

Name _____ Class _____

The British Youth Council (BYC) is led by young people, for young people, aged 25 and under, across the UK. Its aims are that all young people across the UK will have a say and be heard. It believes that young people should get involved in the things that are important to them and have a say in decisions that affect their lives.

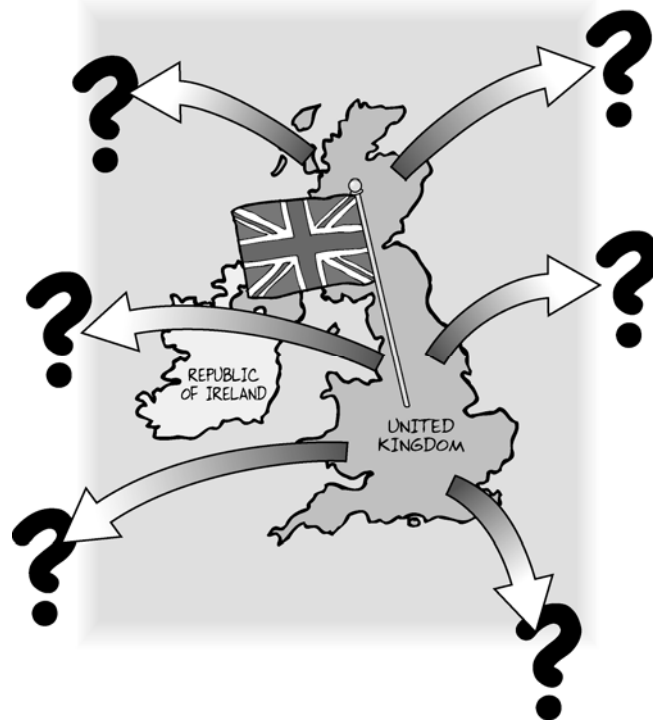
One way they are doing this is through a scheme called Young UK Ambassadors, where fifteen young people from across the UK represent the views of young people at events like the United Nations, The Commonwealth or the European Union.

Imagine that you are a member of the Young UK Ambassadors and you are going to an important meeting at the European Union. A campaign has been launched to try to get more young people involved in what the EU does.

Choose one of the aspects of the EU Memo on the second page of this activity that you think would be most important for young people to get to know more about. Plan a campaign to help to get your message across. Include:

- Why is this issue the most important?
- Why should young people know more about it?
- What should they know about it?

You can present your work either as a written report or as a leaflet. Make sure that you tell people what the issue is about and present your work in an interesting and imaginative way.



Memo

The European Union (EU) has three main areas to its work:

- European Community - Free movement of goods, people, services and capital. Agreeing policies on agriculture, transport, vocational training, youth, education and culture. Agreed action on trade, industrial, research, social and technological development.
- Common Foreign and Security Policy – Joint decision-making on the EU's dealings with the rest of the world.
- Justice and Home Affairs - Co-operation between governments of member states on issues such as international fraud, drugs and terrorism.

Here are some things that the EU has recently been involved in:

Animal Rights

The EU recently passed a law that bans animal testing on all cosmetics throughout the Union and stops the import of beauty and hygiene products tested on animals from anywhere else in the world.

Environment

The EU negotiates to cut the amount of fish that can be caught in order to protect species such as cod, which are in decline. It has to try to balance concern for the environment with the need to protect jobs in the industry.

Football

The EU forced football clubs throughout Europe to amend the transfer rules at clubs, making players freer to move around the region. The EU believes that transfer fees are an obstacle to free movement, a right for every citizen of the Union.

Trade

The EU protects member countries' trade interests by negotiating on their behalf. In recent years there have been bitter trade disputes between the EU and the US over steel, bananas and cashmere.

Aid

The EU has a budget of 7,292 million Euros this year for aid. It provides emergency assistance and relief to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflict outside the European Union. Most of the money goes to emergency help in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Adapted from http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/citizenx/internat/eu/lowdown/eu_info_1.shtml