INTERGENERATIONAL FAIRNESS STRATEGY

Scoping report

EU **Policy Lab**

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FUTURE GENERATIONS

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EU **Policy Lab**

The EU Policy Lab is a space for cross-disciplinary exploration and innovation in policymaking. We apply collaborative, systemic and forward-looking approaches to help bringing the scientific knowledge of the Joint Research Centre into EU policymaking.

We experiment with the new, the unprecedented and the unknown. We seek to augment our understanding of the present, challenge and reinvent the way we think about the future.

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Executive summary

Commissioner Micallef in his Mission Letter was asked to "prepare a Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness to map out how we can strengthen communication between generations and ensure that interests of present and future generations are respected throughout our policy and law making."

As intergenerational fairness is a cross-cutting concept, it was decided that the EU Policy Lab of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) would support the framing and the design of an integrated strategy in coordination with Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) and other relevant services. The choice fell on the EU Policy Lab due to its experience in foresight and innovating the policymaking process through a multidisciplinary approach that connects and harnesses the collective intelligence of various Directorates-General (DGs).

After internal coordination, the co-creation process of the Intergenerational Fairness Strategy started on 20 February 2025. It consists of four phases:

- Scoping – understanding what are the different framings and salient policy issues
- Vision building – envisioning potential futures where intergenerational fairness is achieved
- Strategy ideas – considering various possible policy responses
- Strategy co-creation – creating a coherent strategy and action plan

Building on the UN Pact of the Future and Declaration on Future Generations, the aim of the scoping, which took place between February and April, was to frame the concept of intergenerational fairness in the EU context. A series of workshops with diverse stakeholders, explored the various understandings of intergenerational fairness, the salient issues that need to be addressed, the expectations with respect to the process and final outcome, as well as the aspirations and hopes for an intergenerationally fair EU.

Through this process, we have defined three main themes where intergenerational fairness could shape the future of Europe:

1. Changes in governance and democratic participation to build institutions and legal systems which integrate an intergenerational, long-term perspective for better decision-making and prioritising the well-being of both current and future generations.
2. Addressing the complex and long-term societal challenges through the intergenerational perspective: environmental justice in the face of the triple crisis; responsible innovation; rising inequalities (including housing and cost of living); lifelong education for transition; bridging societal divisions for social cohesion and resilience.
3. Empowering all generations together to help protect vulnerable populations, taking into account the intersectionality of social categories that shape the vulnerabilities. Reinforcing the European Social Model through intergenerational initiatives, life-course approaches and anticipating longer-term and systemic impacts of short-term, targeted interventions.

The scoping stage provided a wide and coherent framing for intergenerational fairness in the EU, considering diverse positions, experiences and interests. The framing created at the scoping stage and the sense of direction given by the visioning stage will contribute to the formulation of strategy ideas.

Introduction

The Commission's 2024–2029 priorities state that in the wake of "unease in the society," the EU must ensure "that decisions taken today do not harm to future generations and that there is increased solidarity and engagement between people of different ages."[1] The responsibility for this work was given to Commissioner Micallef, who in his Mission Letter was asked to "prepare a Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness to map out how we can strengthen communication between generations and ensure that interests of present and future generations are respected throughout our policy and law making."

This decision followed a similar initiative at the global level, where at the Summit of the Future on 22 September 2024, world leaders adopted the Pact for the Future and its annexes: the Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations. The latter recognizes the opportunity that present generations possess to fulfil the "commitment to meet the demands of the present in a way that safeguards the needs and interests of future generations, while leaving no one behind", agreeing a set of guiding principles and commitments to this end.

The EU Policy Lab has been following and supporting the future generations work of the United Nations as well as EU Member States and promoting policy innovation in the Commission. As intergenerational fairness is a cross-cutting concept, it was decided that the EU Policy Lab of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) would support the framing and the design of an integrated strategy in coordination with Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) and other relevant services. The choice fell on the EU Policy Lab due to its experience in foresight and innovating the policymaking process through a multidisciplinary approach that connects and harnesses the collective intelligence of various Directorates-General (DGs).

Figure 1. Kick-off of the Intergenerational Fairness Strategy process (Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen, Director General – DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Glen Micallef Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, Bernard Magenhann Acting Director-General – Joint Research Centre)

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[1] Europe's Choice: Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024–2029, Priorities 2024-2029 – European Commission

The strategy design process

Following the internal exchanges in January, the co-creation process of the Intergenerational Fairness Strategy started on the 20 February 2025. It consists of four phases:

- Scoping – understanding what are the different framings and salient policy issues which are linked to the topic

- Vision building – envisioning potential futures where intergenerational fairness is achieved

- Strategy ideas – considering various possible policy responses to reach a more intergenerationally fair EU

- Strategy co-creation – creating a coherent strategy and action plan that responds to the identified challenges

Figure 2. Strategy creation process timeline

Jan–Apr '25	May–Jun '25	Jun–Sep '25	Oct–Dec '25	Jan–Feb '26	Feb '26
Phase 1 Scoping	Phase 2 Vision building	Phase 3 Strategy ideas	Phase 4 Strategy co-creation	Phase 5 Procedural	Adoption
What exists already? What could it be? Substantive analysis with stakeholders Key directions: identified themes, challenges & opportunities	What do we want it to be? What for? Participatory co-creation of possible long-term visions	Functions, values, key needs / requirements Roadmap Deepening results with evidence-based science Policy briefs	What does it look like? Where do we want to go? Citizens' co-creation	Formal procedures Interservice consultation Translation Communication Action plan, including community roll out	College
Ongoing participatory activities					

The process of creating an EU strategy document through an open and inclusive approach relies on four new ways of collaborating: engaging external stakeholders from the outset; connecting the silos within the Commission services, leveraging science and foresight throughout the process; and building global connections.

The process engages external stakeholders right from the outset to co-create a strategic vision and inform the strategy accordingly, through listening to diverse voices and ensuring that policy reflects on-the-ground realities.

Connecting the silos is needed to tackle a complex multi-faceted issue such as intergenerational fairness and co-create more coherent and effective policies for tangible impact. To this end, the
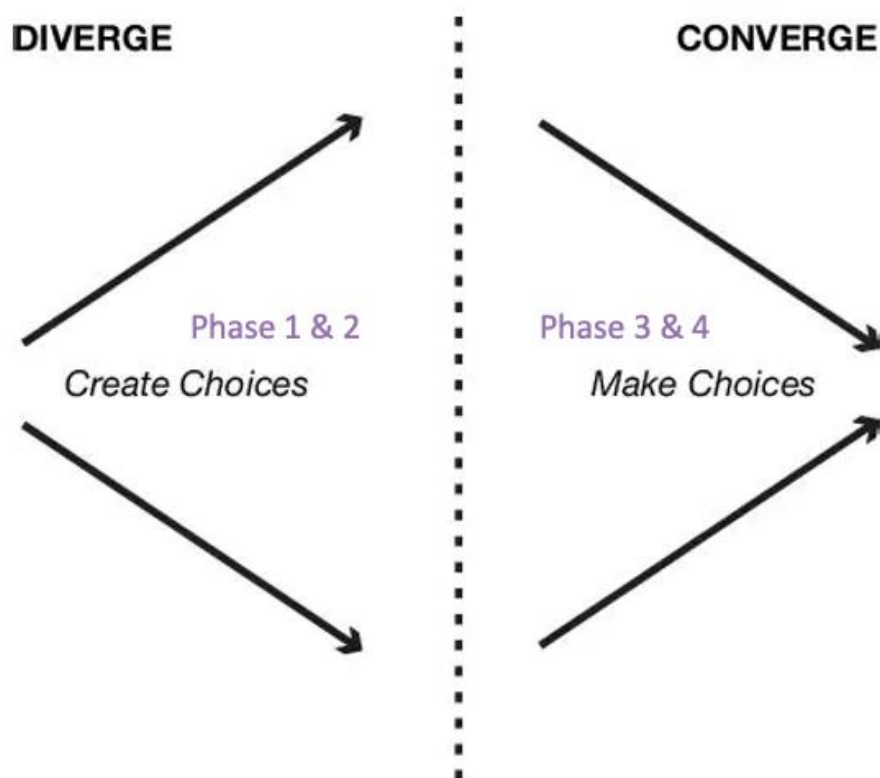
process brings together different teams and experts from across the European Commission (DGs and agencies) to create a common, comprehensive strategy.

Involvement of the Joint Research Centre and external experts in the process serves to leverage science and foresight to anticipate the future. To ensure we are building our policy on the full range of available evidence and identify the long-term impacts of a policy, the project will be supported by wide range of experts who can provide scientific evidence in the relevant areas, including fairness, preparedness and resilience, wellbeing, sustainability, democracy, public administration, evidence-informed policymaking and demographic challenges.

Finally, fostering a future-oriented governance based on partnerships and global collaboration allows us to connect to and help shape a global approach to intergenerational fairness. It will also improve cooperation and learning from key global players to share knowledge, ideas, and resources.

While the scoping and visioning phases of the process are expected to widen the scope of the framing of the topic, so that all the issues that are important for citizens can be taken into consideration, the strategy ideas and co-creation will converge on impactful actions.

Figure 3. Diverging and converging phases of the process

DIVERGE   **CONVERGE**

Phase 1 & 2   Phase 3 & 4
Create Choices   *Make Choices*

Scoping phase

Building on the UN Pact of the Future and Declaration on Future Generations, the aim of the scoping, which took place between February and April, was to frame the concept of intergenerational fairness in the EU context. A series of workshops with diverse stakeholders explored the various understandings of intergenerational fairness, the salient issues that need to be addressed, the expectations with respect to the process, as well as the aspirations and hopes for an intergenerationally fair EU.

Two participatory workshops with stakeholders were organised (physical and online) attracting around 250 participants. The outcomes of these sessions provided the main input into the scoping. These workshops were followed up by a series of consultations with young citizens at the EU Youth Conference in Lublin, Poland, the EU Youth Stakeholders Group and with students at College of Europe in Bruges.

Figure 4. Youth Stakeholder Group workshop

Additional workshops were organised within the Commission's Joint Research Centre, bringing together the diverse in-house research which could support the Intergenerational Fairness Strategy. There was also a workshop with external experts, who formulated potential actions and ambitions that could be part of the strategy.

In parallel, participatory sessions with Commission policy officers from various Directorates-General were organised to scope out the links between the topic of intergenerational fairness and the current and future activities in various policy areas: demography (children, youth policy, aging); economic and social (fiscal policy, the European semester, pensions, health, energy, mobility, housing, employment); research; digital; environment and climate; food and agriculture, regional and city, education, skills and culture; preparedness; human rights; defence; enlargement and international. Another workshop engaged the international and inter-institutional actors: the European Parliament, European Council, Committee of Regions, Fundamental Rights Agency, United Nations, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations agency for children (UNICEF), Islamic World Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization (ICESCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations University (UNU), World Economic Forum (WEF), International Labour Organization (ILO), to align with their relevant work and find synergies in ideas and actions. Finally, EU Member States were invited via the Foresight Sherpas Network, which supports the Ministers for the Future, to bring their insights and activities into the scoping[2].

Throughout the participative process, various innovative approaches were used to encourage participants to think together creatively, boldly and with empathy. A guided meditation helped participants think about their connection to past and future generations, to consider the wider timeframe of taking decisions beyond here and now. A role-play exercise to empathise with different living generations helped understand better the beliefs, structures, and behaviours that may lie at the root of perceived divergences between different age groups on values, knowledge, and lived experience. Other activities included taking the role of future generations better imagine the perspective of those living in the future or eliciting personal stories of intergenerational fairness to understand citizen's experiences on this issue.

