

Fight for Our Future, Not Their Wars: Youth and Student Organisations Across Europe Launch an International Strike for 20 November

Coalition calls for coordinated strikes across Europe as youth and students mobilise against militarisation, rearmament, austerity and imperialism

An international coalition of student and youth organisations today launched a public call for an **International Student and Youth Strike on 20 November 2026**, calling on youth and students across Europe to walk out of schools and universities, strike and protest in what organisers aim to make the largest coordinated anti-militarist student mobilisation in Europe in recent years.

Student organisations from across the continent - Germany, England, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Spain, France, Switzerland - are preparing coordinated walkouts, demonstrations, campus assemblies and public actions, while trade unions and social movements are being invited to mobilise alongside students between **20 and 22 November**.

The strike is being organised in response to what the coalition describes as a historic acceleration of militarisation across Europe. As governments commit hundreds of billions of euros to military spending and rearmament, organisers argue that education, healthcare, housing, public services and climate action are being sacrificed to finance preparations for war.

According to the organisers, militarisation is increasingly entering schools and universities through military recruitment, defence-funded research and institutional partnerships with the arms industry, while renewed debates on mandatory conscription and expanding military alliances signal a broader political shift across Europe.

The organisers argue that militarisation, austerity, climate breakdown and authoritarianism are not separate crises, but interconnected consequences of the same political and economic priorities that are denying young people the possibility of a dignified future. The strike seeks to bring together students and young people across Europe in a common movement against imperialism, militarisation and war.

Building on a year of growing student mobilisations against war, genocide, fossil fuel expansion and attacks on peoples rights, the coalition describes the 20 November strike as the first step towards building a strong international anti-militarist student movement.

Student organisations, youth groups, school collectives and university organisations across Europe are invited to endorse the call and organise national and local actions on 20 November.

Shared demands

The International Student and Youth Strike calls for:

1. **An end to militarisation, rearmament, and austerity imposed in the name of war. Investments in welfare, public education, healthcare, and youth instead of weapons and militaries.**
2. **The abolition of all forms of conscription. Schools and universities must be spaces of critical thinking and liberation, not instruments of military recruitment or the war industry.**
3. **Freedom, justice, and solidarity for all oppressed peoples. An end to imperialism, colonialism, occupation, apartheid, and genocide, as well as to our governments' complicity in them, starting with the cut of all ties with genocidal states (such as Israel).**
4. **Climate and social justice for all. End fossil capitalism, extractivism, climate and environmental destruction**
5. **Radical system change against authoritarianism and repression, and in defense of our democratic rights. For the end of racism and patriarchy, and for the defeat of the far right in all countries.**

More info:

- The instagram and website of the strike will be publicly launch on August 10