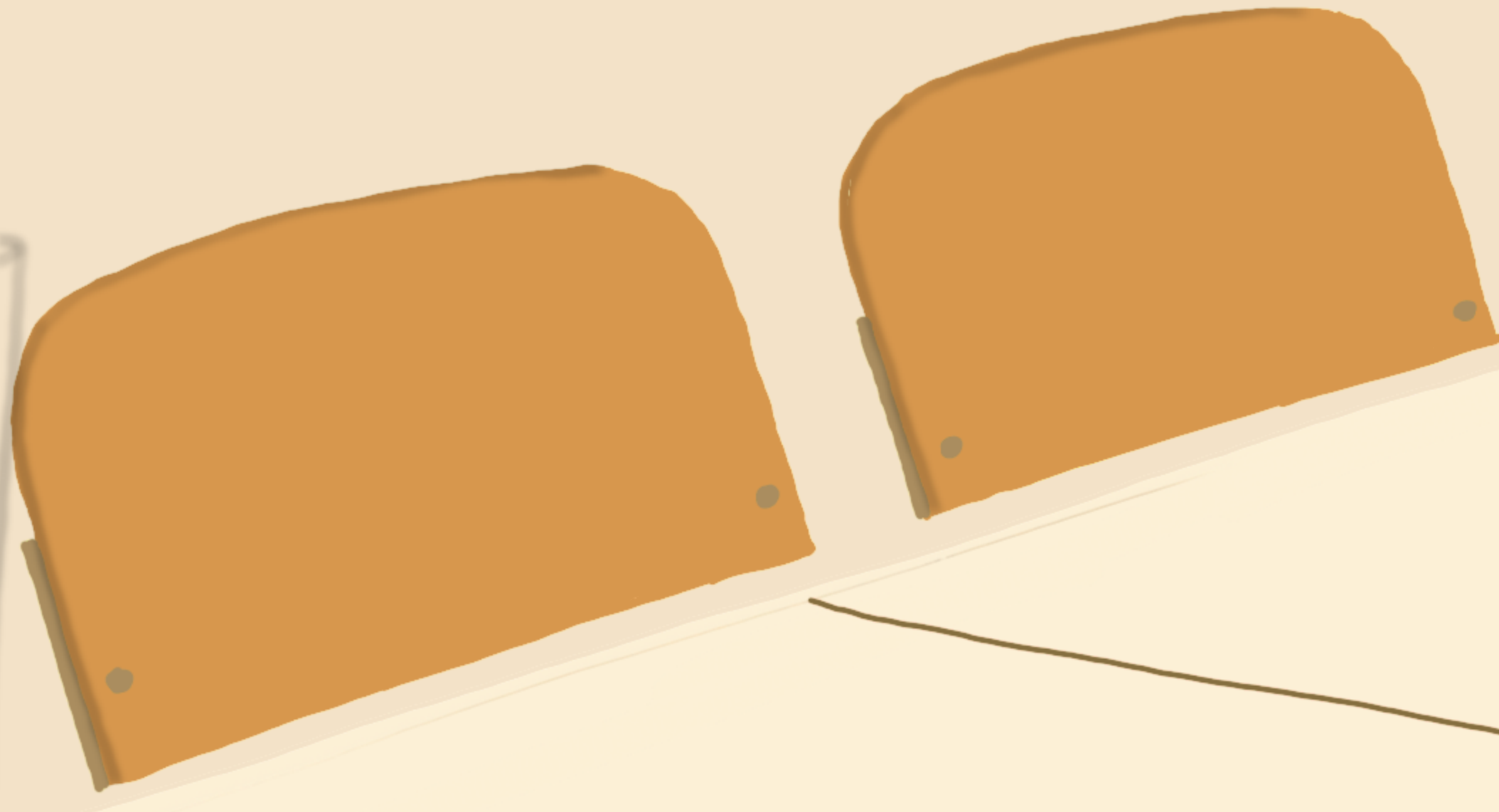
So where is Cyprus gonna be in 10 years from now?

A BRIDGE BETWEEN COUNTRIES AND CONTINENTS





Aticostia: Topographies of Memory  
from the Ermou Machatolaki to the Buffet...