Figure 5. Examples of age group cards for a role-play exercise

To bring different types of policy inspirations and insights, artworks were displayed in the European Commission in the 'Good Ancestors' exhibition. The different artworks included projects, cultural practices and traditions from across the world, deeply rooted in intergenerational thinking and our shared human experience. The Good Ancestors exhibition was initially shown in the United Nations General Assembly building during the United Nations Summit of the Future in September 2024 and was organised by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations and the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations.

Figure 6. The Good Ancestor exhibition

Finally, the online Citizens' Engagement Platform[3] of the European Commission is used to collect contributions on Intergenerational Fairness Strategy from those who have not participated in workshops. In the scoping phase, over 90 contributions were received and analysed. These contributions have been organised according to four key dimensions, identified through the thematic clustering of the most frequently discussed topics by citizens:

- Social cohesion: participants called for greater solidarity between generations, emphasising the importance of fostering mutual understanding, combating ageism and creating opportunities for intergenerational dialogue and cooperation.
- Democracy and governance: participants stressed the need to strengthen inclusive participation and integrate long-term thinking into all policymaking processes. They also proposed measures that ensure current decisions account for future generations.
- Environmental and economic sustainability: participants expressed a strong demand for urgent climate action to protect future generations as well as for a shift toward long-term economic models that prioritise wellbeing over short-term growth. Fair employment opportunities for young people were also a recurring theme.
- Care and education systems: participants underlined the importance of universal access to high-quality public services throughout life, while also advocating for stronger care systems and greater recognition of families and communities as support networks. On education, they

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[3] Intergenerational Fairness – European Commission

highlighted the need for lifelong learning opportunities and reforms that align education systems with the changing demands of society.
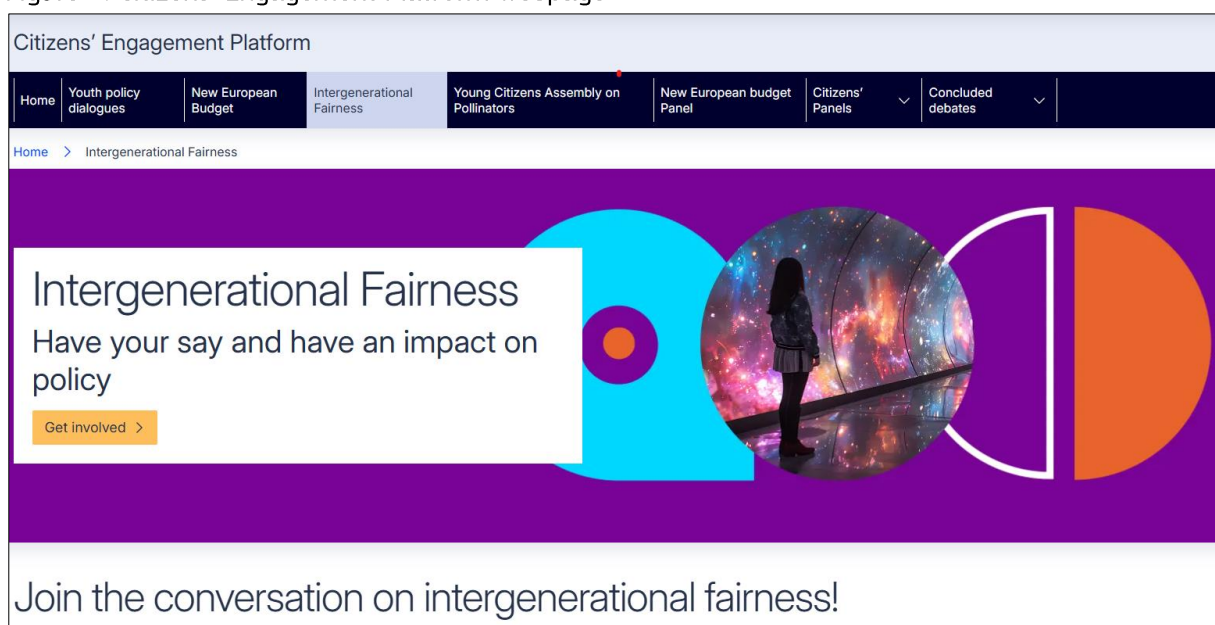
Each dimension above is affected by all three core challenges to intergenerational fairness recognized by citizens:

1. short-term thinking: in the eyes of participants, short-term priorities in policy and economics are the main obstacles to fairness across generations.
2. exclusion and inequality: according to the participants, discrimination and unequal access prevent especially young and older people from fully participating in society.
3. insufficient intergenerational solidarity: participants argue that weak connections and limited collaboration between generations weaken social cohesion.

Notably, these three core challenges identified by citizens reflect the three core issues identified through the in-person workshops with diverse stakeholders, which will be introduced in the next section.

This digital channel of participation, open over several months, allows for continuous engagement with a wide spectrum of citizens. The Citizens' Engagement Platform is designed to be dynamic and ever-evolving, enabling citizens to connect with each other and ensuring they can submit their contributions to each phase of the IGF strategy process, from the initial Scoping Phase to the final Strategy Co-creation. Currently, contributions to the visioning phase are being collected, asking citizens to imagine what possible intergenerationally fair futures could look like. This input will also contribute to the framing of the European Citizens' Panel on Intergenerational Fairness, which will take place in the second part of 2025.

Figure 7. Citizens' Engagement Platform webpage

Intergenerational fairness – core issues

"To leave a better future for generations to come and to fulfill our commitment to meet the demands of the present in a way that safeguards the needs and interests of future generations, while leaving no one behind" is the core of the UN Pact of the Future[4], aiming to reimagine global cooperation for a fairer future for all. Addressing the most pressing challenges of today requires a societal transformation which will be brought about in a turbulent, unpredictable world. This transformation is in the hands of all current and future generations and informed by the wisdom of past generations.

Similarly, the 2023 Strategic Foresight Report of the European Commission, which examined the social and economic aspects of sustainability and related choices that the EU faces, calls for a new European social contract to enact socially, environmentally and economically sustainable Europe in 2050 with intergenerational fairness as one of its guiding principles[5].

An intergenerationally fair European Union would create opportunities for collaboration and dialogue between the current generations but would also consider the future generations to create a long-term human-centred perspective in governance and decision making[6].

Reflection on the intergenerational collaboration and dialogue between current generations in the EU is not new. In the context of demographic change, one of the key drivers shaping the issue of intergenerational relations, the Commission presented the 2007 Communication "Promoting solidarity between the generations,"[7] focused on family policies, and proposed 2012 as the "European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations"[8]. More recently, various initiatives targeted different age groups: the 2019–2027 EU Youth Strategy[9], 2021 Green Paper on "Ageing – Fostering solidarity and responsibility between generations"[10] and the 2023 Communication Demographic change in Europe: a toolbox for action[11].

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[4] Pact for the Future – United Nations Summit of the Future | United Nations
[5] European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council – 2023 Strategic Foresight Report Sustainability and people's wellbeing at the heart of Europe's Open Strategic Autonomy, COM(2023)376 final, 6.7.2023
[6] OECD. (2020). Governance for youth, trust and intergenerational justice: Fit for all generations? (OECD Public Governance Reviews). OECD Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1787/c3e5cb8a-en.
[7] European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – Promoting solidarity between the generations, COM(2007) 244 final, 10.5.2007
[8] European Commission, Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the 2012 European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, COM(2014)562 final, 15.9.2014
[9] European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Engaging, Connecting and Empowering young people: a new EU Youth Strategy (COM(2018) 269 final, 22.5.2018
[10] European Commission, GREEN PAPER ON AGEING Fostering solidarity and responsibility between generations, COM (2021)50 final, 27.1.2021
[11] European Commission, C Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Demographic change in Europe: a toolbox for action, COM(2023)577 final, 11.10.2023

The EU has been empowering various generations to engage in the EU policymaking process, through the Youth Dialogue, EU Children's Participation Platform, and Citizens' Panels, to mention a few. However, going beyond issues specific to a particular generation, deliberation fora which focus on intergenerational collaboration have only started to be explored and have not yet been institutionalised[12].

While increasing inequalities and polarisation may make an intergenerational dialogue difficult, addressing the complex, long-term issues related to societal challenges can benefit not only from the unique experience, knowledge and perspectives of different generations, but also from the collaboration between them. Having an intergenerational dialogue would change the perspective on generations from considering them as independent and homogenous "layers" of the population towards seeing them as intertwined lives at different stages of the life course[13]. And the intertwining can be extended to past generations, with their heritage, legacy and traumas, and future generations, with their needs, interests, and rights. Up to now, future generations have not been explicitly and consistently considered within the concept of intergenerational solidarity. This new approach extends the focus from the now to a broader horizon, encouraging us to act as "a good ancestor" to future generations.[14]

The EU has started to incorporate a wider, long-term perspective into its policies through strategic foresight. Since 2020, the Commission produces an annual Strategic Foresight Report[15] , which informs Commission work planning. Foresight tools are also included in the Better Regulation Toolkit. In addition, the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS) brings together nine EU institutions and bodies who are committed to thinking longer term about the challenges and opportunities facing Europe[16]. Finally, "Ministers for the Future", designated by each Member State, meet informally at least once a year to discuss key issues of relevance to Europe's future. [17]

Strategic foresight explores different possible futures; alongside the opportunities and challenges they might present. It looks at trends, the changes they bring and their consequences as they extend into the future, building chronological pathways towards the desirable common futures.

An intergenerational fairness approach, including a temporal horizon spanning past and future generations, provides a new lens to look and act beyond today's concerns by adopting a forward-looking human perspective. The focus is less on changing trends and systems and more on continuity of the communities that will manage this change[18]. It offers a more community- and human-centred foresight mindset, where policymaking is less about managing a linear flow of external events and more a way of establishing and managing meaningful social relations across time. If we consider a thriving society as common good, it is our responsibility to care for past, current and future generations' well-being[19].

[12] Bringing generations together to talk about Civic Engagement | CoP CC on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy
[13] Ingold, T. (2024), The Rise and Fall of Generation Now, Polity Press
[14] Krznaric R. (2020), The Good Ancestor, Ebury Publishing
[15] https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/strategic-foresight_en#strategic-foresight-reports
[16] www.espas.eu
[17] https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/strategic-foresight_en#eu-wide-foresight-network
[18] Michelle Bastian; Is Long-Term Thinking a Trap?: Chronowashing, Temporal Narcissism, and the Time Machines of Racism. Environmental Humanities 1 July 2024; 16 (2): 403–421. doi: https://doi.org/10.1215/22011919-11150043
[19] Whyte K., (2021) Time as Kinship, in The Cambridge Companion to Environmental Humanities, edited by Jeffrey Cohen (Arizona State University) and Stephanie Foote (West Virginia University): Cambridge University Press.

Figure 8: ZEITPYRAMIDE. In Wemding, Bavaria, in 1993, Manfred Laber initiated construction of a pyramid of 120 blocks, one added every decade. (Good Ancestor exhibition)

An intergenerational perspective that focuses on the fairness of changing relations in society also acknowledges that there is no single possible future to strive for. Instead of a general and anonymous "one-size-fits-all" desirable future for the whole society, the approach focuses on how current and future people and communities should give rise to multiple interrelated potential futures.

Thus, the strategy for intergenerational fairness aims to build a fairer society by empowering all generations, both current and future, to create together their desired futures, while ensuring that the realisation of each generation's aspirations is achieved without compromising one another.

Empowering all generations to create together a fairer society can contribute to the European Pillar of Social Rights, which includes, among others, the principles of equal opportunities, social protection and pensions, health care and long-term care and access to essential services. Intergenerational fairness can bring new ways of addressing poverty, exclusion and discrimination.

