

IndustriAll Europe's Youth DEMANDS for the 2024 European Elections

Motivating young workers to vote
and make their voice heard!



This year's European elections are taking place in a very heated context, with far-right parties threatening to gain ground and increase their positions in the next European Parliament. The rhetoric of far-right parties claims to defend workers' interests, but once in power they attack trade unions and restrict workers' rights. Young workers are in a particularly vulnerable position, having borne the brunt of the last three crises of the past 15 years.

More and more young people feel left behind by mainstream political parties. Fewer young people are turning out to vote, and those who do are falling into the trap of far-right narratives. **It is our responsibility as trade unions to act against this worrying trend and to expose the far-right discourse.**

IndustriAll Europe's Youth Working Group is taking action by joining industriAll Europe's 'Good Industrial Jobs' campaign with youth demands for the 2024 EU elections.



5 Youth Demands for the 2024 EU Elections

- 📣 **Good industrial jobs to attract young people to secure, well-paid and sustainable employment in industries** (an immediate stop to deindustrialisation which prevents young people from taking up jobs in industries due to unclear future prospects);
- 📣 **Good apprenticeships with a retention guarantee** (over the past years, companies in industries have been consistently reducing the number of apprenticeships offered, meanwhile they complain about a lack of skilled workers);
- 📣 **Support for young people** who continue to be affected by the three crises of the past 15 years: **guaranteed access to social protection and quality and affordable housing everywhere, protection of purchasing power, a right to energy;**
- 📣 **A plan to tackle the mental health crisis particularly hitting youth** and caused primarily by insecure employment; low-quality, entry-level jobs; poor retention of apprentices, and limited access to social security, all leading to a precarious economic situation;
- 📣 **A better work-life balance** and clear mechanisms to **tackle all forms of discrimination and harassment at work.**

3 Youth Wins

IndustriAll Europe's youth recognise that progress has been made with the help of the European Parliament

WIN 1

The 2022 'European Year of Youth' has put youth on the agenda of policymakers.

WIN 2

The Reinforced European Youth Guarantee provides a collective response to the youth unemployment crisis.

WIN 3

A European Parliament report calls on the Commission to ban unpaid internships and improve the conditions of trainees.

These wins are steps in the right direction to improve the situation of young people, but much more needs to be done:

- 👉 **End the youth unemployment rate, which is almost double** the overall unemployment rate
- 👉 **Reduce the high share of young people (15-29 year olds) who are not in employment, education, or training** (almost 12% of the so-called NEETs reported in 2022);
- 👉 **End involuntary part-time employment**, which affects 21% of 15-29 year olds.
- 👉 **Remove barriers for young people to access social security and avoid poverty.** 1 in 4 young people in Europe are reported to be at risk of poverty.
- 👉 **Tackle over-qualification with good quality jobs:** Eurostat data estimates that 21% of young people (aged 20-30) in the EU are over-qualified for the requirements of the job they hold. This shows the urgent need for quality jobs that match the level of their skills.

The youth of industriAll Europe call on progressive political parties that defend workers' interests and trade union values to sign up to our demands:



Make sure that the next European Parliament brings real change for young people who need quality apprenticeships and jobs!



Show young voters that it is worth taking part in the European elections and that their vote counts!



Take up our demands and show young industrial workers and apprentices that they have something to vote for!

All you need to know:

