

eurodesk

EBL Bulletin

April 2017

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Deadlines up to 1 May 2017

Upcoming deadlines

Reference number	Deadline	Programme Title
EU0010000050	5 April 2017	Horizon2020: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
EU0010000610	5 April 2017	Erasmus+Key Action1-Large-scale European Voluntary Service Events
EU0010000280	6 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000280	9 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000181	9 April 2017	Traineeships and student summer jobs at the European Investment Bank
EU0010000280	10 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000459	14 April 2017	International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)
EU0010002116	15 April 2017	ERASMUS+ 30 Years Story Competition
EU0010000413	15 April 2017	Bogliasco Fellowships Programme
EU0010000280	18 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000280	20 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000280	25 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre
EU0010000280	26 April 2017	Traineeship at the Joint Research Centre

EU0010000606	26 2017	April	Erasmus+Key Action1-Mobility project for young people-Youth Exchanges
EU0010000604	26 2017	April	Erasmus+Key Action1-Mobility project for young people-European Voluntary Service
EU0010000607	26 2017	April	Erasmus+Key Action1-Mobility project for Youth workers
EU0010000619	26 2017	April	Erasmus+Key Action3-Structured Dialogue: meetings between young people and decision-makers in the field of youth
EU0010000217	28 2017	April	AEGEE Summer University
EU0010000147	30 2017	April	Traineeships at the European Ombudsman
EU0010000352	30 2017	April	Traineeships at the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
EU0010000180	30 2017	April	Traineeship at the Court of Justice
EU0010000584	1 May 2017		OSCE Parliamentary Assembly International Secretariat Research Fellowship

Documentation

European Solidarity Corps: how to take part as an organisation

Three months after the European Solidarity Corps was launched and interested young Europeans could start to sign up, accredited organisations that will provide solidarity placements can now use the database to find potential employees, trainees or volunteers for their activities. Several hundred placements will be available as of this spring and thousands more will follow in the months ahead. A wide range of organisations can offer European Solidarity Corps placements. In this first phase, organisations interested in participating in the European Solidarity Corps can apply for funding through existing EU funding programmes. Currently, eight programmes support the European Solidarity Corps. The online system of the European Solidarity Corps allows for direct matching between organisations and young people interested in a solidarity placement.

To participate, each organisation will need to subscribe to the [European Solidarity Corps Mission Statement and its Principles](#), and to adhere to the [European Solidarity Corps Charter](#) that sets out the rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Organisations who are already accredited with one of the funding programmes have access to the online tool automatically. The online system of the European Solidarity Corps allows for direct matching between organisations and young people interested in a solidarity placement. When registering, apart from their personal details, young people can indicate their skills, experiences, availabilities, preferences, and motivation, as well as upload their CVs.

<http://bit.ly/2nEZmv7>

Growing Digital Citizens: developing active citizenship through eTwinning

Produced by eTwinning, the report focuses on the importance of digital skills and the importance of teaching digital skills in school. Based on the premise that increasing numbers of people now belong to a digital society, the publication outlines the concepts of digital citizenship and showcases a series of eTwinning projects that have supported or promoted active digital citizenship.

<http://bit.ly/2n1Bgfm>

Talking through the Crisis: Social dialogue and industrial relations trends in selected EU countries

Launched by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in cooperation with the European Commission, the publication highlights emerging trends and good practices in social dialogue, and brings together country case studies in eleven EU Member States: Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden.

<http://bit.ly/2oq2uwu>

2017 Report on equality between women and men in the EU

The European Commission Report provides an overview of the main EU policy and legal developments in gender equality during the last year, as well as examples of policies and actions in Member States. The Report shows that women still face challenges in different areas:

- Women's unemployment rate remains very high in Southern countries in particular, compared to men's unemployment rate.
- Women still earn on average 40% less than men in all EU countries and the gender pay gap in pensions is stable at 38%. At the current rate of change, it would take another century to close the overall gender earnings gap.
- The glass ceiling still exists with only four countries (France, Italy, Finland and Sweden) having at least 30% women in the boards of large companies.
- Women are still underrepresented in politics. In eight countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Hungary, Malta and Romania) women account for less than 20% of members.

