

eurodesk

EBL Bulletin

February 2016

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Erasmus+

**EUROPEAN
YOUTH PORTAL**

Deadlines up to 1 March 2016

Upcoming deadlines

Deadline	Programme Title
10 Feb 2016	Erasmus+Key Action2-Capacity Building in the field of higher education
15 Feb 2016	European Charlemagne Youth Prize
15 Feb 2016	Translation Traineeships at the European Parliament for university graduates
15 Feb 2016	Translation training placements at the European Parliament
18 Feb 2016	Erasmus+Key Action1-Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Support to institutions
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Modules
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Projects
25 Feb 2016	EU-Japan Training programmes
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+Jean Monnet Networks
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Support to associations
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Chairs
25 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
26 Feb 2016	Erasmus+Key Action2-Sector Skills Alliances
26 Feb 2016	Erasmus+Key Action2-Knowledge Alliances
28 Feb 2016	UNESCO Fellowships Programme
28 Feb 2016	European Youth Capital
28 Feb 2016	Traineeships and Fellowships at the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML)
29 Feb 2016	Bocconi Scholarship and Merit Awards for International Students
29 Feb 2016	Erasmus+ KA3-Support for policy reform - Support to European Policy Tools Quality assurance at European level for enhanced transparency and recognition of skills and qualifications
1 March 2016	Heinrich Böll Foundation grants scholarships (for study in Germany)
1 March 2016	Europe for Citizens: Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation-Town Twinning
1 March 2016	Young European of the Year Award - Travel Fellowships and InterRail-Global-Passes
1 March 2016	Europe for Citizens: Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation-Civil Society Projects
1 March 2016	Europe for Citizens: Strand 1: European remembrance

Documentation

Youth work and non-formal learning in Europe's education landscape

Published by the European Commission, the report marks a quarter of a century of EU youth programmes accompanied by EU youth policy. It brings together some of the thinking that inspires, and is inspired by, EU actions for youth to encourage debate about what youth work and non-formal learning can contribute to European education. It reviews EU cooperation in the field from different perspectives, points to successes and sets out possible future scenarios, particularly in the context of the Erasmus+ programme. The book explores the need for youth work's professionalisation and Europeanisation, with the European training strategy's provision of non-formal learning opportunities for hundreds of thousands of participants. It looks at how youth work and non-formal learning are preparing young people for the changing world of work through a process of empowerment, while drawing a link between young people's recognition of their competencies and their ability to gain individual responsibility and to become actors of change. The publication reviews social inclusion and the need to redefine youth work to respond to the current concerns of young people, faced by unemployment, increased migration, economic difficulties, family breakdown and issues confronting minorities.

<http://bit.ly/1SvXteo>

Erasmus+ Programme Annual Report 2014

Published by the European Commission, the report reveals that in its first year, the Erasmus+ programme supported a record 650,000 mobility grants for students, trainees, teachers, volunteers and other young people and paved the way for the first student loans for a full Master degree abroad. For the first time, the programme also funded policy support projects involving public authorities and international organisations and provided funding for projects in the field of sport.

A strengthened Erasmus+ is also delivering stronger support to its beneficiaries. This can be seen in improved recognition of studies abroad once students return to their home countries. Moreover, teacher and staff mobility is being integrated better into professional development strategies backed by their home institutions.

The new Erasmus+ is also more open, with a strong focus placed on promoting social inclusion, active citizenship and tolerance. To achieve this, more financial support than ever has been made available to participants with fewer financial means or those with special needs. A further €13 million have also been committed for 2016 to fund projects tackling issues like social inclusion of minorities and migrants and other disadvantaged social groups.

The programme has also strengthened initiatives to improve young people's employment prospects and facilitate their transition from education to work. This has seen an increase in traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities in the programme.

<http://bit.ly/20cCEDF>

Erasmus Facts, Figures & Trends - The European Union support for student and staff exchanges and university cooperation in 2013-2014

Published by the European Commission, the report presents the statistics on student and staff mobility for the final academic year 2013-2014 of the former Erasmus programme for higher education, which formed part of the umbrella Lifelong Learning Programme. The data reveals that a record number of students (272,000) and staff (57,000) took part compared to any previous year. Spain sent the most students abroad with 37 235 students leaving for another country. France supported the second highest number of students going abroad, followed by Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom. Compared with the latest available data on the size of national student population, in 2012-13 the highest numbers of outgoing Erasmus students in relative terms were reported in Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Latvia, Lithuania and Spain. The most popular destination among European students was Spain, which received 39 277 students, followed by Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Italy.

