European and External Relations Committee

The EU referendum and its implications for Scotland

Written submission from the Scottish Youth Parliament

About the Scottish Youth Parliament

The Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) is the democratically elected voice of Scotland’s young people. Elections are held every two years, in which young people from all across Scotland stand as candidates to become Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs). MSYPs range in age from 14 to 25 and represent constituencies in all 32 local authorities throughout the country, and several national voluntary organisations.

SYP was established on 30 June 1999, making us one day older than the Scottish Parliament.

Our Mission

We are a fundamentally rights-based organisation, and our mission, vision, and values are grounded in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). In particular, our purpose embodies Article 12: “Young people have the right to express their views freely and have their opinions listened to in all matters affecting them”.

As a completely youth-led organisation, the words and sentiment of Article 12 have profound importance for our work.

Our democratically elected members listen to and recognise the issues that are most important to young people, ensuring that their voices are heard by decision-makers. We exist to provide a national platform for young people to discuss the issues that are important to them, and campaign to effect the change they wish to see.

Our Values

Democracy – We are youth-led and accountable to young people aged 14 to 25. Our democratic structure, and the scale of our engagement across Scotland gives us a mandate that sets us apart from other organisations.

Rights – We are a fundamentally rights-based organisation. We are passionate about making young people aware of their rights, and ensuring that local and national government deliver policies that allow those rights to be upheld.

Inclusion – We are committed to being truly inclusive and work tirelessly to ensure the voices of every young person from every community and background in Scotland are heard.

Political Impartiality – We are independent from all political parties. By working with all stakeholders, groups, and individuals who share our values, we can deliver the policies that are most important to young people.
Introductory remarks

SYP has been a vociferous and long-standing supporter of Votes at 16.

While we have been delighted that Votes at 16 has been enacted for all Scottish elections, we remain frustrated that this right is still denied to young people in Scotland in UK Elections. We are particularly frustrated that 16 and 17 year olds were denied the right to vote in the EU Referendum, and express a view on a decision that would affect them for the rest of their lives. This frustration was strongly reflected in the views of the young people in Scotland our Members consulted to support our submission to this consultation (See below).

We are therefore strongly of the view that it is vital that young people themselves are active participants in the discussions that are now taking place about the nature of the relationship between Scotland and Europe.

We are very keen to engage with the Europe and External Affairs Committee on these issues, and would welcome the opportunity to meet with it, or some of its Members, to share our views in more depth. We also intend to use the questions from the Europe and External Affairs Committee to generate video testimony at our forthcoming Sitting, in October. We are happy to share those videos with Committee.

SYP and the EU Referendum

Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) consulted with young people in Scotland on a series of proposed policy statements from June 2015 until January 2016, and received 72,744 responses in total. Lead The Way provides SYP with a clear mandate to represent the young people of Scotland, and amplify their voices on the issues that affect their lives.

One of the 56 statements we put to our consultees was:

- Scotland should remain a member of the European Union.

66% of respondents agreed with the statement, 11% disagreed and 23% were not sure.

18,210 responses were received to this question.

About this response

The Scottish Youth Parliament has not posed the questions in the Committee’s consultation directly to our Members. Instead, our External Affairs Committee members have taken a series of questions that we believe may be relevant to the Committee inquiry to a number of young people across Scotland.

These are intended to provide the Europe and External Affairs Committee with a snapshot of what a group of young people in Scotland think about the questions posed. The rest of this submission is based on the responses to those questions.
Aleena, 21, from Teeside, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I was disappointed as the debate was about immigration, not the EU, and was fought along racial lines. I felt uncomfortable - particularly around people from my home town as they voted strongly to leave. But I felt a lot more affinity towards Scotland as it voted to stay - that matters a lot to me. I’m so glad I went to Glasgow rather than elsewhere in the UK as racial arguments just didn’t seem to resound with Scottish people.

No I didn’t feel listened to, and I think that’s a consensus among a lot of young people. We’re set up to believe that the future is in our hands but we had little to no say in this decision. Especially considering the decision will affect us for the longest, it’s sad our opinions weren’t listened to. The fact we’ve left means we definitely won’t have a say in the future of the EU - we’re now completely excluded from political processes within the EU and that’s frustrating as it could well affect our employment, the countries we live in and our future choices.

Has the result affected you?