<http://bit.ly/2m2aii0>

Joint Employment Report 2017

Adopted on 3rd of March 2017 by the European Council of employment and social policy, the Report gives a snapshot of the employment and social situation across the EU. It also highlights the extent of reforms carried out in the Member States over the past year. The report points out to the steady improvement of labour market conditions in Europe. The unemployment rate kept falling and stood at 8.5% (10% in the Euro area) in the third quarter of 2016. The employment rate in 2016 was, for the first time, above the levels recorded before the crisis. If the current trend continues, the 75% employment rate target set by the Europe 2020 strategy for 2020 could be within reach. The Report also shows that, despite first signals of convergence among Member States, employment and social outcomes continue to vary significantly across countries. Many Member States have implemented important reform agendas in recent years, with positive effects on job creation. This efforts need to continue to promote the creation of quality jobs and increase the inclusiveness of labour markets, including: removing barriers to labour market participation, tackling labour market segmentation and undeclared work, ensuring that social protection systems provide adequate income support, enabling services to all while encouraging transitions into employment and making work pay.

<http://bit.ly/2nJfnhD>

U-Multirank 2017 Edition

The fourth annual edition of U-Multirank, the largest global university ranking, provides a major new release of data, the largest since its launch in 2014, almost doubling the number of institutions and increasing the coverage of countries from 70 to 99, with 3,284 faculties and 10,526 study programmes. This year, U-Multirank has made it easier for contributing universities to take part, based on robust national data, resulting in more than 44,000 performance scores at an

institutional level alone and another 65,000 at the subject level, making it the world's largest global university comparison site. This year's data reveals that business studies is the most international discipline, attracting globally mobile students and staff to move around the world, which has deep implications for international competition between universities in this field.

The assessment of the internationalisation of study programmes shows the extent to which students studying different subjects might benefit from the global perspective being taken by their institutions. It also shows a potential for international partnerships, opportunities and recruitment.

<http://bit.ly/2njaydd>

Countering Violent Extremism: A Peer-to-Peer Guide

Produced by Extremely Together, 10 Young Leaders, all active in preventing and countering violent extremism in their communities and beyond, the world's first guide by young people for young people focuses on how to counter violent extremism in young people's communities.

<http://www.extremelytogether-theguide.org>

EU Aid Volunteers vacancy platform

The website gives direct access to the latest vacancies for full-time and on-line volunteering opportunities through EU Aid Volunteers. Volunteers can search according to periods, regions and sectors.

<http://bit.ly/2awzfgw>

Multimedia Learning Kit

As part of the Welcomm Project, the Multimedia Learning Kit supports migrant children acquire necessary vocabulary to start school through playful activities. The kit can be used by educators and parents alike. The Kit is available in Bulgarian, Dutch, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. It includes a variety of language learning materials, using or involving several forms of communication or expression: animation, comic books, motion games, board games, colouring books. It is distributed in a tangible form as "WelComm GameBox", containing a DVD with the animated films and video with the motion games, 4 board games and a colouring book.

<http://bit.ly/2oNRdC0>

Opportunities

Unesco International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD)

The fund aims to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction in developing countries that are parties to the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The IFCD supports projects that aim to foster the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector, primarily by facilitating the introduction of new cultural policies and cultural industries, or strengthening existing ones.

Deadline: **14th April 2017**, midnight CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2o1BKS1>

World Forum for Democracy - Call for lab submissions

The Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy is an annual gathering of leaders, opinion-makers, civil society activists, representatives of business, social innovators, academia, and media to debate key challenges for democracies worldwide and encourage democratic innovation. The 2017 edition, taking place on 8th-10th November 2017, will focus on media, parties and populism. It will review novel initiatives and approaches which can enhance democratic practices and help parties and media, but also other political actors, to re-connect to citizens, make informed choices and function optimally in 21st century democracy. The labs are the heart of the World Forum for Democracy. Their idea is to address specific issues through the critical analysis of tested initiatives. The initiatives will be presented in short speeches of ten minutes and critically assessed by multidisciplinary panels and participants in the labs. The key conclusions and lessons learnt from the labs will be discussed in a summing up session in order to prepare the overall conclusions for the Forum. The Forum participants will vote to choose the winner of the Democracy Innovation award among the presented initiatives.

Interested organisations/institutions (and in particular media outlets and political parties) worldwide are invited to express their interest in presenting an initiative aimed at re-building trust in media and in political parties and promoting changes in their ethos, organisation, funding and operations to bring media and parties closer to citizens and more responsive and accountable.

Submissions should be made by answering a [questionnaire](#) and sending it to forum_democracy@coe.int by **30th April 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2o1LxYg>

Erasmus+, Social inclusion through education, training and youth

Launched by the European Commission, the Call for proposals (EACEA/07/2017) supports projects in the fields of education, training and youth, which aim at upscaling and disseminating innovative good practices falling under the scope of the Declaration on Promoting citizenship and the common values of

freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education of 17th March 2015, the "Paris Declaration".

