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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth Conference in Turku: Hundreds of Young People Provide Concrete Proposals for Democracy, AI and Asylum

From the 19th until the 27th of July, at the European Youth Parliament's (EYP) 102nd International Session in Turku, over 250 young people from 38 countries put forward a set of concrete proposals to support Europe's democracy, protect creators in the age of AI, and build faster, fairer routes to integrate asylum seekers – among other key topics.

"Europe faces another defining moment. Once again, the tide of freedom is challenged. But one thing is unchanged – I count on you, the young people of Europe – you are the doers, the thinkers and the builders of tomorrow's Europe", stated **Marta Kos, the European Commissioner of Enlargement**, in her address to the participants of the European Youth Parliament.

Marking 30 years since Finland joined the EU, the event connected lessons from Europe's past with present choices, while engaging EU policymakers and Finnish leaders. The result is a set of youth-authored roadmaps that are specific enough to test and scale.

Some of the more standout proposals from young people from all over Europe include:

- **Protect creators while enabling innovation in AI** – Clarify and tighten rules on training data, require consent for using artists' work, and expand ethics education so AI supports culture without strip-mining it.
- **Make long-term integration the default for asylum seekers** – Speed up legal recognition, recognise prior learning and qualifications, expand language access, and open clearer paths into work and child education.
- **Defend democracy against backsliding** – Invest in civic education, counter disinformation, and strengthen civil society and EU capacities that safeguard fundamental rights.
- **Build youth financial resilience** – Create a trusted "Fintech Trust Label," simplify disclosures, match first long-term investments ("Euro-Match"), and mainstream financial literacy in schools.
- **Raise transparency and coordination in European defence** – Clear, accessible data to curb undue lobbying influence, support SMEs, and standardise equipment to reduce dependence on external suppliers.

Beyond the proposals themselves, Turku 2025 gave participants first-hand experience in researching complex issues, consulting experts, and refining ideas into actionable recommendations. For many, it was a rare chance to test their ideas in front of peers from all sorts of cultural backgrounds, and learn how European policy is shaped in practice.

"EYP is a space that encourages us, young people, to make a difference. It affirms that every individual's voice matters, a fundamental principle that we also promoted in my committee, which focused on advancing civil rights.", said **Angelaki Mertzemeki Sofia (GR), one of the participants of Turku 2025**.

Read the full set of [Youth Resolutions from Turku 2025](#).