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What European Values Are Important to Me?

When we discuss Europe, we often focus on its famous landmarks, diverse languages, and long history. However, the true essence of Europe lies in its values. For me, these principles are not just abstract words found in official documents, they are the foundation of how I want to live, learn and interact with others. Among the many ideals that the European project stands for, several are particularly close to my heart: **human dignity, equality, freedom and solidarity.**

The first value that I deeply treasure is **human dignity**. To me, this means that every person, regardless of their background, nationality or beliefs, deserves to be treated with unconditional respect. In a world that can sometimes feel divided, the European commitment to human rights acts as a moral compass. It teaches me that every individual has a voice that matters. Being European means belonging to a society where we don't just tolerate one another, but where we actively protect the right of everyone to live a life free from fear and discrimination.

Another value that I find essential is **equality**. Growing up in the 21st century, I believe that everyone should have the same opportunities to pursue their dreams. Whether it is

gender equality or equal access to high-quality education, these principles are the pillars of a fair society. Programs like Erasmus+ are a perfect example of this value in action—they provide students from different countries and financial backgrounds the same chance to explore the world and develop their talents. Equality means that my future should depend on my hard work and creativity, not on my starting point in life.

Furthermore, the value of **freedom** is something I personally cherish. For my generation, freedom is like the air we breathe, we often don't notice it until it's gone. It is the freedom to speak our minds, the freedom to travel across borders without a passport and the freedom to choose our own paths in life. This freedom of expression and movement is a hard-won achievement of the European Union and it is our responsibility to protect it for the future.

Finally, **solidarity** is a value that I find incredibly inspiring. To me, solidarity means that we are a team. It is the understanding that we are stronger when we support one another, especially during crises or difficult times. Whether it is protecting the environment for future generations or helping neighboring countries, European solidarity shows that we are responsible for more than just ourselves. As a teenager, I see this as a call to be an active and empathetic citizen. It reminds me that our individual actions can contribute to a better, more united community.

In conclusion, these values are what make me proud to be European. They provide a sense of security and a clear vision for a better future. I believe that by practicing these values in our daily lives, by being kind, fair, and helpful, we can ensure that Europe remains a place of peace and progress. These are the ideals I want to carry with me as I grow, learn, and explore everything this continent has to offer.

Amelia 2B



EMBRACING OUR EU VALUES

HUMAN DIGNITY



RESPECT FOR EVERY PERSON

FREEDOM



SPEAKING AND LIVING FREELY

DEMOCRACY



OUR VOICE MATTERS,
OUR VOTE COUNTS

EQUALITY



UNITY & OPPORTUNITY
EQUAL RIGHTS & CHANCES FOR ALL

RULE OF LAW



JUSTICE & FAIRNESS FOR EVERYONE

HUMAN RIGHTS



PROTECTING DIGNITY & RIGHTS WORLDWIDE

 UNITED IN DIVERSITY. CORE EU VALUES. 

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