<http://bit.ly/1SSNTSi>

The Erasmus Impact Study Regional Analysis

Published by the European Commission, the study gives a comparative analysis of the effects of Erasmus programme on the personality, skills and career of students of European regions and selected countries. The study findings confirm that, while undertaking an Erasmus student exchange significantly improves young people's chances of securing high quality, managerial jobs, this is especially true for students coming from Southern and Eastern Europe.

<http://bit.ly/1mhZ74B>

European Commission 2015 Employment and Social Developments Review (ESDE)

Each year, the ESDE report gives a review of the latest employment and social trends, reflecting on upcoming challenges and possible policy responses. This year's review reveals further positive employment and social developments in the EU. However, despite recent improvements, huge disparities still exist between Member States, in terms of economic growth, employment and other key social and labour market indicators. Many of these disparities are linked to an underutilisation of human capital on several fronts. The report looks at ways of tackling these disparities, focusing in particular on job creation, labour market efficiency, social protection modernisation and investment in people.

<http://bit.ly/1PjIKID>

ILO World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2016

Published by the International Labour Office, the report includes a forecast of global unemployment levels, looking at the situation in developed, emerging and developing economies, with detailed charts and numbers. The report also focusses on the share of vulnerable employment as well as on the scale of the informal economy. It provides policy guidance to boost decent work opportunities around the globe.

<http://bit.ly/1JgtsvG>

Eurydice Network Video

Video presenting the Eurydice Network, who they are and what they do.

<http://bit.ly/1OcOsju>

Watify

Non-for profit initiative supported by the European Commission based on several sessions of serial entrepreneurs explaining how they have overcome their doubts while starting or digitising their own business.

<http://bit.ly/1K1udqT>

IIEP Learning Portal

Launched by UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning, the IIEP Learning Portal is an interactive platform designed to help decision-makers worldwide plan for quality education and improved learning outcomes. It offers more than 1,000 resources in a free searchable database and relevant information on learning issues, from primary through secondary education.

<http://learningportal.iiep.unesco.org>

Opportunities

Euro Run competition 2016

Organised by the European Central Bank, the competition targets children between 9 and 12 years old, residing in the European Union (including affiliated regions and overseas territories). In order to compete, players will have to enter the site, complete the registration form, play and obtain the best score possible in the shortest possible time. Each participant has the option to play as many times as he/she wishes. Only the highest score for each participant will be considered for the competition.

The top 100 players will receive a new €20 banknote set in a special engraved frame.

Deadline: **25th February 2016**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1QSD01y>

#EYEamHere Photo Competition

The European Parliament is inviting EU residents between 18 and 30 years old, passionate for photography, to join the competition and get the chance to be one of the European Youth Event (EYE) reporter, from 20th to 21st May in Strasbourg, France. Participants will have to print out the official EYE2016 logo (ideally in A1, A2, or A3 format), take a photo of the printed EYE2016 logo in their special place and send it (max three photos) only via email (eye@ep.europa.eu), together with the application form.

The best photos received will be published on the EYE Facebook page, where anyone will be able to "like" them. The authors of the three photos with the most likes will be the winners. They will be invited to the EYE2016 as photo reporters, covering the highlights of the event (opening and closing ceremony, top activities, artistic performances)

The European Parliament will cover their costs for travel and accommodation (for two nights).

Deadline: **29th February 2016**, 23:59 CET

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1ScoMGt>

Balkan Fellowship for Journalistic Excellence 2016

Organised by the ERSTE Stiftung Foundation and Open Society Foundation in cooperation with the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network, BIRN, the fellowship is addressed to journalists from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia. They will have to submit research proposals on the theme "Trust". Ten journalists will be selected to receive funding and professional support to research and report on a topic of regional and European importance. Participating fellows will receive: a bursary of €2,000, a travel allowance of up to €2,000, close editorial supervision and mentoring, and the chance to attend international career development seminars and be published in the most influential regional and international media. In addition, the top three

articles chosen by an international jury will receive awards of €4,000, €3,000 and €1,000.

