

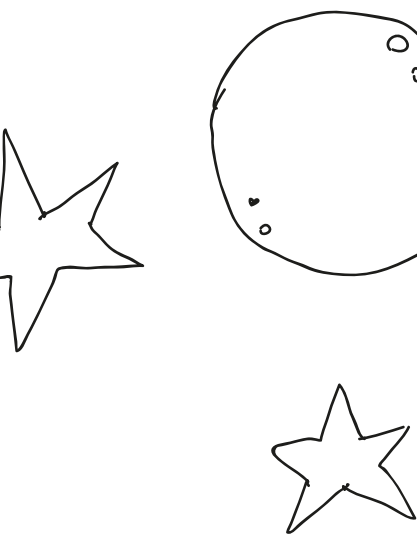


EUROPE **Living** together!



EN





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VALUES

Belonging to the European project

The European Union is first and foremost a set of **values that allow us to live together**, despite our different languages, cultures, religions and customs.

It's not easy for the approximately half a billion people who live in the EU to understand the people in their neighbouring countries or countries that are further away.

The values of **solidarity, tolerance, freedom and equality**, and **respect** are important if we want to live as a society.

Showing solidarity means being willing to help one another; being tolerant means recognising that people can **live and think in different ways**.

These **common human values** allow us to come together and feel part of the common project that is the European Union.

Solidarity in practice

► Finish the sentences:

For me, **solidarity** means:

For me, **tolerance** means:

► Give an example of solidarity and tolerance in class.

► Make up your own **solidarity** slogan.

Long live peace!

In 2012 the European Union was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. It decided to use the prize fund to help children who haven't had the chance to grow up in peace. So far, thousands of disadvantaged children have benefited from educational programmes.



ECO-CONSUMPTION

Being responsible

EU citizens are also consumers who buy all sorts of products and services for their basic needs or for pleasure.

We are all responsible for looking at what we're using and how we're travelling. When we make good choices and carry out small eco-friendly actions in our daily lives we are supporting sustainable development.

The European Union uses many different actions to encourage the 28 Member States to apply sustainable policies that benefit all the people of Europe and of the world.

- Do you think that these small gestures are good for sustainable development?

WATER

It rains all the time! So I don't worry about it and I leave the taps running.

☐ YES ☒ NO *That's silly!*

FOOD

I would rather eat fresh food and local produce than buy strawberries in the middle of winter.

☐ YES ☐ NO

ENERGY

I always leave the lights on: they create a nice atmosphere in the house.

☐ YES ☐ NO

TRANSPORT

When possible, I travel by bike rather than by car.

☐ YES ☐ NO

What is sustainable development?

Sustainable development is a more respectful way of consuming: we meet our current needs but think about those who will come after us. It's important to leave behind a clean planet for our children. Sustainable development takes into account the environment, the economy and life as a society.



ENVIRONMENT

Protecting nature

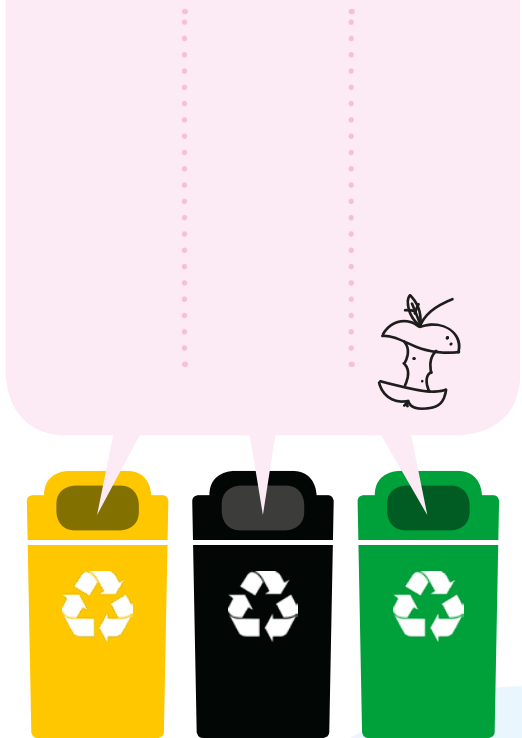
In order to live happily together, it's important to **take care of our environment**: water, air, plants and animals. Human activities sometimes upset the balance of nature. So we have to change some of our behaviour. The European Union works to prevent pollution and global warming.

Global warming

Every person in the EU throws more than a kilo of rubbish in the bin every day. And there are more than 510 million of us!

