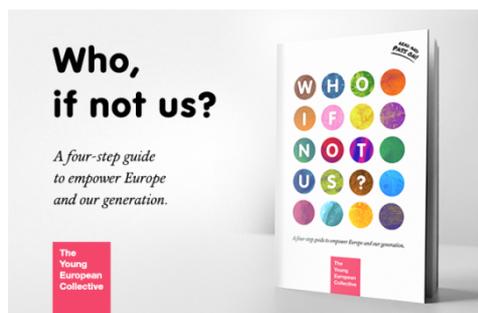


# WHO, IF NOT US?

## European youth speaks up!

**Berlin, November 2015 – Europe in crisis mode. In the midst of a refugee crisis, trends of renationalization and fear of terror, a group of young Europeans speaks up with a unique essay. *Who, If Not Us? A Four Step Guide to Empower Europe and Our Generation* is a text that aims to activate the potential of Europe's generation Y. The group financed the printing and distribution of 6000 copies of their text through a crowdfunding campaign. Over the next weeks and months, copies will be distributed for free to youth in European countries.**



In 2010, Stéphane Hessel urged European youth to be outraged. Today, Europe's so-called lost generation speaks up themselves. The list of problems in Europe is long: staggering youth unemployment, extremism, an increasing sense of competition in a global age, and overall uncertainty regarding the future are omnipresent in many young people's lives. Millions of Europeans share these challenges and seek for solutions and orientation.

This is where the essay *Who, If Not Us?* comes in. The text addresses Europe's youth and provides a constructive action plan to empower young people across the continent. Based on personal stories and observations, the text highlights challenges and roadblocks young Europeans are facing and shows ways to overcome them. It encourages young women and men to face their fears, overcome personal restrictions, find self-confidence and tackle big societal questions head-on. The book was written in three working sessions, funded by Stiftung Mercator, over the course of one year.

After finishing the text, the group, calling themselves The Young European Collective, has gone on to start a crowdfunding campaign to finance the printing and distribution. Step by step text will be shipped to schools, universities, refugee shelters, and bookstores across Europe. The "Read and Pass On" principle aims to connect readers of the text with one another and keeps the books moving through Europe.

### Find out more: [www.whoifnotus.eu](http://www.whoifnotus.eu)

**Website:** [www.whoifnotus.eu](http://www.whoifnotus.eu)  
**Video:** <https://vimeo.com/123075661>  
**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/w\\_i\\_n\\_u](https://twitter.com/w_i_n_u)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/who.if.not.us.europe>

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