

eurodesk

EBL Bulletin

June 2018

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Erasmus+

**EUROPEAN
YOUTH PORTAL**

Documentation

The European Higher Education Area in 2018: Bologna Process Implementation Report

The Report presents a picture of how the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) has been moving forward since the Yerevan Conference in 2015. By using qualitative information and statistical data, the report outlines the current state of play of the Bologna Process from various stakeholders' perspectives, through its seven chapters: the European Higher Education Area Landscape; Learning and Teaching; Degrees and Qualifications; Quality Assurance and Recognition; Opening Higher Education to a Diverse Student Population; Relevance of the Outcomes and Employability; Internationalisation and Mobility. It shows that most countries have been focused on consolidating the implementation of reforms in recent years. Although some countries require further support to ensure that these reforms are fully implemented, the report shows that real progress has been achieved in creating an open and inclusive higher education area thanks to the fundamental commitments that underpin the EHEA. The report also fully addresses the Bologna Process's other priorities outlined in the Yerevan Communiqué: learning and teaching, social inclusion and employability.

<https://bit.ly/2Lsah4T>

Eurobarometer 2018: Democracy on the Move

The latest European Parliament Eurobarometer survey, published one year ahead of the European elections in May 2019, shows a continuous increase in citizens' support for the European Union. Over two-thirds of respondents (67%) are convinced that their country benefits from being a member of the EU. This is the highest score ever measured since 1983. Also, for the first time, a majority of respondents (48%) believes their voice counts in the EU. The survey also takes a look at citizens' perceptions of voting. Civic reasons - such as 'it is their duty as citizens' - come first when Europeans are asked why they think people would vote in the European elections. A great majority think that people would abstain because 'they believe that their vote will not change anything', 'they distrust the political system' or 'are not interested in politics or in elections in general'. The lack of information is also a relevant element to be considered. Technical reasons also play a considerable role as 15% of respondents believe that people would not vote as they might have 'no time or something more important to do', while 12% 'do not know where or how to vote'.

<https://bit.ly/2s2aMe7>

Youth Progress Index

Published by the European Youth Forum, the Index is one of the first instruments developed to give the full story of what life is like for a young person today, independent of economic indicators. It collects reliable, relevant data to give each country a score on how well different countries meet Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing, and Opportunity. By measuring factors that matter to and can impact the daily lives of young people, the Youth Progress Index allows to get a much clearer picture of young people's wellbeing and countries' performance in areas such as education, healthcare, housing and environmental sustainability.

<https://bit.ly/2L449jn>

Youth Work Against Violent Radicalisation - Theory, Concepts And Primary Prevention In Practice

Published by the EU-CoE youth partnership, the study presents ways in which youth work prevents radicalisation leading to violence. It also identifies inspiring youth work practices, as well as the needs and challenges youth work faces. The research identifies individual, relational, community and macro-systemic factors, as well as opportunities and trajectories, which may turn young people towards radicalisation and the use of violence, but it also notes that each process of radicalisation leading to violence is unique and different, and it is not possible to create “checklists” for identifying youth prone to violent radicalisation. The 20 practices included in this research offer different perspectives on how diverse youth work approaches and methods can shape young people’s attitudes, perceptions and behaviours. These practices are grouped in five categories: peer education; online campaigns and digital media; co-operation with other stakeholders; providing opportunities; and education and training.

<https://bit.ly/2wM5OXD>

OECD Youth Stocktaking Report

The Report takes stock of existing public governance arrangements for effective and inclusive youth engagement and empowerment. It draws on OECD evidence on open government, gender equality, public sector innovation, public budgeting, regulatory policy, and other areas. In the field of youth policy, the report finds that less than half of all OECD countries have an operational national youth strategy in place. Some do not seem to deliver on international standards. A variety of practices exists to steer and co-ordinate youth affairs across ministries and levels of government. However, there are gaps in the available evidence on the workforce and budgets allocated for delivering youth policy and services. Only a small number of countries apply tools to mainstream youth concerns in policy making and service delivery, and sound evidence on their impact is missing.

