STANDING TOGETHER

Activism in the Face of Right-Wing Populism

November 19-25, 2024, Kékkút, Hungary

BOVE

YeS GREECE

EINE WELT NETZ NRW

Travelogue APS

Follow Up

Funded by the European Union

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Day 1

Arrival
&
Getting to know
each other

Day 2

After breakfast we all gathered in the common room at 10am. We started the session by getting familiar with each other. First we explained how we feel using an animal which shows our current emotions and feelings. Afterwards we all told the background stories about our names. Then we did a line up (first age, names by alphabet, height, hair length, geography- where we live). At the beginning we were still allowed to talk and later we should do it without talking or making signs.

Then we discussed the group rules, where we had to make up our own group rules. First we had to think about what is important for ourselves, then in groups of three and then all together. Like this we discovered what is important for everyone. Then we played the game: Can we talk?
After lunch break we gathered around and had a quick energizer (Ha-he-hi game), then we sat down and we started with the picture activity. First everyone had to memorize their picture in one minute, which we had to describe to the whole group afterwards. Then we had twenty minutes to work together and try to put them in an order to create a story without looking at the pictures again.

After that we had a thread game to refresh our names and then opinion lines. The facilitators said a statement and we had to stand in line based on the percentage of agreement, then we had a quick debate after each round. After that we went into smaller groups based on the topics that arose within the debate and then we discussed them.

Day 3

The third day of our youth program in Hungary was full of engaging activities and meaningful discussions. We started the day with a warm-up session, where everyone shared how they were feeling. While some participants were energetic and ready to dive in, others admitted to feeling a bit tired after a long day before.

Next, we spent three hours exploring different stations, discussing case studies of activism from around the world, including examples from Hong Kong, Germany, Brazil, and Greece. These discussions gave us valuable insights into diverse approaches to activism in various cultural and political contexts.

After a delicious lunch and a refreshing break, we moved on to our next session. Together, we created a "museum" where participants showcased their activism in two groups using their own created posters. These posters were later pinned around the room, allowing everyone to walk around and view each other's work at their own pace.

Later, we participated in a workshop on online activism. Working in small groups, we brainstormed and designed our ideal social media platforms. Each group presented their platform to the rest of the participants, fostering an engaging exchange of creative ideas.

The day was packed with inspiration and collaboration, leaving us excited for what lies ahead in the program!

Day 4

The fourth day woke us up with an amazing present: It had snowed overnight!
The program was packed with a lot to learn. After Service & Care we started into a session on Populism, learning about the different definitions of populism and about populist's argumentation strategies and how to debunk them.

After lunchbreak and an awesome snowball fight each country group had some time to prepare a poster about the current political situation in their countries, which they then presented to the rest of the group. Afterwards we jumped into „worls café"-discussions in smaller groups around the topics gender equalitiy, poverty, migration and climate change.
In the evening we met at the restaurant for a pub quiz and later some rounds of beer pong.

Day 5

On Saturday it was time for our field trip to the beautiful town of Veszprém. We first walked to some historical sights together, had some more snowball fights and later had time to discover the town on our own.

In the evening we had an intercultural evening filled with quizzes, food and dances from all four countries. We continued with a party with multicultural music.

Day 6

Sunday was already the last day of our program. The morning had some open space for us to fill up with our own activities: people meditated, learned dances, read their fortune from coffee and much more.

In the afternoon we went on a little dream journey to the future. We discussed and created our utopias together. And after some evaluation of the week the program ended with an awesome karaoke party.

Day 7

Farewell

Kékkut

ACTIVIST HIKE

Lina E.

German anti-fascist from Leipzig, found guilty of attacking neo-Nazis

Find out more:
https://www.dw.com/en/german-left-wing-extremist-lina-e-found-guilty/a-65767893
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_of_Lina_E.

Olga Lafazani

Greek activist on the rights of refugees, part of the occupied hotel "Refugee Accommodation and Solidarity Space City Plaza" in Athens

Find out more:
https://www.meltingpot.org/en/2017/11/welcome-to-greece-an-interview-with-olga-lafazani-coordinator-of-city-plaza/

Txai Suruí

Activist from Rondônia, Brazil, for indigenous rights, environment protection and climate justice

Find out more:
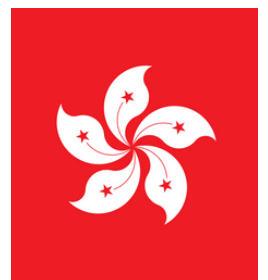https://youtu.be/_b9D08ehdLs?si=dhrFJ0IKxW84Fce8

Nathan Law

Democracy activist from Hong Kong, currently living in exile

Find out more:
https://youtu.be/LCgWOQz3YE0?si=1b7haBr-WeFCfIyC

SOCIAL MEDIA, SUSTAINABILITY & ACTVISM

How many CO2 equivalents are emitted for one minute of watching TikTok?

a) the same as driving 10m with a normal car
b) the same as driving 100m with a normal car
c) the same as driving 500m with a normal car

How many smartphones does the average German own?

Ecological Impacts of Social Media

- Ecological footprint of the global digital industry already around 3x as large as that of France or the UK in 2021
- CO2 emissions and water consumption from data centers and servers, as well as the extraction of raw materials for and production of end devices
- 300 million tons of CO2 per year just from streaming online videos --> almost 1% of global emissions (approx. 1/3 on-demand streaming, 1/3 porn)
- environmentally harmful production and electronic waste due to overconsumption of digital devices
- A lot of avoidable climate damage: automatically starting videos, advertising, spam emails, excessively high resolution, data waste...

Answers: b, 2

Social Impacts of Social Media

- Mental health:
    - Studies suggest a link between intensity of use and likelihood of depression, eating disorders, anxiety, etc.
        - caused by: comparisons with others, less time for things that are good for us, algorithms that give us more and more of what makes us ill, sensory overload, stress...
    - Addiction potential
    - Bullying and hate speech "easier"
- Societal:
    - Fake news, misinformation, disinformation lead to polarization and destabilization of societies
    - Breeding ground for right-wing populism - the more extreme the more successful
    - filter bubbles
    - Algorithms with bias: content from minorities is played out less frequently

Quick excursion to mis-, dis- and mal-information

Mis-information is when false information is shared, but no harm is meant.

Example: Nelson Mandela died in prison

Dis-information is when false information is knowingly shared to cause harm.

Example: "Pizza-Gate"

Mal-information is information that is based on reality but it is used to inflict harm on a person, organisation or country.

Example: "revenge porn", sharing private adress of politicians...