Thankfully, we have been recycling lots of products for years: plastic bottles, cans, glass, paper and cardboard. Through this simple action we are helping to fight pollution.

► What would you put in each of these bins?



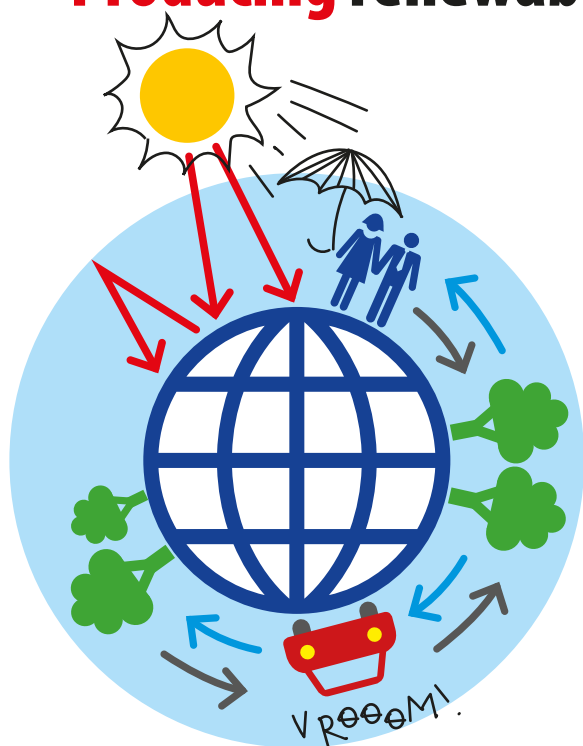
CE Marking

Do you recognise the CE mark? It's compulsory for many products. It means that the product meets the EU's safety, health and **environmental protection** requirements. You'll find it on many objects in your house, including toys. Have a look!



ENERGY AND CLIMATE

Producing renewable energies



Greenhouse effect

The sun's rays travel through our atmosphere and heat our planet. But, like in a greenhouse where we grow plants or vegetables, some of the sun's rays don't leave the earth. This natural phenomenon is called the greenhouse effect.

Green lungs

Thanks to chlorophyll, green plants absorb greenhouse gases and release oxygen. Humans, like cars, do the opposite: they take in oxygen and expel CO_2 , or carbon dioxide. **It's this gas that is most to blame for the greenhouse effect and global warming.** So we do the opposite of plants. And when we destroy these plants we're destroying the green lungs that give us oxygen to live.

Pollution has no borders. Every second on our planet a patch of forest the size of a football pitch is destroyed to make wood or paper. This pollution is destroying the earth's 'green lungs' and producing too many greenhouse gases.



Protecting nature

The entire world is affected by the environment and the climate. Europe does not have a lot of oil or natural gas. So it has to do everything it can to produce renewable energy. The EU countries have agreed that by 2030 they will:

- reduce greenhouse gases by **40 %**;
- reduce energy use by **32 %**;
- produce at least **32 %** of their energy from renewable sources (wind, solar or marine energy, etc.).

FARMING AND FOOD

Eating well

Eating well means eating a little of everything to satisfy our hunger, no more and no less. So ideally our farmers and breeders would produce **a large range of foods, and enough to feed everyone.**

Brief history of the common agricultural policy

In 1957 the six founding countries — Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands — decided that there would be no more hunger in Europe. In 1962 they launched the **CAP — the common agricultural policy.**

The aim was to produce enough food for everyone and to ensure that farmers could make a living off their land. European farmers received financial aid and could produce as much as they wanted. But because they produced so much, there were thousands of tonnes of food that nobody wanted to buy. What a waste!

