**I am a European**

(Essay)

Generally, „European“ is an adjective referring to something related to Europe or to the European Union. What does it mean to me to be a European? Do I really feel related to the EU? Can I declare myself a European?

I live in Slovakia, a small European country centrally located in the heart of Europe. Although it is my homeland, since I was born, I have visited many other countries without any difficulty. Sitting in a car, bus, train, ship or aircraft, I could easily travel within the EU. Then I realised the connection between Slovakia and other European countries. It is because border checks have been abolished between most EU countries within the Schengen Agreement.

Now I am about to finish secondary school and I am looking for universities to continue my studies. Suprisingly, there are many interesting educational opportunities. I am currently considering studying abroad. The EU even runs programs to promote educational exchanges, so that young people can go abroad to train or study, learn new languages and take part in joint activities with schools or colleges in other countries.

Numbers of my relatives moved in case of working and they still live in Italy, Germany, Spain and Great Britain. Some of them actually work in the health and other public services. On the other hand, we can also find chains when companies expand to other European countries. There is a huge range of possibilities of working places.

In the field of culture officiates a cooperation between TV programs and film-makers, broadcasters, actors and actresses from different countries. This fact encourages the production of more European TV programs and films.

In my viewpoint, the most important thing is a sense of the idea that we belong to each other. It comes with sharing some symbols such as democracy, the right to vote in European Parliamentary elections, European motto and anthem… So, I can say I'm a European and I'm proud of it.

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