Economical Impacts of Social Media

Capitalism in its final stage:
- Monopolization and concentration of power:
  - A few large corporations (Meta, Tiktok, Alphabet) dominate global advertising market
  - Network effect prevents competition
- Exploitation of labor:
  - Algorithms have to be trained by humans --> exploitation of people in the Global South as clickworkers and content moderators
  - Raw material extraction, production and recycling are based on the exploitation of marginalized people
  - Freelancers dependent on the algorithms of the platforms
- Overconsumption:
  - Corporations such as Temu, Shein and Amazon use targeted advertising on social media to get us to buy more and more, influencer advertising often not recognizable as such
- Surveillance capitalism through the commercialization of user data
- Privatization of public discourse:
  - Social media as a central place for public discourse in private hands
  - Democratic processes influenced by private sector interests
  - Digital imperialism: profits in the Global North, exploitation in the Global South

POPULISM
What is it and what's the problem?

Definitions

1 - The Ideational Approach

Populism is a "thin-centered ideology that considers society to be ultimately separated into two homogenous and antagonistic camps, 'the pure people' versus 'the corrupt elite.'"

Populism = Ideology

Cas Mudde and Cristobal Rovira Kaltwasser, Populism: A Very Short Introduction (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), 6.

2 - The Political-Strategic Approach

Populism is best defined as a **political strategy** through which a personalistic leader seeks or exercises government power based on **direct, unmediated, uninstitutionalized support** from large numbers of **mostly unorganized followers.**

Populism = Strategy

Weyland K (2001) Clarifying a Contested Concept: Populism in the Study of Latin American Politics. Comparative Politics 34 (1): 1–22.

3 - The Socio-Cultural Approach

Populism [is] a distinctive **style of doing politics**, of making appeals, and of establishing **relations between citizens and representatives**.
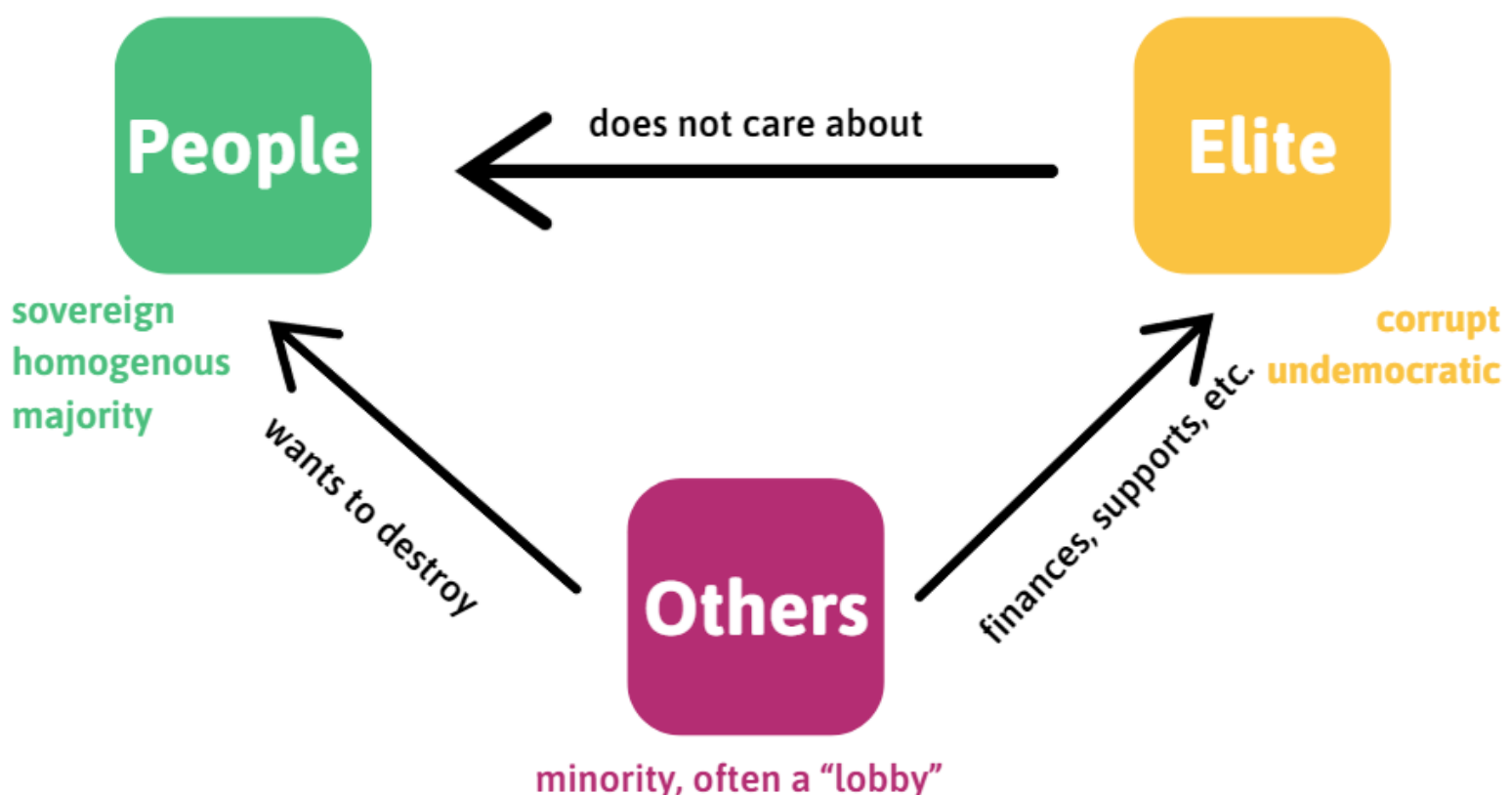
Populism = Relation

Westheuser, L., & Ostiguy , P. (2024). "Chapter 15: The socio-cultural approach: toward a cultural class analysis of populist appeals". In Research Handbook on Populism. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.

*Populism is an **anti-establishment, anti-elite** ideology and political strategy. Populism as an ideology adopts a discursive approach and focuses on the **tensions between the "pure people" and the "corrupt elite."** (Oxford Bibliography)*

*Populism is a political movement that attempts to **appeal to "the people"** by convincing them that **its leaders alone represent them** and their concerns that are being **ignored by a real or perceived "elite establishment."** (Robert Longley)*

How populism sees society

People

sovereign
homogenous
majority

does not care about

Elite

corrupt
undemocratic

wants to destroy

finances, supports, etc.

Others

minority, often a "lobby"

Dimensions & Dangers of Populism

A - Depiction of Political Actors as "corrupt elite"
- creates mistrust in the political institutions and the constitutions
- enhances violence against politicians and people with relations to the depicted "elite"
- polarization of society: for or against "the elite"

B- Focussing on Morality instead of Rationality
- anti-pluralistic: the "moral" is mostly undebatable
- makes rational standards like human rights or laws obsolete

C - Construction of society as one homogenous group with a common interest
- anti-pluralistic: "The people" are all based on one standard and have one opinion
- exclusion: everyone who does not fulfill the criteria for being considered "the people" is seen as "others"

D - Sovereignity against the endagering interests of the elite
- leads to denial of facts and given limitations
- "interests of the elite" are made up

E - Strong Leadership by charismatic leader(s) representing the people's interest
- there is no singular "people's interest"
- tends to denial of separation of powers
- "Faces over Facts" - Politics of Personas rather then policies

Populist argumentation styles

- **Emotionalization and panicking**: existing insecurities or worries are instrumentalized to underline an argument

- **Generalization**: singular examples are used to state general facts that actually do not apply.
  - Example: An islamist terrorist attack is used to depict all Muslim people as terrorists.