Better farming since the 1980s

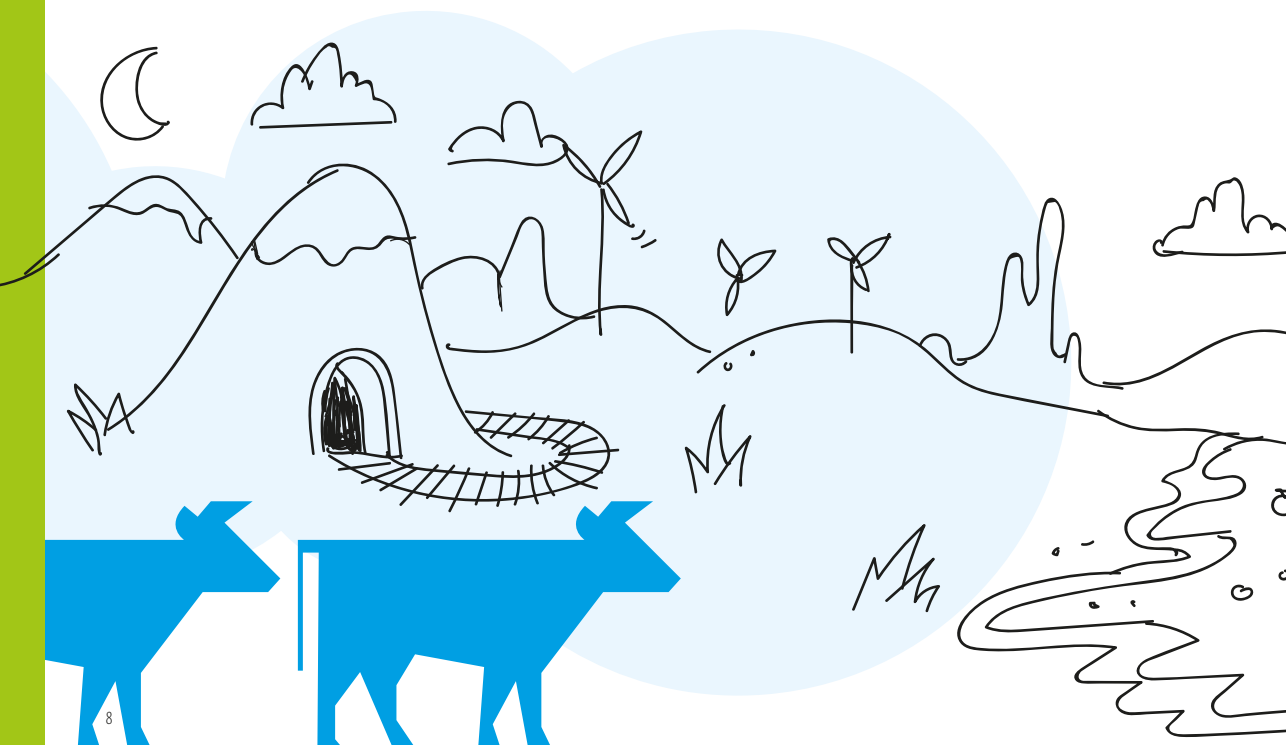
Since the 1980s farmers haven't been able to just produce whatever they want, however they want. High-quality food is the rule now. There are also **rules** to ensure that animals are better treated. Europe encourages its farmers to get involved in other activities. For example:

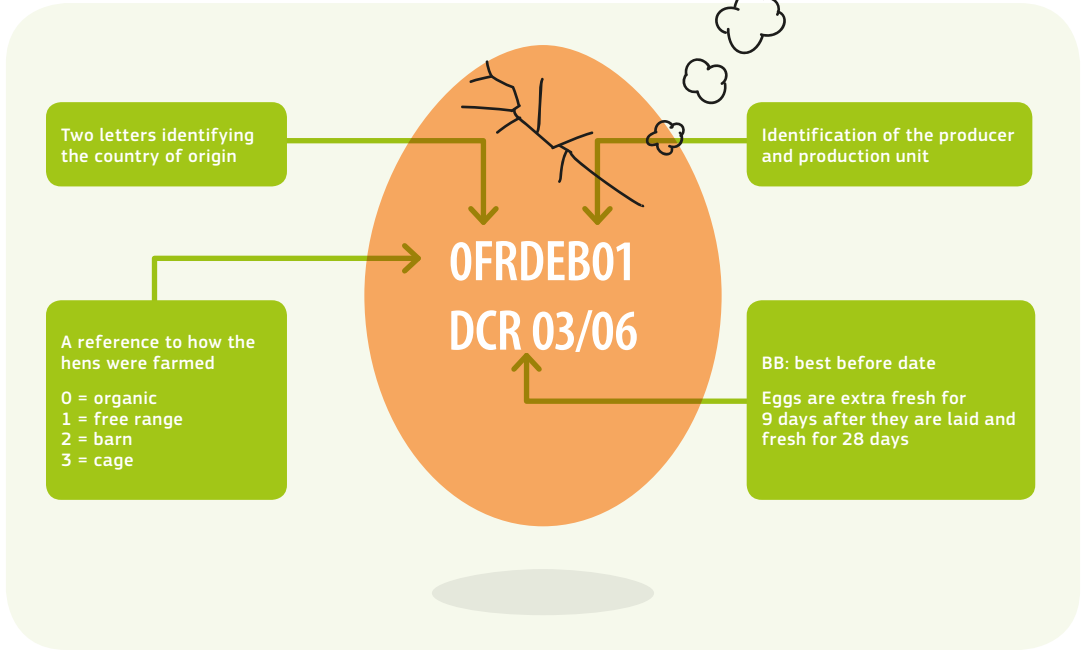
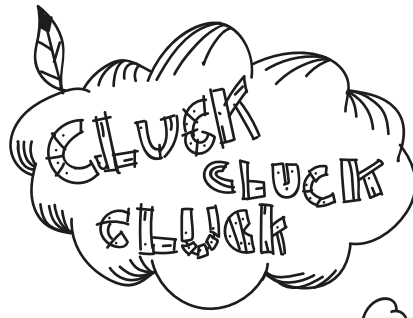
- ▶ Have you heard of agritourism?
- ▶ Have you ever visited a farm?
- ▶ Have you ever bought food directly from a farm?