Rejecting the notion that young or old age automatically means belonging to a vulnerable group, an age-sensitive and intersectional approach could nevertheless help better support people in vulnerable situations. This would lead to strengthening the European Social Model for long-term sustainability – either through intergenerational initiatives, life-course approaches to understand processes throughout individual's life, and anticipating longer-term and systemic impacts of short-term, targeted interventions.

Through the workshops with diverse stakeholders, combining the main elements of discussions, we have defined three main issues where intergenerational fairness could shape the future of Europe:

1. Changes in governance and democratic participation to build institutions and legal systems which integrate an intergenerational, long-term perspective for better decision-making and prioritising the well-being of both current and future generations.

2. Addressing the complex and long-term societal challenges through the intergenerational perspective: environmental justice in the face of the triple crisis; responsible innovation; rising inequalities (including housing and cost of living); lifelong education for transition; social cohesion and resilience.

3. Empowering all generations together to help protect vulnerable populations, taking into account the intersectionality of social categories that shape the vulnerabilities. Reinforcing the European Social Model through intergenerational initiatives, life-course approaches, and anticipating longer-term and systemic impacts of short-term, targeted interventions.

The scoping process provided more detailed information around the issues and problems related to each of the three points.

Figure 9. Selected contributions from stakeholders

Changes in governance

In terms of the policymaking process, three issues emerged from discussions: the institutionalisation of long-term thinking in public policies; enhancing participation in democratic processes; and organising resources to assure the wellbeing of current and future generations.

The institutionalisation of **long-term thinking in public policies** comes from bringing the perspective of the responsibility for the wellbeing of the future generations. The image of the impatient citizen underpins a lot of policymaking: politicians focus on delivering short-term benefits over solving long-term problems, worrying they would not be re-elected otherwise. Undifferentiated discounting of future benefits during regulatory policy analysis is common practice: sacrifices in the present to create benefits in the future are avoided. It is thus not surprising that mistrust in the capacity of political institutions to deliver on long-term commitments appears to be a significant factor when citizens are sceptical of future-oriented policies.[20] In the face of this, intergenerational fairness is connected with improving public administration's trustworthiness and long-term governance capacity.

Potential legal bases for EU-level action to ensure intergenerational fairness exist.[21] To strengthen the explicit recognition of future generations 'rights, adopting specific EU legislation on future generations' rights could be considered.

The long term thinking should take into account the diverse views of citizens through **participation in democratic processes** and co-creation of policies. The fundamental principle of democracy asserts that everyone impacted by decisions should be represented in the decision-making process. However, governments struggle with fair inclusion of all current generations. In addition, population aging poses significant challenges for democratic systems, particularly regarding questions of legitimacy as the generational balance shifts. Here, EU activities around the European Democracy Action Plan and enhancing participatory processes (such as European Citizens' Initiative, Citizens' Engagement Platform and Panels, EU Children's Participation Platform, Youth Policy Dialogues) can constitute a starting point for policy discussion.

The concept of intergenerational fairness, which advocates for the inclusion and representation of future generations, increasingly becomes an important political discussion. Right now, people are exploring and testing ways to involve those who are not yet born, even though we cannot predict the conditions they will live in. Some of the idea refer to the decision-making and institutional design[22], others look at the electoral systems, e.g. proxy voting for future generations[23].

The third element refers to the potential **objectives of long-term policymaking, allowing to prioritise and allocate resources**. The wellbeing of citizens is one of the core aims of the European Union, which goes beyond the narrow economic growth objectives and refocuses attention from parameters to people. Various conceptual frameworks going beyond the GDP measure of economic growth are explored to address the multifaceted understanding of wellbeing. The Sustainable and

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[20] See Prior, M., Alsharawy, A., & Andrews, T. M. (2023). People are less myopic about future than past collective outcomes. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 120(52), e2310050120. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2310050120; Jacobs, A. M., & Matthews, J. S. (2012). Why do citizens discount the future? Public opinion and the timing of policy consequences. *British Journal of Political Science, 42*(4), 903–935. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007123412000117; Barnfield, M. (2024). Policy discounting across and beyond the lifespan. *European Journal of Political Research*. https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.12719; Fairbrother, M., Arrhenius, G., Bykvist, K., & Campbell, T. (2021). Governing for future generations: How political trust shapes attitudes towards climate and debt policies. *Frontiers in Political Science, 3*, 656053. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpos.2021.656053

[21] https://jesc.eu/protecting-the-interests-of-future-generations-by-the-european-union-an-overview-of-the-existing-powers-and-legal-bases-in-eu-law/

[22] Guida, V., K. Klaser, and L. Mittone. "Building Sustainable Futures through Soft Institutional Interventions in the Climate Change Context: An Intergenerational Experiment." Futures 166 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2024.103531.

[23] Campos, A. S. (2023). The future-oriented franchise: Instituting temporal electoral circles. European Journal of Political Theory, 23(4), 499-521. https://doi.org/10.1177/14748851231165838

Inclusive Wellbeing framework looks at current, but also future wellbeing, linked to the resilience of societies.

Figure 10. Future Design Councils involve asking people to wear ceremonial robes that place them in the shoes of future generations (Good Ancestor exhibition)

Intergenerational perspective on societal challenges

The areas considered most important by stakeholders when taking into account the need for long-term thinking were the following: climate change and environment, responsible innovation, economic fairness and future skills and education.

The **triple planetary crisis** (climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution) creates the most immediate context to act to preserve future generations' right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Going through with sustainability transitions requires decisive action today, but also thoughtful consideration of irreversibility and unintended effects of some potential actions (e.g. geoengineering). General principles, such as operating within planetary boundaries, help to guide long-term action. The Nature Restoration Law, Climate law, climate mitigation and adaptation strategies are all policy initiatives that potentially include intergenerational fairness.

While the rapid pace of technological development has facilitated remarkable economic and social progress, it also introduces new challenges that, if not addressed, threaten the very fabric of our future. Beyond the immediate and catastrophic risks, such as atomic warfare and climate disasters, key challenges arise from the long-term impact of our technological endeavours. **Responsible**

innovation involves adopting a values-based approach that safeguards EU public values and the fundamental rights of citizens, as well as implementing regulations to maximise the benefits of technology for all present and future generations while effectively managing risks.

In the EU, two existing principles balance the need to foster an environment where innovation can thrive while ensuring it does not come at the expense of future generations: the precautionary principle and the innovation principle. The New European Innovation Agenda with the focus on emerging technologies, such as EU AI Act, strategy on Web 4.0 and virtual worlds or the planned EU Innovation Act, Biotech Act or Space Act are examples of EU activity in the area.

The 2008 financial crisis and then the COVID pandemic, as well as long-term global driving forces such as ageing population and climate change, have raised questions about **economic fairness**: the sustainability of public financing, social mobility, and equitable access to essential services (e.g., healthcare, pensions, education, social security) for young generations and generations to come. Therefore, addressing youth unemployment, flexible retirement patterns, and affordable intergenerational housing aligns with the common concerns in EU member states regarding the sustainability of welfare states and declining living standards among young people. The European Semester, New European Bauhaus, Social Economy and Circular Economy Action Plans are all policy initiatives inherently connected to issues of intergenerational fairness.

Education and skills are areas which also require long-term thinking, as they help adapt to changing realities. Within the current EU initiatives, the Union of Skills aims at the development of quality, inclusive and adaptable education, training and skills systems that respond to future needs. For example, the LifeComp framework looks at "Personal, Social and Learning to Learn" set of competences applying to all spheres of life that can help citizens thrive in the 21st Century[24]. It includes self-regulation, flexibility, wellbeing, empathy, communication, collaboration, growth mindset, critical thinking and managing learning. Specific competences also relate to sustainability, digtal skills or entrepreneurship.

Intergenerational collaboration to address vulnerable populations

In the discussions on the scope of intergenerational fairness, participants also raised several topics such as preparedness and security, health and care, social cohesion, digital inclusion and access to services, where intergenerational collaboration and care for the future can bring a different approach: intergenerational initiatives, life-course approaches, and anticipating longer-term and systemic impacts of short-term, targeted interventions.

With increased geopolitical and climate-related risks, **preparedness and security** is one of the priorities for action. Intergenerational approaches can help mitigate risks for the most vulnerable groups but considering future generations also favours investments in long-term prevention and resilience of vital societal functions. The Preparedness Union makes the first step in taking a whole-of-society approach, which fosters an inclusive culture of preparedness and resilience involving citizens, local communities and civil society, businesses and social partners.

The urgent need to address the complex interplay between generations in **health and social care** is evident. Increasing longevity and rising costs of ever more complex medical procedures risk deepening inequalities in affordable living conditions both between and within generations. Future health and care risks are also naturally interlinked with other key topics of intergenerational fairness,

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[24] LifeComp – European Commission

notably pension systems and degradation of the environment. Fostering intergenerational fairness requires trust in the capacity of health institutions to sustain long-term commitments and ensure equitable access to care for all generations. Adopting a foresight approach in health policy can help anticipate future challenges, such as demographic changes and emerging health threats, ensuring that today's decisions do not compromise tomorrow's health outcomes.

Social systems foster bonds and relationships between people of different age groups to **reduce social exclusion and create a more resilient society**. While solidarity is the fundamental value that guides and motivates the EU collective action, cohesion provides the social fabric that allows it to emerge and thrive. In strengthening cohesion and fairness, the strategy will also help create a more resilient society, better equipped to withstand the shocks and disruptions of our complex and interconnected world. By incorporating a long-term perspective, the strategy can, for instance, support work on intergenerational renewal in agriculture, intergenerational mobility or combatting age discrimination.
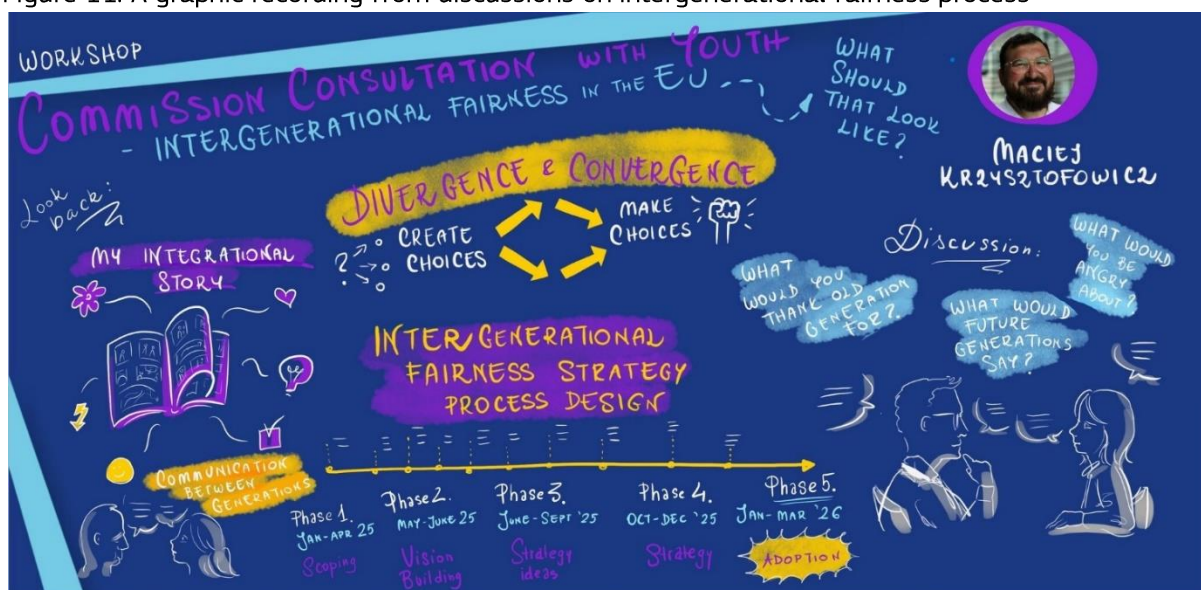
The European Pillar of Social Righs also sets **access to essential services** as one of its principles. Barries to access can be linked to quality (whether standard correspond to needs of users), accessibility (can it be obtained easily), availability (convenient and close location) and affordability (ability to pay without financial hardship). Community-based approaches that encourage social innovation, including those that link different generations, can help address the needs of most vulnerable groups for mobility (community transport), energy (energy communities) but also financial services (community banking). Territorial dimension including urban policies and age-friendly cities, the urban-rural divide and the related demographic trends will also affect place-based approaches to services. An important element that will determine access to services for future generations relate to how we take care and develop infrastructure – decisions taken today will shape the sanitation, energy, mobility services long into the future, either creating path-dependencies or new opportunities.