Projects should aim at:

1. Disseminating and/or scaling up good practices on inclusive learning initiated in particular at local level. In the context of the call, scaling up means replicating good practice on a wider scale/transferring it to a different context or implementing it at a higher/systemic level;
2. Developing and implementing innovative methods and practices to foster inclusive education and/or youth environments in specific contexts.

Deadline: **22nd May 2017**, 12.00 (noon) CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2mLzMkY>

Call for youth representatives on the Council of Europe's Advisory Council on Youth (2018-2019)

The Council of Europe's youth sector works on the basis of a partnership between non-governmental youth organisations and governments, in what is known as the co-management system. This means that representatives from non-governmental youth organisations (NGYOs) and youth networks cooperate closely with government officials to establish the standards and work priorities of the Council of Europe's youth sector and make recommendations for future budgets and programmes.

The Advisory Council on Youth is the non-governmental partner in the co-management system. Representatives of non-governmental youth organisations or networks not members of the European Youth Forum are invited to apply for a seat on the Advisory Council on Youth for a two-year mandate 2018-2019.

Candidates, between 18 and 30 years old, should have a mandate from their organisation/network to actively participate in the work of the Advisory Council and preferably have experience in at least one of these priority areas:

1. Young people accessing their rights and advocating for human rights and citizenship education;
2. Youth participation and youth work;
3. Inclusive and peaceful societies.

Deadline to [apply](#): **31st May 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2ne4LpY>

PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival 2017

Young people up to 25 years of age worldwide are invited to submit short videos of maximum five minutes and share their thoughts, experiences, opinions, questions and suggestions about Migration, Diversity and Social Inclusion. Videos must have been completed after January 2015 and, if not in English, must have English subtitles. An international jury will award prizes in three age-based categories: up to 12, 13 to 17, 18 to 25 years old. The three winners will each receive US\$ 1,000 as well as an invitation (travel and accommodations expenses paid) to attend the PLURAL+ Awards Ceremony held in New York City in the fall of 2017.

Entries should be sent by **4th June 2017**, before midnight (New York City Time).

Find out more: <http://pluralplus.unaoc.org>

EU Aid Volunteers Deployment

Launched by the European Commission, the call provides funding to support projects for deployment of senior and junior EU Aid Volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries, with a focus on strengthening the capacity and resilience of vulnerable and disaster affected communities and implementing organisations.

Deadline: **6th June 2017**, 12:00 (midday, Brussels time).

Read more: <http://bit.ly/2mEAnrW>

Erasmus for young entrepreneurs

The call for proposals aims to select bodies which will act as Intermediary Organisations (IOs) to implement the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme at local level. They will recruit and assist the entrepreneurs who will benefit from the programme. The Intermediary Organisations (IOs) will cooperate with all other organisations and authorities involved in the mobility programme. They will receive support from the existing Support Office (SO), which helps with the coordination and management of the programme across Participating Countries. This call will therefore support actions for organisations enhancing and facilitating the mobility of new entrepreneurs, and is not intended for entrepreneurs willing to participate in the programme.

The project duration will be two years (1/02/2018 - 31/01/2020).

Deadline: **7th June 2017**, 17:00:00 CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2numk6c>

Photo competition "My Europe, my rights"

The European Socialist Group in the Committee of the Regions has launched its annual Photo competition under the theme "My Europe, my rights". Amateur and professional photographers from 18 years old, resident in one of the 28 EU Member States, can send their photo depicting their interpretation of "My Europe, my rights". Only one entry per participant is allowed. There will be three jury prizes and one awarded by the public. The public vote will take place on the [Facebook page](#) in September 2017. The three winners of the jury prizes will win a photographic equipment of their choice, as well as a three-day cultural trip to Brussels, Belgium, for two persons. The public's choice winner will receive only photographic equipment worth up to EUR 500. The award ceremony is scheduled to take place in the fourth quarter of 2017.

Deadline: **30th June 2017**, 23:59 CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2nEEgo3>

European Youth Award (EYA)

Socially committed and creative entrepreneurs, start-up founders, designers, producers, application developers, journalists, writers under 33 (born after January 1st, 1984), living in one of the member states of the Council of Europe or the Union for the Mediterranean, Belarus, Kosovo or Syria can enter their projects on seven categories:

1. Healthy Life: healthcare, sports, food, well-being;
2. Smart Learning: education, infotainment, e-skills, science and R&D;
3. Connecting Cultures: diversity, heritage, integration, gender equality, music;
4. Go Green: sustainable energy, biodiversity, climate change, intelligent infrastructures;
5. Active Citizenship: digital journalism, democratic participation, social cohesion, human rights;
6. Sustainable Economics: financial literacy, employment, decent work, end hunger;
7. Open Innovation: disruptive apps, crazy stuff, digital magic, improving the world;
8. Special Category 2017: WATER blue planet, drinking water, sanitation, water management.