According to the report, young people are underrepresented in state institutions and participation in public and political life through formal channels appears to be on the decline. Governments and youth have yet to fully harness the potential of alternative avenues for youth to shape policy outcomes. Concerning legal frameworks and minimum ages, while a legally binding international framework focused on "youth" does not exist, youth laws/acts have emerged in some countries. However, in some cases, contested minimum ages continue to undermine young persons' access to public services and autonomy.

<https://bit.ly/2HsXY58>

#EUandME

New campaign launched by the European Commission to raise awareness among young people about the benefits and advantages that the European Union can offer them.

Through a collection of five short films, the campaign shows how the EU makes a difference in people's lives and how it can help to realise their ambitions and reach their goals. The campaign also wants to make people aware about the protection that the European Union grants them in the field of mobility, sustainability, skill & business, digital, rights.

<https://europa.eu/euandme>

This time I'm voting

New European Parliament campaign to get everyone involved in the European elections next year from 23rd to 26th May 2019.

<https://www.thistimeimvoting.eu>

Opportunities

DiscoverEU

New EU initiative offering 18 year old EU citizens the opportunity to discover their continent. With a budget of EUR 12 million in 2018, this action, based on a proposal from the European Parliament, is expected to give 15,000 young people the opportunity to travel around Europe to discover the continent's rich cultural heritage, get in touch with other people, learn from other cultures and as such discover what unites Europe. Participants will be able to travel up to 30 days and visit between 1 and 4 foreign destinations. As 2018 is the European Year of Cultural Heritage, travellers will also have the chance to participate in the many events that are taking place all over Europe.

In an application round to select the first 15,000 travellers, those interested will have to apply over a two-week period in the month of June 2018 via the European Youth Portal. Applicants must be 18 years old on 1st July 2018 (born between 2nd July 1999 and 1st July 2000 included), EU citizens, and prepared to travel this summer between 9th July and 30th September 2018. Once selected, they will be free to travel from 1 day and up to 30 days inclusive and visit from 1 up to 4 foreign country destinations within the EU. Entrants can apply as individuals or as a group of maximum 5 people.

Applications must be submitted through the European Youth Portal from 12th June to **26th June 2018**, 12:00 CET.

Applicants will have to answer six quiz questions linked to the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage, European Union initiatives targeting young people and the European Parliament elections, plus a tie-breaker question.

A jury will make the final selection of the first 15,000 recipients.

A second round of applications in the second half of 2018 may be organised based on the remaining budget and feedback from participants travelling this summer.

Find out more: <https://europa.eu/youth>

Europe in my Region - Blog Contest

Launched by the European Commission, the contest is inviting bloggers to write and publish up to three blog posts on three (or more) different projects about any EU funded project and take the chance to win a journalist training and a trip to Brussels, Belgium. Posts will be translated into English (if necessary), republished on the Commission website and promoted on social channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)) using the #EUinmyRegion hashtag. All posts will be judged by an independent jury. Their scores will be combined with the amount of web traffic and social shares each post receives to choose three winners. The three winners will be invited to join a 3-week tailor-made full immersion training programme on EU communications. They will experience the work of a communication department in an EU institution, in a communication agency and in a media outlet covering the Brussels sphere. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered.

Deadline: **29th June 2018**, 23:59 CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/2ruXG72>

DepicT! 2018 - Can you do it in 90 seconds?

Young filmmakers worldwide are invited to join the contest and get the opportunity to showcase their talent during the Encounters Short Film & Animation Festival, from 25th to 30th

September 2018. Participants will get a chance of winning up to £ 2,500 prize money, invaluable industry exposure and other exclusive prizes.

Short films should be 90 seconds long or less, of any production techniques (except for advertisements) and completed after September 2017.