- **Framing**: Certain formulations are used to provoke certain emotions.
  - Example: Pride as "LGBTQ-Propaganda", provoking direct association with totalitarian regimes and their propaganda

- **Fake Associations:** Two topics that do not have a connection are being put in direct causality with each other.
  - Example: "Because the refugees get so much money, my business is going bancrupt."

- **What Aboutism**: By bringing up a seemingly related topic the original thesis is supposed to be discredited.
  - Example: "It does not help if we take climate action if China is polluting so much more."

- **Victimizing**: Mostly privileged people depict themselves as the victims of a situation or discussion.
  - Example: "You can't say anything anymore without being called a racist"

DEBUNKING POPULISM

Basic Argumentation Advice.

- **Stay calm and confident.** You should always remain calm in a discussion and try not to interrupt the other person. You want the other person to listen when you express your opinion. To achieve this, you should not allow yourself to be provoked, but instead calmly and confidently put forward your point of view with arguments. Don't let the other person provoke you - this is often exactly what they are trying to do. Remain calm and patient and speak in a calm voice. Avoid getting loud, abusive or insulting in a discussion.

- **Ask precise questions.** In a discussion, the other person might use alternative facts or generalize certain assumptions. Always ask questions on the arguments the other person states. By this, you can not only gain a deeper understanding of their point of view, but can also provoke the other person to rethink what they said and to recognize contradictions or argumentative weak spots.

- **Use "I-Messages".** Instead of directly referring to your opponent, try to talk about yourself. Directly referring to the other person can make them feel offended or personally attacked. Instead, try to reword your argument into a message coming from you. Instead of saying "You are lying." you can rather say "I doubt that this is actually the truth.". By this you appear more approachable and reflected.

- **Check the "facts".** If you are uncertain if something is actually true, ask the other person for the sources of what they are saying. Ask where they took a certain information from. If you have certain knowledge on something the other person says, point out that something is not factual. Remember to do it in a polite way.

- **Set the topics.** You can only have an effective discussion if you feel confident with the topic. Engaging in discussions you do not feel confident in or you have only few information about can easily confirm the other persons opinion. Instead, try to keep the discussion on the topics you feel confident about. Instead of reacting to what the other person says, proactively lead the discussion and keep the discussion with the topic you are discussing about. This can also prevent Whataboutism.

- **Set boundaries.** Although being polite increases your credibility, you have to keep in mind your own boundaries. Make clear if the other person is overstepping your boundaries and explain clearly but calmly why you set your boundary there. Also try to respect the other person's boundary. This includes the style of talking (Don't let yourself be yelled at or insulted), but also the content (Clear boundary against discrimination, racism, sexism, etc.). If the other person does repetetively not respect your boundaries, you can also end the discussion.

EU: Migration and Asylum Pact reforms will put people at heightened risk of human rights violations - Amnesty International

© Nicolas Economou/NurPhoto

NEWS

April 4, 2024

EU: Migration and Asylum Pact reforms will put people at heightened risk of human rights violations

Ahead of the European Parliament's final vote on the European Union (EU) Pact on Migration and Asylum on 10 April, Amnesty International warns that these reforms will put people at heightened risk of human rights violations.

"It is clearer than ever that this EU Pact on Migration and Asylum will set back European asylum law for decades to come, lead to greater suffering, and put more people at risk of human rights violations at every step of their journeys," said Eve Geddie, Amnesty International's Head of the European Institutions Office and Director of Advocacy.

"Since these reforms were first proposed in 2020, every step of the negotiations has further worsened the final outcome – weakening protections and access to asylum for people on the move, expanding detention and containment at borders, and further shifting responsibilities to countries outside of Europe. The Pact will do nothing to improve Europe's response to people in need of protection.

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https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/04/eu-migration-asylum-pact-put-people-at-risk-human-rights-violations/

"The European Parliament should be setting a higher standard for a humane and sustainable common asylum policy. However, this package of proposals shamefully risks subjecting more people, including families with children, to *de facto* detention at EU borders; denying them a fair and full assessment of their protection needs. The proposal will also open the door to new emergency measures that will put countless people at risk of pushbacks, arbitrary detention, and destitution at European borders.

"These proposals come hand in hand with mounting efforts to shift responsibility for refugee protection and border control to countries outside of the EU – such as recent deals with ~~Tunisia, Egypt,~~ and Mauritania, or attempts to externalize the processing of asylum claims to ~~Albania.~~ These practices risk trapping people in states where their human rights will be in danger, render the EU complicit in the abuses that may follow, and compromises Europe's ability to uphold human rights beyond the bloc."

Background

The final vote in the European Parliament on several regulations that comprise the Migration and Asylum Pact is due to take place on Wednesday 10 April at 17:00 CET. The proposals will be formally adopted after the European Council endorses them, before June 2024. The new legislation is expected to come into force and be fully operational two years later, by June 2026.

Topic: People on the move
Read the article and talk about:
- *How is the topic of asylum and forced migration talked about in your country? How do the most famous media cover it? What's the position of your government and opposition parties?*
- *What do you personally think how the EU should handle the issue without violating human rights?*

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Climate crisis

This year 'virtually certain' to be hottest on record, finds EU space programme

Copernicus Climate Change Service says 2024 marks 'a new milestone' and should raise ambitions at Cop29 summit

Ajit Niranjan *Europe environment correspondent*

Thu 7 Nov 2024 04.00 CET

It is "virtually certain" that 2024 will be the hottest year on record, the European Union's space programme has found.

The prognosis comes the week before diplomats meet at the Cop29 climate summit and a day after a majority of voters in the US, the biggest historical polluter of planet-heating gas, chose to make Donald Trump president.

Trump has described climate change as a "hoax" and promised to roll back policies to clean up the economy.

The report found 2024 is likely to be the first year more than 1.5C (2.7F) hotter than before the Industrial Revolution, a level of warming that has alarmed scientists.

"This marks a new milestone in global temperature records and should serve as a catalyst to raise ambition for the upcoming climate change conference," said Dr Samantha Burgess, deputy director of the Copernicus Climate Change Service.

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The scientists found global temperatures for the past 12 months were 1.62C greater than the 1850-1900 average, when humanity started to burn vast volumes of coal, oil and gas. [...]