The European Youth Award will honor up to 3 winners (persons or teams) per category. One producer or representative of the winning project will be invited to the EYA Festival (Winners Event) to present the project, product or application and receive the award personally.

Travel costs will be covered with a lump sum. Accommodation will be provided. The EYA Festival will take place in Graz (Austria), from 29th November to 2nd December 2017.

Deadline: 15th July 2017.

Find out more: <http://www.eu-youthaward.org>

Please also look at the Opportunities folder within the Eurodesk intranet for news on European and international (funding) opportunities.

Highlights

"Move2Learn, Learn2Move" Initiative launched

The European Commission has launched an initiative under the Erasmus+ programme which further supports learning and mobility of young Europeans. Called "Move2Learn, Learn2Move", it will enable at least 5,000 young citizens to travel to another EU country in a sustainable manner – individually or together with their school class. The one-off initiative, which is linked to the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme, is consistent with two central priorities of the Commission: to put a renewed focus on Europe's youth, and to facilitate EU citizens' mobility, particularly low emission mobility.

Move2Learn, Learn2Move builds on an idea put forward by the European Parliament in 2016. It will be implemented through eTwinning, the world's biggest teachers' network. Part of Erasmus+, it enables teachers and pupils across Europe to develop projects together through an online platform. The initiative is open to school classes of students aged between 16 and 19 taking part in eTwinning. They will have to indicate whether they want to be considered for free travel tickets which will be awarded for the best eTwinning projects in each participating country. Social inclusion will be an important criterion in the selection of the best projects. Once the winners have been picked, they will be able to travel from August 2017 until December 2018, at a date of their choice. Students will either travel in a group as part of a school trip or individually, depending on the decision of parents and teachers. All transport modes, operators and lines can be selected, taking into account sustainability criteria and points of departure and destination of the participating students. Some operators are supporting the initiative by offering a special rebate to the participants.

<http://bit.ly/2nEu73E>

60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome

On 25th March 2017, Heads of State or Government and the Presidents of the EU Institutions came together in Rome to mark the 60th anniversary of the signature of the Treaties of Rome, which laid the foundations for the European Union. The Rome Summit was hosted by the Italian authorities, and on this occasion EU leaders adopted a [declaration](#). A time to reflect on the future of the EU and the achievements of the past.

In its White Paper on the Future of Europe, adopted on 1st March, the European Commission mapped out the drivers of change in the next decade and presented a range of scenarios for how Europe could evolve by 2025. In doing so, it started a debate that should help focus minds and find new answers to an old question: What future do we want for ourselves, for our children and for our Union?

https://europa.eu/european-union/eu60_en

The Council of Europe Joint Council on Youth in Budapest

There was a positive outcome for youth work at the Council of Europe Joint Council on Youth first bi-annual meeting, which

took place on 27th-29th March at the European Youth Centre in Budapest. In a unique setup where youth and ministerial representatives jointly steered the work in the field of youth, the highlight of this meeting was the approval of a Recommendation on youth work that will be sent to Ministers for final approval. The Recommendation will create a new policy framework on youth work across Europe. The document recommends that quality youth work is accessible across Europe for all young people through strategies, education, training, legislation, sustainable structures and resources.

The Joint Council also discussed how to improve the co-management between youth and ministerial representatives for it to be even more representative, effective and innovative. A process for a long-term agenda for 2020-2030 was also initiated. On the issue of young refugees and unaccompanied minors, it was decided to create a drafting group, including the Youth Forum network on migration and human rights. This could lead to a ministerial Recommendation or policy guidelines, depending on the decision of the next Joint Council in October.

<http://bit.ly/2nP7KrG>

EU Solidarity Corps not to be funded with Erasmus+ budget, urge culture MEPs

According to a Resolution, voted by the European Parliament Culture and Education Committee, the new European Solidarity Corps deserves its own budget, and it should not be funded at the expense of the Erasmus+ or Europe for Citizens programmes. Offering young people an opportunity to take part in solidarity schemes all over Europe would help them to gain experience for future long-term jobs, MEPs added. The Solidarity Corps, proposed by the European Commission in December 2016, aims to enable young people aged 17 to 30 to take part in all kinds of solidarity activities in areas such as education, health, reception and integration of migrants, social and labour market integration and environment protection. An estimated 100,000 young people could take part in this initiative by 2020, either through volunteering or job placement. The Commission is expected to table a comprehensive legislative proposal by May. However, the initial 2017 phase of the Solidarity Corps has already kicked off and the Commission wants to fund it with more than €58 million initially allocated to the Erasmus + and Europe for Citizens programmes.