Process ideas

As part of the scoping process, participants could also express their expectations and opinions on the four-stage participative process of co-creating the strategy. The main messages regarding the process were the following:

- Continuously use **inclusive and participative processes** to engage meaningfully with a broad variety of stakeholders, paying special attention to the less heard: youth, children, marginalised groups, future generations.
- Make the **strategy for people and not abstract generations** so that human-centric approach guides the potential actions and the great diversity of individual experiences is acknowledged. Many voices also advocated going **beyond human-centricity to "eco-centric"** approach expanding the concept to all living beings and ecosystems.
- Make it concrete and build on **cases of what is already happening** in Europe and elsewhere, mapping and learning from good and bad examples related to intergenerational fairness.
- Initiate and **coordinate discussions and actions** across different layers of multi-level governance (EU, Member States, Regions) and all EU institutions in order to involve all relevant actors in conception and implementation of the strategy. As it is a cross-cutting topic, bring different policy areas together.
- Be mindful about **selecting impactful actions** to prioritise efficiently, focus efforts in most promising areas and integrate intergenerational fairness into policymaking. Avoid a dispersed agenda of unrelated issues.
- **Secure financial resources** to deliver on the actions and make change happen.
- Create a robust framework for **monitoring and evaluation** of impact, including collection of relevant date and adaptive mechanisms to adjust the strategy to new realities. Leverage **long-term thinking** also in the preparation of the strategy.
- Remember the **global dimension,** connecting to United Nations initiatives and taking into account the communities and issues that are beyond the EU borders.

Figure 11. A graphic recording from discussions on intergenerational fairness process

Vision elements

In the numerous consultations and workshops, the participants have also been asked about the aspirations and hopes surrounding intergenerational fairness. Based on their answers, the following preliminary elements of a vision for an intergenerationally fair EU can be assembled:

Intergenerationally fair EU is one where current and next generations can trust in the future and in human collaboration. Where each generation builds on the previous ones to become conscious citizens and custodians of the Earth. Long-term view is favoured over short term, human rights of all are respected and people are valued more than profit. All generations participate in decision making that also take into account the opportunities of future generations. Fresh ideas, diverse perspectives and courage reinvigorate the people and institutions, which leads to a thriving, more intelligent, fair and balanced society.

Intergenerationally fair EU will contribute to more resilient, diverse society which will cultivate shared hope for the future and co-ownership of the future to be the custodian and guardian of the next generations. This will help address the most pressing challenges of our society together: peace, triple planetary crisis, and material and psychological wellbeing.

Intergenerationally fair EU will be guided by values and principles of inclusiveness, equality and justice, empathy and respect between generations, long-term thinking, creativity, collaboration, agency and responsibility of one's actions.

Creating intergenerationally fair EU will require creating opportunities for intergenerational dialogue and exchange; tackling the issue of distributional justice; introducing innovative long-term and life-course approaches to policy-making and institutionalising them; bringing genuine participation of all current generations and the future ones in the policy process; creating metrics and frameworks for understanding the wellbeing of societies; mediating between individual and collective interests; and bringing the past and the heritage to enrich the long-term perspective.

Lessons learned and next steps

The experience of working with an innovative process in strategy creation offers many lessons, which were considered together with the input on the process provided by stakeholders. Below are some of the reflections, which will guide the successive steps of the process:

- Creating a meaningful intergenerational dialogue at EU level requires new approaches and procedures that depart from the current situation where different age-groups are consulted separately. In cooperations with various stakeholder organisations, we will attempt such a dialogue in the visioning part of the process.

- Engaging citizens throughout the process, rather than at a single point, requires a constant adaptation to the type of contributions that are asked for and ways of engaging, so that it becomes a continuous dialogue. The types of workshops and questions in the citizen engagement platform will evolve with the next stages of visioning and strategy ideas.

- A cross-cutting approach which combines many different policy areas requires the coordination of multiple actors and many different sources of knowledge, which adds substantial complexity to the process but results in new ideas and synergies. Rather than narrowly defined and "siloed," intergenerational fairness can be seen as a new lens to look at current policy issues.

- The hopes and aspirations of participants were collected to create some broad elements of a vision of what an intergenerationally fair EU could be. However, a human-centred approach acknowledges that within this vision there are many concrete potentialities for the general principles to come alive in a particular context and for community. The next step would require creating snapshots of those new realities.

- In the scoping discussions, participants noted that there are no short-term and long-term issues, because all have consequences for future generations, but perceived short-term quick fixes outweigh potential long-term concerns or opportunities.

The scoping stage provided a wide and coherent framing for intergenerational fairness in the EU, considering diverse positions, experiences and interests. The framing created in the scoping stage and the sense of direction inspired by the visioning stage will contribute to the formulation of strategy ideas. By taking the perspective of future generations and with the collaborative mindset of intergenerational action, intergenerational fairness becomes a guiding principle for the EU policies so that they are fair, sustainable and fit for the future. This framing creates a good starting point for the next stage of envisioning the hopes and aspirations related to intergenerational fairness.

Figure 12: Collective Time Capsule (Good Ancestor exhibition)

What do you want to leave behind?

The post box and postcards next to this poster invite all visitors to write to future generations. Please write legibly what you would like to last or what you want to leave behind for future generations.

DATE _____   _____ NAME

Collective Time Capsule

Location: Created by attendees of the UN Summit of the Future
Established: September 2024
Artist: Angelina Kumar
Archiving Location: Deep in a saltmine in Hallstatt/Austria
Memory of Mankind established in 2012
Artist: Martin Kunze

Helpful replies shall become part of the Memory of Mankind Project. Text on the postcards will be archived on ceramic tablets and stored deep in the oldest salt mine to be found and read hundreds of thousand years into the future.

They will also be placed on a website to encourage wider reflection and to make it more likely that there will be a long future.

In a long future there should be someone who is aware. Someone who can understand what you wrote and can answer these questions for their future generations.

Annex: Scope of Intergenerational Fairness

Root Causes	Dimensions
LONG TERM THINKING: The society's decisions favour short term thinking: focusing on past problems and current contingencies. When we imagine the future, we imagine it for ourselves, but not those who will come after us.	**LONG TERM GOVERNANCE** - how can the reflection on future generations be reflected in the decision-making/policymaking processes? What is the role of EU?
	FUTURE WELLBEING/INVESTMENT - how can investment and funding be oriented towards future needs and long-term goals? What is the role of EU?
	RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION/ TECHNOLOGY - how can innovation systems be beneficial to the society in the long term? What is the role of EU?
	DEMOCRACY AND REPRESENTATION - how can the current governance systems represent the needs of all current and future generations institutionalised in the governance systems? What is the role of EU?
COLLABORATION BETWEEN GENERATIONS: Changing demographic patterns and increasing democratic participation means that there is a broader age-range of people participating in the economic and political system. While polarisation and inequalities are creating tensions, at the same time a growing societal challenges require long-term solutions (climate change and environmental degradation, peace).	**ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE CHANGE** - how can the challenge of the triple crisis (climate change, biodiversity, pollution) be addressed through the society for current and future generations? What is the role of EU?
	COST OF LIVING/HOUSING - how can intergenerational solidarity address the current problems of economic inequalities, poverty and economic opportunities? What is the role of EU?
	SKILLS AND EDUCATION - how can intergenerational teaching and learning help upskilling, reskilling, and improve educational outcomes in diverse settings (formal, informal, multicultural etc)? What is the role of EU?
	SOCIAL COHESION/ RESILIENCE - how can social systems foster bonds and relationships between people of different age groups to reduce social exclusion and create a more resilient society? What is the role of EU?
INTERSECTIONALITY OF VULNERABILITIES: Increasing risks (geopolitical, economic, environmental) are making the most vulnerable groups (elderly, youth) even more exposed to crises as they intersect with other vulnerabilities (health, social connection, dependence, poverty).	**PREPAREDNESS, PEACE and SECURITY** - growing number and severity of interconnected risks will increase the vulnerability of those who are already most affected - how can intergenerational lens address this? What is the role of EU?
	HEALTH / CARE - care and health aspects are particularly important for the young and elderly and different model of support have emerged - how can the intergenerational lens help come up with renewed attention to care and health? What is the role of EU?
	DIGITAL INCLUSION - new and emerging technologies will increasingly create barriers to access across the generations - how can they be addressed in intergenerational way? What is the role of EU?
	ACCESS TO SERVICES - there are many facets of exclusion from basic services - transport, energy - how can intergenerational approach help? What is the role of EU?

Tools & Methods		
Definition / Framework / Lens	Impact Assessment / Better Regulation	Indicator / Index /Compass ideas

Relevant research for the Intergenerational fairness strategy

This list offers some research sources and findings that may be relevant to the development of the strategy for Intergenerational Fairness.

Far from being comprehensive and exhaustive, it is meant to be used as a possible starting point for orientation, inspiration, and comparison.

ROOT CAUSES	TOPICS
LONG TERM THINKING Richard I. Sikora & Brian Barry (eds.) (1978). Obligations to future generations. Seminal collection of essays focused on intergenerational justice. Brundtland Commission (1987). Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future. A groundbreaking report that positioned future generations as a central concern in sustainable development, serving as the foundation for the concept of intergenerational fairness. Tremmel, J.C. (2009). A Theory of Intergenerational Justice. A comprehensive overview of the	**LONG TERM GOVERNANCE** González-Ricoy, I., & Gosseries, A. (2016). Institutions for future generations. Overview of the most important institutional proposals for intergenerational justice as well as a systematic discussion of their respective features and advantages. OECD (2020). Governance for Youth, Trust and Intergenerational Justice. Comparative assessment of the policies, laws, institutional capacities and governance tools put in place by national governments and the European Union to promote youth empowerment and intergenerational justice. Jane Davidson (2020). #FutureGen, Lessons from a Small Country. The book showcases the pioneering Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Boston, J. (2021). Assessing the options for combatting democratic myopia and safeguarding long-term interests. Overview of the causes of short-termism and assessment of the feasibility, effectiveness and overall desirability of a selection of the proposals for combatting it. Maija Airos, Toni Ahlqvist, Mikkel Knudsen, et al. (2022). Strengthening foresight and the role of future generations in Finnish lawmaking. Suggestions on how to improve the institutional framework in using foresight and considering future generations as a part of lawmaking. Finnish Government (2023). Government Report on the Future. The second part of the Report on the Future examines how future generations can be better taken into account in legislative drafting and how foresight can play a more important role than at present. Peter Glenday, Ellen Shepherd, Karthick Ramakrishnan, California 100, and School of International Futures (2023). Intergenerational Fairness Toolkit: Designing policies and practices for current and future generations. The toolkit provides a framework for assessing the intergenerational fairness dimension of policies. UNESCO and UN Global Pulse (2023). Futures Tools for

theory and research on intergenerational justice, addressing the two fundamental questions of "what to sustain" and "how much to sustain" for future generations.

