

eurodesk

EBL Bulletin

May 2017

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Erasmus+

**EUROPEAN
YOUTH PORTAL**

Deadlines up to 2 June 2017

Upcoming deadlines

Reference number	Deadline	Programme Title
EU0010000329	7 May 2017	BEST courses for students of technology
EU0010000558	9 May 2017	European Week of Regions and Cities Master Class University on EU Cohesion Policy
EU0010000181	12 May 2017	Traineeships and student summer jobs at the European Investment Bank
EU0010000004	15 May 2017	Traineeships and Study Visits at the European Parliament
EU0010000178	15 May 2017	Translation Traineeships at the European Parliament for university graduates
EU0010000560	15 May 2017	Translation training placements at the European Parliament
EU0010000652	17 May 2017	Erasmus+ Vocational Education and Training Mobility (VET) Charter
EU0010002070	22 May 2017	Erasmus+ KA3: Support for policy reform - Social inclusion through education, training and youth
EU0010000485	24 May 2017	A Sea of Words - International Short Stories Contest
EU0010000212	31 May 2017	Traineeships at the Court of Auditors
EU0010000569	1 June 2017	Young Audiences Music Awards (YAMA)
EU0010000631	1 June 2017	Training placements at the European Parliament
EU0010000557	2 June 2017	WTO Essay Award for Young Economists

Documentation

Eurodesk Awards 2017 Project Catalogue

Established in 2011, the Eurodesk Awards celebrate the day-to-day work of Eurodesk's local multipliers who are supporting young people in discovering and seizing the numerous opportunities Europe has to offer. The catalogue collects the 34 projects submitted by Eurodesk multipliers for the 2017 Awards in one of the 3 main categories: mobility awareness, active citizenship and solidarity.

<http://bit.ly/2qHDi2n>

Youth work quality systems and frameworks in the European Union- Handbook for implementation

Improving Youth Work – Your guide to quality development is a handbook that targets all stakeholders involved in youth work, from young people to people working in public administration and politicians. It provides the reader with an extensive and easily accessible step-by-step guide on how to engage in quality development in youth work. It gives the reader guidance on how to develop indicators, as well as the tools needed in order to see to what degree these indicators are met. The reader will also learn how to turn the implementation of a system for quality development into a means for positive organisational development. By doing this, the handbook provides the reader with a solid base for continuous and knowledge-based quality development. The handbook is designed in a way that makes it useable regardless of the form of youth work concerned, how and by whom it is delivered, and the conditions under which it takes place. In addition to this, it also contains concrete examples of various tools for quality development currently used by different organisations. It also holds a section containing reference information.

<http://bit.ly/2qq7v8B>

The EP and the expectations of European citizens

The European Parliament survey, carried out between 18th and 27th March 2017 through face-to-face meetings with 27 901 EU citizens in the 28 Member States, finds that EU membership is a good thing in the eyes of 57% of Europeans, up by four percentage points compared to the previous survey of September last year and almost at the same level as in 2007 (58%), before the financial and economic crisis set in. Percentages vary significantly, however, from country to country. Reacting to the latest geopolitical events, such as the growing instability in the Arab world, the increasing influence of Russia and China, Brexit and the election of Donald Trump, up to 73% of respondents prefer the EU to find a common response over individual national actions. A strong majority also calls for the EU to do more in addressing current challenges, such as the fight against terrorism (80%) and unemployment (78%), protecting the environment (75%) and tackling tax fraud (74%). An increasing number of Europeans (43%) feels that their voices count at EU

level, more than at any other time since 2007 and up by 6 points compared to 2016. By contrast, six Europeans in 10 consider that their voice counts in their country, which is 10 points more than in 2016. Finally, the overwhelming majority of Europeans say that inequalities between social classes are significant and a third of them doubt that the crisis will be over for many years.

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

Getting Skills Right - Financial Incentives for Education and Training systems

Published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Report examines how governments use financial incentives to promote a better alignment between labour market needs, on the one hand, and the supply of skills, on the other.

In doing so, the report identifies innovative models that countries may be interested in learning from; best practice in the design and use of financial incentives; framework conditions for their effective use and limitations and risks in the use of financial incentives.