The Resolution also calls for a clear distinction between volunteering activities and job placements, to ensure that no participating organisation uses young people as unpaid volunteers when potential quality jobs are available.

MEPs also underlined that Solidarity Corps activities should primarily meet local needs and rely on existing and well-established volunteering schemes. Host organisations should subscribe to a quality charter setting out agreed objectives and principles. To help young people into the job market, skills and competences acquired during the two to twelve months' experience should be recognised and validated, they added. The Culture and Education Committee will table a question to the Commission for

an oral reply at the April plenary session. Following a debate, the draft Resolution will be put to the vote by the full House.
<http://bit.ly/2ncYXjf>

Pilot project to boost digital skills through internships

The European Commission had announced plans for a pilot project to provide working experience in the digital field for 5,000-6,000 graduate students in 2018-2020. The paid 4-5 months internships will be available for students of all disciplines. Despite high levels of youth unemployment, there are two million job vacancies in Europe. In many countries there is a mismatch between the skills of the job seekers and the needs of the labour market. Today most jobs need digital skills and more than half of ICT specialists work outside the ICT sector. 40% of enterprises - mostly small and medium businesses - need ICT specialists and find it difficult to recruit them. The pilot project aims to give students of all disciplines experience in fields that are demanded by companies, especially small and medium businesses. Internships could focus on "deep-tech" skills such as cybersecurity, big data, quantum or artificial intelligence, as well as as web design, digital marketing, software development, coding or graphic design.

Companies that are members of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition and businesses active in Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme, will be at the core of the project, but all companies in the digital field are welcome to offer internships and train students. The first internships could start in the fall of 2018. The interns will receive a stipend of around 500 EUR per month.

Details on how students and companies can to join the project will be provided in the coming weeks. If the pilot project is successful, the Commission will develop it further.

<http://bit.ly/2nNmbxW>

Current status of Erasmus+ programme in the UK

In the context of the triggering of Article 50, the process for beginning the UK's exit from the European Union (also known as Brexit), the National Agency for Erasmus+ in the UK, a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK, published a statement underlining their full commitment to the Erasmus+ programme and its benefits. Successful Erasmus+ applicants in 2017 will be awarded funding for the full duration of their projects, and all beneficiaries should continue their projects with their partners as usual through to completion. The UK will continue to be a full member of the EU until the point it leaves. The European Commission has confirmed that, during negotiations under Article 50, European Union treaties and law will continue to apply to the UK, and this applies to projects financed through Erasmus+.

<http://bit.ly/2oxiqJe>

Donald Tusk re-elected European Council President

On 9th March 2017, the European Council re-elected Donald Tusk as President for a second term of two and a half years for the period from 1st June 2017 to 30th November 2019.

He was again appointed President of the Euro Summit for the same period. He is the second full-time President of the European Council after this office was created on 1st December 2009 under the Treaty of Lisbon.

Donald Tusk has been President of the European Council since 1st December 2014. Before that, he was Prime Minister of Poland for seven years. The President of the European Council chairs the meetings of the European Council and gives impetus to its work. In addition, at its level, the EU is responsible for the external representation of the EU in matters relating to the common foreign and security policy.

<http://bit.ly/2nldCXn>

Eurostat release: Fourth quarter of 2016 Euro area job vacancy rate

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, the job vacancy rate in the Euro area (EA19) was 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2016, up from 1.6% recorded in both the previous quarter and the fourth quarter of 2015.

The job vacancy rate in the EU28 was 1.8% in the fourth quarter of 2016, stable compared with the previous quarter and up from 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2015.

In the Euro area, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2016 was 1.3% in industry and construction, and 2.0% in services. In the EU28, the rate was 1.4% in industry and construction, and 2.1% in services.

Among the Member States for which comparable data are available, the highest job vacancy rates in the fourth quarter of 2016 were recorded in the Czech Republic (3.0%), Belgium (2.9%), Germany (2.6%) and the United Kingdom (2.5%), and the lowest in Greece (0.3%), Cyprus (0.6%), Spain, Poland and Portugal (all 0.7%) and Bulgaria (0.8%).