The fellowship will run from April until December 2016 and three winners shall be selected during the final seminar held at the end of the year.

Deadline: **1st March 2016**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1VSfT6M>

European Investment Bank - Summer jobs for students

EIB offers a limited number of summer jobs for students in the period from June to September, providing the opportunity to gain first exposure to working life and to earn some pocket money. To be eligible, students must be aged from 18 to 25 inclusive and must still be attending an educational establishment. Students taking up these summer jobs provide general assistance in basic administrative tasks. Applicants will be selected by drawing lots. Applications can be made between 1st and **13th March 2016** inclusive. Applications from those who have worked as a summer student in the Bank in the last 3 years will not be taken into consideration.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/209pSrh>

International Children's Peace Prize 2016

Every year KidsRights organises this prize which aims to award a child whose courageous or otherwise extraordinary efforts have made an impact on behalf of the rights of children worldwide. The winner will receive the statuette 'Nkosi, which shows how a child sets the world in motion, a study grant, and a worldwide platform to promote his or her ideals to the benefit of children's rights. Furthermore, KidsRights will invest a project fund of €100,000 in projects that are closely connected to the winner's area of work, in the country of the winner. Any person or organisation worldwide can nominate a child between 12 and 18 years old who has a history of standing up and fighting for children's rights.

Deadline: **14th March 2016**

Find out more on: <http://childrenspeaceprize.org>

Young Leaders Programme

Young people between 21 and 26 years old, proactive about finding solutions to the world's most pressing problems and ready to sit shoulder to shoulder with world leaders at a global forum on international development are invited to join the Young Leaders Programme at European Development Days (EDD) 2016, taking place in Brussels, Belgium from 15th to 16th June 2016.

The 16 Young Leaders at EDD 2016, will be able to speak on a high-level panel, and showcase their development work to global audiences. Young Leaders will be also invited to take part in activities and workshops, share their views, draft recommendations and meet with development decision-makers from around the world.

Applicants will have to show leadership and knowledge in one of the EDD 2016 topics, demonstrate expertise in their chosen field, and explain how they will represent young people at the forum.

Deadline: **18th March 2016**

Find out more: <http://www.eudevdays.eu/young-leaders>

EaSI-EURES: Targeted mobility scheme - Your first EURES job

Launched by the European Commission, the call aims to foster the exercise of workers' freedom of movement, test innovative ways to improve the integration of young mobile candidates into the host country, in particular to trigger the development of a "welcoming/integration culture" and contribute to:

1. filling hard to fill vacancies with available youth workforce at EU EFTA/EEA level;
2. developing comprehensive mobility support services in EU EFTA/EEA countries and enhancing the quality of services provided to employers who wish to recruit workers from other EU EFTA/EEA countries;
3. boosting cross border matching and placement services for apprentices and trainees as a critical element to help transition from education to work;
4. addressing labour mobility obstacles.

Proposals should focus on

- Job placements (mandatory item) and also on at least one of following types of placements:
- Traineeships;
- Apprenticeships.

Deadline: **18th March 2016**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1PPktBH>

European Youth photo competition

Europe has a long history of immigration. Join the European Commission #WeAreAllImmigrants photo competition and showcase this rich diversity. Do you or does someone you know have an interesting story about moving to a new country? Upload a portrait and 100 word migration story of yours or theirs to win. Each person or organisation may submit a maximum of 3 entries. The winner will receive a travel voucher.

Stories should be submitted by **18th March 2016**, midnight CET.

Find out more: <http://woobox.com/9gb8c5>

Highlights

Eurostat release: December 2015 Euro area unemployment rate

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, in December 2015, 4.454 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the EU28, of whom 3.057 million were in the Euro area. Compared with December 2014, youth unemployment decreased by 426 000 in the EU28 and by 229 000 in the Euro area. In December 2015, the youth unemployment rate was 19.7% in the EU28 and 22.0% in the Euro area, compared with 21.2% and 23.0% respectively in December 2014. In December 2015, the lowest rates were observed in Germany (7.0%), Denmark (10.3%) and the Czech Republic (10.9%), and the highest in Greece (48.6% in October 2015), Spain (46.0%), Croatia (44.1% in the fourth quarter 2015) and Italy (37.9%).

