

Summary of the report

How do young Belgians see their future? This question, which is the main theme of this research, allows us to question the perspectives of a diverse youth. These perspectives concern both their understanding and perception of the phenomena associated with climate change, their ways of informing themselves on the issue, as well as their vision concerning the education they have received and the future that the labour market holds for them.

In order to understand these issues empirically, a double field survey was conducted. A first quantitative part made it possible to identify trends in the practices and perceptions of the different categories of pre-sorted young people according to socio-demographic criteria. A second qualitative part made it possible to refine these data thanks to focus groups probing the opinion of the most precarious young Belgians. This fieldwork confirms the relevance of considering a great diversity within the "young" social group (15-24 years old), since considerable differences are observed, particularly between socio-economic categories, but also between age groups.

In order to go beyond these observations and to deepen the segmented analysis of young people, personae have been constituted. Thus, seven mutually exclusive profiles of young people were identified, not with the aim of pigeonholing young people, but to propose personalised solutions according to their different practices and values.

The results of this research allow for the formulation of recommendations regarding both the perspectives of climate communication towards young people and the policy perspectives to be implemented to encourage their participation. These recommendations are formulated in a general way, but also specifically for each persona identified. Finally, the recommendations come from both the young people themselves and the experts who carried out the study.