

Young Greeks and the enlargement

Presenter : In these days, the Greeks are making ready for the celebrations regarding the enlargement. But what are the young Greeks thinking about the European Union and the enlargement. We have asked some

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student, Thessaloniki
0'28

Vaso Batsomitrou
ERT3, Thessaloniki
0'42

Margarita Nikolaou
student, Thessaloniki
0'52

George Gregoriou
student, Thessaloniki
1'17

Philippe Tissot
teacher, Thessaloniki
1'40

Elpida Kostaki
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2'09

Lynn Chisholme
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3'38

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3'23

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SCRIPT Greece youngsters about EU

0'26 GEORGE: I believe that (young people) have an essential role, since they are Europe's future. I mean me and the other teenagers

will be tomorrow's voters. The ideas we have now will be the pattern of how Europe is going to be in twenty years from now.

0'42 VASO (She is the reporter): Do you think that there are teenagers in the new member countries, who have common goals with you? Will your attitude towards them change now?

0'52 MARGARITA : I am sure that from now on something is going to bond us more strongly. I face teenagers from all over the world the same way. European Union will be the framework in which we'll try to accomplish a mutual understanding and common effort to work with all the organizations, all people, in order to find solutions for the social problems.

1'16 GEORGE: The point is to achieve a good standard of working together. If this happened there would be no war, no country rivalry or armament race. I believe diplomacy is a crucial aim.

1'32 VASO: Was it more easy in personal and professional terms, to adjust to a country that is member of the European Union, than to one that is not a member?

1'39 TEACHER (Philippe Tissot): This is a good question. But it's not easy to answer. As a French, I think that the Greek mentality is quite close. Now, for the candidate countries there is still a lot of work to be done. To integrate them, especially concerning vocational training. But we' re trying hard to help them to develop and reform vocational training systems.

2'10 ELPIDA: The entry of a new country or a group of countries in the European Union guarantees for all teenagers a more efficient dealing with problems that are mutual for all young people and especially in education, unemployment and others.

2'38 TEACHER (Lynn Chisholme): The European Union has a number of very well established programs of exchanging cooperation. The youth program itself, which offers the opportunity for small groups of young people, in large youth clubs or associations or in fact on their initiative to work together on a social project, a community project, an environmental project, visit each other in each other's countries. We also have of course the Socrates program, which is for those in general education. And there are lots of opportunities to move between countries.

The most famous is probably the Erasmus, part of Socrates program. It's for University students.

3'23 LUCAS: The European Union is in fact a home and not just an economic union. We feel that every citizen is very close to us. I believe that there is already a common spirit in the Union. This (enlargement) is an effort to come closer to every nation, whether they live in a highly developed country or in a country, which is now trying to achieve the standard of the rest.