



## An Ark Towards 2050

The United Nations estimate that the Earth population will have increased by 2 billion inhabitants by 2050; our planet’s resources are not unlimited and, furthermore, man has changed the planet deeply, pushing some environmental processes towards critical levels. Will we be able to guarantee to everybody the essentials to live?

2050 may now seem so far away from us, but you don’t need to be a genius to calculate that the students now attending secondary schools will be bridging their fifties right then: that will be the world where today’s teenagers will spend their adult lives.

Nobody can assure us that there is a direct cause-effect relationship between what we are doing today and what will come in the future; however, as a matter of fact, there is irrefutable evidence, which cannot be ignored, that some current trends are to be promptly reversed before we suffer serious unmanageable consequences. Whose concern is it to have these trends reversed?

**Is it everybody’s duty to become aware of the pressing issues related to our Planet and consequently choose to change habits, adopting more eco-friendly behaviours in a long-term perspective OR is it up to the Governments to force people into changing their habits, going as far as adopting coercive methods, if necessary? And, if so, how far should they be allowed to go?**

### Positions

**1.** Our Planet’s condition is only slightly affected by man’s actions and changes have always occurred since the beginning of time, as part of a natural process. Thus Governments should leave their citizens the utmost freedom to behave as they please, while at the same time investing, in adjustment measures to face these inevitable changes.

**2.** Governments have the duty to inform and awaken public opinion to environmental issues as well as sustainable development. In fact, well-informed people are more likely to choose autonomously how to behave not only for their own good, but for the whole Planet’s sake.

**3.** Governments should encourage virtuous behaviours, promoting eco-friendly means of transport, alternative energy sources, new forms of food supply, new ways to use drinkable water and new construction techniques. People who choose an eco-friendly lifestyle are to be given incentives as a support to enable them make a positive individual impact on the environment.

**4.** Considering the critical condition of our Planet nowadays, Governments should take decisive action in many sectors of their citizens’ lives, stigmatizing old habits, now no more tolerable, acting on price policy, on advertising, on the types of goods produced, materials used and on waste disposal.

### Aims of the game

- Clarify what your opinions are
- Work towards a shared group vision
- Let your voice be heard in Europe
- Enjoy discussing!

## Story Card

## Info Card

## Info Card

## Initial Thoughts

Write down your initial thoughts, use

White cards to add issues

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## Issue Card

## Issue Card

## Challenge Cards

## Guidelines

**You have a right to a voice: speak your truth.**

But not the whole truth: don't go on and on.

**Value your life learning.**

**Respect other people.**

Allow them to finish before you speak.

**Delight in diversity.**

Welcome surprise or confusion as a sign that you've let in new thoughts or feelings.

**Look for common ground.**

'But' emphasises difference; 'and' emphasises similarity.

## Three stages

### 1. Information

Clarify your personal view on the subject, reading and selecting the cards which you feel are most important for you. Place your cards on the placemat and then read them aloud to the other players.

± 30 MINS.

### 2. Discussion

Together with the other players, start discussing and identify one or more larger themes that you all feel relevant. Everyone gets a chance to speak. Put your cards on the table to provide your arguments for each theme.

± 30 MINS.

### 3. Shared group response

Reflect on the theme(s) that the group has identified and the cards that sustain the arguments. As a group, can you reach a positive consensus on a policy position that reflects the group's view?

You can formulate a new common policy, if you wish.

± 20 MINS.

## ... plus one

### 4. Action

Go to the [www.playdecide.eu](http://www.playdecide.eu) website to:

- Upload the recorded results;
- Compare them with other results coming from other countries;
- Access to further resources;
- Download the PlayDecide Kit and play with your friends and colleagues;
- See how this discussion has affected your life style