Immediately, no - but that doesn’t mean I’m not aware of how this is going to affect my future. The EU is not just political ties, it’s economic ties too - so much funding is pumped through both Teeside and Glasgow that I know the economic conditions are going to change if that dries up. I’m glad I live in Scotland as Scotland is already taking steps to alleviate some of the pressures this will cause.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Absolutely - ultimately whatever happens it will affect our generation the most. I actually believe the Scottish Parliament sees this to be true - so I hope that they will involve us in future discussions. To be honest ignoring young people in decisions like these is undermining, and it’s quite patronising considering how much information we have access to. I believe we’ve already shown we have the will to be involved in the political process and I hope the Scottish Parliament will take steps to ensure we can be.

Ideally, I’d like to see direct engagement from politicians, have them visit university campuses, possibly invite us to the Scottish Parliament to involve us in discussions and try to actively invite young people to have their say. It’s easy to see how the Scottish Parliament could integrate young people’s opinions, it’s easy to have an open and honest debate and to take on board what we have to say.
What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

Honestly I wouldn’t want them to change from what they used to be. I know there are problems within the EU but it’s better to sit at the table and have a say than be totally excluded.

Louise, 21, from London, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

Frustrated mainly - I feel like we’ve been dragged through something based on lies and internal politics. If the population was well-informed it would be OK but even the politicians don’t believe in Brexit. It really threatened my identity as well, I didn’t realise how attached I was to being a European citizen. I don’t feel particularly British, and the EU was important to me. I didn’t really feel listened to, as the general rhetoric was directed towards older voters - I didn’t hear anything about student opportunities or sharing research - I didn’t see politicians talking about that side of it.

Has the result affected you?

I always saw myself working and studying in the EU in the future - and now I may have to change my plans and go sooner in case tuition fees change. Most of my friends are now talking about leaving - and to be honest the result felt so personal that I want to go too. I was always proud to be part of something collaborative, sharing cultures, but now I just want to leave and not have to care about what happens any more. My boyfriend isn’t British, and the notion that he might feel unwelcome is really upsetting.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Yes - especially as the idea that it’s young people’s fault for not voting has been refuted in recent studies - many did vote. It’s our future, and we’ve not been given a chance to have our say. I feel that at the moment our voice isn’t really respected because we’re thought to be naive and unrealistic, but that’s just patronising. I want to see things like focus groups for young people, conferences within universities, and maybe local workshops for young people who aren’t in education.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

In an ideal world we’d rejoin the EU - maybe under a similar agreement to what we had before, but I’m unsure if that would work. I definitely want to see a more positive relationship with the EU as Britain’s relationship has always been antagonistic - I think Scotland would have a greater effect if it was more cooperative.
Aili, 23, from Sweden, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I felt appalled, shocked and a bit disgusted to be honest, although honestly I never thought it would happen. I think Scotland has come out of this well, at least I think more positively towards Scotland than I did before, but it just seems such a waste for the UK as everything was already so integrated and reasons for Brexit were based on EU scepticism and xenophobia.

Has the result affected you?

It’s pushed me more towards going back to Sweden, although I was thinking about returning anyway.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Definitely - this is a democracy so it has to involve everyone.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I honestly hadn’t thought about it - as I don’t know what the parameters would be if Scotland was to rejoin independently of the UK.

Antonia, 21, from Austria, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I was surprised and shocked, I wasn’t expecting it at all. I mean, is betrayed a good word? I don’t know. I just felt unwelcome. And angry, of course. No one asked for my voice. It was the vote of the UK nationals, no one else. You can debate with them, but no, I can’t say I felt listened to.

I was very, I don’t like the word proud but I was very happy that Scotland clearly voted to remain. I felt sad for them that they had a totally different approach, but are still obliged to stick with the result.

Has the result affected you?

Yeah - it definitely affects my prospects for Masters. Many EU students are already thinking that we might as well go elsewhere as it will cost too much to stay if we have to pay international fees, so we may as well go to America or somewhere.
Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Youth are the future - so yes they have to be involved! I reckon I’d want to see roundtable discussions, Q&As, and maybe surveys I guess.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I want it to be part of the EU

Kyle, 20, Edinburgh

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I was shocked, really really surprised that this could happen. I didn’t really feel listened to, but then I wasn’t actively participating in the debate because I really felt it was a foregone conclusion, but it turned out my political estimations were very wrong. With England voting to leave but Scotland voting to stay I felt we were being alienated from decision making.