Today we have a varied and high-quality diet

Nowadays farmers and food shops have to put logos and labels on the packaging of 'farm to fork' foods. The labels tell us how the food is made and show its 'use by' date.

For example, eggs always have a code that tells you the country where they were laid and whether the hens lived outdoors or in a cage.





Many products also have European logos that **certify their quality or origin**.

► Look for some in your fridge or kitchen cupboards.



The 'Protected Designation of Origin' logo means that the product has to be made, processed and prepared in a specific place or region.

Examples are: *Kalamata* olive oil (Greece), *Mel do Alentejo* honey (Portugal), *Herve* cheese (Belgium) and *Stupavské zelé* sauerkraut (Slovakia).

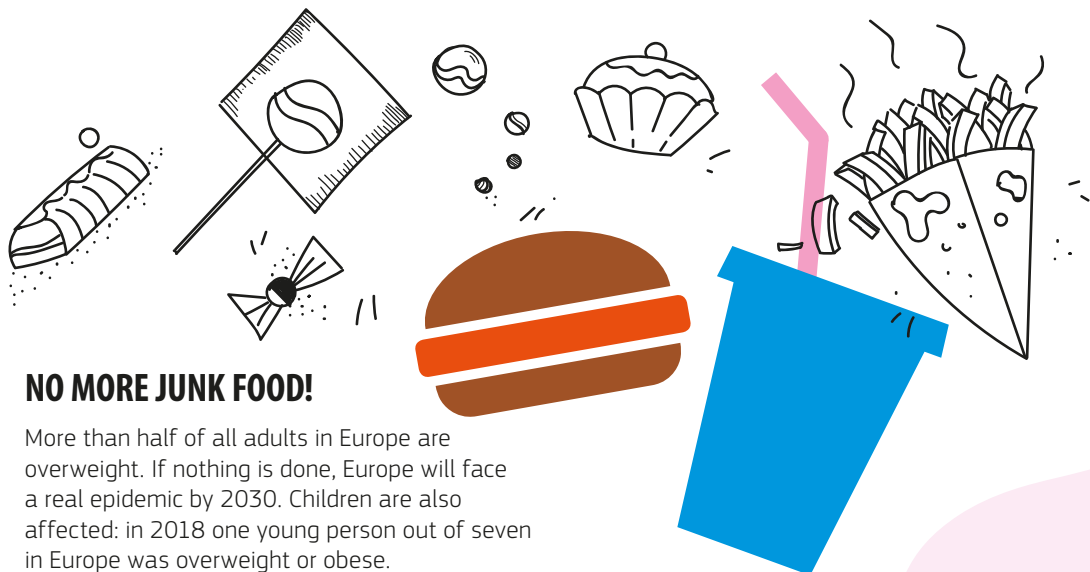


The 'Protected Geographical Indication' logo means that at least one of the stages in making the product (production, processing or preparation) has taken place in a specific place or region.

Examples are: *Kielbasa piaszczańska* pork sausage (Poland) and *Asparago di Cantello* asparagus (Italy).



This logo guarantees that 95 % of the ingredients are made organically and gives the name of the producer or seller.



NO MORE JUNK FOOD!

More than half of all adults in Europe are overweight. If nothing is done, Europe will face a real epidemic by 2030. Children are also affected: in 2018 one young person out of seven in Europe was overweight or obese.