***DAY 4***

***21 April 2018***

# INVITATION: PARTICIPATE!

## UNDERSTAND PARTICIPATION

### WHO ARE THEY?

EUROPE  
14-29 / 16-30 y.o.  
< 35 y.o. ← AFRICA

### HOW DO THEY FEEL WHEN ACTIVE

EMPOWERED  
EMANCIPATED

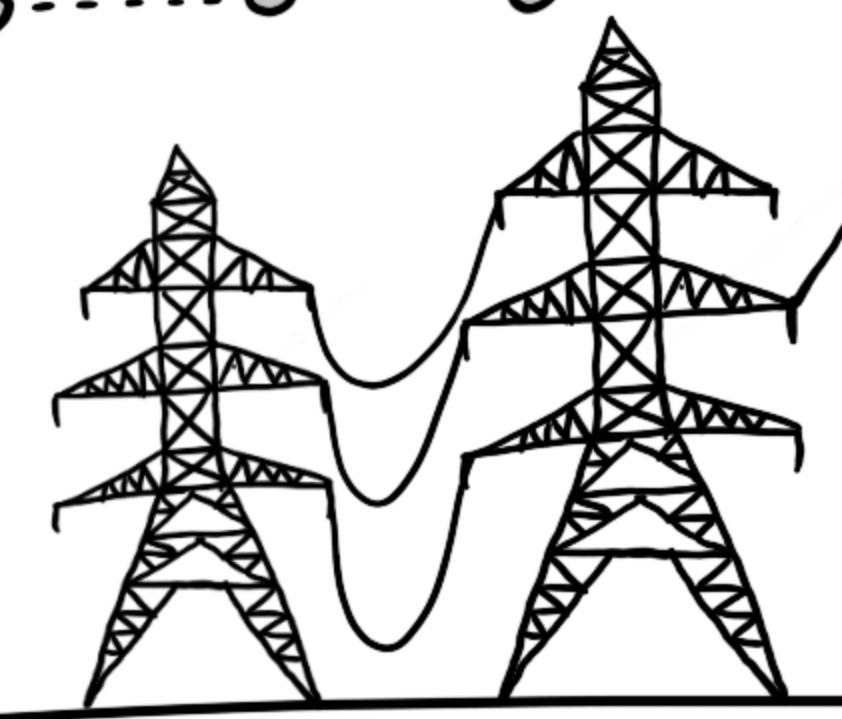
### BEST COUNTRIES TO BE A YOUNG PERSON

DEN. GER.

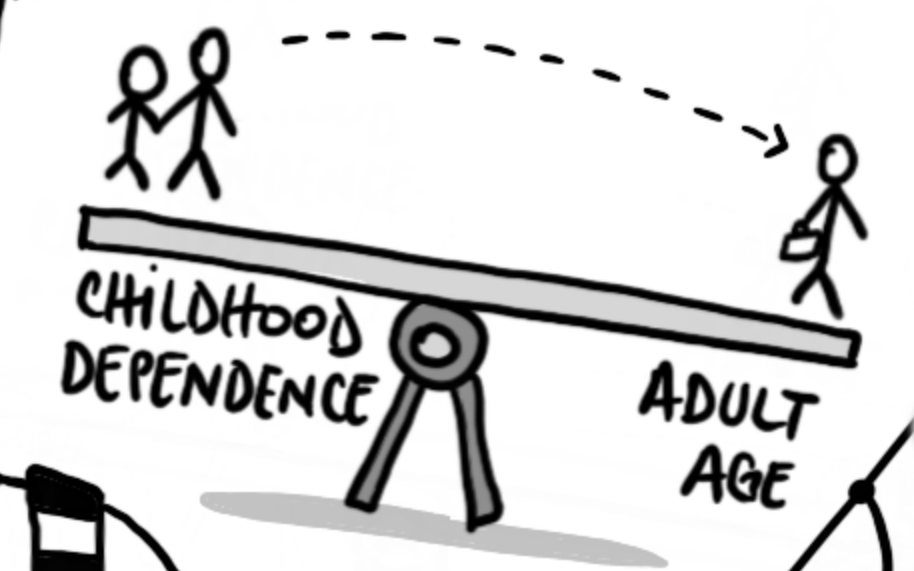
### THE CRITERIA

EDUCATION HEALTH PARTICIPATION

### DRIVERS OF PARTICIPATION



## YOUNG PEOPLE



- KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS
- EXPERIENCE
- SPACES FOR OWN INITIATIVES
- MOTIVATION
- EQUALITY & CITIZENSHIP
- AWARENESS OF IMPACT