World leaders promised to stop the planet from heating 1.5C by the end of the century but are on track to heat it by roughly double that.
Scientists say a single year above the threshold does not mean they have missed the target, as temperature rise is measured over decades rather than years, but warn that it will force more people and ecosystems to the brink of survival.

"Our civilisation never had to cope with a climate as warm as the current one," said Carlo Buontempo, the director of Copernicus. "This inevitably pushes our ability to respond to extreme events – and adapt to a warmer world – to the absolute limit." [..]

They pointed to heavier-than-normal rains that hit large parts of Europe, including Spain, where flash floods killed more than 200 people as they ripped through villages and swamped homes with mud.
Last week, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) found the concentration of planet-heating pollutants clogging the atmosphere had hit record levels in 2023. It found carbon dioxide was accumulating faster than at any time in human history with concentrations having risen by more than 10% in just two decades, heating the planet and making extreme weather more violent. "The most effective solution to address the climate challenges is a global commitment on emissions," said Buontempo.
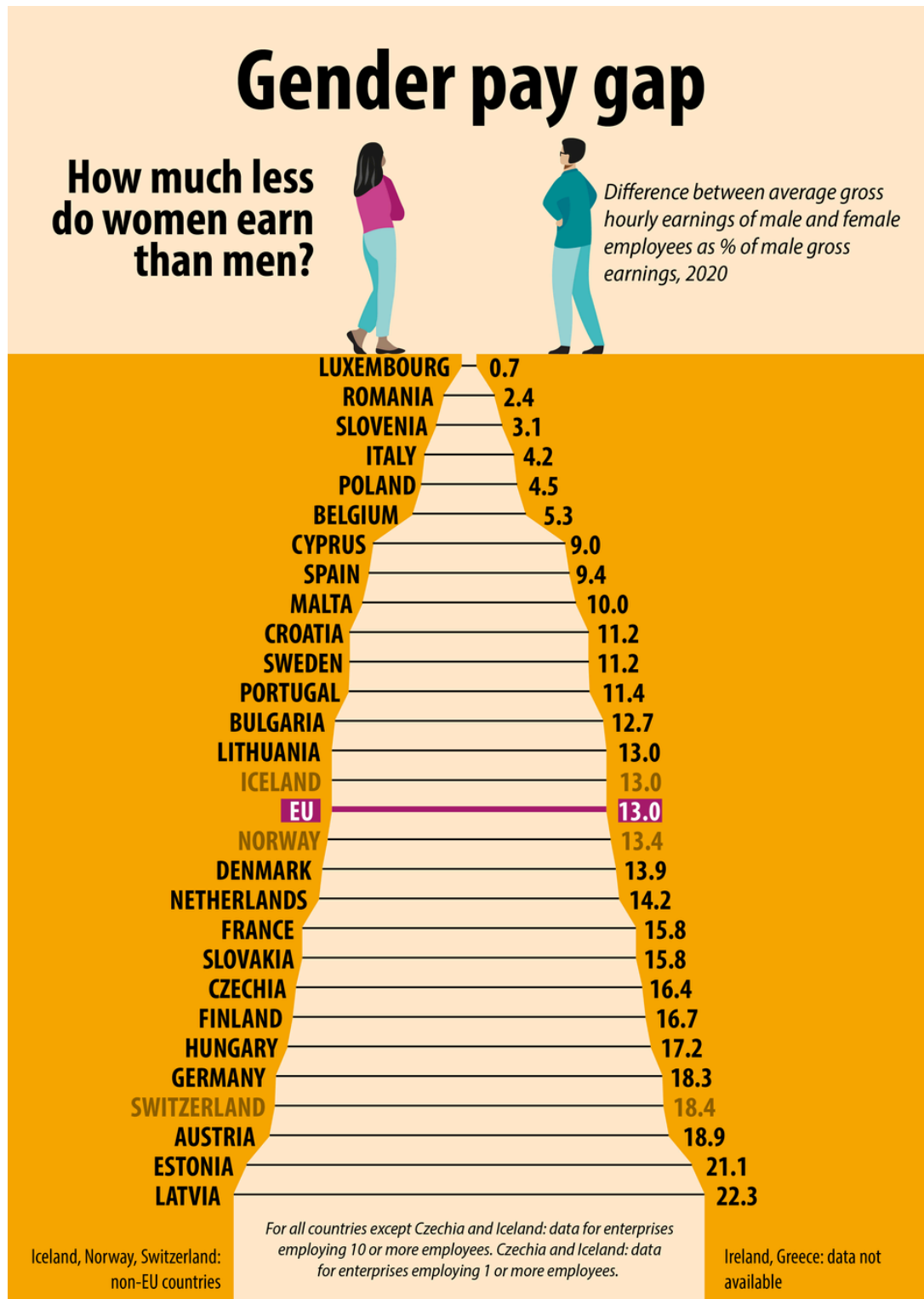
Topic: Climate Crisis
Read the article and talk about:
- *How is the climate crisis and the increasing amount of nature catastrophes talked about in your country? How do the most famous media cover it? What's the position of your government and opposition parties?*
- *Are there climate activist movements in your country? What are there most important claims and demands?*