<http://bit.ly/2ook9TX>

PISA 2015 Results (Volume III) - Students' Well-Being

The OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) examines not just what students know in science, reading and mathematics, but what they can do with what they know. Results from PISA show educators and policy makers the quality and equity of learning outcomes achieved elsewhere, and allow them to learn from the policies and practices applied in other countries. PISA 2015 Results (Volume III): Students' Well-Being, is one of five volumes that present the results of the PISA 2015 survey, the sixth round of the triennial assessment. It explores a comprehensive set of well-being indicators for adolescents that covers both negative outcomes (e.g. anxiety, low performance) and the positive impulses that promote healthy development (e.g. interest, engagement, motivation to achieve). According to the study, children spend a considerable amount of time in the classroom: following lessons, socialising with classmates, and interacting with teachers and other staff members. What happens in school - as well as at home - is therefore key to understanding whether students enjoy good physical and mental health, how happy and satisfied they are with different aspects of their life, how connected to others they feel, and the aspirations they have for their future.

<http://bit.ly/2oUNia4>

EUROFOUND Report: Social Mobility in the EU

EU citizens are increasingly concerned that today's young people will have fewer opportunities for upward social mobility than their parents' generation. This report maps patterns of intergenerational social mobility in the EU countries. It first looks at absolute social mobility, how societies have changed in terms of structural and occupational change and societal progress. Then it turns to relative social mobility ('social

fluidity'), the opportunities for individuals to move between occupational classes. The story of recent social mobility is explored using data from the European Social Survey (ESS) and findings from Eurofound's Network of European correspondents across the EU Member States. The report also analyses the current policy discourse, examining to what extent social mobility has been visible on the policy agenda in different Member States and how it has been framed and discussed. It goes on to look at barriers to equal opportunities and policies to promote it. Finally, it focuses on developments in the last decade that could foster social mobility in childhood and early education, school and tertiary education, and the labour market. According to the Report, younger Europeans are likely to have fewer opportunities for upward social mobility than preceding generations. Social mobility in Europe seems to have stagnated, at least in some countries, with opportunities for upward social mobility only increasing in a minority of EU countries for all age groups; in some Member States there is even evidence of a decline in social mobility.

[Executive summary](#) / [Full Report](#)

Special report No 5/2017: Youth unemployment - have EU policies made a difference?

Published by the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the report examines the progress made by the EU Youth Guarantee in ensuring that under 25s receive an offer of employment, education, apprenticeship or training within four months of leaving school or becoming unemployed. It also evaluates the Youth Employment Initiative, which increased financial support for those struggling the most. The report finds limited progress and results which fall short of expectations with regard to providing a good quality offer to all NEETs (those not in employment, education or training). In order to improve the current and future initiatives in the area of employment, the report recommends to the European Commission and to the Member States to manage expectations by setting realistic and achievable objectives and targets; perform gap assessments and market analyses prior to setting up schemes and improve their monitoring and reporting systems. The report also invites Member States to establish a complete overview of the cost of the Youth Guarantee and tailor schemes to available financing, ensure that offers of employment, education or training match participants' profiles and labour market demand, and therefore lead to sustainable employment. Finally, it invites the European Commission to ensure that Member States justify how their EU-funded youth employment measures will adequately address their needs.

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

Social Scoreboard for the European Pillar of Social Rights

In the context of the European Pillar of Social Rights, a 'reference framework to screen the employment and social performance of participating Member States to drive reforms at national level and, more specifically, to serve as a compass for the renewed process of convergence across Europe', a scoreboard

of key statistical indicators has been developed to monitor the performance of individual EU Member States.

<http://bit.ly/2oLW2eW>

DEEP-linking youth's Digital Dashboard

The Digital Dashboard is an e-platform built to listen and understand what opinions young people are voicing online. The platform is being tested on a specific issue: youth mobility programmes in Europe, mainly the Erasmus programme. The aim is to monitor online voices to understand how young people's opinions can feed into EU policy-making.

<https://deep-y.yrpri.org>

Opportunities

A Sea of Words - International Short Stories Contest

The Anna Lindh Foundation and the European Institute of the Mediterranean are inviting young people, from 18 to 30 years old, from the 43 countries of the Euro-Mediterranean area, to join the contest. On its 10th Anniversary, under the motto "Youths, Stereotypes and Radicalisation", the contest gives Euro-Mediterranean youths the opportunity to explain their experiences related to how they see themselves and how society imposes a series of stereotypes on them. The short stories must be original and unpublished works, of maximum 2,500 words, and can be written in any of the official languages of the participant countries. The authors of the 15 best short stories will be invited to a writing workshop (18th October 2017), to a guided tour of Spain (19th October 2017) and to the awards' presentation ceremony in Barcelona, Spain, on 17th October 2017. Coinciding with the 10th year of the contest, three winners from past years who have achieved success in the literary world will be invited to participate in these activities.