Compared with a year ago, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2016 rose in twenty-three Member States, remained stable in four and fell in Cyprus (-0.1 percentage points).

The largest increases were registered in Belgium and Croatia (both +0.7 pp), the Czech Republic (+0.6 pp), Latvia and Slovenia (both +0.5 pp).

<http://bit.ly/2n5Suqe>

2nd Edition of the European Vocational Skills Week announced

After the success of the first European Vocational Skills Week, which took place in 2016, showing great interest of vocational education and training (VET), the second edition was announced by European Commissioner Marianne Thyssen. The second European Vocational Skills Week will be organised on 20th-24th November 2017, building on last year's theme 'Discover your talent'. This year attention will be given to mobility of VET learners, addressing skills mismatches, and boosting partnerships between businesses and VET providers. The Commission is hoping to see many national, regional and local events and activities taking place across Europe organised by stakeholders, not only during the week, but through the year. During the Week, several meetings are foreseen including an exhibition where Erasmus+ will be represented, on the occasion of its 30th Anniversary.

<http://bit.ly/2m0BRvy>

Maltese Presidency Youth Conference Conclusions

From 20th to 23rd March 2017 over 200 young people and policy makers from across Europe gathered in Qawra, Malta, to discuss youth policy and agreed on an implementation action plan to develop policies enabling young people to engage in an inclusive Europe. This year's conference at Bugibba marked the conclusion of the V cycle of the Structured Dialogue process, an innovative and unique participative process where young people contribute to EU youth policy. In order to enhance a continuous dialogue between policy-makers and young people, the three EU Youth Conferences of the cycle of the current trio Presidency (The Netherlands, Slovakia, Malta) focused on the common theme "Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe: Ready for Life, Ready for Society". The outcome of the conference in Malta is a set of concrete recommendations as well as an implementation toolkit, which lays out how to achieve full youth political participation. These include:

- Organise youth festivals for European engagement the local and national levels
- Include a chapter on Youth Work and Youth Spaces in the Youth report of the European Commission
- Have life-skills classes in school curricula
- Develop mental health first aid kits.

<http://bit.ly/2oqSlzv>

Please also look at the News folder within the Eurodesk intranet for other European news from the network.

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>

1st January-30th June 2017: Maltese EU Council Presidency

As of 1st January 2017 Malta is holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time since the country joined the EU in 2004. Malta has taken over the six-month rotating Presidency of the Council of the EU from Slovakia, as part of the Dutch-Slovak-Maltese 'Trio Presidency'. The Maltese EU Presidency priorities in the youth field are: the role of young people in the framework of the New Skills Agenda; the implementation of the main recommendations of youth conferences, the 5th cycle of the structured dialogue and the mid-term review of the Youth Strategy.

Find out more: <http://www.eu2017.mt/en>

5th April 2017: Infoday EU Aid Volunteers, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and the European Commission (DG ECHO), the day will be an opportunity to discover the 2017 funding opportunities available under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, to hear how humanitarian aid organisations are already benefiting from grant aid to support their work, and to ask how to prepare an application. There will also be opportunities for organisations looking for partners, or offering specific technical input to existing consortia, to find each other and discuss face to face or at a distance for those unable to be physically present. Online web streaming for the morning plenary sessions will be available via this page on the day of the event.

Find out more: <http://euaidvolunteer.onetec.eu>

11th April 2017: European Citizens' Initiative Day 2017, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), the event will focus on the individual involvement of citizens and their active role in policy shaping. It will be organised in the context of the 60th anniversary of the Rome treaties, the first treaty to talk about European citizenship, in order to show all the positive developments of the concept and a number of new tools to involve citizens. The theme "I participate!" is to underline the importance of citizens' personal involvement in building up a comprehensive democratic system in the EU.

Deadline to register: **5th April 2017.**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2lXfHHk>

12th April 2017: European Solidarity Corps Stakeholder Forum, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Commission, the Forum will bring together national and European representatives of civil society organisations, authorities and other stakeholders to discuss the key issues related to the future development of the European Solidarity Corps. The Forum will focus on making the European Solidarity Corps attractive to young people, promoting effective set up and governance for the initiative and aiming to increase young people's employability and reaching the disadvantaged. The Forum is part of a wider consultation process to help shape the initiative.

