

"We want to be prepared for the real world problems"

[BOEL] Bonjour, good morning my name is Boel

[JULES] Bonjour, je m'appelle Jules (my name is Jules)

[FREDERIKKE] Bonjour, my name is Frederikke

[BOEL]

We **come from different countries**, Denmark for us [JULES] and France for me, and we are different ages **but what we all have in common** is to be students.

What **we also have in common** is our participation in the project "Let's Take Care of the Planet", organized by Monde Pluriel, which brings together European students in order to enquire, debate and act for sustainable societies.

And what **we all have in common** is that we are facing climate change and its consequences. And last, what **we all have in common** is the will to improve the educational system.

[FREDERIKKE]

In our countries, we made different projects in our schools, but what have we learned?

We, all of us, are facing a **huge problem** with **many aspects and issues** and the consequences are enormous if we do not take action. And we believe **the more we know the better we are able to act**. Therefore, knowledge must never be underestimated especially not in the school system, because of its huge importance for the generations to come.

But it is not enough.

We have learned through our education that we do things more effectively if we do them together. If the responsibility for the climate is only for the politicians or for the citizens to take - **it will be a burden**. But! If each of us takes part, it will be easier. **That's co-responsibility**.

[JULES]

What we, youngsters of the world, need, is coherence between what is asked of us and the facilities we have.

For example, it is hard to sort out paper at school, if we don't have the infrastructure to do so.

It is hard to foster youth participation and democracy at school if our voice isn't heard.

We know that we have to act, but we need the frame to do so.

We, youngsters of the world, want a school in which basic knowledge is taught which opens our mind instead of filling it. Information is omnipresent and easy to access for us. What we need is to learn how to learn and to develop our critical thinking.

We, youngsters of the world, want a school where interdisciplinary projects are the norm and allow a concrete application of our knowledge and allow us to explore the complexity of our world.

[BOEL]

We, youngsters of the world, want a school related with its environment. We are dreaming of a school with more experts on the topics we study. In the framework of topics on sustainability,

for instance, we, the students should systematically meet persons in charge of sustainability in their local communities, or active NGOs.

This way, sustainable development would take a concrete dimension for us and this is crucial.

In the case of climate change, if we don't go beyond teaching the facts without teaching the solutions, we will not be able to overcome fatalism.

[JULES]

We, youngsters of the world, want a school which develops a real interest for other people, be they here or on the other side of the world, because it is important for us to develop altruism to build a better world.

More projects on international cooperation, more exchanges between students from different cultures, altogether would create a sense of belonging to the world, would show us that we are all concerned by climate change and would make us responsible.

We are acting in different countries, therefore we need to think global and act local, because otherwise we destroy today the world of tomorrow.

[FREDERIKKE]

We, youngster of the world, ask for a school where we can feel comfortable with youth-friendly spaces where we can **exchange** ideas and work in a creative way. It requires funds, but an investment in education is an investment in the future.

We, Boel and I, have pictures on the walls in our school which make us feel at home. I don't know if I could stay years in a school with grey and cold walls.

[JULES]

We, youngsters of the world, ask for more education on the important problem we call climate change. We are spending the whole day at school; this is the opportunity to let us know more about this issue.

Help us to tackle it.

As a society, what have we already done? What have we tried? What are we currently doing?

We want to make our knowledge concrete. Why are we learning things? How could we use it? Some of us only learn for tests and exams. It is a real problem.

Let us know it!

[BOEL]

We want to be prepared for the real world problems.

We, youngster of the world, want you to know the importance of **co-responsibility** between the world's inhabitants and the world's politicians. **It is like a soccer team - the whole team needs to be responsible and take part in an action before the team has the chance to win.** We can't do this alone, and each one of us is responsible every day for taking care of what we love.

You and us, all together, are that soccer team. The game is on, let's score!

[FREDERIKKE]

We are all from different countries. And what we all have in common is the will to make the world a better place.

[FREDERIKKE] **If not us, then who?**

[JULES] **If not now, then when?**

[BOEL] **If not with you, then with whom?**