The stories selected will be published in a book in digital format with the texts in the original language and their corresponding English translation (December 2017).

Deadlines: **24th May 2017** (for national selection); **14th August 2017** (for international selection).

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2qv7cGW>

The Intercultural Innovation Award

The Award is a partnership between the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) and the BMW Group, aiming to support the most innovative grassroots projects that encourage intercultural dialogue and cooperation around the world. The Award is addressed to Not-for-profit organisations managing projects focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding, and who are willing to expand their range of action. They can be non-governmental organisations, charitable organisations, research and educational institutions, labor unions, indigenous groups, faith-based organisations, professional associations, foundations and local or municipal branches of government. Applying organisations must have been operational for a minimum of 2 years before April 2017; with funding base and project implementation (i.e. the organisation must show registration in their country of operation by April 2015 or earlier). Applying organisations must be managing a project focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding. Examples include projects in the fields of combating xenophobia, education for global citizenship, interfaith dialogue, migration and integration, prevention of violent extremism, as well as initiatives addressing the needs of specific groups in promoting intercultural understanding (e.g. faith-based, youth, women, media, etc.)

Ten organisations with potential for expansion and replication will be awarded funding and strategic support. The awardees will be announced at the Intercultural Innovation Awards Ceremony.

Deadline: **31st May 2017**, 5:00 p.m. EST

Find out more: <https://interculturalinnovation.org/the-award>

Traineeship at the European Medicines Agency

The programme gives trainees an understanding of the Agency and its role within the activities of the European Union and provides professional experience in a working environment. The programme is aimed at university graduates at the beginning of their professional careers relating to the activities of the Agency, such as pharmacy, medicine, life sciences, healthcare, chemistry, information technology, law (with an interest in pharmaceutical regulatory affairs), human resources, finance, communications, public relations, or library and information science.

Applicants should have a European Union or European Economic Area nationality; a university degree (minimum Bachelor level) by the deadline for applications and a good command of English and knowledge of a second official EU language. The traineeship, to be carried out in London, lasts for a maximum of eighteen months (three consecutive six-month contracts).

Deadline: **1st June 2017**, midnight, UK Time, (for traineeships starting 1st October).

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1cl5gpk>

World Trade Organisation Essay Award for Young Economists

The Award aims to promote high-quality research on the WTO and its related issues among young economists and to reinforce the relationship between the WTO and the academic community. The essay must focus on the issues related to the economics of the WTO. The author of the best essay will be awarded with 5,000 Swiss Francs.

Essays must be submitted by **2nd June 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2mFD1fM>

EU Aid Volunteers initiative: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

With this call the European Commission expects to strengthen the capacities of up to 110 sending and hosting organisations in the fields of:

- Disaster risk management, preparedness and response as well as linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD);
- Strengthening local volunteering in third countries;
- Capacities to undergo certification including administrative capacity;
- Capacity to provide early warning to local communities.

Deadline: **3rd July 2017**, 12:00 midday CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2mAHv8u>

#CedefopPhotoAward 2017

Launched by the CEDEFOP, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, the competition aims to mobilise learners in vocational education and training (VET) throughout Europe to showcase what vocational education and training means to them and illustrate their daily learning experience. The photos should tell a story. Entrants should form a team of up to three members and produce an original photo story consisting of three to five photos, and a narrative of up to 100 words. Individual entries will not be accepted. There will be two awards for the two best photo stories. The first prize will be a trip to Brussels for the winning team and a teacher/tutor to take part in the European vocational skills week award ceremony on 24th November 2017.

The second prize will be a trip to Thessaloniki for the winning team and a teacher/tutor for the opening of the Thessaloniki International Film Festival on 2nd November 2017.

The two winning and the selected runner-up photo stories will be exhibited at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival (2nd to 12th November 2017) and during the European vocational skills week in Brussels (20th to 24th November 2017).