<http://bit.ly/1S2uspY>

Consultation on the Your First EURES job (YFEJ) mobility scheme and options for future EU measures on youth intra-EU labour mobility

Launched by the European Commission, the consultation aims to collect insights and contributions from EU-28 countries, Norway Iceland and Liechtenstein citizens, stakeholders and experts on the relevance of intra-EU labour mobility and the YFEJ job mobility scheme to tackle youth unemployment. It aims also at gathering views concerning the YFEJ ex-post evaluation questions (i.e. relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, complementarity and EU added value, sustainability, impact and organisation/governance of the action) and any possible developments for the future.

The consultation is available [here](#) and will be open until **22nd April 2016**.

Erasmus+: Youth in Greece - Call 2016 cannot be opened until further notice

The Youth part of the programme has been suspended in Greece since December 2014. Since there is no operational Erasmus+ National Agency for Youth, and in compliance with the Erasmus+ regulation (Article 29 par. 6 and 8 of EU Regulation No 1288/2013), the process of application submissions under the 2016 Call for proposals of the Erasmus+ Youth programme in Greece cannot be reopened until further notice. This measure concerns only the Erasmus+: Youth activities and not activities in the field of Education (Higher Education; Schools, Vocational and Adult Education) which are managed by the State Scholarship Foundation (IKY), the Erasmus+ National Agency for education and training.

Greek youth organisations, however, can be included as partners in project applications submitted to other Erasmus+ National Agencies, in the context of the 2016 Call for proposals. The European Commission and the Greek National Authority are cooperating to ensure that the full implementation of Erasmus+: Youth is resumed as soon as possible. The notice on the resumption of Erasmus+: Youth in Greece will be published on the Erasmus+ website. <http://bit.ly/20xwRuj>

EUROSTAT: 60% of lower secondary level pupils studied more than one foreign language in 2014

According to newly released figures by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, learning a foreign language at school is very common in the European Union (EU), with around 18 million lower secondary school pupils (or 98.6% of all pupils at this level) studying at least one foreign language in 2014. Among them, nearly 11 million (59.9%) were studying two foreign languages or more. English was by far the most popular language at lower secondary level, studied by more than 17 million pupils (97.3%). French (5 million or 33.7%) came second, followed by German (3 million or 23.1%) and Spanish (2 million or 13.1%).

Currently there are 24 official languages recognised within the EU. In addition there are regional languages, minority languages, and languages spoken by migrant populations. It should also be noted that several EU Member States have more than one official language.

<http://bit.ly/1PPW3uy>

2nd Meeting of the High-Level Group on Grassroots Sport

The second meeting of the High-Level Group on Grassroots Sport, which took place on 22nd January 2016 in Brussels, focused on the issues of social inclusion and health and, following a proposal from the group's chair, it agreed to broaden the scope of its work to include infrastructure and urban planning in the context of grassroots sport. The group agreed to focus on the social inclusion of migrants in EU countries through grassroots sport, while not excluding other "hard-to-reach" groups of society. Challenges created by the current migration crisis were at the core of the discussion. The group also looked at the time dedicated to physical education in schools across the EU and agreed that grassroots club sport can offer the greatest health benefits.

The chairs of the group, based on a proposal from the rapporteurs, presented a first outline of the final document that will be addressed to the European Commission by June 2016. Its recommendations will be developed in upcoming meetings. <http://bit.ly/1nKtIOW>

New European Professional Card helps professionals work throughout the EU

From 18th January 2016, general care nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists, real estate agents and mountain guides can pursue their professions more freely in other EU countries thanks to the European Professional Card (EPC).

The European Professional Card (EPC) is an electronic procedure for mobile professionals to have their qualifications recognised in another EU country.

It is easier and quicker to manage than traditional qualification recognition procedures, and more transparent: professionals can keep track of their application on-line and re-use already uploaded documents to start new applications for different countries.