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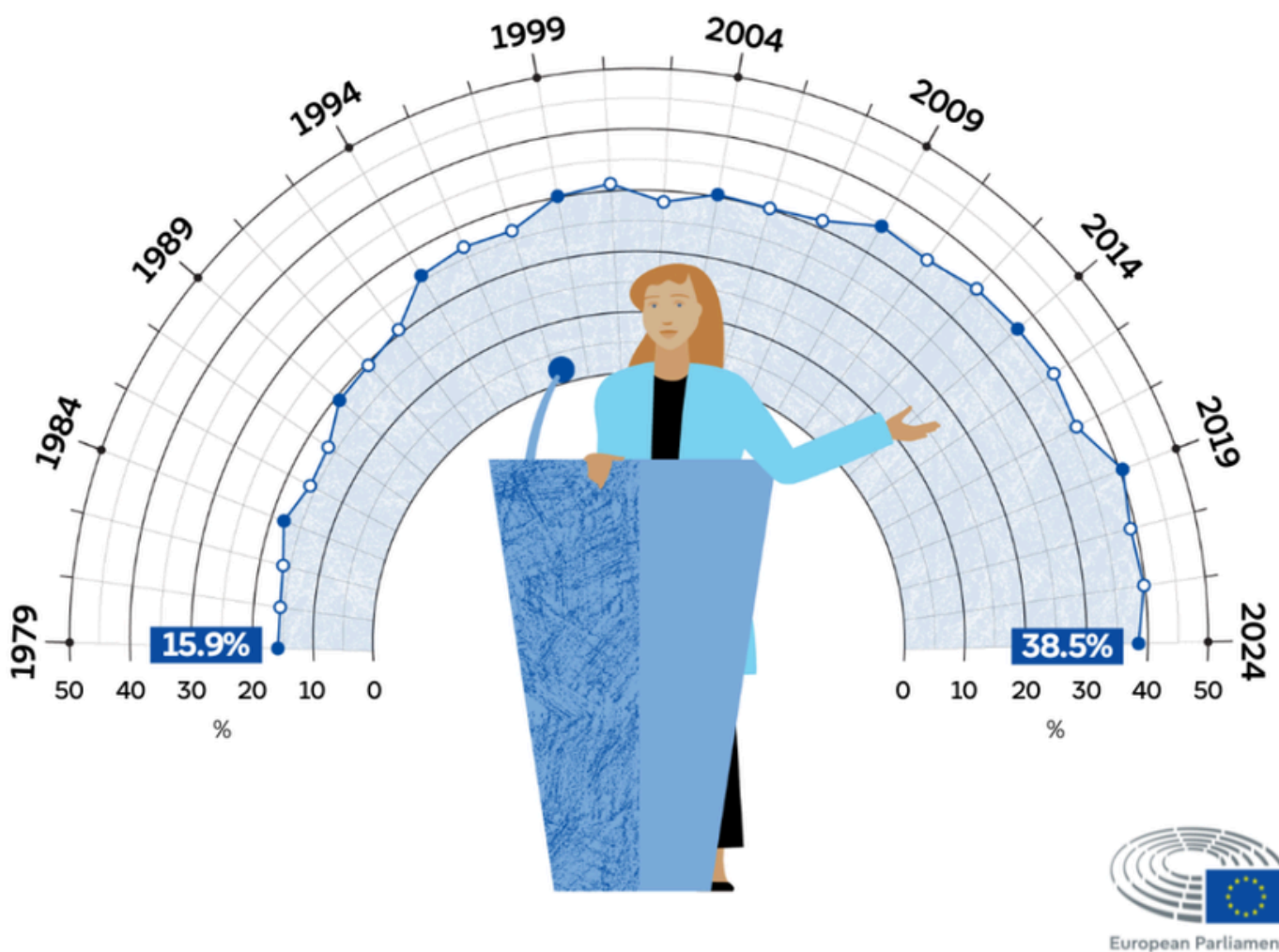
Gender pay gap in the EU down to 13.0%

7 March 2022

Gender pay gap

How much less do women earn than men?

Difference between average gross hourly earnings of male and female employees as % of male gross earnings, 2020

Country	Value
LUXEMBOURG	0.7
ROMANIA	2.4
SLOVENIA	3.1
ITALY	4.2
POLAND	4.5
BELGIUM	5.3
CYPRUS	9.0
SPAIN	9.4
MALTA	10.0
CROATIA	11.2
SWEDEN	11.2
PORTUGAL	11.4
BULGARIA	12.7
LITHUANIA	13.0
ICELAND	13.0
EU	13.0
NORWAY	13.4
DENMARK	13.9
NETHERLANDS	14.2
FRANCE	15.8
SLOVAKIA	15.8
CZECHIA	16.4
FINLAND	16.7
HUNGARY	17.2
GERMANY	18.3
SWITZERLAND	18.4
AUSTRIA	18.9
ESTONIA	21.1
LATVIA	22.3

For all countries except Czechia and Iceland: data for enterprises employing 10 or more employees. Czechia and Iceland: data for enterprises employing 1 or more employees.

Iceland, Norway, Switzerland: non-EU countries

Ireland, Greece: data not available

#InternationalWomensDay

ec.europa.eu/**eurostat**

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/de/web/products-eurostat-news/-/edn-20220307-2
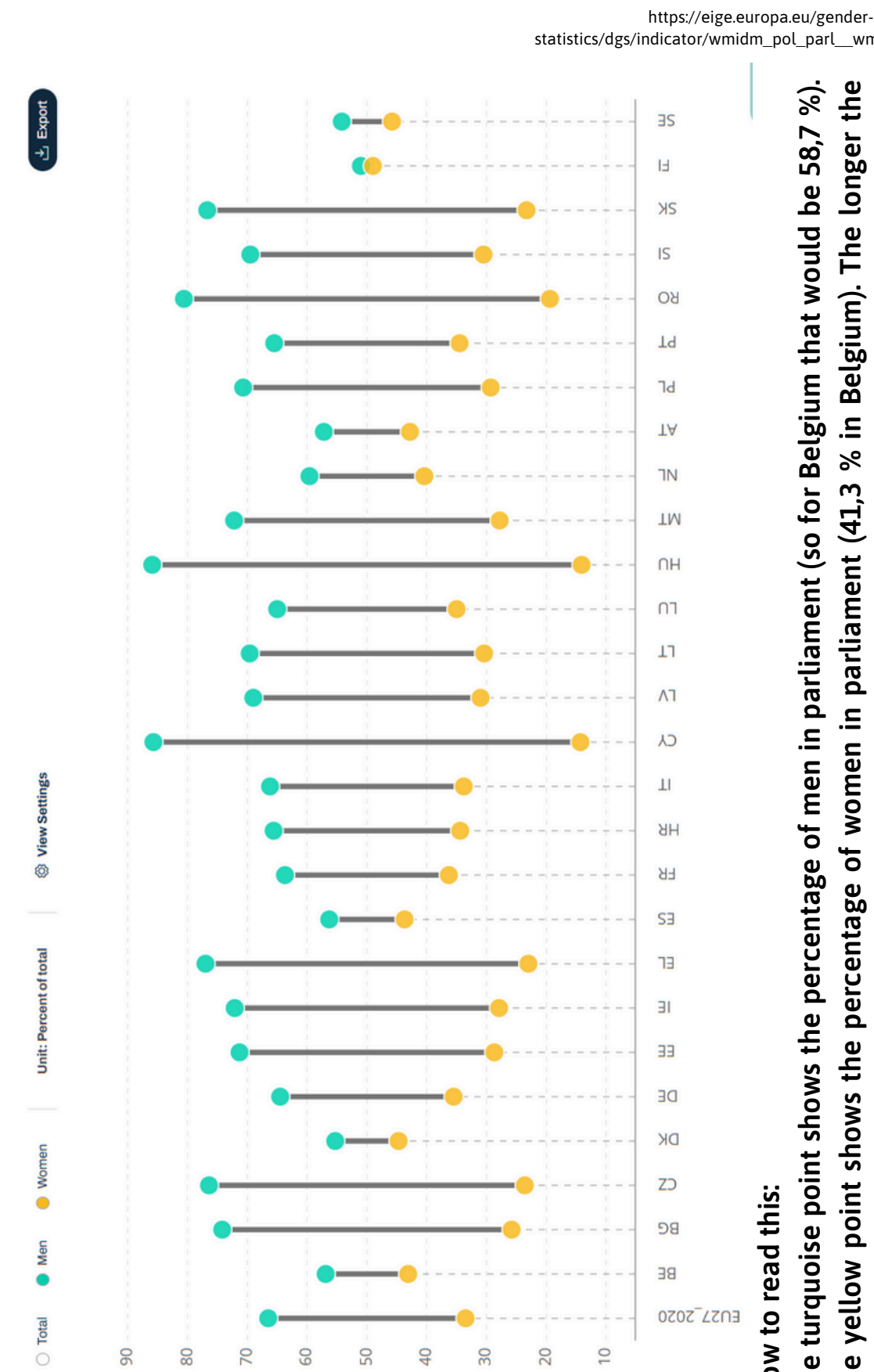
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Share of **women elected** to the **European Parliament** (1979–2024)

