

Europe is our future; our future is Europe.

Everyone in our school always talks about Europe. Last year was extremely crazy, with workshops and stuff. They say it's a great place to live, which I couldn't agree more with. That's why I decided to write about Europe. Central Europe hasn't had a single war since 1945, but it isn't like that everywhere. In the Balkan region we had the Yugoslav wars going in the 90's and 00's, plus the war in eastern Europe, going since 2022. But generally speaking, Europe is a very peaceful place.

But it wasn't always like that. In the earlier days the people in Europe solved conflict with swords, cannons and grenades. However, those days are long gone, thanks to the EU. The second world war was the real gamechanger, that led to the foundation of the ECSC (European Coal and Steel Community) in 1951. Later in 1957, with the signing of the Treaty of Rome the EC (European Community) was founded. The EU was founded in 1993, with the Treaty of Maastricht. The EU brought peace and real freedom to Europe and made it an awesome and peaceful place for living. We have Healthcare insurance and free education which isn't a standard, just look at the USA. Huge medical bills and huge education fees. We can say we are a lot better at caring for our people than the USA, because we gave socialism a chance.

Although the EU is functioning very well, the system is also in very great danger. The right-wing political parties in Europe are very threatening to the EU. The German *Afd* talked about wanting to leave the EU if, they ever rise to power in Germany. The Austrian *FPÖ* always talks about how the EU is responsible for the economic depression and although they say they never want to start an *öxit*, I don't know what crazy ideas Mr. Kickl has floating in his mind. But it isn't always like that. The Italian *Fratelli D'Italia* are a fascist party in Italy, a descendant of Mussolini's party *Partito Nazionale Fascista*, but still manage to work together with the EU and even support Ukraine, which is a first for the extreme rights.

All in all, Europe is a continent with a high living standard, a high life expectancy, and on top of that awesome as a band, and home to the centre of good music, the Kingdom of Sweden.

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