Deadline to register: **9th April 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2oqjrXy>

24th April 2017: Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth, Brussels, Belgium

The Convention will bring together policy makers and civil society to discuss what the EU can do to ensure that all citizens reap the benefits of truly inclusive growth. This year the focus will be on the social inclusion of young people and the solutions that exist for them to reach their full potential. The plenary debate and the workshops will tackle specific issues and lead to conclusions and policy recommendations pointing to concrete ways forward. Side events will give participants the chance to share their experience in the afternoon while a 'speed-dating' session will boost networking and open up opportunities for participants to work together in the future.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2mZCBDh>

25th April 2017: Info day - Erasmus+KA3: Support for policy reform-Social inclusion, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, the event will focus on the EACEA 07/2017 Call "Social Inclusion through Education, Training and Youth" (E+ - KA3 - Support for Policy Reform). Live webstream will be available on the day of the event.

Participants should register [here](#) by **17th April 2017**.

Find out more: <http://social-inclusion-2017.teamwork.fr>

1st-7th May 2017: European Youth Week, Europe

Since 2003, the European Youth Week (EYW) has given young people the opportunity to get involved in EU politics by sharing their opinions and learning about opportunities offered to them by European Programmes. As part of Erasmus+ 30 year anniversary, this edition of EYW will focus on explaining Erasmus+ opportunities and promoting solidarity and the newly launched European Solidarity Corps. In Brussels, Belgium, a Stakeholders Conference on the future of the EU Youth Strategy, will be held on 3rd and 4th May 2017. The aim will be to exchange and gather ideas on the way forward for the post-2018 strategy and to hear young people's expectations towards the EU.

Find out more: <http://ec.europa.eu/youth/week>

8th-12th May 2017: Entrepreneurship School, Lisbon, Portugal

The course is addressed to young people interested in widening their business horizon and developing their own entrepreneurial ideas.

During the 5-day programme participants from all around the world will have the opportunity to meet and challenge the most successful entrepreneurs. They will meet, discuss and compete against participants, share opinions and experiences with successful entrepreneurs and will also have the chance to contribute towards developing a new business start-up idea in an interactive way.

Participation is free for all selected participants.

The course will be in Portuguese.

Find out more: <http://www.entrepreneurshipschool.com/lisbon-2017>

9th-11th May 2017: Seminar on Anti Semitic Hate Speech, Strasbourg, France

The seminar aims to share experiences and manifestations of antisemitism in Europe today, and identify ways of effectively addressing it, notably through the No Hate Speech Movement.

Participants should be involved in either the No hate Speech Movement at European and/or national level or an organisation working with youth and concerned with human rights, or antisemitism, or human rights education or media and diversity. They can also be expert or online activists such as bloggers, vloggers active in combatting antisemitism or hate speech online. They should be able to work in French and English.

Accommodation and meals will be provided by the Council of Europe.

Travel expenses will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe.

Deadline: 7th April 2017, at noon, CET

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2mtPVPJ>

15th-19th May 2017: Study session "You(th) and Migration: Transforming the crisis", Strasbourg, France

The study session is organised by IFLRY (International Federation of Liberal Youth) in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. It aims to devise schemes and innovations that can promote the social inclusion of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers whilst attempting to avoid a negative impact for people in host societies.

There will be discussion as to how young people can influence rhetoric and actions taken in their own countries with the overall intended result of promoting harmonious societies in which migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are included and respected.

The working language will be English. Meals, accommodation and travel costs will be covered by the organisers. There is an enrollment fee of 50 Euros, which will be deducted from the travel reimbursements.

Deadline to apply: **7th April 2017, 23:59 GMT** .

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2ng7kqV>

27th-28th May 2017: The World Village Festival, Helsinki, Finland

The Festival will offer tastes of different cultures and surprises from all over the world focusing on tolerant multiculturalism, development cooperation, global issues and expanding one's possibilities of affecting everyday life. The theme for this year is civil society and the regional focus is on Latin America.

Volunteers can apply by sending their registration by **16th April 2017**.

Find out more on: <http://www.maailmakylassa.fi/english>

18th-23rd June 2017: Conference on the Future of Citizenship and Human Rights Education in Europe, Strasbourg, France

The aim of the Conference is to discuss the conclusions of the Report on the State of Citizenship and Human Rights Education in Europe, to share experiences and lessons learned and to propose recommendations for future action.

The participants will propose strategic goals for the next 5 years to promote citizenship and human rights education, both within the countries and in the European and global context, and methods of promoting dialogue within and between the countries. The conclusions of the Conference will be broadly disseminated and submitted to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which brings together all the member states and makes decisions on what the Council of Europe does and how.

These conclusions will inform the Council of Europe Programme of Activities in the Education and Youth sectors in 2018-2019 and beyond. About 300 participants are expected at this event, including representatives of governments, education professionals and civil society organisations.