## THE PARADOX OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION

SENSE OF AGENCY

INFORMATION

EXPERIENCE

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

SPACES FOR OWN INITIATIVES

MOTIVATION

EQUALITY & CITIZENSHIP

AWARENESS OF IMPACT

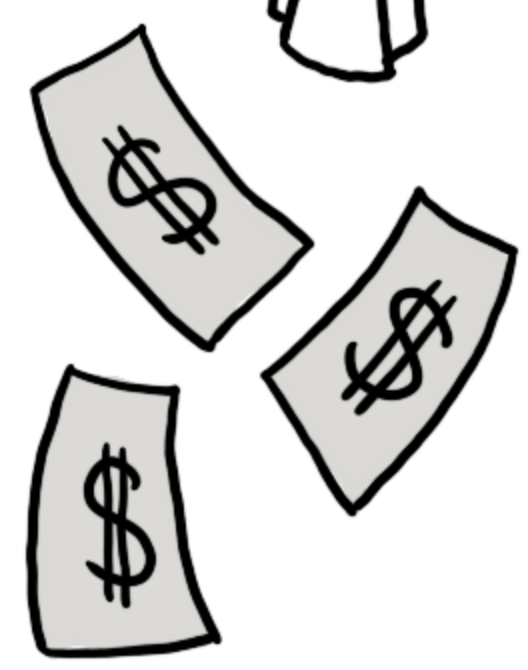
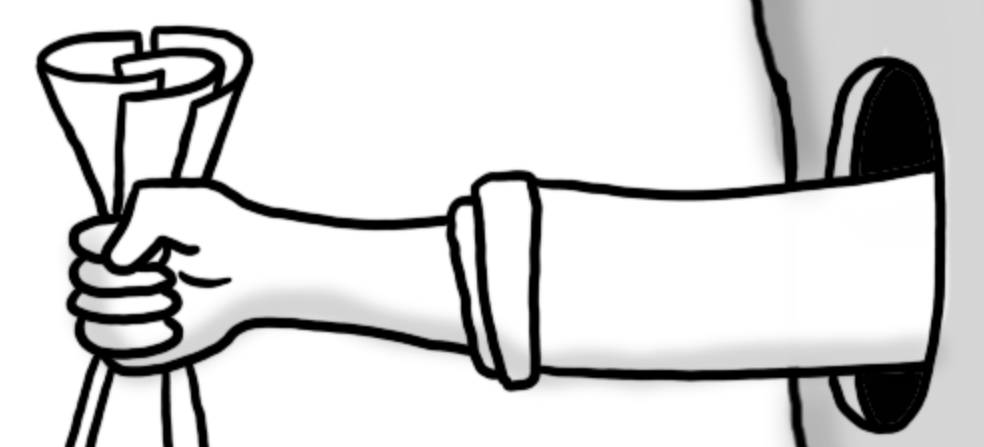
ORGANIZATIONS INVEST MORE:

YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE LESS

Forget about it!

I'm more into individual participation!

Something that is important for me...