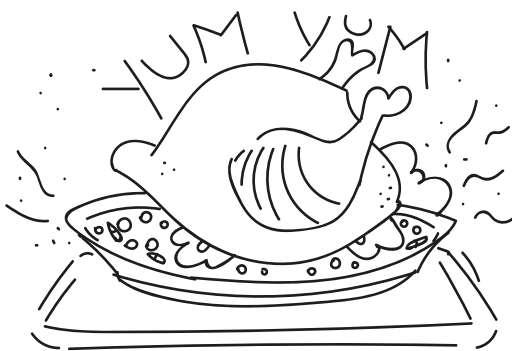
How can we get rid of junk food?

Some schools have decided to ban hamburgers, chips, pizzas and fizzy drinks. Under the European school fruit scheme pupils are given free fruit and vegetables, and are encouraged to adopt healthy eating habits.

To eat healthily we need five portions of fruit and vegetables a day.

It might seem like a lot, but it is possible!

- **It's your birthday soon!** Describe or draw your dream meal ... and do not forget to include the five portions of fruit and vegetables you need for a healthy diet.



CULTURE

Evoking emotions



Do you know what 'culture' is?

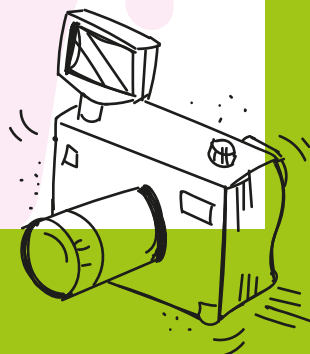
Culture is the expression of our way of life. Culture reflects the diversity of our traditions, our customs and our values. It encompasses the languages we speak, arts and arts venues, the architecture of our buildings, education and a whole range of other things.

Discovering our own culture and the culture of others allows us to better understand one another and better live together.

Creative Europe

The European Union supports the development of many cultural and audiovisual sectors in the 28 Member States. Its aim is to raise awareness of talented creators in EU countries and to create numerous jobs in every cultural sector: cinema, TV, computer games, museums, music, books, etc.

► **Reveal your inner artist!** Think of all the cultural sectors you are aware of and draw your favourite.



Did you know?

Every year two European cities are chosen to be the **European Capitals of Culture**. For 2019 they are **Plovdiv** (Bulgaria) and **Matera** (Italy). In 2020 they will be **Rijeka** (Croatia) and **Galway** (Ireland).

IT SECURITY

Sharing safely



Thanks to the internet you can play online, listen to music and search for videos and information to help with your homework. It's also great to be able to chat with your friends or share your photos.

Social networks such as Instagram allow you to stay in touch with friends, keep up to date with family, take funny photos and sometimes make new friends. People often think that the more friends they have, the more 'popular' they are.

Popularity or privacy?

It's important to follow one rule of caution at all times: never give out very personal information to new 'friends', and especially not to people you hardly know. You have to protect what is known as your 'privacy'. And **the privacy of your close friends and family**, too.





Watch out for fake friends!

When you use the internet, social networks or text messaging, certain malicious people may try to con you or intrude on your privacy.

The EU has set up the 'Safer internet' programme to protect young people from the risks and challenges of the internet and make them more responsible.

- Have a look at the website <http://www.betterinternetforkids.eu> with an adult, and you will find some tips and tricks for safe surfing.

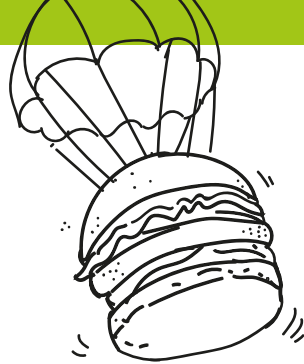
And beware of spam!

Spam, or junk mail, is a message from someone who pretends to know you. Usually they want to sell you something or ask you for money.



EUROPE IN THE WORLD

Helping poor countries



Aid for poor countries

As we've seen, one of the European Union's key values is **solidarity**. One example of this is the fight against poverty, which still affected one out of every five Europeans in 2018.

And we're not the only ones in the world. Did you know that around 1.5 billion people live on just 1 euro a day? Many countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America are victims of this kind of poverty. There are still too many people on our planet who don't have access to drinking water, healthcare or education. **It's our duty to act!**

Together, the EU and its Member States provide more than half of all global aid.