Entries should be sent via email to Cedefopphotoaward@cedefop.europa.eu with the subject 'CedefopPhotoAward 2017', together with a completed application form.

All entries will be posted on Cedefop's Instagram account under the hashtag #CedefopPhotoAward.

Deadline: **15th July 2017, 23:59 CET.**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2onfu6j>

UniPlaces Scholarship

Launched by UniPlaces, the scholarship aims to promote good deeds on student community, break down barriers to international mobility and help students with fewer opportunities. The scholarship is open to young people worldwide, registered as an undergraduate or postgraduate student (full-time or part-time) in 2017 or 2018. They will have to think of an act of kindness they have done, submitted in form of text or video. To be in with a chance to have their accommodation costs paid for through the scholarship, students will need to interact with a student and then share that on the Uniplaces Scholarship platform at scholarship.uniplaces.com. Ten winners will be awarded with a semester of free rent (2,000 Euro per winner) during any academic term throughout the 2017-2018 period. The scholarship will have to be used for rental costs while on international mobility, winners will chose their accommodation freely. Their scholarship can be claimed within one year since the announcement of the winners.

Deadline: **16th July 2017, 23:59.**

Deadline: <https://scholarship.uniplaces.com>

Youth Citizen Entrepreneurship Competition

Launched by the Goi Peace Foundation and Stiftung Entrepreneurship, the competition provides a global platform for young entrepreneurs who aspire to create positive change in their communities. Young people from 15 to 35 years old, from all over the world, are invited to submit their innovative ideas and projects with a societal impact, championing and implementing one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Deadline: **31st July 2017.**

Read more: <https://www.entrepreneurship-campus.org>

EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment

Launched by the European Economic Area (EEA) and Norway Grants, the Fund will aim to support transnational project initiatives that promote sustainable and quality youth employment. With a total of EUR 60 million over a period of seven years, the fund aims to contribute to educating youth, create jobs and train for work.

Proposals are invited from the 16 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. Italy, Ireland and Spain are also encouraged to form partnerships to apply for funding. Grants are available for non-governmental organisations, research and academic institutions and public and private sector bodies.

Deadline: **1st August 2017.**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2q6FnHA>

Europe in My Region Photo Competition 2017

The Competition aims to show how EU investments are being used across Europe and explore the meaning of these projects to local communities. EU residents or residents in a pre-accession country (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey), from 18 years old, are invited to join the competition and upload up to three photos of a project receiving EU funding. Photos must show the billboard or plaque with the EU flag somewhere in the picture showing that the project featured has received EU funding. A public vote will be open from 1st to 10th September 2017. The 100 photos receiving the most votes will be entered into the jury selection alongside up to 25 'wildcard' photos from the competition, chosen by the jury. From this pool, the jury will select three winners who will be awarded with a voucher for a photography workshop in Brussels and a two-night trip for two people to Brussels between 9th and 12th October 2017.

The winners must be available to visit the European Week of Regions and Cities event and participate in the award ceremony on 10th October.

Deadline: **27th August 2017, 23:59 CET.**

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

ASEF Mobility First

Launched by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) to commemorate its 20th anniversary in 2017, this new initiative aims to support the

mobility of artists and cultural professionals for cross-border activities that include participation in events, networking, research and collaborative meetings. Mobility support is provided to selected individuals for travel from Asia to Europe, Europe to Asia and within Asia. Applicants should be citizens of member countries of the [Asia-Europe Meeting \(ASEM\)](#) and seek support for travel within the ASEM region. Applicants, artists, cultural professionals and arts organisations must ensure that the activity/event will start at least 10 weeks after the application is submitted. The application process is on a rolling basis. ASEF will be announcing a total of up to 10 selected artists, cultural professionals, and organisations every first week of the month from May until October 2017 (6 rounds).

The deadline for 2017 applications: **15th September 2017.**

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2pohKY3>

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

Highlights

Eurodesk survey on youth information

As one of the main providers of European youth information, Eurodesk believes that youth mobility strongly contributes to broaden one's horizons, improves employability, stimulates creativity and learning, and develops competences that allow people to positively interact in an intercultural society. Receiving the right information at the right moment is key in taking part in European mobility. Did you already take part in a mobility experience? What triggered your decision? Where did you learn about such opportunity? What information do you need? Respond and help us improve Eurodesk services.