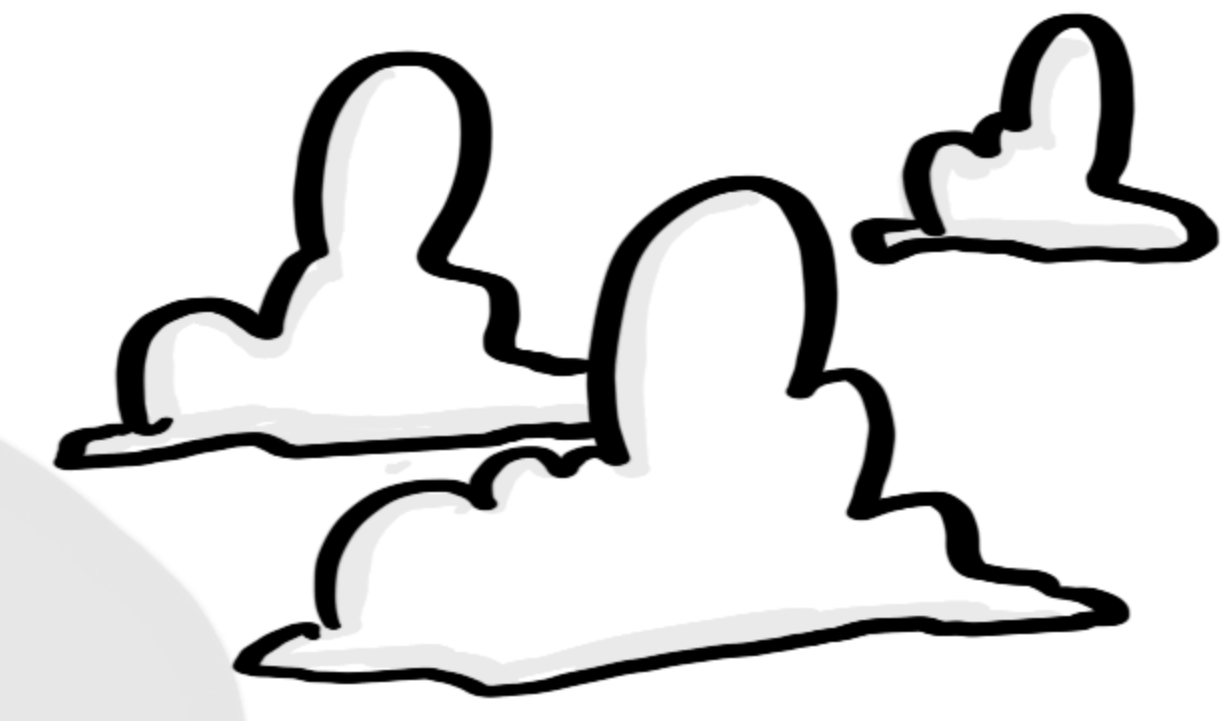
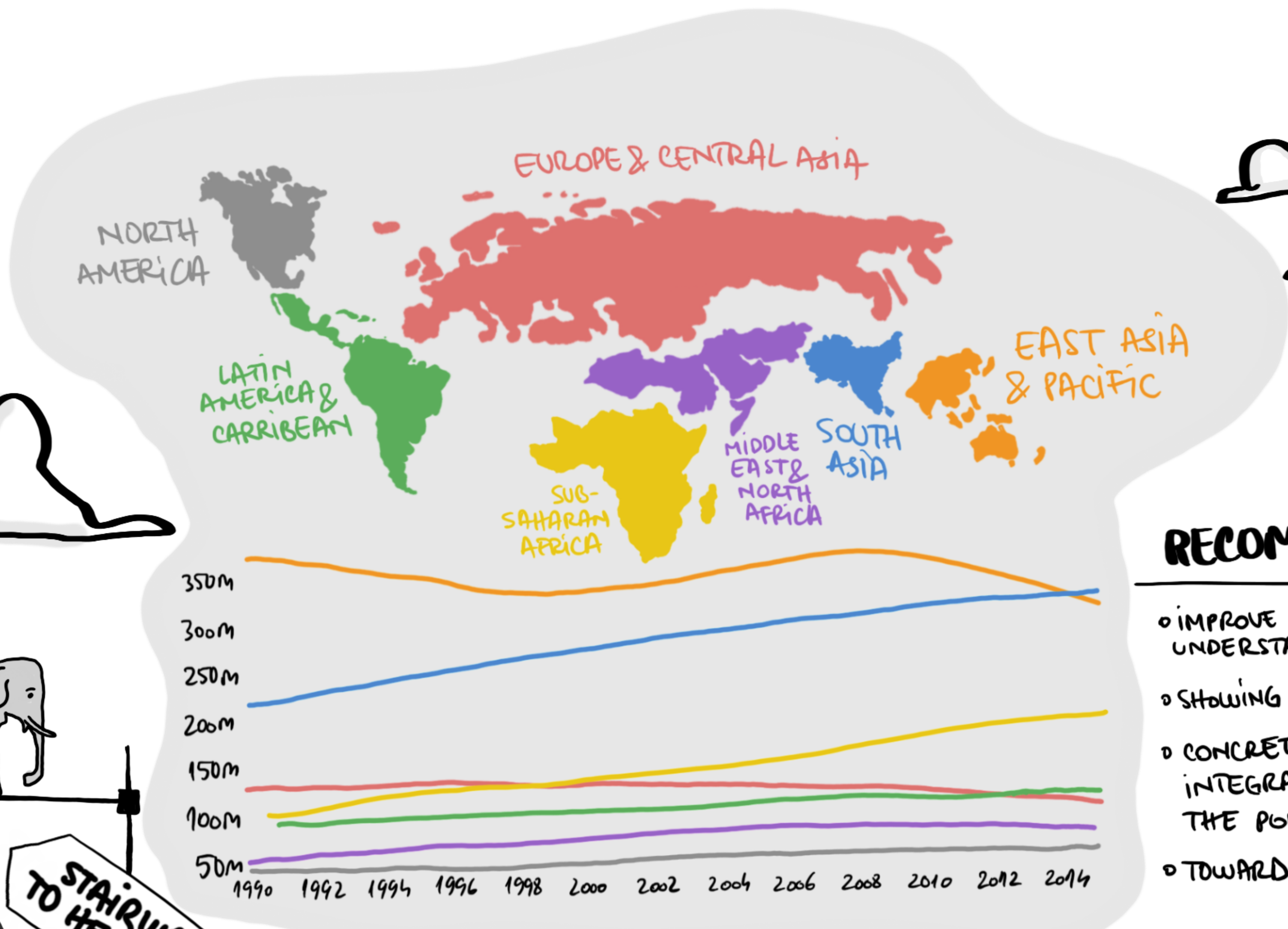
PETITION