Source: EPRS (August 2024)

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20190226STO28804/women-in-the-european-parliament-infographics

https://eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics/dgs/indicator/wmidm_pol_parl__wmid_natparl/bar

Share of men/women in national parliaments

○ Total   ● Men   ● Women | Unit: Percent of total | ⚙ View Settings   ⤓ Export

How to read this:

The turquoise point shows the percentage of men in parliament (so for Belgium that would be 58,7 %). The yellow point shows the percentage of women in parliament (41,3 % in Belgium). The longer the bar, the bigger the gap - if the bar is very long (like in Cyprus) it means there's a lot more men than women in the national parliament.
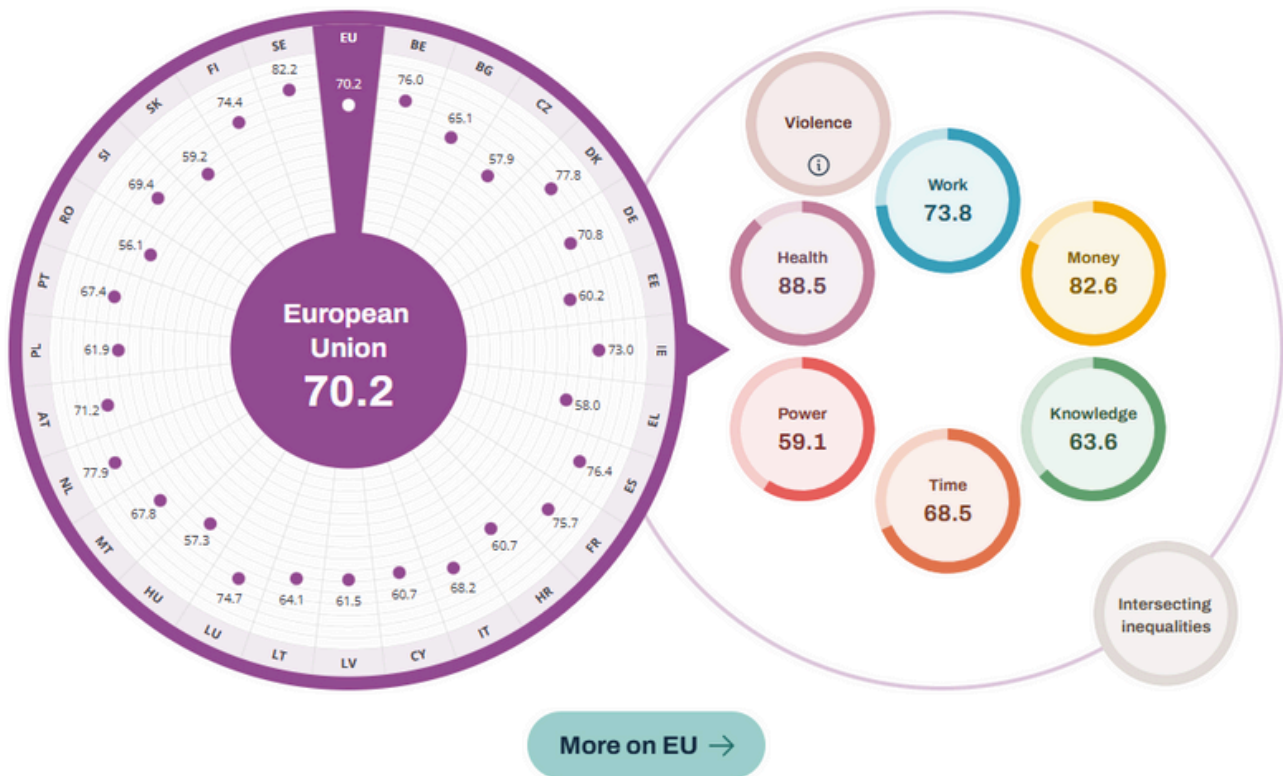
Unfortunately, the statistics do not give any data on non-binary or genderqueer people.

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https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/2023

🇪🇺 European Union ⌄ in 2023 ⌄ edition

More on EU →

The **Gender Equality Index** gives the EU and the Member States a score from 1 to 100. A score of 100 would mean that a country had reached full equality between women and men.
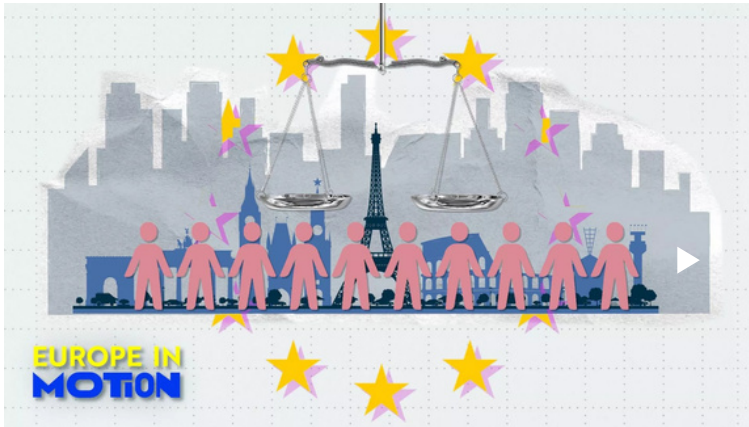
Topic: Gender (in)justice

Have a look at the diagrams and statistics. What's new or surprising for you?
- *How is the topic of gender (in)justice talked about in your country? How do the most famous media cover it?*
- *Do you feel like the government is doing anything to promote gender justice?*

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What are Europe's most unequal countries and poorest regions?

Published on 28/10/2024 - 9:45 GMT+1•Updated 11:51

Over a fifth of the EU's population is currently at risk of poverty or social exclusion, says a new damning Eurostat report on living conditions. The document also highlights huge income inequalities in the Baltic states and southern Europe. The latest Eurostat figures on living conditions say that there are 94.6 million people in the EU who are at risk of poverty or social exclusion — or 21.4% of its population.

The numbers show little improvement from 2022, when the rate stood at 21.6%. The dataset identifies 19 regions across the block where the rate of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion passes 35%, with many of them in Bulgaria, southwestern Greece, southern Spain and southern Italy — Belgium's Brussels region as well as Switzerland's southernmost canton of Ticino are included too.