Neil H. Buchanan (2009). What Do We Owe Future Generations? An article that outlines the ethical obligation to consider and protect the well-being of future generations.

Roman Krznaric (2021). The Good Ancestor: How to Think Long Term in a Short-Term World. Exploration of 6 ways to think-long term, including a revised and updated version the Intergenerational Solidarity Index (a measure of how much different nations provide for the wellbeing of future generations).

Knudsen, M., Ahlqvist, T., and Amos, T., (2023). Defining 'Future Generations': Epistemic Considerations on Conceptualizing a Future-Oriented Domain in Policy And Law-Making. On the definition of future generations in policy and law-making.

Intergenerational Equity. A toolkit exploring how to use foresight tools to think differently about intergenerational equity.

Mackenzie, M. K., Setälä, M., and Kyllönen, S. (Eds.). (2023). *Democracy and the Future: Future-Regarding Governance in Democratic Systems*. The book explores the challenges and possibilities of future-regarding governance in democratic systems, taking Finland as an example.

Andrew Jackson, Fátima Fernández, Cat Zuzarte Tully, Sophie Howe (2024). Implementation Handbook for the UN Declaration on Future Generations. Strategies to help national champions and early adopters transform commitments made in the UN Pact for the Future into actionable, long-term policies that are intergenerationally fair.

Sulyok, K. (2024). Protecting the interests of future generations by the European Union: An overview of the existing powers and legal bases in EU law. This study examines where and how Future Generations are already part of the law of the European Union are, while also highlighting existing gaps and proposing how they could be addressed in future legislation.

Miller, C., Danilaviciute, L., Kormann da Silva, N., and Dirth, E. (2024). A policy cycle 2.0 for the European Commission. Proposals for adjusting the policymaking process to better mitigate trade-offs across policy areas and between time horizons and to achieve the EU's goals for a green and just transition.

Sulyok, K. (2025). Future proofing EU law – Does the European Union have a legal obligation to protect future generations? Analysis the normative landscape of future generations within the current body of European Union (EU) law, as well as relevant international treaties and customary international law. The study shows that Future-proofing EU law hinges on how EU institutions, including the CJEU, interpret intergenerational equity in primary legislation, and how evolving international law may also shape EU obligations to future generations.

Rosa Paulo and Guimaraes Pereira Ângela (2025)**JRC**. Harnessing innovation on online deliberation. Building on the lessons learnt from the on-line citizen engagement process of the Conference on the Future of Europe, this report looks at the potential of digital technologies in increasing the opportunities for citizens to participate in policymaking, highlighting several of the challenges faced during the implementation of the Conference's digital platform.

FUTURE WELLBEING/INVESTMENT

Alan Auerbach, Jagadeesh Gokhale, and Laurence J. Kotlikoff (1994). "Generational Accounting: A Meaningful Way to Evaluate Fiscal Policy. General introduction to generational accounting.

Frederick, Shane. (2003). "Measuring Intergenerational Time Preference: Are Future Lives Valued Less; Barnfield, Matthew. (2024). "Policy discounting across and beyond the lifespan. Empirical research showing that while people prefer actions that will yield benefits sooner, they do not otherwise discount benefits that come after they are passed away. Michelle Bastian (2024). Is Long-term Thinking a Trap? A critical take on long-term thinking and intergenerational fairness, highlighting the risk of "chronowashing" and the resulting disconnectedness from present disparities and the need to act today.	Robert Haveman (1994). Should Generational Accounts Replace Public Budgets and Deficits? A critical evaluation of generational accounting. Cameron Hepburn, (2007). Valuing the Far-off Future: Discounting and its Alternatives. A general overview of cost-benefit analysis and its affects decision-making having intergenerational implications. Vandenbroucke, F., Hemerijck, A. and Palier, B. (2011). The EU Needs a Social Investment Pact. Renewed social investment perspective that calls for social and economic EU policies aligned with long-term goals. Vanhuysse, P. (2013). Intergenerational Justice in Aging Societies: A Cross-national Comparison of 29 OECD Countries. Bertelsmann Stiftung. Empirical comparison of intergenerational justice across 29 OECD countries through a multidimensional index that captures (a) outcomes that leave legacies for future generations or constitute discrimination between younger and older living generations, and (b) the bias of current policies toward older living generations. Raitano, M., Karagiannaki, E., Premrov, T., Geyer, L., Fuchs, M., Bloise, F., Costa-Font, J., Iudicone, F., De Micheli, B. (2021). Study on intergenerational fairness. The study offers insights into the economic conditions of various generations within EU countries and examines the intergenerational effects of policies implemented in response to the global economic crisis that began in 2008. Pieter Vanhuysse, Márton Medgyesi and Róbert I. Gál (2022). Welfare States as Lifecyle Re-distribution Machines. The article explores the role of welfare states as lifecycle machines performing inter-age redistribution. European Commission(2023)[EMP]. The future of social protection and of the welfare state in the EU. Analysis of the s the expected impacts of key megatrends on the social protection and on the welfare state, along with key strategic recommendations to both Member States and the EU. European Parliamentary Research Service and Joint Research Center (2023). Beyond growth: Pathways towards sustainable prosperity in the EU. A study examining the shift from traditional economic growth metrics like GDP to alternative frameworks for sustainable system transformation. European Commission(2024)[EMP]. Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE): Upward Social Convergence in the EU and the rile of Social investment. Examination of the role social investment can play in promoting upward social convergence in the EU. Informal Working Group Social Investment (2024). Social Investments for resilient economies. Empirical evidence regarding micro and macroeconomic returns of social investments and reforms as well as monitoring and evaluation methodologies for tracking social investment

returns.

Enrico Giovannini (2024). [The key role of social investments to build a more sustainable, resilient and fair Europe in turbulent times](#). The study examines the EU's approach to "transformative resilience" for future shocks; shows how social investments support sustainable growth and resilience; and analyzes the integration of resilience and social investments in the EU fiscal framework.

Doganova, L. (2024). [Discounting the Future: The Ascendancy of a Political Technology](#). Critical analysis of the assumptions of the act of discounting of its political, environmental, and human implications.

D`hombres, B., Berlingieri, F., Casabianca, E., Kovacic, M., Nurminen, M., Schnepf, S., Stepanova, E. And Mauri, C. (2024)**JRC**. [Fairness, inequality and intergenerational mobility](#) This report presents findings on perceptions of fairness, income inequality, equality of opportunity, social policies and taxation based on the 2022 edition of the "Eurobarometer Survey on Fairness, Inequality and Inter-generational mobility".

Biagi, F., Deuster, C. And Natale, F. (2025)**JRC**. [A Demographic Perspective on the Future of European Labour Force Participation](#). By factoring women's empowerment and emancipation, changes in the population's educational profile, especially projected changes in the educational attainment of the EU workforce, and varying assumptions about international migration, this study emphasises the importance of investing in skills for the future of EU competitiveness.

European Commission (2025). *Investing in Fairness – June 2025 – Eurobarometer survey*. Presents findings from the June 2025 Eurobarometer, revealing broad public support across the EU for fairness and inclusion policies, particularly regarding job opportunities and quality of life.

The Beyond Lab (ongoing). [The Futures Balance](#). An accounting and planning framework and tool for long-term sustainability, prosperity, and well-being, anchored in the principle of intergenerational equity. It is intended to support policy and decision-makers in better understanding the consequences of their actions (or inactions) in creating (or reducing) debt for future generations.

European Commission (2025). *Investing in Fairness – June 2025 – Eurobarometer survey*. Presents findings from the June 2025 Eurobarometer, revealing broad public support across the EU for fairness and inclusion policies, particularly regarding job opportunities and quality of life.

RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION/ TECHNOLOGY

Hans Jonas (1984). The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of an Ethics for the Technological Age. A philosophical reflection on the long-term risks posed by modern science and technology for future generations, which provides the foundation for the precautionary principle.

OECD (2020). OECD (2020). Anticipatory innovation governance: Shaping the future through proactive policy making. to the structures and mechanisms that allow and promote anticipatory innovation.

Freeman, S., Marston, H. R., Olynick, J., Musselwhite, C., Kulczycki, C., Genoe, R., & Xiong, B. (2020). Intergenerational Effects on the Impacts of Technology Use in Later Life: Insights from an International, Multi-Site Study. The paper investigates how the use of technology intersect with intergenerational relationships.

Janssen, M., Wanzenböck, I., Fünfschilling, L. and Pontikakis, D. (2024)JRC. Capacities for transformative innovation in public administrations and governance systems: Evidence from pioneering policy practice. Empirically-grounded identification of distinct possible pathways for transformative capacity development and deployment for the three stylised models of governance systems encountered at present across Europe: administration-based governance, network-based governance and society-based governance.

Harding, R., Nauwelaers, C. and Haegeman, K. (2024)JRC. Transformative Innovation for Climate Change Adaptation - A mapping-based framework for territories. The report analyses the key features of territorial Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) strategies, and examines whether and how the adoption of a Transformative Innovation (TI) approach could add value to these strategies and their implementation.

European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (2024)JRC, ERA industrial technologies roadmap on human-centric research and innovation for the manufacturing sector. This Roadmap shows how industrial innovation ecosystem stakeholders can take a leading role in achieving human-centric outcomes in technology development and adoption, such as improving workers' safety and wellbeing, upskilling or learning.

Bianchi, G., Matti, C., Pontikakis, D., Reimeris, R., Haegeman, K.h., Miedzinski, M., Sillero Illanes, C., Mifsud, S., Sasso, S., Bol, E., Marques Santos, A., Andreoni, A., Janssen, M., Saublens, C., Stefanov, R. And Tolias, Y. (2024)JRC. Innovation For Place-based Transformations. Guide on interterritorial collaboration, network governance and coordinated policy-action mixes enabling efforts at the local, regional and national level to achieve long-term societal wellbeing and climate resilient development.

ERCEA (2024). *Mapping ERC Frontier Research: Artificial Intelligence*. Overview of European Research Council-funded frontier research projects advancing the development and understanding of artificial intelligence technologies.

ERCEA (2024). *Mapping ERC Frontier Research on CRISPR/CAS Technology: A Revolution in Gene Editing*. Presents pioneering ERC-funded research on CRISPR/Cas, highlighting its transformative potential in genetics, medicine, and biotechnology.

Lombardo, G. (2025). *Viewpoint: Europe's research priorities must catch up with reality*. Science|Business. Highlights the crucial role of social sciences and humanities in shaping European research and policy, arguing that Europe's research priorities must better reflect societal needs to defend democracy, ensure security, and promote prosperity.

Gaudeul, A., Arrigoni, O., Charisi, V., Escobar Planas, M. And Hupont Torres, I. (2025)**JRC**, The Impact of Human-AI Interaction on Discrimination. This large-scale study assesses the impact of human oversight on countering discrimination in AI-aided decision-making for sensitive tasks.

Bailey, G., Farinha, J., Mochan, A. et al. (ongoing)**JRC**. FUTURINNOV. The project supports the European Innovation Council (EIC) in building strategic intelligence capacity through foresight and other anticipatory approaches, providing future-oriented evidence-based advice on signals and trends of emerging technologies, breakthrough innovation, and investment patterns.

Bailey, G., Farinha, J., Mochan, A. et al. (ongoing)**JRC**. Riding the (brain)waves (ongoing). This project aims to explore what neurotech could mean in terms of governance and how the EU can make the most of this technology while protecting people's health, safety and rights.

European Commission (ongoing)**JRC**. HUMAINT. This research project aims to deepen our understanding of the social and ethical impacts of AI in order to define methodologies that make it "trustworthy," i.e., transparent, fair, and human-centered.