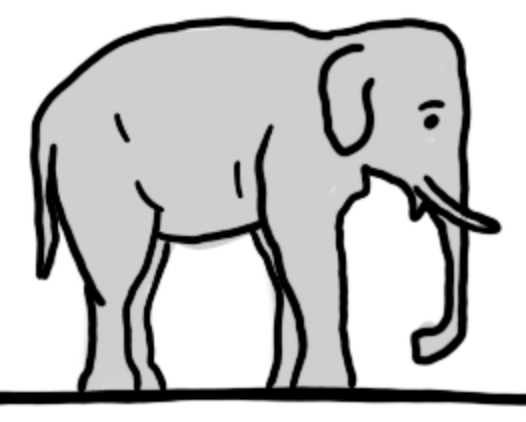
Everything looks so beautiful! Amazing!

You'll probably never get old!



### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- IMPROVE CITIZENS EDUCATION (TO UNDERSTAND POLITICAL SYST.)
- SHOWING TRUST IN YOUNG PEOPLE
- CONCRETE STEPS TO FULLY INTEGRATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE POLITICAL SYSTEM
- TOWARDS AN INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

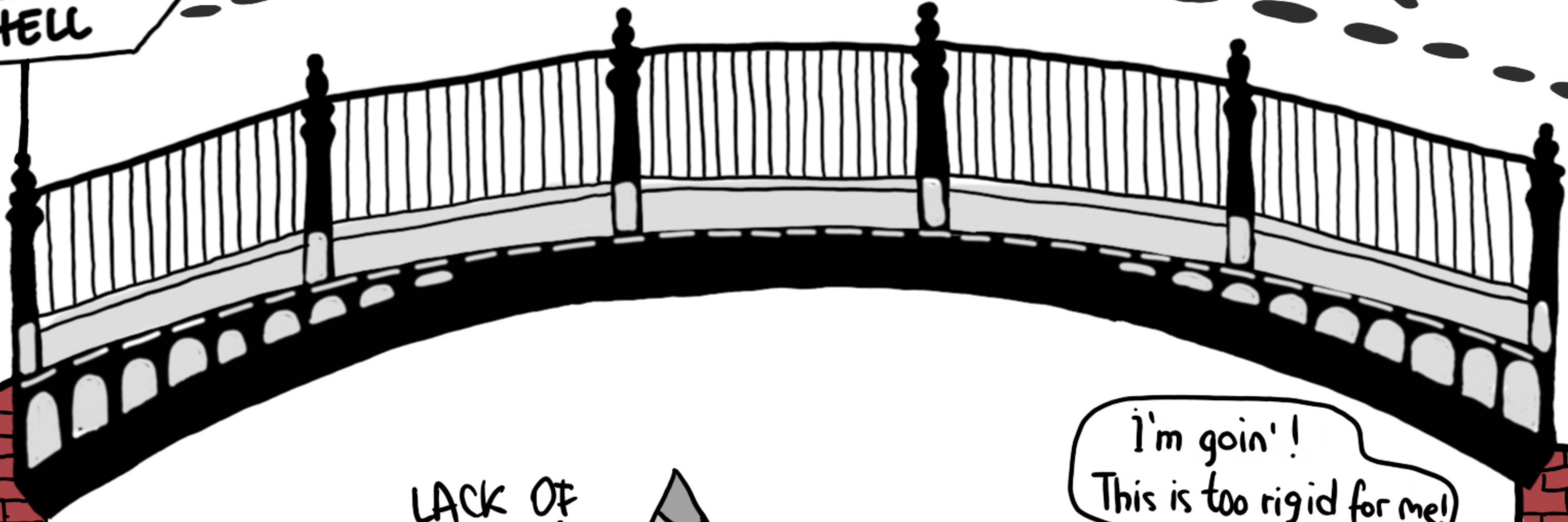


The choice is mine

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN  
HIGHWAY TO HELL

YOUNG PEOPLE

## FROM DEMOCRACY TO DEMOCRATUR



POLITICAL PARTY

LACK OF PARTICIPATION IN INSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL SYST.

LACK OF REPRESENTATION

I'm goin'!  
This is too rigid for me!

# TRUST

PURPOSE: NOT JUST SURVIVAL, BUT LIFE IN COMMUNITY WITH A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS, BUT TRAINING THE MIND TO THINK