Has the result affected you?

Yeah - because we’re going to have to wait in border queues! But more seriously it might well get harder to find jobs. And it’s going to be harder to do business without being in the EU so it’ll get harder to find graduate jobs. So basically it’s going to negatively affect my graduate prospects.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Yeah - there could be a panel comprised of every university, or maybe even every high school although that would be a lot bigger, although I think everyone about the age of 16 should be able to have their say as they have the right to vote.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

They’d just be back as they were before

Maria, 20, from Morocco, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I feel shocked, disappointed, and a lot of disbelief. I never thought it would happen. I feel a lot of negative uncertainty now. In terms of being listened to, no I wouldn’t say I was. The debate didn’t seem geared towards young people. But it definitely enforced my image of Scotland as friendly and open-minded and globally-minded. It reinforced a lot of my positive perceptions, and I felt a lot of solidarity in Scotland.
Has the result affected you?

Not yet - but it will. I was thinking of staying post-degree but now I don’t know what my options are. I’m worried about the increase in hate crime as well.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Absolutely. From the results of those who voted young people were very involved - and we deserve to be involved now as it’s our future that is at stake in the long run. I’d like to see a press conference kind of event where it was open to young people.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I want to see Scotland in the EU, and I want Scotland to be independent.

Kate, 20, from London, living in Glasgow

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I really didn’t think it would happen until the moment on the results TV show that it became mathematically impossible for us to remain. Then I accepted it might be possible, but to be honest it still hasn’t sunk in. I’m just really, really sad about it. Being European is a big part of my identity and all my flatmates are EU students, and it’s just really sad.

I didn’t feel listened to because the narrative the remain side pushed seemed based on economic arguments and the narrative the leave side pushed focussed on the emotional arguments - and both ignored young people’s thoughts.

Has the result affected you?

Yes - my dream job was the Civil Service Fast Stream on the EU track. I always thought I’d end up in European cities - and although I know I still will, I feel a little deceitful getting there. I applied for an Irish passport as I have Irish grandparents - even though I’ve only been there when I was a baby and it’s not part of my identity at all - and it’s going to feel weird crossing borders as an Irish national.

It’s affecting a lot of my friends as well as many EU students studying English Literature want to live in an anglophone country so have to stay in the UK, but now feel deeply unwelcome.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Yes - very much so - but I believe the Scottish Parliament will involve young people because of their policy on allowing the vote at 16. There really isn’t any good argument for young people being stupid or unengaged, because any young person willing to turn up to these discussions is firmly politically engaged. I would want to be
in the room, although being spoken to through any medium would be a step forward!

**What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?**

I think Scotland should stay a part of the EU. And if an independent Scotland resulted in being part of the EU then I’d vote for independence.

*Simon, 21, from Sweden, living in Glasgow*

**How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?**

I took it very personally, which was unexpected. I really felt that I’m not welcome anymore. Initially I thought it was all the UK that had voted to leave when I read the news, but I was in Glasgow for the result and over the course of the day I realised people in Glasgow were also really upset about the result. I felt very lucky I wasn’t in England.

I felt listened to among my friends, but all were voting to stay in the EU anyway.

**Has the result affected you?**

It’s raised big questions for me about my future in the UK - I need more information about funding and research grants. On the plus side it means I’ll be receiving approximately one hundred pounds extra per month on my student loan from Sweden.

**Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?**

Yeah - but participation shouldn’t be forced. I think especially when reviewing survey data particular attention should be paid to young people’s responses.

**What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?**

I want to see the same opportunities made available - I want to see easy access to labour markets, to travel, to being a student. I want to see healthcare still available without it having to cost hundreds of pounds.

*Wiktoria, 21, from Poland, living in Glasgow*

**How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?**

I couldn’t believe it. When I went to work no one there believed it either, none of us could process it. All I felt was numbness and uncertainty. I feel very welcome in Scotland, it’s the place I consider home after living here for three years, and I guess I felt like I’d definitely picked the right place to move to in the UK.

I didn’t feel listened to because I couldn’t vote, so no one was interested.
Has the result affected you?