In Ticino, in particular, the share went up by over 10% since 2020.

The territory with the highest share is the French department of Guyana (60.3%), followed by the southern Italian region of Calabria (48.6%), the southeast of Romania (45.3%), and another Italian region, Campania (44.4%).
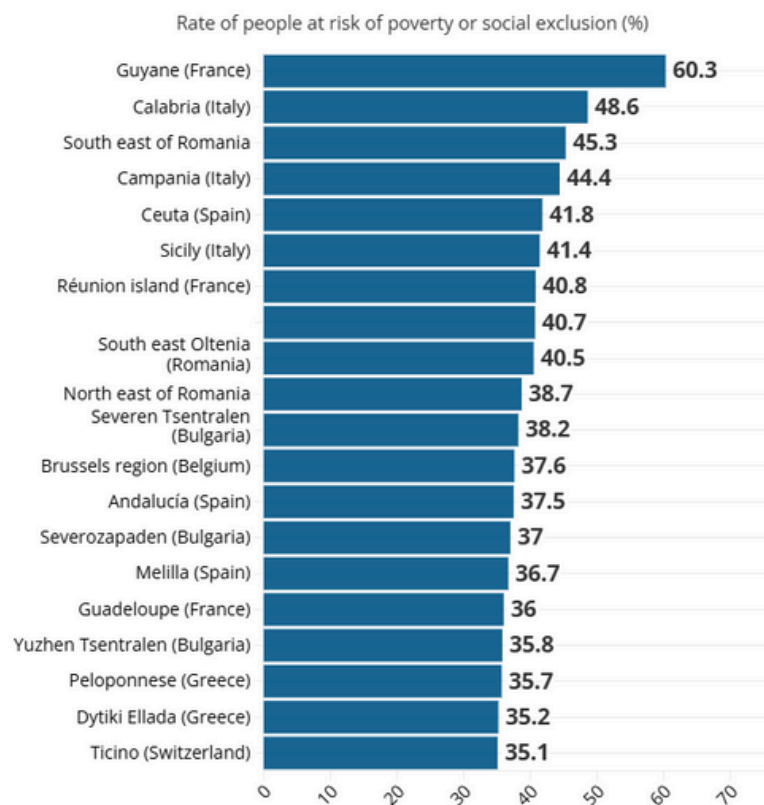
In around half of EU countries, children represent the category with the highest rate of individuals at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

Rate of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion (%)

Region	Rate
Guyane (France)	60.3
Calabria (Italy)	48.6
South east of Romania	45.3
Campania (Italy)	44.4
Ceuta (Spain)	41.8
Sicily (Italy)	41.4
Réunion island (France)	40.8
	40.7
South east Oltenia (Romania)	40.5
North east of Romania	38.7
Severen Tsentralen (Bulgaria)	38.2
Brussels region (Belgium)	37.6
Andalucía (Spain)	37.5
Severozapaden (Bulgaria)	37
Melilla (Spain)	36.7
Guadeloupe (France)	36
Yuzhen Tsentralen (Bulgaria)	35.8
Peloponnese (Greece)	35.7
Dytiki Ellada (Greece)	35.2
Ticino (Switzerland)	35.1

IEurostat also looked at inequality coefficients in terms of disposable income per inhabitant.

Bulgaria tops the EU list with the highest inequality coefficient (37.2), followed by Lithuania (35.7), Latvia (34.0), Portugal (33.7), Malta (33.0), Estonia (31.8) and Greece (31.8).

However, if we also consider countries outside the EU, the nation with the highest income inequality rate is Turkey (44.2).

https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/10/28/what-are-europes-most-unequal-countries-and-poorest-regions
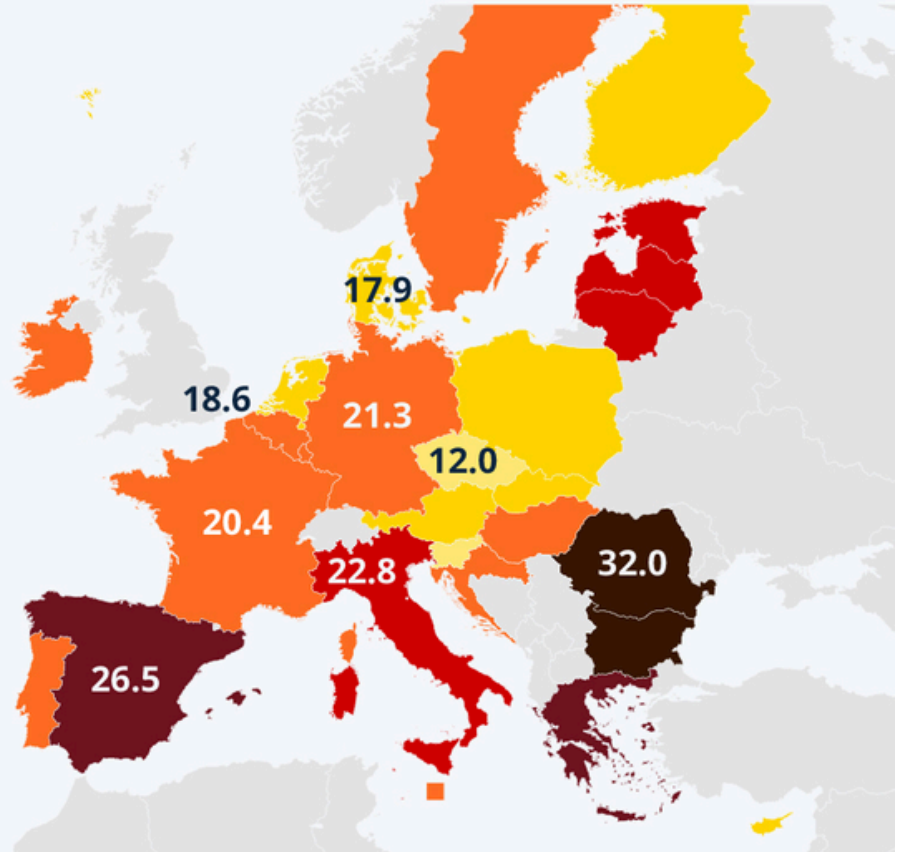
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The State of Poverty in Europe

Share of people at risk of poverty
or social exclusion in 2023

EU average
21.4%

- ■ ≥30.0%
- ■ 26.0-29.9%
- ■ 22.0-25.9%
- ■ 18.0-21.9%
- ■ 14.0-17.9%
- ■ <14.0%

17.9
18.6
21.3
12.0
20.4
22.8
32.0
26.5

https://www.statista.com/chart/30411/share-of-people-at-risk-of-poverty-or-social-exclusion/

Source: Eurostat

Almost 1 IN 4 CHILDREN in the EU are AT RISK OF POVERTY

unicef | for every child

Child poverty

Almost 1 in 4 children within the EU are at risk of poverty and social exclusion – a staggering 20 million children across 27 EU member states. Although from 2015-19 the number of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU fell from 22.2 million to 19.1 million, since 2019, the number has increased by almost one million to 20.7 million in 2022.

https://www.unicef.org/eu/stories/state-children-european-union-2024

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WORLD CAFÉ 4

Fighting inequality in Europe and beyond

In 2020, poverty increased for the first time in 25 years. Meanwhile, the richest have become even richer. **Inequality is skyrocketing** with the world facing multiple crises such as the Ukraine war, the energy crisis and the aftermaths of the pandemic. Despite this, some companies are reporting record profits and the super-rich are pocketing billions of euros, exploiting tax loopholes to avoid paying their fair share.