<http://bit.ly/2o3A7QQ>

Reaching more young people

As part of a joint project "Reach More Young People: Promotion of Youth Work and Youth Information Services", Eurodesk, Eyca and Eryca ran an online survey from 1st February to 15th March. Based on the outcomes, a training seminar took place from 5th to 7th April in Brussels. It sought to provide youth information workers with the tools and skills needed to succeed in reaching as many young people as possible, and especially those that need it the most. An ePublication will be released soon to showcase best practices in the field. This event took place in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the three networks and follows the adoption of a joint position paper on the EU Youth Strategy "Engage. Inform. Empower".

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

Legal proposal to consolidate and further shape the European Solidarity Corps

On 24th May 2017, the European Commission is expected to adopt a legislative proposal on the European Solidarity Corps, as announced at its launch in December 2016. The new dedicated legal base will consolidate the current first phase of this new initiative that builds on existing financing programmes, and further shape the European Solidarity Corps. It will include a dedicated budget and lay the basis for a robust roll-out in order to allow 100,000 young people to take part by the end of 2020. To prepare this proposal, the Commission launched both an open online survey and targeted consultations with stakeholders, culminating in a Stakeholder Forum on 12th April. Altogether 660 individuals and organisations responded to the consultation and around 700 people attended the Stakeholder Forum.

The feedback received from young people, organisations, civil society and national authorities was largely positive, welcoming the visibility and political recognition given to young people's engagement in solidarity, and the increased opportunities for young people to contribute through the European Solidarity Corps.

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

Five cities shortlisted for European Youth Capital 2020

Five cities have been shortlisted by an independent jury for the final stages of the European Youth Capital (EYC) 2020 competition. They are Amiens (France), Chişinău (Moldova), Klaipėda (Lithuania), Timisoara (Romania) and Villach (Austria).

The five shortlisted cities were selected from a pool of applicants from right across Europe and will now progress to the second round of the competition. The cities will have two months to submit an extensive programme of youth-related cultural, social and political events and activities, and outline a partnership between the municipality and the city's young people to create, plan, and run the EYC year.

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

Eurostat release: Temporary employment in the EU

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, 6.4 million employees aged 15 to 64 in the European Union had a temporary contract in 2016. In the EU in 2016, 43.8% of employees aged 15 to 24 were employed under a temporary contract. More than 7 in 10 young employees had a temporary contract in Slovenia (74.0%), Spain (72.9%) and Poland (70.7%). Around two-thirds of them had such contracts in Portugal (66.3%) and Croatia (64.6%), while more than half of young employees in France (58.6%), the Netherlands (55.6%), Italy (54.7%), Sweden (54.2%) and Germany (53.2%) were affected. In contrast, this share was less than 10% in Romania (5.3%), Lithuania (7.8%) and Latvia (8.3%).

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

Eurostat release: March 2017 Euro area unemployment rate

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, in March 2017, 3.883 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the EU28, of whom 2.727 million were in the Euro area. Compared with March 2016, youth unemployment decreased by 439 000 in the EU28 and by 268 000 in the Euro area. In March 2017, the youth unemployment rate was 17.2% in the EU28 and 19.4% in the Euro area, compared with 19.1% and 21.3% respectively in March 2016. In March 2017, the lowest rate was observed in Germany (6.7%), while the highest were recorded in Greece (48.0% in January 2017), Spain (40.5%) and Italy (34.1%).

<http://bit.ly/2pqY9YW>

European Parliament Decision on 2018 as European Year of Cultural Heritage

On 27th April the European Parliament adopted the Decision establishing 2018 as the European Year of Cultural Heritage by a large majority. MEPs secured € 8 million for cultural projects aiming to protect and promote Europe's shared cultural heritage, as part of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.

The vote followed a political agreement by the European Parliament and the Council in February this year. The Council is expected to formally adopt the Decision in May. The European Year of Cultural Heritage will be a European initiative with a series of events taking place at all levels: European, national,

regional and local. It will be an opportunity to involve citizens from all backgrounds, in particular children and young people, in events and projects emphasising Europe's heritage and values, helping to strengthen a sense of belonging to a European family. The objective is to allow increased access to heritage for all and encourage people to get involved in managing and caring for it.

The Year will provide the opportunity to debate, reflect on and make a 'quality leap' in preserving and restoring heritage. The Year is also expected to raise awareness of the wide array of EU funding opportunities cultural heritage can benefit from, such as programmes for the environment, through the Natura 2000 sites, other programmes on cultural tourism, citizenship, and external relations or Erasmus+, the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport.