I was considering doing a Masters in England, but now I’m looking at Edinburgh instead. I mean, would you want to stay in a country that doesn’t feel welcoming? I know because of the language and the opportunities that I want to stay here in the UK. Being Polish, being part of the EU has a lot of symbolic value - leaving the previous regime behind and really embodying a sense of freedom. I just feel like in the UK there was a complete lack of appreciation for the values the EU has given people as a collective. But it’s good in terms of the money I get from my parents - that is worth a lot more now.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Absolutely - who else? Many voters for leave were over the age of 50 - and they’re simply not going to have to live with the full consequences. The real effect I think will only hit 10-15 years from now, once the exit has been negotiated. And that’s about when our generation will start having families so I think we’ll feel it the most.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

That it remains in the EU as a sovereign country.

Jamie, 17, Dunbar

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I feel that the referendum was interesting, and I think that it is always good for the public to get a voice in these important decisions. Did I feel listened to? Well, being under 18 I didn’t actually get a vote and obviously that affects how much I feel listened to, but I feel that I could engage in discussion with a reasonable amount of people who did have the vote and a lot of them were interested to hear what I thought, or what other people my age thought too. Personally, I was disappointed with the result as I was in favour of remaining in the EU. In general, personally, I feel that unity is the way forward and I was particularly disappointed that a lot of people who did vote to leave, voted more as a protest vote than a genuine understanding of the facts and situation we are in.

Has the result affected you?

I don’t think it will affect me too much as I had planned to stay in this country although obviously holidays I had hoped to go to Europe and that may be more inconvenient now. I don’t think it will affect me too much on a personal level though.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

That’s an interesting one. I do believe that everyone should have a voice and so yes, I think that young people should be involved in the discussions. We should all be
able to say what we think about these important issues about a country’s position in the world. How could young people be part of the discussion? As through elections and stuff we have had debates and I don’t see why we should wait till elections to have debates. Question Time is on every Thursday night and I think we should encourage lots of young people to go on to that as well, even if they don’t have the vote it is still important for people to hear their opinions.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

Well personally I do, for the same reasons I believe that we should stay part of the EU, I also believe that Scotland shouldn’t become independent – I believe that unity is the answer. I would just like a more united Scotland, and a more united UK and Europe, so it’s difficult to see how we could be united with the rest of the country as well as be united with Europe. But I hope we can come to an agreement where we can still trade and have good relations with Europe as well as with the rest of the United Kingdom.

George, 16, Dunblane

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I think we should never have left had a good thing going so why change it

Has the result affected you?

Not really sure as of yet

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU?

If yes, how can this be achieved?

Yes 100% because it’s our futures being affected

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I think we need to remain close the EU

Björn, 15, Dunblane

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

A bit concerned, yes, and disappointed

Has the result affected you?

Well even though I have lived in the UK my entire life I had a Swedish passport and now I will definitely have to get a British passport
Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Not really but I feel that some of the things they say should get taken into consideration

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

Not exactly sure

Robbie, 15, Dunblane

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I am not happy about the result and would have preferred to remain. I think Scotland and Northern Ireland had completely different views on it compared to England and Wales and feel as if we are being dragged out against our own will

Has the result affected you?

I think that it will be more expensive to travel abroad and harder if I want to study in a country that’s in the EU

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

I think that yes. I think can be achieved by lowering the age of voting to 16 like they did for the independence referendum

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I would like to see Scotland in the EU, even if that meant leaving the UK

Matthew, 15, Stirling

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

Absolutely gutted about the result, completely unfair as the older generation decided for us

Has the result affected you?

I think the referendum has made it much more difficult to find a job in the future, especially if it is abroad
Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

I believe that the young people should play a part as we our deciding our own future

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I would like us to stay in the EU and if that means going independent then so be it

Johan, 21, Isle of Skye

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I am upset about the UK’s vote to leave especially as Scotland overwhelmingly voted to stay. I don’t think young people were listened to in the EU referendum, it is our future that it is affecting and I think more should have been done to ensure that the younger generation felt listened too and educated.

Has the result affected you?

