EUROPEAN IDENTITY ISSUES AND ATTITUDES RELATED TO ROMANIAN YOUTHS' VIEW ON EUROPE 2038

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Objective

The objective of this research was to identify the Romanian youths' visions of their own future and also the future of Europe. Furthermore, we aimed to offer an evidence based perspective over their choices focusing on the influence of social axioms and European identity.

Method

The survey employed a number of 484 participants from north-western Romania.
It comprised of 175 items which measured demographics, own future, worries for the future, future of Europe, European identity, trust in institutions, personal values, attitudes, civic behavior, and European values.

The influence of social axioms on youths' view of Europe 2038

Dependent variables	Predictor variables				
	Openness to other people	Low frustration tolerance	Internal efficacy	Open to diversity	External efficacy
To be healthy	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
To be employed	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
To be happy	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
To live in a healthy environment	*ns*	-38.89%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
To have a good education	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Follow news about the EU	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-9.89%	*ns*
Discussed issues regarding EU	9.00%	-9.89%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Vsited a website about EU	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-9.89%	*ns*
Liked a group on Facebook about EU	*ns*	-9.89%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Shared content on Facebook about EU	*ns*	*ns*	-20.48%	*ns*	*ns*
Trust the European Union	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-53.85%
Trust the country government	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-38.89%
Trust the local government of my town or city	*ns*	*ns*	-20.48%	*ns*	-29.87%
Human rights	*ns*	-29.87%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Freedom	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Health Care	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Education	*ns*	-23.46%	*ns*	-29.87%	*ns*
Security	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Will vote in the nex EU Elections	*ns*	-20.48%	*ns*	-19.05%	29.00%
Did you vote?	11.00%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Join a particular political party	*ns*	*ns*	-66.67%	*ns*	*ns*
Injustice	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Increase in diseases	*ns*	*ns*	30.00%	-21.95%	*ns*
Violence and crime	*ns*	-23.46%	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*
Terrorism	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-26.58%	*ns*
Nationalism in Europe	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*

Results

Since 2007, Romania is a part of the European Union, which had a positive impact on many aspect of Romanians' life. Romanian young people have a strong identification with EU. Sense of belonging is feeling of belongingness and identification with the group which includes perception of shared boundaries, history and symbols; feeling of emotional safety and personal investment in the community. A high sense of belonging leads to high focus on worries like increase in diseases, terrorism and corruption, violence and crime.

The social axioms investigated in our study are beliefs related to efficacy (internal, external, collective), to openness (to others, to diversity) and to tolerance (frustration and ambiguity). Collective efficacy had an influence on youth's personal priority of being happy and human rights as a priority for the future of Europe. It also increased intention to vote for the 2019 European elections. Openness to other people means unconditional self and other acceptance. Youths' openness to diversity is related to worries like terrorism and nationalism in Europe. It also increase their civic behaviors as discussing issues regarding and visiting websites about European Union. Intolerance of ambiguity is a belief that determine Romanian young people to vote in 2019 European elections.

The influence of European identity on youths' view of Europe 2038

Dependent variables	Predictor variables			
	Solidarity	Centrality	Group norms	Belonging
Education	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-66.67%
Security	*ns*	37.00%	*ns*	*ns*
Freedom	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-40.85%
Increase in diseases	*ns*	*ns*	-23.46%	-33.33%
Violence and crime	*ns*	*ns*	-28.21%	-47.06%
Terrorism	*ns*	*ns*	*ns*	-23.46%
Corruption	-26.58%	*ns*	*ns*	-31.58%

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