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

<http://bit.ly/2q9DqHz>

European Pillar of Social Rights

On 26th April the European Commission presented the European Pillar of Social Rights. The Pillar sets out [20 key principles and rights](#) to support fair and well-functioning labour markets and welfare systems, which are structured around three categories: equal opportunities and access to the labour market fair, working conditions, social protection and inclusion. A number of principles and rights included in the Pillar will require further legislative initiatives to become effective. Where needed, existing EU law will be updated, complemented and better enforced.

A [social scoreboard](#) has also been established to track trends and performances across EU countries in 12 areas and to assess progress towards a social "triple A" for the EU as a whole. This analysis will feed into the [European Semester of economic policy coordination](#). The Pillar is presented both as a [Commission Recommendation](#), and as a proposal for [a joint proclamation](#) by the Parliament, the Council and the Commission. The Commission will now enter into discussions with the European Parliament and all the Member States in the Council to work towards broad political support and high-level endorsement of the Pillar.

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

Eurostat release - Europe 2020 education indicators in 2016

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, the share of persons aged 30 to 34 in the European Union (EU) who have completed tertiary education continued to steadily increase, from 23.6% in 2002 when the series started to 39.1% in 2016. This pattern was even more significant for women (from 24.5% in 2002 to 43.9% in 2016, meaning above the overall Europe 2020 target) than for men (from 22.6% to 34.4%, meaning still below the overall Europe 2020 target). The Europe 2020 strategy's target is that at least 40% of 30-34-year-olds in the EU should have completed tertiary education by 2020. Meanwhile, the share of early leavers from education and training (aged 18-24) has steadily decreased in the EU, from 17.0% in 2002 to 10.7% in

2016. Young women (9.2% in 2016) are less affected than young men (12.2%).

The Europe 2020 target is to reduce the rates of early school leaving in the EU to below 10% by 2020.

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

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>

Europe Day 2017

To celebrate Europe Day, the EU institutions will open their doors to the public on 6th May in Brussels, 13th and 14th May in Luxembourg and 14th May in Strasbourg.

On this occasion local EU offices in Europe and all over the world will organise a variety of activities and events for all ages such as visits, debates, concerts and other events to mark the day and raise awareness about the EU.

Find out how to get involved: <http://bit.ly/2lwF83J>

6th May 2017: Citizens' Dialogues with Commissioners Oettinger and Moedas and Director Spinant from DG Regio, Brussels, Belgium

To celebrate Europe Day, the European institutions in Brussels will open their doors to the public. In this framework, a series of mini-Citizens' Dialogues will be organised with Günther Oettinger, Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources, Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research and Dana Spinant Director from DG Regio to give people a chance to talk directly with personalities of the European Commission.

The events will be webcast live [here](#) from 10:30 to 13:30 CET.

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

10th May 2017: Conference Youth employment, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Court of Auditors, the conference will consider whether EU's youth employment schemes are actually delivering results in the labour market and whether they are providing appropriate support to young people. High-level experts from the EU institutions, practitioners and representatives of young people and employers, as well as other

public and private stakeholders, will exchange views and ideas on youth employment schemes and reflect on ways forward for measures to boost youth employment.

Deadline to register: **10th May 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2ndQD0M>

15th-16th May 2017: EU Presidency Conference "Youth for Tomorrow's Europe", Qawra, Malta

Organised by the Maltese Presidency, the Conference will serve as an opportunity to put youths once again at the top of the Union's agenda. It will explore the historical, political, economic and cultural perspectives of Europe that can serve as a basis for harnessing the enthusiasm of European Youths to re-energise the European project. Participants will take part in several workshops on participation and leadership, sustainable development, social inclusion, rights and responsibilities and identity.

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

16th May 2017: : First year of operation of the 'European Professional Card' (EPC) and the 'Alert Mechanism', Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Commission, the workshop will reflect on the experiences of the first year of operation of the 'European Professional Card' (EPC) and the 'Alert Mechanism'. The event is addressed to professional organisations representing any of the 5 EPC professions (general care nurses, physiotherapists, pharmacists, real estate agents and mountain guides) and public authorities involved in the national implementation of the two initiatives.

