

**Report of Conference on the Future of Europe Talk**  
organised by CoR Member **Paula Fernández Viaña** (Spain, Renew Europe)

**IT'S TIME TO SPEAK**  
**Local dialogue about youth and rural environment**



renew  
europe.



European Committee  
of the Regions



<b>Organised by</b>	Juventudes Regionalistas de Cantabria
<b>Partners</b>	Renew Europe
<b>Date and time of the event</b>	24/09/2022 10:00 am
<b>Event type</b>	Hybrid
<b>Location(s) of event</b>	Centro Cultural Quijano, Piélagos. (Cantabria, España)
<b>Total number of participants</b>	50 young people in person / 100 followers via streaming
<b>Type of participants</b>	Young people from different parts of Cantabria between 16 and 35 years old, Councillors, Mayors, Autonomous Deputies, Councillors and a National Deputy.
<b>CoR Member participating</b>	Paula Fernández Viaña
<b>Representative from other EU institution</b>	María Gafo (online)
<b>Conference on the Future of Europe theme(s) covered during the event</b>	Climate change and the environment A stronger economy, social justice and jobs Digital transformation The role of youth in rural areas

<p><b>Recommendations / conclusions from the debate</b></p>	<p>Three main lines of action were identified at the environment table. The first line was the education and awareness of citizens in respecting and caring for the environment presenting ideas such as the consumption of kilometre zero products, the promotion of domestic recycling, and the need for responsible water consumption. The next line corresponded to the empowerment and promotion, from both national and European institutions, of the implementation of renewable energy systems. Lastly, but not least, the review of waste dumping rates was proposed in order to adapt them to the climate crisis in which we are immersed.</p>
	<p>The digital transformation table concluded that we currently find ourselves in a digital environment that advances at different speeds, which generates dangerous gaps between citizens and the management systems of the institutions, which is reflected in the following conclusions. The existence of a technological generational gap that has been present for several years now and that is becoming more and more palpable every day. This issue requires our attention and measures whose core is the training of the most vulnerable social groups to avoid their exclusion. Another problem which was identified was the degree of obsolescence that many of the usual bureaucratic processes present, which can exasperate citizens. To combat this problem, the creation of an application whose functionality is to simplify bureaucratic processes was proposed, which in turn would have to be accompanied by training of administrative staff and an investment to supply administrations with adequate technological means for the new needs.</p>
	<p>Very topical issues were discussed at the work precariousness table, such as the need to readjust the minimum interprofessional salary so that it adapts to the current social situation, the need to supervise remuneration in work internships, as well as advice and financing to young entrepreneurs.</p>
	<p>The rural environment table analyzed the current situation of rural areas of this region, which share many of their characteristics with the rural areas present in different countries of the European Union. It was concluded that the main problem is the lack of infrastructure and services necessary for these places to attract a new population as well as to give a better quality of life to their current inhabitants. This table also concluded that policies must go from the bottom up starting in rural areas and making their way towards regional, national, and European administrations.</p>
<p><b>Hyperlinks to web / press / social media coverage</b></p>	<p><a href="#">The Regionalist Youth organized a dialogue table at the Cultural Center of Piélagos   Info Cantabria</a></p> <p><a href="#">Young Spanish people share their concerns to take them to Europe – EUROEFE EURACTIV</a></p>