<http://bit.ly/1Km3wd1>

Upcoming Events

EURES Job Fairs

Thinking about finding a job in another EU country?
EUR Job Mobility Portal organises job fairs all over Europe.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/EUREScalendar>

22nd February 2016: European Citizens' Initiative: More Impact, Simpler Rules, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), the Hearing will present, discuss and collect arguments to feed into the EESC opinion on the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) in areas such as the ECI's impact and validation process, simplification of the rules, the existing political limits to participatory democracy at European level and the role of the EU institutions and Member States in the ECI process.

Participants should register [here](#).

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1UONdLz>

24th February 2016: Meeting of the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport (EYCS) Council, Brussels, Belgium

The EYCS Council is composed of ministers responsible for education, culture, youth, media, communication and sport from all EU member states. Its main objective is to preserve Europe's cultural heritage, support its cultural industries, ensure a high quality of education and promote physical activity. As these policy areas are primarily the competence of the Member States, the EU's role is to provide a framework for cooperation between them and adopt incentive measures and recommendations.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/20uJCJt>

3rd March 2016: Erasmus+: Sport Info Day, Brussels, Belgium

The European Commission and the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) are organising a Sport Info Day in Brussels to inform potential applicants about the Erasmus+ Sport, its funding opportunities and the EU sport policy background. The event will be webcast live [here](#) from 08:30 to 17:30 CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1X2GqiV>

5th-6th March 2015: Thematic University-Business Forum, Vienna, Austria

Jointly organised by the European Commission, the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, the forum will bring together a diverse range of representatives from business, public authorities and universities from all over Europe to address the following questions:

- How can cooperation between business and universities be structured to best drive innovation? How can we scale up models such as "dual studies"?
- How can an entrepreneurial mind-set among students, teachers and researchers be encouraged? How can science, business and policy support start-up creation?
- How can a university operate in an entrepreneurial way? What is the role for universities when it comes to lifelong learning, knowledge exchange and regional growth?

Participants should register.

Find out more: <http://www.ubforum-austria.eu>

14th March-10th April 2016: On-line training course "Global Education-The Intercultural Dimension"

Organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, the course is designed for education practitioners, social workers, youth activists, as well as policy and decision makers. The course will provide an overview on why intercultural education is relevant and needed, what it means in theory and practice and how it can be improved in relation to the context of a globalised world, the local needs, its contents and methodology.

The course is addressed at people working in or with intercultural learning and education. Students with a special interest in the topic are also welcome. The North South Centre will provide scholarships of 400 Euro, corresponding to the course value.

Deadline: **7th March 2016**

Find out more: <http://icd.netuni.nl/page.php?id=8>

25th-27th March 2016: Model ASEM Le Havre, France

Model ASEM is a 3-day youth conference and a political simulation exercise of the actual Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit. Organised by students the conference aims to give around 100 international students from Asia and Europe the chance to discuss the issues and policies pertinent to the theme of the conference: migration, entrepreneurship, and employment. The conference is addressed to university students between the ages of 18 and 30, citizens of any of the 51 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Member countries and with a strong command of English.

Deadline: **19th February 2016.**

Find out more: <http://modelasemlehavre2016.com>

22nd-27th April 2016: Moving Stories: Narratives of Migration Crossing Europe, Italy

Organised by UNITED, the conference aims to create a platform to:

- explore the data and statistics on migration and asylum in Europe and examine the gap between hard facts and media narrative;
- investigate ways of challenging narrative and creating and spreading positive counter-narrative;
- exchange best practices that have already been implemented by organisations all over Europe;
- network, strengthening existing ties and building new relationships for the benefit of the antiracist movement in Europe.

Deadline: **28th February 2016**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1nKug9u>

23rd-24th May 2016: World Humanitarian Summit, Istanbul, Turkey

The first-ever World Humanitarian Summit is a global call to action by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The event will bring together governments, humanitarian organisations, people affected by humanitarian crises and new partners including the private sector to propose solutions to the most pressing challenges and set an agenda to keep humanitarian action fit for the future.

Deadline to apply: **12th February 2016**

Find out more: <https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org>

Salto-Youth: Training Calendar

The European Training Calendar contains current training offers of different institutions and organisations, such as SALTO, the National Agencies for the YOUTH IN ACTION Programme, non-governmental youth organisations, the European Youth Centres of the Council of Europe and the Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training. They are addressed to young people, group leaders, mentors, trainers and other specialists.

Find out more:

<http://www.salto-youth.net/tools/european-training-calendar>