Deadline to register: **9th May 2017** (password: brussels).

Find out more: <https://smf-epc-conference2017.teamwork.fr>

16th-17th May 2017: Policy learning forum: VET as a solution to leaving education early, Thessaloniki, Greece

The policy learning forum will gather approximately 80 national, regional and local policy makers, institutional level actors and social partners from different countries, as well as representatives from European and international organisations involved in the design and implementation of measures to tackle early leaving from education and training (ELET).

The Forum will focus on the contribution that Vocational Education and Training (VET) can make to reducing early leaving from education and training.

Registration to the forum is by invitation only.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2oBsm95>

17th May 2017: Civil society support for refugees and migrants, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), the hearing will look at the response of European civil society

to the insecure situation of migrants and refugees trying to reach Europe. The focus will be on two issues: preventing the criminalisation of humanitarian assistance and introducing humanitarian admission programmes.

Deadline to register: **11th May 2017**.

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

18th May 2017: Erasmus Time! Living European Identity, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), in collaboration with Université Libre de Bruxelles, the event will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme. The conference will focus on the story of the programme and, in form of round tables, on the themes "Erasmus as a cultural vector" and "What future for Erasmus +?". The ULB Erasmus students will show some videos on their daily life as transnational students.

Deadline to [register](#): **12th May 2017**.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2p6EUjW>

19th May 2017: Work Forum on the implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities in the EU and the Member States, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Commission, the Forum will focus on the implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities in the EU and the Member States. The Forum will bring together representatives of those responsible for implementing and monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention, both at EU and national level, civil society and disabled people's organisations.

Registration for the conference can be made only upon invitation.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2pJbTz0>

22nd-23rd May 2017: Education, Youth, Culture & Sport Council, Brussels, Belgium

The Education, Youth, Culture and Sport (EYCS) Council brings together the education, youth, culture, communication and sport Ministers of the EU Member States around three or four times a year.

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

29th May – 2nd June 2017: EU Green Week, Brussels, Belgium

European Commission's annual event to debate and discuss European environmental policy with policymakers, leading environmentalists, stakeholders and other interested parties from across Europe and the globe. Under the theme of 'Green jobs for a greener future' the event will focus on how EU environmental policies are creating green jobs and contributing to economic, sustainable and socially responsible growth in the EU. It will also highlight the demand for new types of green skills in many professional sectors.

The programme will also feature a series of partner events and actions taking place across Europe.

Find out more: <http://www.eugreenweek.eu>

29th May -2nd June 2017: Entrepreneurship School, Malaga, Spain

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. A special focus will be given to social entrepreneurship.

Participation is free for all selected participants.

The course will be in Spanish.

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

6th June 2017: Final conference: "Removing barriers to international volunteering to improve youth social inclusion" Brussels, Belgium

Organised by France Volontaire, the final conference of the project International Volunteering Opportunities for All will discuss results and recommendations from the IV04All experimentation. The project is a European partnership between five countries (France, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom), which explored 15 measures and put in place a quality assurance tool to make international volunteering more accessible for all.

Deadline to register: **23rd May 2017.**

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

7th-8th June 2017: European Development Days, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Commission, the European leading forum on development and international cooperation will focus on "Investing in development", looking at investing in People and Planet, investing in Prosperity, investing in Peace and Partnership. The forum will bring the development actors together to share ideas and experiences.

Deadline to register: **13th May 2017.**

Find out more: <https://www.eudevdays.eu>

12th-17th June 2017: Training Seminar "Access of young people to social rights" Kamianets-Podilskyi, Ukraine

Organised by the Council of Europe Youth Department, together with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine and in partnership with Partners for Every Child Foundation from Ukraine, the training is addressed to youth workers and youth leaders from state and local authorities working with young

people together with representatives of youth non-governmental organisation from Ukraine. A special focus will be given to young people access to social rights. The format of the training seminar “50/50” implies the participation of an equal number of representatives of the governmental and non-governmental sectors working with young people in Ukraine.

This training seminar is a contribution to dissemination of the Enter! Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)3 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to the member states on the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights, adopted in January 2015.

Deadline to apply: **15th May 2017**, 13:00 CET.

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

20th June 2017: Makerstown, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by ThinkYoung in partnership with Google, Intel and Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, the tech event will bring together top European Makers, business leaders and European policy-makers to showcase and share their innovative projects.