This inequality is not inevitable. It is a result of political decisions that can be reversed through the right policies.

We need a system that ensures the super-rich and big companies pay their fair share of the bill and do not profit from crises while ordinary people's pockets are hit.

Money needs to be shifted from the big corporations and their wealthy shareholders to ordinary people grappling with rising expenses.

Europe's Top Ten Richest, 2022

1. Bernard Arnault, France, $158 billion
2. Francoise Bettencourt Meyers, France, $74 billion
3. Amancio Ortega, Spain, $59 billion
4. Dieter Schwarz, Germany, $47 billion
5. Rodolphe Saade, France, $41 billion
6. Francois Pinault, France, $40 billion
7. Klaus Michael Kuehne, Germany, $37 billion
8. Beate Heister & Karl Albrecht Jr, Germany, $36 billion
9. Giovanni Ferrero, Italy, $36 billion
10. Alain Wertheimer, France, $31 billion
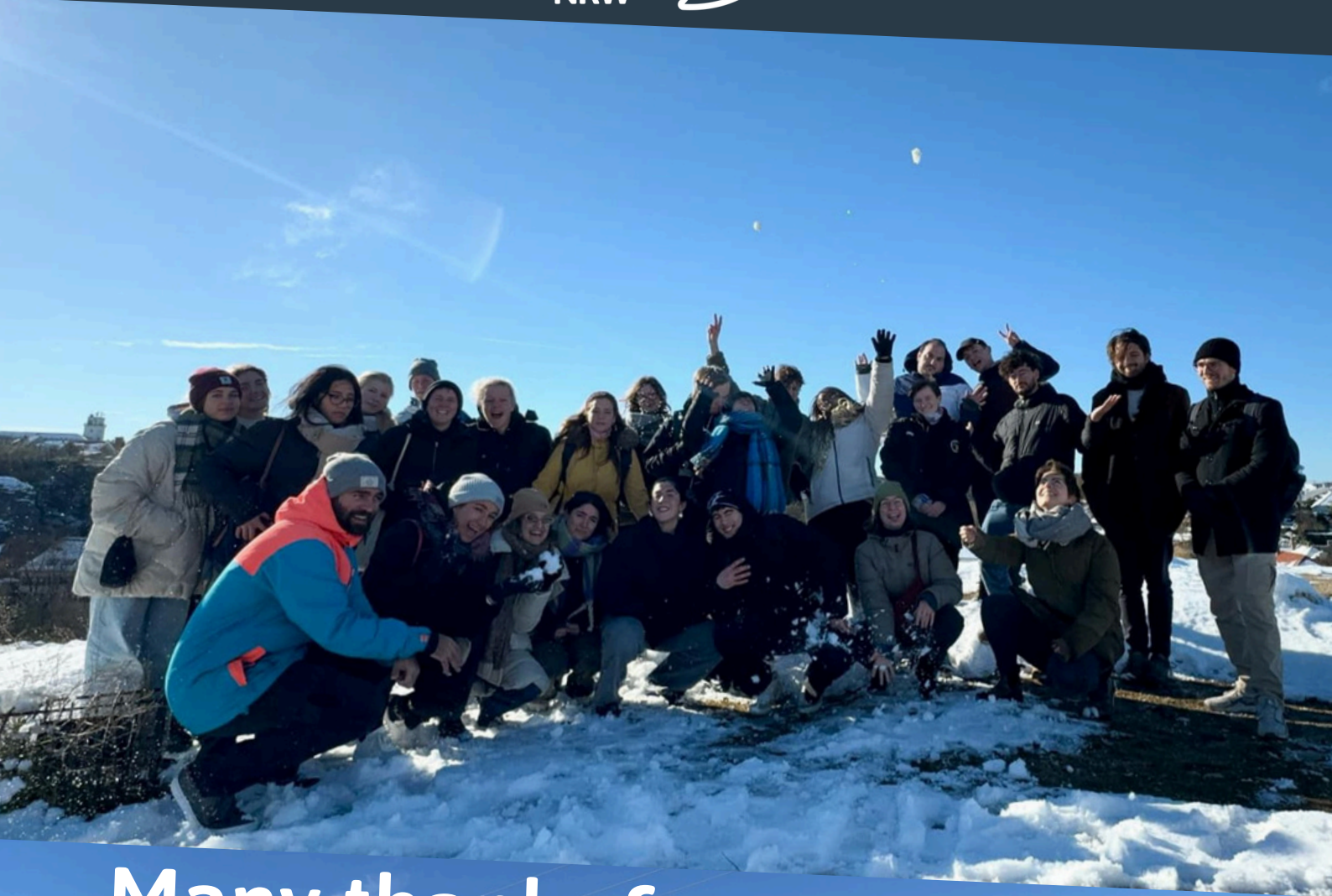10. Gerard Wertheimer, France, $31 billion

https://www.forbes.com/sites/daviddawkins/2022/04/05/the-richest-people-in-europe-2022/

[...] **The EU must intensify its efforts to end harmful tax practices, such as special favourable tax regimes for big multinational companies and special tax treatments for wealthy individuals.** Many countries lose out on substantial revenue every year due to **tax avoidance**, which could otherwise be invested into public services proven to lessen inequality, such as healthcare and social protection.

This includes **ending tax dodging and tax havens within and beyond Europe**, stopping the race to the bottom in corporate taxation, **improving tax transparency,** and **supporting tax negotiations at the U**N level.

The EU should also promote more progressive taxation of individuals in EU countries, setting common rules to increase taxation on the very richest and introducing a European wealth tax.

https://www.oxfam.org/en/fighting-inequality-europe-and-beyond

Topic: Economic inequality

Have a look at the materials. Did you know about the issues?
- *The richest European owns $158 billion. The GDP of Hungary is $179 billion. What do you think about that?*
- *How does your country try to tackle poverty and extreme richness? Is anything done to close the gap between rich and poor? What do you think would be needed?*

EINE WELT NETZ NRW

Many thanks & see you soon!