Me again. (Don't take me for an egomaniac, though)

Oh, whatever...

I'm a secondary school teacher.

RRRRRINNGGGG!

Gosh! I'm late!
Recently I have been doing a little survey.

I was kind of stuck writing this comic and I said to myself: “Hey, I could ask my students and maybe get some ideas!”

...aren't we supposed to do physics?

Would you prefer dealing with thermodynamics, then?

So...

What do you actually know about the EU?

What's its story?

Member states?

Symbols?

And above all...

Do you feel part of a common European identity?
Are you giving marks?

Just asking.

I’ve been discussing with more than 200 students aged 14 to 19.

I know the flag!

It might be unfair...

...but I feel more Italian than European.

They should bring EU closer to its citizens!

We can’t just sit down and blame politicians...

We have to play an active role!

Some shared their ideas, others seemed not to really care.

‘They’ who?

Politicians.

Teens didn’t experience massive transnational changes such as the fall of the Berlin wall or the adoption of the Euro.

The European Union is a geo-political entity covering a large portion of the European continent. It is founded upon numerous treaties.

Europeans are more likely to feel as one when they are abroad.

Do we empathize?

Can we look through our neighbours eyes?

I don’t think so.

I have some German friends.

We get along well.

We’re going to break if we don’t bend...

How do you feel about that?

May I go to the toilet, please?

Kind of disappointed...

Oh, come on! Don’t give up like that!

Even facing a common crisis can help people unite!

Can they feel any emotional attachment to EU?
It’s all about communication.

Like, we remember lots of US presidents, but we know nothing about European ones...

European Union was founded on great values.

But spectacularly failed in bringing them down to the people.

How can this happen?

In the end, my little survey gave me some interesting tips.

Almost every student knew the EU flag.

Less than a half could chant the anthem.

Only a handful of kids knew the motto.

Few felt a sense of kinship with other EU countries.

Seems like we lack a common, modern and tangible European culture.

Both politics and economics are reflecting the divisions in our hearts.

We still rely on nationalisms coming straight from XIX and XX century...

...while the only shared popular Western culture seems to be American lifestyle!

That’s why Europe does not resemble that mythological beautiful lady riding a bull...
...and looks rather like a sort of creepy Frankenstein monster with each part of its body thinking and acting by itself.

Sir, I have an annoying itch just below my ears...

...would you mind scratching me, please?

Don’t you have hands?

I do, but...

Stop it!

Ouch...

All the time the same old story...

I’m so sick of taking care of you dumb, lazy and flaky body parts!

Ugh...

You’re right, Right Hand!

Indisputably I am.

Head, go sort yourself out!
Ouch! I feel funny...
I guess I’ve been eating too much!

Feet, can you walk us to the doctor?

Oh, shut up Belly, you filthy glutton...
...and see if anybody’s willing to scratch me!

Sorry, I have a pebble in my boot and I can’t move...

What was that?

Everytime Belly hurts, Bum starts singing!

You’re all connected...

We are, indeed...

Damn.

You know what?

I’m leaving!
Hey, this itch is killing me!

Ouch... I hurt so bad...

Shouldn’t we stitch that arm?

I’m thinking about leaving, too!

This pebble is wearing me out!

We should cooperate with each other!

It’s your fault!

Who’s to blame?

If I fall you’re going down with me.

Get lost, it’s none of your business.

I can’t stand it no more!

My way or the highway!

I can’t stand you all!

THUMP!

is... is she dead?

Just fainted, I suppose.

She was way too weak to stand tall.

A-ha!

Light bulbs, levers and blinking buttons...

I knew that it was all about physics!

So what?? Plug her body to those weird machines and wake her up!

Actually, it is not.
It's not just about being animated...

...it's about being alive.

...and Europe is missing one vital piece to be alive...

A heart?

A brain!

A hand.

A soul?

A soul.

Europe desperately needs a soul!

It's up to us all.

We should start looking for it, start shaping it up before it's too late!

Ok. May I go to the toilet now?

the end.