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## Europe 2038 Project: Future Visions and Worries of Albanian Young People

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### Background

Europe 2038 is a project which goal is to explore the visions and main worries of young people aged 16 to 25 years old in seven European countries (Albania, Germany, Austria, Romania, Italy and United Kingdom) regarding the future of Europe.

### Study questions

How do young people imagine their future?

What visions and worries do young people have regarding the future of Europe?

What are the major societal challenges faced by them in everyday life?

Which measures do young people suggest to overcome these major challenges?

How will Europe look like in 2038 and how can Europe help them to achieve their goals and wishes?

### Pre-Study Methodology

A qualitative pre-study was conducted with some Albanian young people. Some students of Master of Science, department of Social Work and Social Policy, were involved in conducting this pre-study with 11 young people aged 18 to 24 years old from different cities of the country. Three of interviewed young people had finished university studies and were employed, not in their profession; five were attending master studies; three others had completed secondary education, one of whom was turned back from emigration.

### Preliminary results

**Main concerns** at the time of the interview were closely related with this aspects: difficulty of finding job and its sustainability, especially in the relevant profession; fear of facing health problems; high level of unemployment, especially among youth; lack of meritocracy; concern that were burdening the family with expenses for studies, and the involvement of policy in every area, especially of professional life.

**Participants vision**, young people mentioned topics related with professional career; health troubles; family, children and the opportunity to care for parents; and a country where the law applies.

**Expectations** for the future of Europe were closely related with the opportunity of Albania to be member country of the European Union; visa free movement in EU countries; Albania's ability to achieve European standards; better functioning of the state and the respect of law enforcement; and the opportunity to study in EU countries. Few young people were pessimistic about Albania EU entry, arguing that being a small and poor country do not have adequate attention and this can bring more problems than benefits.

*The next phase of the project will bring full details about Albanian young people visions and worries.*