DEMOCRACY AND REPRESENTATION

Beyleveld, D., Düwell, M., & Spahn, A. (2015). Why and How Should We Represent Future Generations in Policymaking? The article addresses the issue of why and how we should represent future generations in present policymaking by adopting the perspective of human rights.

Fairbrother, Malcolm, Ingemar Johansson Sevä, and Joakim Kulin. (2019). "Political trust and the relationship between climate change beliefs and support for fossil fuel taxes: Evidence from a survey of 23 European countries. The study shows that a main reason for people's

scepticism about longer term policies is pessimism about their benefit, due to distrust of political institutions.

Buijs, A. E., de Koning, S., Mattijssen, T. J. M., Smeding, I. W., Smits, M. J., & Steins, N. A. (2023). Civil society for sustainable change: strategies of NGOs and active citizens to contribute to sustainability transitions. Possible strategies from Civil Society Actors (CSAs) to contribute to transformative change, with specific focus on Tiny Forests and Beach Clean-Ups in the Netherlands.

Malcolm Fairbrother (2024). Institutions for Better Representing Future Generations: What Current Generations Think. Survey on public attitudes towards IGF institutions.

Overview made by: Pot, W., Masoliver, C. (2024). Giving future generations a voice: mechanisms of representation and ways to understand needs of future generations. Discussion of newly emerging institutions for representing future generations.

OECD (2024). Lack of trust in institutions and political engagement: An analysis based on the 2021 OECD Trust Survey. Analysis of the socioeconomic characteristics and political engagement of individuals who distrust public institutions to understand the impact on democratic governance and inform government strategies to re-engage citizens.

OECD. (2024). OECD survey on drivers of trust in public institutions – 2024 Results. The survey shows the levels and drivers of trust in public institutions across 30 OECD countries in 2023 and their evolution since 2021.

Moxon, D., Bárta, O., & Bacalso, C. (2025). Youth Political Participation: Literature And Policy Review 1980–2023. Critical review of the role of EU Youth Programmes, such as Erasmus and European Solidarity Corps, in enabling youth civic space and promoting young people's engagement with European democracies.

Youth for Europe Consortium (2024–ongoing)RTD. YOUROPE – Visionary roadmaps: Crafting an Inclusive and Participatory European Democracy with Youth and Communities. This project aims to empower young people through community initiatives and skills development to foster inclusive participation in European democracy.

YouthDecide 2040 Consortium (2025–ongoing)RTD. YouthDecide 2040: Visions of Democracy with and for Future Generations. Project to co-create, with youth and other stakeholders, new ways to represent and include young people in EU democratic governance by 2040.

COLLABORATION BETWEEN GENERATIONS	ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE CHANGE
Mariano Sánchez and Pilar Díaz (2019). Intergenerational Relationships. Overview of main concepts and research trends concerning intergenerational relations. Kate Alexander Shaw (2019). Intergenerational fairness in post-crisis Europe: A comparative study. Comparative study in Denmark, France, Germany, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom of the political discourse on intergenerational fairness. Powell, J.A, Menendian, S., and Ake, W (2019). Targeted Universalism. Introduction to targeted universalism framework. Powell (2022). Equity 2.0: What is Targeted Universalism and How Does It Address Inequality? Reflection on the importance of addressing intergenerational equity as a universal goal to be achieved through targeted	Neil H. Buchanan (2011). What Kind of Environment Do We Owe Future Generations? The article explores the dimension of intergenerational justice in environmental issues. Krushil Watene (2022). Reimagining the Human Environment Relationship. Indigenous Philosophy and Intergenerational Justice. This article highlights key principles from different indigenous perspectives to "recast our relationship with the environment and inform future policy-making." Stephen Humphreys (2022). Against Future Generations. Critical view of the appeal to future generations in climate policy, based on the argument that this appeal elides numerous existing loci of responsibility in climate matters that are more concrete, more coherent, more demanding, more easily understood and more effectively articulated in law. Deuster Christoph; Kajander Nina; Muench Stefan; Natale Fabrizio; Nedee Astrid; Scapolo Fabiana; Ueffing Philipp ; Vesnic Alujevic Lucia (2023)**JRC**. Demography and climate change. The report focuses on demography and climate mitigation through analyses of trajectories for emissions and population at global and EU levels, considering intergenerational differences in consumption and attitudes of EU population. Drigo (2024). Future Generations in Climate Litigation: Early Whispers of an Intergenerational Law? Overview of climate litigation cases and analysis of the emerging trend in climate litigation to expand the temporal scope of legal relevance. Liselotte Jensen and Linn Pfitzner (2025). Intergenerational fairness from a climate policy perspective: Current trends and priorities for the EU. Briefing of the European Parliamentary Research Service focusing on mechanisms for implementing intergenerational fairness within the EU's institutional framework in the context of climate change. Marelli, L., Trane, M., Barbero Vignola, G et. al (2025)**JRC**. Delivering the EU Green Deal – Progress towards targets. This report provides a comprehensive assessment of progress towards the European Green Deal (EGD), encompassING 154 quantifiable targets from 44 policy documents between 2019 and 2024 across key sectors such as climate, energy, circular economy, transport, agriculture and food, ecosystems and biodiversity, water, soil and air pollution. Eurostat (2025). *EU sustainable development: bright spots and challenges*. Announces the release of the 2025 monitoring report on the EU's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlighting significant advances in areas like reduced inequalities and decent work, and noting ongoing challenges for goals such as clean

	water, life on land, and life below water.
strategies, without framing it as the act of closing disparity among groups that inadvertently puts them in competition. Rudolph CW, Rauvola RS, Costanza DP, Zacher H. Generations and Generational Differences (2020). Debunking Myths in Organizational Science and Practice and Paving New Paths Forward. This article critiques the widespread focus on generations in organizational science, debunking ten myths about generational differences. It advocates for social constructionist and lifespan development perspectives as more effective frameworks for understanding age and aging in the workplace. David P. Costanza, Cort W. Rudolph, Hannes Zacher (2023). Are generations a useful concept?. The study offers a critique of the concept of 'generations', arguing against their objective existence and highlighting a science-practice gap. It explores more	Grant, L., Vanderkelen, I., Gudmundsson, L. *et al.* (2025). Global emergence of unprecedented lifetime exposure to climate extremes. The article explores the exposure in a person's lifetime to cumulative climate extremes. Eurostat (2025). *EU sustainable development: bright spots and challenges*. Monitoring report on the EU's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlighting significant advances in areas like reduced inequalities and decent work, and noting ongoing challenges for goals such as clean water, life on land, and life below water

COST OF LIVING/HOUSING

Forrest, R., & Hirayama, Y. (2018). Late home ownership and social re-stratification. Analysis of new social stratification driven by property ownership patterns, highlighting how 'real estate families,' 'dissipating families,' and 'perpetual renter families' shape economic and social dynamics.

N. Meltem Daysal, Michael F. Lovenheim & David N. Wasser (2023). The Intergenerational Transmission of Housing Wealth. The study examines how parental housing wealth during childhood influences adult children's homeownership, education, and earnings.

Alec Haglund (2023). Locked out: Intergenerational unfairness in the housing market. Local authority-level analysis of housing affordability for younger generations in the UK, with 12 policy recommendations. Potential analogies with EU contexts.

Howard, A., Hochstenbach, C., & Ronald, R. (2024). Understanding generational housing inequalities beyond tenure, class and context. The article explores housing outcomes beyond the owner-renter binary and identifying drivers of inequality beyond homeownership exclusion, comparing tenure shifts, housing conditions, and alternative housing situations across income groups in Australia and the Netherlands.

Roberts, M.K., Bhat, A.C. & Fenelon, A. (2025). The long-term effects of housing insecurity in young adulthood on subsequent material hardship, physiological and mental health.

Tania Burchardt and Eleni Karagiannaki (2024). Multigenerational families in Europe sharing resources within households. Review of existing knowledge on resource sharing in multigenerational households and documentation of their scale and composition across European countries.

robust explanations like lifespan theory and social constructionism, and examines the impact of generational stereotypes on workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion. Klimczuk, Andrzej (Ed.) (2024). Intergenerational Relations - Contemporary Theories, Studies and Policies. The book focuses on relationships across diverse age groups, addressing four key challenges: social and cultural, economic and technological, environmental, and political and legal. It explores topics essential for implementing intergenerational solutions to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals globally, nationally, regionally, and locally.	Kockelkorn, A., Schindler, S., & Hirschberg, R. (2023). *Cooperative Conditions: A Primer on Architecture, Finance and Regulation in Zurich*. Explores Zurich's cooperative housing system through the lenses of architecture, finance, and regulation, serving as a practical guide for practitioners and policymakers. European Commission (2024)**EMP**. *Social housing and beyond: Operational toolkit on the use of EU funds for investments in social housing and associated services*. Provides practical guidance for leveraging EU funds to invest in social housing and related social services. Marketa Pape (2024). *A coordinated EU approach to housing*. Briefing by the European Parliamentary Research Service that examines EU policy options for addressing the housing crisis and fostering more coordination in housing across member states. European Commission (2024)**EMP**. *Distributional Impact Assessment*. Outlines the EU's approach and methodology for assessing policy impacts on income distribution and social groups, supporting transparency and evidence-based social policymaking. Baiocco, S., Bontout, O., Horn, R., & Ligonnet, B. (2024)**EMP**. *Economic inequalities in the EU – Key trends and policies*. Reviews trends in income inequality across the EU over the past fifteen years and presents a comprehensive framework to assess and monitor inequality and related policies. Housing Europe (2025). *Housing Cooperatives in Europe: Resilience and Adaptation to Changing Needs*. Comprehensive report analyzing the evolving role of housing cooperatives across Europe, their impact on affordability and community, and key policy challenges and innovations. Agency for Housing in Flanders (2025). *Pioneering with housing cooperatives. Levers for governments?*. Studies the potential of housing cooperatives in Flanders and identifies policy measures for government support.
EESC (2024). Promoting European intergenerational solidarity – towards an EU horizontal approach. Recommendation for the European Commission in which intergenerational	**SKILLS AND EDUCATION** Curren, R. (2009). Education for sustainable development: A philosophical assessment. The article explores the importance of education for sustainable development. Bacigalupo Margherita; Kampylis Panagiotis, Punie Yves, Van Den Brande Lieve (2016)**JRC**. EntreComp: The Entrepreneurship Competence Framework. Reference framework for entrepreneurship as a lifelong competence.

solidarity is recognized as a cross-cutting policy issue. European Union. (2024). Conclusion paper of the high-level group on non-discrimination, equality and diversity. Overview of age equality and non-discrimination on the grounds of age, discussing the impacts of ageism and detailing EU and international legal and policy frameworks to combat discrimination and promote equality. Niels de Fraguier (2025). Rethinking Generation: An Invitation to embrace a Life-Centered approach. A reflection on the meaning of "generation" in the present context, suggesting to enlarge the scope of this concept to include all humans and non-humans alive on Earth at any given time — who collectively share an inherent capacity and responsibility to safeguard its future.	Wosnitza, M., Peixoto, F., Beltman, S., & Mansfield, C. F. (2018). _Resilience in education. Concepts, contexts and connections_. Offers a comprehensive overview of resilience within education, integrating diverse research perspectives and practical interventions aimed at enhancing resilience among learners and educators in varied educational contexts. Su, H. & Su, S. (2019). Why solving intergenerational injustice through education does not work. Critical perspective on why solving intergenerational injustice through education does not suffice. Sala, A., Punie, Y., Garkov, V. and Cabrera Giraldez, M. (2020)[JRC]. LifeComp: The European Framework for Personal, Social and Learning to Learn Key Competence. Reference competence framework to achieve personal fulfilment and satisfaction, develop ourselves and relate to others, learn how to learn and keep being employable. Bianchi, G., Pisiotis, U. and Cabrera Giraldez, M. (2022)[JRC]. GreenComp The European sustainability competence framework. Reference framework for sustainability competences. Moxon, D., & Escamilla, A. (2022). _Can citizenship education inspire youth participation in democratic life_. Examines the capacity of citizenship education to foster democratic engagement among young people, highlighting both formal and non-formal approaches and their impact on youth participation in political and civic life. McCabe, M., & Gale, S. (2022). _Generation 2030: The Strategic Imperative of Youth Civic and Political Engagement_. Explores the critical role of youth civic and political engagement in global development, highlighting the need for intergenerational fairness and innovative frameworks to support youth participation in shaping sustainable futures. Reimers, F. M. (2022). Primary and secondary education during Covid-19: Disruptions to educational opportunity during a pandemic. A comparative study of how the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted educational opportunities across various countries, detailing immediate and longer-term effects on students, teachers, and educational systems, particularly among disadvantaged populations. Amjad, A. I., Aslam, S., & Hamedani, S. S. (2024). _Exploring structural injustices in school education: a study on intergenerational repair_. This article investigates how structural injustices manifest in school contexts, with a particular focus on intergenerational dynamics and the potential for educational practices to serve as a mechanism for intergenerational repair. Jakubowski, M., Gajderowicz, T., & Patrinos, H. A. (2025). _COVID-19, school closures, and student learning outcomes. New global evidence from PISA_. Presents robust global evidence on the learning losses

caused by pandemic-induced school closures, drawing on international assessment data and underscoring the disproportionate effects on vulnerable student groups.

