

**From:** Eva Stepan  
**To:** [Committee, EM \(REPS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Voluntary voting for 16-17 year old  
**Date:** Monday, 9 July 2018 8:23:35 PM

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Dear Committee Secretary,  
Thank you for asking on our feedback regarding voluntary voting for 16-17 year old.

Here is the main reason why 16 - 17 year old can't vote yet.

To obtain valuable votes, person needs to use a rational thinking. The rational part of a teen's brain (prefrontal cortex) isn't fully developed at this age and won't be until age 25.

Lowering already low voting age will only increase irrelevant votes.  
Meaning, the young teenage voters will be strongly influenced by school, universities, families or social media. To see a big picture and think for themselves can only happened when they are entering workforce or are in universities focusing on their future, commitments and community.

There must be some other way how to encourage interest in young people with politics.  
Or please, make these votes NOT countable.

Kind regards.  
Eva