Participants should be actively involved in human rights education with young people and/or children, preferably be aged 18-35 years old and be resident in a state party to the European Cultural Convention.

The conference will take place in English and French with simultaneous interpretation.

Deadline to apply: **12th April 2017, 13:00 CET**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2nziU30>

22nd-23rd June 2017: 3rd Eastern Partnership Youth Forum, Warsaw, Poland

About 300 participants from both 6 Eastern Partnership and 33 European countries involved in the EU Erasmus+ programme will debate on participation, active citizenship of young people and their involvement in the decision making process during the 3rd Eastern Partnership Youth Forum. The Forum will provide participants a unique opportunity to meet young people, youth workers, politicians and policy makers, and have the chance to discuss with them young people's concerns and influence policies and programmes dedicated to them. The Forum's conclusions will

serve to improve the youth strategies and actions in the EU and in the countries involved and will be presented at the 5th Eastern Partnership Summit which will take place in Brussels/Belgium in November 2017. The Forums is addressed to "active" young people and youth workers from the Eastern Partnership countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and from the Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme countries. All costs (accommodation, travel, visa) relevant to participation in the course will be covered.

Deadline: **12th April 2017.**

Find out more: <http://www.eap-youth-forum.pl>

3rd-5th July 2017: EDULEARN, the 9th Annual International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies, Barcelona, Spain

International Forum for those wishing to present their projects and discuss the latest innovations and results in the field of New Technologies in Education, E-learning and methodologies applied to Education and Research.

There are different deadlines for virtual and on spot participants.

All details are available here: <http://iated.org/edulearn>

25th-28th October 2017: Nantes Creative Generations Youth Initiatives Forum, Nantes, France

The Forum will be an occasion to discuss and share innovative experiences among young people in different European countries, all of whom are involved in original projects that help strengthen the notion of citizenship, of "living together" and opening up to others. Associations, organisations and youth groups whose participants are between 18 and 30 years old, from the Nantes metropolitan area or the Council of Europe member state and Belarus, are invited to apply before **1st June 2017**. Transport and accommodation and food costs of European participants will be covered by Nantes Métropole (maximum 2 participants per project).

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1h0aLi5>

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://bit.ly/1ppG1uS>

Eurodesk Brussels Link Activities

9 March 2017	Online meeting with Andrew Kolobov, President of the National Youth Council in Ukraine Reinhard, Marita and Audrey.
9 March 2017	Eurodesk Malta Online Training. Participants from EBL: Gheorghe, Grazia.
9 March 2017	Preparatory Online Eurodesk Network Meeting Essen. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Gheorghe.
10 March 2017	Eurodesk Slovakia Online Training. Participants from EBL: Gheorghe, Grazia.
13 March 2017	Study visit of students from University of Naples – Italian multiplier Gianluca Luise IT052. Location: EBL. Participant from EBL: Grazia.
16-19 March 2017	Eurodesk Network Meeting Location: Essen, Germany. Participants from EBL: Alicia, Audrey, Gheorghe, Grazia, Zsolt.
16 March 2017	Eurodesk Executive Committee Meeting. Location: Essen, Germany. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
16 March 2017	Eurodesk Newcomers Meeting. Location: Essen, Germany. Participant from EBL: Grazia.
20-23 March 2017	Maltese Presidency Youth Conference. Location: Qawra, Malta. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
22 March 2017	Erasmus+ 30 th Anniversary Campaign online meeting. Participant from EBL: Grazia.
23 March 2017	Brexit vs Erasmus? Perspectives of youth. Location: European Youth Forum. Participant from EBL: Elena.
24 March 2017	Preparatory Meeting Training Project ERYICA, EYCA, EURODESK. Location: EBL. Participants from EBL: Audrey.

28 March 2017	EYP Editorial board meeting. Location: EAC. Participants from EBL: Gheorghe, Grazia.
28-29 March 2017	German Child and Youth Welfare Congress (DJHT). Location: Düsseldorf, Germany. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
28 March 2017	Eurodesk President, Reinhard Schwalbach and EBL Director Audrey Frith meeting with the Youth Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ukraine. Location: Düsseldorf, Germany.
29 March 2017	Discover Europe Location: Actiris/Brussels Participant from EBL: Alicia.
31 March 2017	Eurodesk Executive Committee Online Meeting. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
31 March 2017	Erasmus+ Coalition Meeting on the Mid-term evaluation of the Erasmus+ programme. Location: EYF Participant from EBL: Audrey.