Felipe Bosch and Daouia Chalali (2025). Intergenerational Fairness: What Should Our Futures Methods and Practices Look Like?. This article explores how futures methods and practices can serve as guides for youth in their quest to become "good ancestors.

Maureen Ruby (2025). Bridging the Gap: Why Intergenerational Learning is Crucial Now More Than Ever. Reflection on the importance of "intergenerational learning."

Biagi, F., Deuster, C. And Natale, F. (2025)[JRC]. A Demographic Perspective on the Future of European Labour Force Participation. By factoring women's empowerment and emancipation, changes in the population's educational profile, especially projected changes in the educational attainment of the EU workforce, and varying assumptions about international migration, this study emphasises the importance of investing in skills for the future of EU competitiveness.

Rolf van der Velden (ongoing). Intergenerational Transmission of Skills (ITS) research project | ROA. This research project links skills across generations and examines how parental skills, family shocks, and school quality influence intergenerational skill transmission, offering critical insights for equitable education policies.

SOCIAL COHESION/RESILIENCE

Timothy H. Brubaker and Ellie Brubaker (1999). The Four Rs of Intergenerational Relationships: Implications for Practice. Four principles. (respect, responsibility, reciprocity, and resiliency) that characterize intergenerational relationships are discussed and illustrated.

Elliott O'Dare, C., Timonen, V., & Conlon, C. (2017). Intergenerational friendships of older adults: Why do we know so little about them?. Investigation into why we know so little about adult intergenerational friendship.

Levy, V., & Thayer, C. (2019). Value, Depth, and Age: The Prism of Today's Friendships: The Positive Impact of Intergenerational Friendships. Empirical data on the positive impact of intergenerational friendship.

Mariano Sánchez and Pilar Díaz (2019). Intergenerational Relationships. Overview of main concepts and research trends concerning intergenerational relations.

Kate Alexander Shaw (2019). Intergenerational fairness in post-crisis Europe: A comparative study. Comparative study in Denmark, France, Germany, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom of the political

discourse on intergenerational fairness.

Powell, J.A, Menendian, S., and Ake, W (2019). Targeted Universalism. Introduction to targeted universalism framework.

Colagrossi Marco, Cseres-gergelyne Blasko Zsuzsa, Naszodi Anna, et al. (2020)JRC. Beyond averages - Fairness in an economy that works for people. The report gives a snapshot of the state of fairness in Europe before the COVID-19 outbreak and provides a benchmark against which some of the consequences of the current situation can be evaluated.

Rudolph CW, Rauvola RS, Costanza DP, Zacher H. Generations and Generational Differences (2020). Debunking Myths in Organizational Science and Practice and Paving New Paths Forward. This article critiques the widespread focus on generations in organizational science, debunking ten myths about generational differences. It advocates for social constructionist and lifespan development perspectives as more effective frameworks for understanding age and aging in the workplace.

Krzysztofowicz, M., Rudkin, J., Winthagen, V. and Bock, A., (2020)JRC. Farmers of the Future. This foresight study identifies 14 megatrends that will shape farming over the next two decades and develops farmer profiles for 2040.

Bock, A., Krzysztofowicz, M., et al. (2021)JRC. Scenarios for EU Rural Areas 2040, This report presents a foresight study on the future of EU rural areas by 2040, developed through a participatory process with the European Network for Rural Development. The study supports the EU's long-term vision for rural areas, aiming for prosperity, resilience, empowerment, and connectivity.

Aurambout, J.P., Batista E Silva, F., Bosco, C. et al. (2021)JRC. The Demographic Landscape of EU Territories. This report analyses the territorial diversities of ageing across the EU, understanding the main drivers behind such differences and explore their relations with data on access to services and amenities, regional economic performance, political attitudes and behaviours.

David P. Costanza, Cort W. Rudolph, Hannes Zacher (2023). Are generations a useful concept?. The study offers a critique of the concept of 'generations', arguing against their objective existence and highlighting a science-practice gap. It explores more robust explanations like lifespan theory and social constructionism, and examines the impact of generational stereotypes on workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Webster, M., Norwood, K., Waterworth, J., & Leavey, G. (2023). Effectiveness of Intergenerational Exchange Programs Between Adolescents and Older Adults: A Systematic Review. Systematic review of intergenerational studies concerning relations between adolescents and older adults.

Tanvi Vartak (2024). Intergenerational Friendship: Rewriting the Rules of Social Connection. Overview of barriers, enablers, and benefits of intergenerational friendship.

Kajander Nina, Wurm Susanne, Meyer-wyk Frauke, et al. (2024)JRC. Ageism: a challenge for a society of longevity. Science for policy brief on the need to address ageism in society.

Bignami Simona; Endrich Marek; Natale Fabrizio; Ueffing Philipp (2024)JRC. Low Fertility in the EU: A Review of Trends and Drivers.

Natale Fabrizio; Bernini Alba ; Seiger Fiona; Kajander Nina (2024)JRC. Old Age does not start at 65. Science for policy brief focusing on the need of a more adaptable concept of 'old age' and of maximizing intergenerational transfers across multiple - and not just economic - dimensions.

Kajander Nina, Meyer-wyk Frauke, Pasztor Zsuzsanna, Seiger Fiona (2024)JRC. Shifting perspectives: addressing ageism in media narratives. Analysis of the role and impact of media in shaping societal perceptions of ageing.

EESC (2024). Promoting European intergenerational solidarity – towards an EU horizontal approach. Recommendation for the European Commission in which intergenerational solidarity is recognized as a cross-cutting policy issue.

European Union. (2024). Conclusion paper of the high-level group on non-discrimination, equality and diversity. Overview of age equality and non-discrimination on the grounds of age, discussing the impacts of ageism and detailing EU and international legal and policy frameworks to combat discrimination and promote equality.

Ueffing, P., Zubeldia Razquin, M. And Natale, F., (2025)JRC. The Role of Migration and Fertility for the Future Size of the EU's Population. This policy brief analyses the complex interplay of fertility and migration on the future population size of EU member states, highlighting considerable disparities in population dynamics across EU countries and the important role that migration between Member States plays in shaping their demographic future. The results also suggest that migration is unlikely to fully compensate for low fertility levels to prevent population decline in most EU countries.

Curtale Riccardo, Stut Martijn, Alessandrini Alfredo Deuster Christoph, et al. (2025)JRC. Outlook and demographic perspectives for EU's rural regions. A modelling-based exercise. This paper presents an analysis of observed population trends encompassing observations for the period 2000-2022 and projections until 2040 at the regional level, using the Demography-Economy-Land use interaction (DELi) model, which considers explicitly the interlinkages between demographic and

	economic dynamics. Curtale, R., Stut, M., Alessandrini, A., Deuster, C., Batista E Silva, F., Natale, F. And Dijkstra, L. (2025)_{JRC.} Outlook and demographic perspectives for EU's rural regions. A modelling-based exercise. This 2025 report analyzes population trends from 2000–2022 and projects changes to 2040 at a detailed regional level. Blasco, A., Cabeza Martinez, B., Icardi, R., Krawczyk, M. And Seiger, F., (2025) _{JRC}. Public Perceptions of Fairness in the European Migration and Asylum System: Survey Findings from 8 Countries. This study investigates public perceptions of fairness of the distribution of refugees and asylum seekers across EU countries, the EU's migration management system, and the treatment of refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants. Seiger, F., Kajander, N., Neidhardt, A.-h., Scharfbillig, M., Dražanová, L. Et Al., (2025)_{JRC}. Navigating migration narratives: research insights and strategies for effective communication. This JRC Science for Policy report provides a comprehensive understanding of migration narratives and their impact on public perception and policy. CoR (forthcoming). Intergenerational Fairness: A Local and Regional Approach to Building Inclusive and Sustainable Societies. The opinion emphasises the importance of local and regional authorities (LRAs) in shaping inclusive, sustainable communities through future-oriented policies that take in special consideration, children, young people and the future generations. Arnstein Aassve (ongoing). FutuRes Research Findings. Horizon Europe research project focusing on diverse aspects related the resilience of EU society, including intergenerational fairness.
INTERSECTIONALITY OF VULNERABILITIES Vanhuysse, P. (2013). Intergenerational Justice in Aging Societies: A Cross-national Comparison of 29 OECD Countries. Bertelsmann Stiftung. Empirical comparison of intergenerational justice across 29	**PREPAREDNESS, PEACE and SECURITY** Casajus Valles, A., Marin Ferrer, M., Poljansek, K., & Clark, I. (Eds.) (2021). Science for Disaster Risk Management 2020. Provides science-based insights on disaster risk reduction and resilience across Europe, with a focus on policy recommendations. Emphasizes inclusive and forward-looking risk management strategies relevant across generations. Luttrell-Rowland, M., Engebretson, J., Segalo, P., & the Women, Peace and Security Collective (2021). *Shaping policy, sustaining peace: Intergenerational activism in the policy ecosystem*. Argues for the inclusion of intergenerational perspectives in peacebuilding and policymaking, highlighting the roles of feminist and youth-led activist movements within post-conflict processes.