Makers can apply [here](#).

Guests interested to the conference can register [here](#).

Find out more: <http://makerstown.eu>

17th-21st July 2017: IGLYO’s Activist Academy, Berlin, Germany

Five-day intensive skills-based training programme for young people in Europe who have a strong interest in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex rights. The programme will include practical modules on topics such as public speaking, campaigning, project management and advocacy, all delivered by leading global LGBTQI organisations.

Participants should be aged between 18-30 years and coming from Council of Europe countries.

There is a registration fee of 50 EUR, but accommodation, travel and food will be covered.

Find out more: <https://www.activist-academy.org>

30th July-3rd August 2017: Vienna International Model United Nations, Vienna, Austria

Students and young people from all continents are invited to participate to this five-day event characterised by intense negotiations, getting to know the working procedures of the United Nations, as well as by cultural exchange, gaining experience and making new friends.

Interested applicants should send their registration by **30th June 2017** (or **31st May** if they are in need of a visa for Austria).

There are participation fees.

Find out more: <http://afa.at/vimun/index.html>

6th-13th August 2017: European Rally, Ligatnes district, Latvia

The European Rally 2017 will empower rural young people to promote diverse, responsible and peaceful societies, raise the awareness of the importance of joint decision-making, developing

understanding over the impact of one's actions, as well as encourage cooperation between young people from different countries all over Europe. Participants should come from member organisations of Rural Youth Europe. They must be between 18 and 25 years old and 26-30 years old for group leaders and be able to communicate in English. Registrations should be sent [here](#) by **1st June 2017**.

There are participation fees.

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

7th-11th September 2017: AGORA, EWL's Feminist Summer School, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the European Women's Lobby, the summer school will gather young feminists from 18 to 30 years old, living in the EU or EU Candidate countries, to reflect, exchange ideas and support each other to become confident feminist leaders and activists.

Deadline to apply: **9th May 2017**, midnight CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2p144Uj>

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

3 April 2017	Online Meeting about Eurodesk cooperation with the National Youth Council of Ukraine. Participants from Eurodesk: Audrey, Reinhard, Marita.
4 April 2017	Online Meeting with Darko Markovic on the competence profile of Eurodesk mobility advisors. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
5-7 April 2017	ERYICA, EYCA, EURODESK "Reaching more young people - Promotion of Youth Work and Youth Information Centres". Location: Info Point Brussels/EBL. All EBL staff participated.
7 April 2017	Coordination meeting with DG EAC about 2016 Eurodesk action plans. Location: EAC. Participants from Eurodesk: Reinhard, Audrey.
11 April 2017	Eurodesk Awards jury meeting. Participants: Eurodesk President, Audrey, Zsolt.
11 April 2017	Meeting with Eurodysee Officer. Location: EBL. Participants from EBL: Alicia, Audrey, Gheorghe.
12 April 2017	Stakeholders' Forum on European Solidarity Corps. Location: EC. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia.
13 April 2017	Eurodesk Netherlands Online Training. Participant from EBL: Gheorghe.
18 April 2017	Prepteam Meeting, Multipliers' Seminar. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Gheorghe.
18 April 2017	Eurodesk Croatia Online Training. Participant from EBL: Gheorghe.
19 April 2017	Eurodesk Netherlands Online Training. Participant from EBL: Grazia.
19 April 2017	Eurodesk and European Youth Forum Seminar Preparatory Meeting. Location: EBL. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia.
20 April 2017	Evaluation meeting ERYICA, EYCA, EURODESK Training. Location: EBL. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Zsolt.

24 April 2017	Meeting with Sophie Bosset Montoux, director of CIDJ and Claire Conlon. Location: Paris, France. Participant from EBL: Audrey
24 April 2017	CIDJ Seminar on mobility opportunities for young people with disabilities. Location: Paris, France. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
25 April 2017	Meeting with Alfonso Aliberti from European Youth Forum. Location: EBL. Participant from EBL: Audrey.
25 April 2017	Eurodesk UK Online Training. Participant from EBL: Gheorghe.
26 April 2017	Meeting with Laura Popa, Tommaso Parlatore, Jasna Maric, Martin Burnafrom from European Youth Event 2018. Location: European Parliament. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Zsolt.
26 April 2017	Prepteam Online Meeting, Multipliers' Seminar. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Gheorghe.