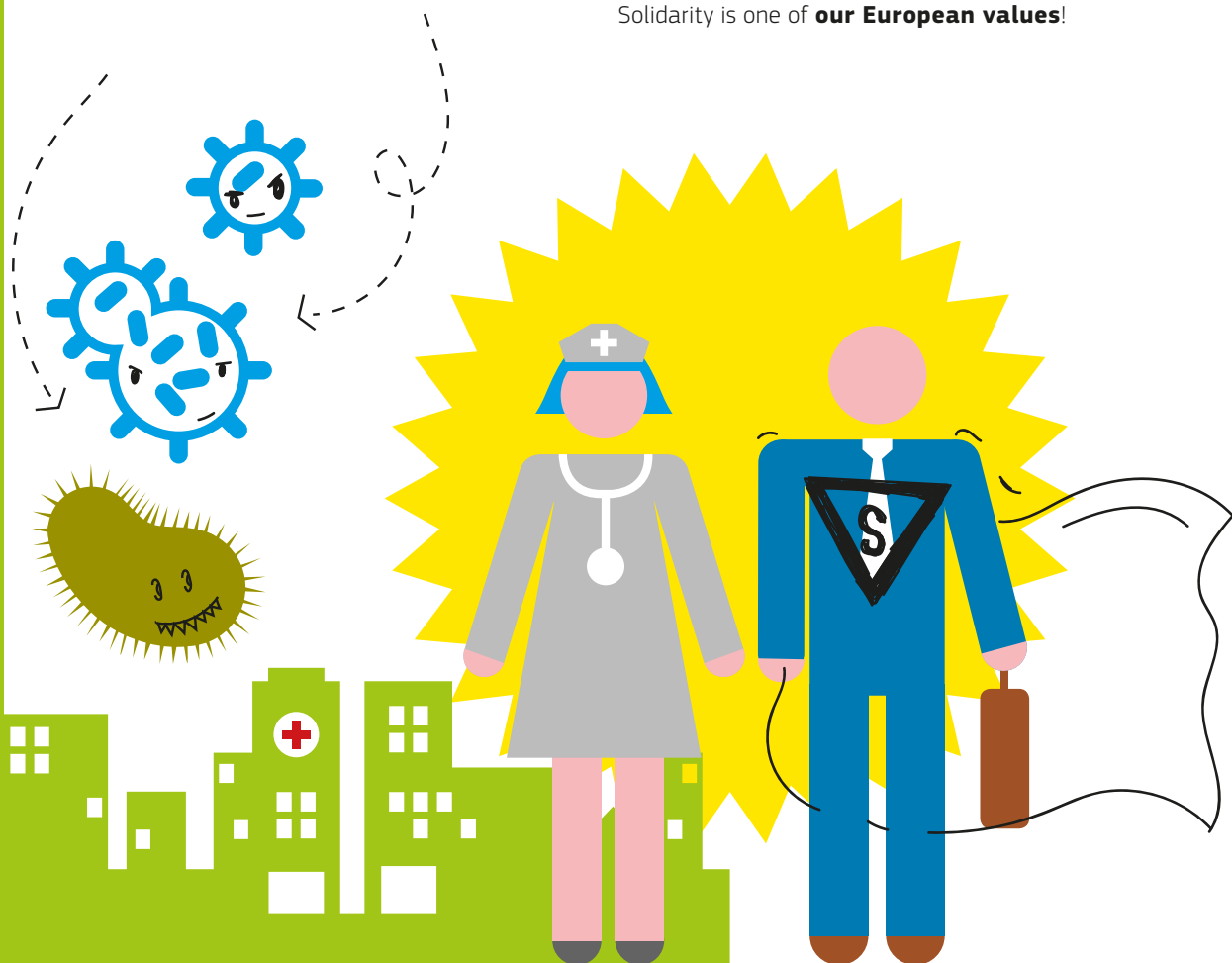
Humanitarian aid

Every year around the world, millions of people are affected by natural disasters, conflicts and wars.

The EU's humanitarian aid **saves lives** and provides food, shelter, medicine and drinking water to people in need. It is used to support families who have to leave war-torn countries and to rebuild buildings that have been destroyed.

Why is this important?

Living together means sharing times of joy but also showing concern for the small and large misfortunes of our neighbours, near and far. Solidarity is one of **our European values!**



► What can you do to help us
better live together?

What could you do in your daily life to improve life in your community, in your family, in your school, in your street?

If you want to learn how Europe is organised and operates on a daily basis, have a look at these two brochures:



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