OECD countries through a multidimensional index that captures (a) outcomes that leave legacies for future generations or constitute discrimination between younger and older living generations, and (b) the bias of current policies toward older living generations. D`hombres, B., Berlingieri, F., Casabianca, E., Kovacic, M., Nurminen, M., Schnepf, S., Stepanova, E. And Mauri, C. (2024)ᴶᴿᶜ. Fairness, inequality and intergenerational mobility This report presents findings on perceptions of fairness, income inequality, equality of opportunity, social policies and taxation based on the 2022 edition of the "Eurobarometer Survey on Fairness, Inequality and Inter-generational mobility". Filby, E. (2024). *Inheritocracy : It's Time to Talk About the Bank of Mum and Dad*. Examines how intergenerational transfers and parental wealth	Joseph, G. K., & Naz, F. (2022). Intergenerational fairness: lessons from pandemic contexts. Examines the ethical implications of pandemic policies, particularly COVID-19, from the lens of intergenerational fairness and responsibility, introducing lessons for future crisis response frameworks. Eklund, G., Sibilia A., Salvi A., Antofie T-E., Rodomonti D., Salari S., Corbane C., Pal J., Melchiorri M. (2022)ᴶᴿᶜ. Vulnerability to Disasters in Europe, Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre. Schvitz, G., Corbane, C., Van Damme, M., Galariotis, I., & Valli, I. (2022). *The Global Conflict Risk Index 2022: Revised Data and Methods*. Presents an updated methodology and dataset for the Global Conflict Risk Index, a tool used to assess the risk of violent conflict worldwide based on quantitative indicators and expert analysis. Eklund, G., Sibilia, A., Salvi, A., Antofie, T-E., Rodomonti, D., Salari, S., Poljansek, K., Marzi, S., Gyenes, Z., Corbane, C. (2023)ᴶᴿᶜ. Towards a European wide vulnerability framework, Publications Office of the European Union. A cross-scale indicator for measuring vulnerability at the European level, composed of four dimensions (social, economic, political and environmental) and meant to capture the systemic vulnerability to disasters at different administrative levels. Andrea Rigon (2023). A review of intersectionality and climate change and the potential of intersectional participatory methods and storytelling to co-produce climate justice. Review of the existing literature on intersectionality and climate change. Corbane Christina ; Galariotis Ioannis; Valli Igor (2023)ᴶᴿᶜ. Science4Peace: A quantitative toolkit for conflict early warning and crisis management. Combination of conflict monitoring and forecasting data with detailed maps to support conflict early warning, conflict prevention, and crisis management. European Commission (2024). *Safer Together: Strengthening Europe's Civilian and Military Preparedness and Readiness*. A strategic policy reflection by Sauli Niinistö, outlining the importance of readiness within EU structures. The report includes emphasis on long-term resilience, solidarity, and protecting future generations. Lee-Koo, K., & Pruitt, L. (2024). *Prospects for intergenerational peace leadership: Reflections from Asia and the Pacific*. Explores leadership models grounded in intergenerational peace practices across Asia-Pacific, calling for collaborative approaches that dismantle age-based power barriers in peacebuilding. Akah, A. U., & Chaggu, B. (2024). *Towards a long-term peace approach: A phenomenological analysis of contemporary and emerging conflicts*. Presents a phenomenological exploration of peace from an intergenerational justice standpoint, critically evaluating root causes of

shape opportunity and inequality in contemporary society.	persistent and emerging conflicts and advocating long-term peace strategies. Schwaderer, I. (2024). *Peace with the Future: How Narratives of the Anthropocene Form Relational Concepts of Peace*. Analyzes how Anthropocene discourses influence notions of peace and justice. Introduces relational and future-oriented peace paradigms that take intergenerational ethics and planetary boundaries into account. European Commission (2024)_{JRC}. Resilience dashboards: Update spring 2024. Updated dashboard providing a holistic assessment of resilience in the EU and its Member States in relation to the ability to make progress towards policy objectives amidst ongoing societal transformations and challenges. Sibilia, A., Eklund, G., Marzi, S., Valli, I., Bountzouklis, C., Roeslin, S., Rodomonti, D., Salari, S., Antofie, T.E. and Corbane, C. (2024)_{JRC}. Developing a multi-level European-wide composite indicator to assess vulnerability dynamics across time and space. A European-wide framework for the development of a Vulnerability Index (VI) that evaluates vulnerability at both national and subnational scales, adopting a multi-dimensional and multi-level approach that captures socio-economic, political, environmental, and physical factors contributing to community resilience. Muench, S., Whyte, J., Hauer, G., De Maleville, A. And Asikainen, T. (2024)_{JRC}. Risks on the horizon. A foresight approach to increase preparedness for unexpected developments and the risks they could create, offering a way to consider and focus on risks that may be beyond the scope of traditional quantitative and qualitative risk assessment approaches. OECD (2024). Mapping emerging critical risks. Foresight approach that focuses on identifying and understanding new risks that could significantly shape the future. Ignacio González Vázquez, Maurizio Curtarelli, Ioannis Anyfantis, Emmanuelle Brun, Annick Starren (2024). Digitalisation and workers wellbeing: The impact of digital technologies on work-related psychosocial risks. This study examines the psychosocial risks associated with the digital transformation of work, focusing on the automation of tasks, digitalisation of work processes, and the platformisation of work. Roman-Cuesta, R. M., Dentener, F., Galmarini, S., Milkoreit, M., Armstrong McKay, D., De Groeve, T., Dennis, P. D., Janssens-Maenhout, G., Loriani, S., & Ruiz Moreno, A. (2025)_{JRC}. Earth System Tipping Points are a threat to Europe. Recommendations to the European Union, its member states and international institutions on the actions needed to cover the anticipatory governance gap related to systemic risks of crossing several Earth System Tipping Points (ESTP).

Favino, R., Conte, N., De Maleville, A. (2025)_{JRC}. [Emerging risks and opportunities for EU internal security stemming from new technologies](). Through foresight analysis, this report explores the transformative potential of Key Enabling Technologies in addressing emerging security challenges within the European Union.

Schvitz Guy ; Corbane Christina ; Valli Igor; Gentile Chiara; Bardelli Gianguido; Ferri Stefano; Galariotis Ioannis (2025)_{JRC}. [A Closer Look at Conflict Risk – The Dynamic Conflict Risk Model](). The Dynamic Conflict Risk Model (DCRM) provides subnational conflict risk assessments with monthly updates and a time horizon of 6 months.

Grant, L., Vanderkelen, I., Gudmundsson, L. *et al.* (2025). [Global emergence of unprecedented lifetime exposure to climate extremes](). The article explores the exposure in a person's lifetime to cumulative climate extremes.

HEALTH / CARE

Daniels, N. (2007). [Just Health: Meeting Health Needs Fairly](). A comprehensive theory of justice for health, addressing the special moral importance of health, the circumstances under which health inequalities are unjust, and how to fairly meet health needs when not all can be met. The book explores implications for both national and global health policy, including questions vital to intergenerational and social justice.

Wolf, C. (2018). [Health care access, population ageing, and intergenerational justice](). Considers how ageing populations impact equitable healthcare access and resources across generations, proposing frameworks for balancing autonomy, dignity, and intergenerational obligations.

Goodwin, S. (2020). [Meaningful healthcare experience design: Improving care for all generations](). Offers practical strategies and design principles for creating inclusive and empathetic healthcare systems that respond to the needs of patients across generations.

Lanoix, M. (2021). [Aging and the prudential lifespan account](). Explores Daniels' prudential lifespan account in the context of older age and care ethics, with attention to autonomy, vulnerability, and social responsibility.

Gosseries, A. (2022). [Ageing, Unequal Longevities and Intergenerational Justice](). Analyzes the ethical implications of unequal life expectancies and ageing, particularly how they intersect with intergenerational equity and resource distribution.

George Kodimattam Joseph and Farhat Naz (2022). [Intergenerational fairness: lessons from pandemic contexts](). This study highlights the

COVID pandemic and similar crises as catalysts for our moral duty to make reasonable and justifiable sacrifices for the benefit of younger and future generations.

Gebremariam, K. M., & Sadana, R. (2022). Ageing and justice in health: A conceptual map toward a unified view. Presents a conceptual framework linking ageing, health justice, and public health ethics, aiming to create a unified view that informs equitable policy-making across age groups.

Gosseries, A. (2023). Age limits and the significance of entire lives egalitarianism. Discusses normative theories of age-based rationing in public systems, focusing on lifespan egalitarianism and the moral justification for age thresholds in policy-making.

Valente, M. S. (2023). Longevity and age-group justice. Investigates the concept of fairness between age groups in the context of increasing longevity, drawing from political philosophy and bioethical debates.

Bernini, A., Icardi, R., Natale, F. And Nedee, A., (2024)**JRC**. Healthcare workforce demand and supply in the EU27. This report presents the projections for the number of doctors and professional nurses in the 27 EU Member States for the period 2021-2071, obtained using our supply and demand model for the healthcare workforce (SANDEM). The results of the projections show that population aging will raise healthcare workforce demand, but if accompanied by better health and a lower per capita disease burden, this demand would decrease enough to offset the increase.

Wurm Susanne Reinhard Ann-kristin, Van Rijn Elaine, Wollgast Jan, Kajander Nina (2024)**JRC**. Ageism: a challenge for health and healthcare. Science for policy brief on the need to address ageism in healthcare.

Resources | CMHN. Link to inspirational resources on the topic of climate and mental health.

DIGITAL INCLUSION

Vuorikari, R., Kluzer, S. and Punie, Y. (2022)**JRC**. DigComp 2.2: The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens - With new examples of knowledge, skills and attitudes. Reference competence framework for engaging confidently, critically and safely with digital technologies, including new and emerging ones such as systems driven by AI.

European Commission (2024). Report on the state of the Digital Decade 2024. The second annual report on the State of the Digital Decade takes stock of the EU's progress towards a successful digital transformation, as set out in the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030.

Bertoni Eleonora ; Cosgrove Judith ; Cachia Romina (2024)**JRC**. Digital skills gaps - a closer look at the Digital Skills Index (DSI 2.0). This policy

brief uses data from the Digital Skills Indicator (DSI 2.0), used to monitor the Digital Decade Policy Programme target of at least 80% of adults with at least basic digital skills by 2030. By unpacking the DSI 2.0, the study provides results on areas of digital skills requiring development, and the groups of adults that would require further digital skills development.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

Dubois, H., Fóti, K. & Leončikas, T. (2022). *Access to essential services for people on low incomes – Energy, public transport and digital communications*. Investigates how low-income groups experience access to critical services, evaluates gaps in service provision, and presents policy options for reducing exclusion in energy, transport, and digital communication sectors.

Koukoufikis, G., Schockaert, H., Paci, D., Filippidou, F., Caramizaru, A., Della Valle, N., Candelise, C., Murauskaite-Bull, I., & Uihlein, A. (2023)JRC. Energy Communities and Energy Poverty. Provides an in-depth analysis of how energy communities can address energy poverty across Europe, examining policy frameworks, community-led initiatives, and the potential for such models to support vulnerable households.

Bowditch, G. (2023). Paying forward to future generations: how infrastructure can do more. Explores the intergenerational impacts of infrastructure decisions, advocating for a shift toward sustainable, future-oriented investment models that prioritize long-term societal benefit and generational equity.

Hassan, E., Neumann, T., Siöland, L., Akbaba, B. et al. (2023). *Access to essential services – Evidence from EU Member States – Final synthesis report*. Synthesizes empirical findings across EU Member States regarding barriers and enabling factors in accessing essential services, with a focus on structural inequalities, vulnerable populations, and regional disparities.

European Commission: Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (2024). Report on access to essential services in the EU – Commission staff working document. Offers a comprehensive overview of the current state and challenges of access to essential services—such as energy, water, and digital connectivity—across the EU, with recommendations for improving affordability and inclusivity.

Mathilde Rainard, Milena Büchs, Kirsten Jenkins, Lucie Middlemiss (2025). Intersectionality in good faith: Beyond normative claims and towards practical integration in energy justice research. Overview of key literature to integrate intersectionality theory into energy justice research.

	Ullrich Lorenz U, Kaljonen M., da Silva Vieira R. (2025). Exploring multiple pathways and policy mixes for transforming European food systems. This report presents an in-depth exploration of transformative pathways and policy mixes aimed at transitioning European food systems towards sustainability. The pathways are explored by using four distinct imaginaries of future food systems. Shortall Ruth; Mengolini Anna (2025)JRC. Filling in the gaps from the bottom up: Energy justice guidelines for European Union energy poverty policy. Bottom-up approach to energy justice that explores the conceptualisation of it according to key energy system actors and householders, who participated in EU-funded energy poverty projects. The study incorporates the Capability Approach, in order to lay the foundations for future, context-sensitive assessments in the EU and derives guideline energy justice criteria, in the context of energy poverty.
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