I don’t know how it will affect me yet, but I don’t think it will be positive, I am keen to travel and possibly work abroad for a bit and I think that that will be made harder, also I have just left Uni before completing my degree, but I am concerned about the amount of research funding that will still be available and about the amount of jobs that are possibly under threat because of it.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

I think that it is vital that young people get involved and are encouraged to get involved

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

I would like to see Scotland’s future in the EU

Louise, 21, Edinburgh

How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

I feel that after experiencing the debate generated after the Scottish independence referendum that it was increasingly clear that there was not even nearly the same level of information, arguments, or interest in the European referendum. I think that the result occurred due to an almost complete lack of interrogation of ideas and is massively disheartening in terms of people’s ideas and their interest in questioning political ideas. As a Scottish young person I didn’t feel listened to in the slightest due to the referendum occurring not being due to any political unrest about the EU that I
was encountering in Scotland, and I was aware that a large vote either way in England could render the Scottish vote irrelevant.

**Has the result affected you?**

I am concerned that any plans to go and work abroad that I had previously had must now either be rushed, or put off completely. Furthermore, as a student I am concerned that there will a far less diverse experience generally, both in Scottish students going abroad and in EU students studying in Scotland.

**Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU?**

**If yes, how can this be achieved?**

I do think that young people should play a key role in the discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the EU, partially, if not exclusively due to the complete ignoring of the needs and wants of young people by leaving the EU in the first place. This could be achieved by listening to young people through surveys etc, but also listening to the bodies that represent young people (the Youth Parliament, colleges and universities etc.)

**What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?**

I would have preferred to see a Scotland within the EU, however if this is not possible I would like to have as close links to the EU as possible. Furthermore, I would prefer to see an independent Scotland negotiating its own relationship with the EU as an institution, and with individual EU member states.

**Euan, 17, Glasgow**

**How do you feel about the EU Referendum? Did you feel listened to in before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?**

As frustrated as I am about the result of the EU referendum I accept the democratic will of the country. In such an important vote, the majority spoke clearly and the United Kingdom must now make steps towards leaving the European Union. It is critical that the entire county works together and that everyone respects the mandate that Brexit has. No single location, political party or any other organisation can seek division in a time when the result was so clear.

**Has the result affected you?**

The honest answer to this question is I don't know. Depending on the terms of the Brexit negotiations, I may or may not be affected. It is naive to suggest that my life will be completely changed because nothing has changed as of yet, the future remains to be seen.
Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Without a doubt the views of all people, young people included, need to be considered. It is imperative that the Government listens to people of all ages and backgrounds.

What would you like to see in Scotland’s future relations with the EU?

What Scotland’s place is within Europe is irrelevant. It is what the United Kingdom’s place is that is of importance. Scotland is a member of the U.K. first and foremost and anybody who seeks to divide Scotland from the rest of the U.K. is acting with deep irresponsibility.

Jack, 17, Orkney

How do you feel about the EU referendum? Did you feel listened to before the referendum? How do you feel about the result?

Considering the historical importance and impact made by the EU Referendum, it is extremely disappointing that 16 and 17 year olds were not included in this decision. The Referendum and the result I believe has promoted concerns over the Constitution of the UK out with the EU Membership, that of the voting process and need for a better deal of federalism. For the foremost of the EU Referendum campaign, it highlighted primarily the need for change - and this should be listened to in all aspects of politics with the UK. The decision was a democratic one and that must be respected, however, it should also be respected that there is a considerable pro-EU desire within the UK and a good, close deal with the EU must be achieved.

How do you think this referendum has affected you? (Perhaps in terms of work/travel/future plans/studies?)

In the short-term there isn’t likely to be a direct impact but in the long-term there most definitely is concerns over Erasmus funding and what conditions will be placed upon Freedom of Movement. In my local community there are concerns over Agricultural funding, which may have a serious impact upon young farmers, concerns over renewable funding and the international research community within my local community this attracts, and over local infrastructure/environmental projects as the EU has been a key funding body for several youth-related projects, and what impact Brexit will have over this future local funding.

Do you think young people should play a part in discussions over the future of Scotland’s relationship with the rest of the EU? If yes, how can this be achieved?

Absolutely - it can be argued that the decision to leave the EU was a public decision and that should highlight the importance for the public to have a say over the process of this decision. Most importantly young people as this decision will be centred round their future. For example, The Department for Exiting the EU should be working closely with youth organisations to ensure these voices are heard.
What would you like to see in Scotland's future relations with the European Union?

The future relations with the European Union must be as close of possible, focused around trade, cooperation, environment and movement, rather than politically. This most importantly highlights that Scotland, and the UK, should achieve a deal that reflects this by maintaining access to the Single Market and developing a close relationship on the international scale, but the stand upon the Brussels stage will evidently have to be weakened.