If the original language is not English, the film must include subtitles. Each entrant can submit up to ten entries.

Deadline: **2nd July 2018**, 17:00 (BST).

Find out more: <http://www.depict.org/competition>

Pact Zollverein Residency Programme 2019

From January to July 2019 PACT Zollverein is offering a residency programme for the development and realisation of projects and productions. The programme is open to professional artists from both Germany and abroad working in the fields of dance, performance, media arts or music.

Awarded twice yearly by a jury, residencies provide artists a local space and accommodation. Residents will also receive technical support and advisory assistance with press and public relations and dramaturgy.

Deadline: **2nd July 2018**, 17:00 CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/1wqDX4e>

Eurodesk Brussels Link Community Manager Internship

Eurodesk Brussels Link is seeking one highly motivated community manager.

The intern will assist with tasks related to [European Youth Portal](#) such editing news items, answering enquiries and managing social media communication and newsletters. The internship is an excellent opportunity to participate in all stages of content creation from inception to publishing and developing new skills and working methods on social media and information tools.

The intern will receive a monthly allowance of around 1,000 EUR.

Proposed length of internship is six months.

The successful candidate should be available to start working from 13th August 2018.

Deadline to apply: **6th July 2018**, midnight CET.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/2kQcXNy>

Travel film scholarship 2018

World Nomads is inviting aspiring travel filmmakers, from any nationality, to a 12-day filmmaking trip to capture the wildlife and communities of the Serengeti in Tanzania, under the mentorship of professional travel filmmaker Brian Rapsey. In order to apply, entrants will have to make a 3-minute documentary film interview, in English or with English subtitles, about an amazing adventurer or inspiring traveler around one of the following themes:

- Courage
- Kindness
- Acceptance.

The video should be uploaded on YouTube or Vimeo, in order to have it publicly accessible. The application should also include a motivation statement of 1,500 characters or less, telling the reasons for being the ideal scholarship recipient and what winning this opportunity would mean. The winner filmmaker will win a 12-day filmmaking trip assignment in India, including a 3-day post-production workshop to edit the film, with mentorship of Brian Rapsey. The scholarships will cover airfare, accommodation and travel insurance.

Deadline to apply: **10th July 2018**, 11:59 PM EDT.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2HhZzuo>

Traineeships at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is offering traineeship programmes enabling trainees to put into practice the knowledge they have acquired during their academic studies or professional careers in the areas of science, communication or administration.

The traineeship is open to citizens of EU Member States, from EEA, EFTA and from [countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy](#), who have completed the first cycle of a higher education course and obtained a full degree or its equivalent by the date of the application, with a good knowledge of English (minimum level: B2 according to CEFR). Traineeships are offered for a minimum of five up to a maximum of twelve months. Trainees will be awarded a grant of 1,150 EUR per month.

Deadline: **23rd July 2018**, midnight CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2JeujhL>

Exchanges and mobility in sport

Launched by the European Commission, this call for proposals EAC/S14/2018, serves to implement the Preparatory action "Promotion of European values through sport initiatives at the municipal level" which aims to contribute to the efforts of sport organisations by supporting the learning mobility of their staff. Exchanges of people, ideas and good practices can be beneficial for the individuals, for their organisations and for sport as a whole. In this context, the action aims to support learning mobility and exchanges while promoting the international dimension of sport by giving the opportunity to staff of sport organisations (athletes entourage) to improve their competences as well as qualifications and acquire new skills through learning mobility by spending a period of time in a foreign country (in and outside of the EU).

The action is targeting coaches and other 'staff' of sport organisations (including volunteers) linked to professional and grassroots sport.

It aims at improving the knowledge and know-how of sport staff and developing international cooperation in the field of learning mobility in sport.

In order to promote the international dimension of sport, cooperation should be between at least 3 organisations established in 3 different EU Member States (the applicant organisation and 2 other organisations established in different EU Member States) and at least one organisation established in a non-EU country in one of the following regions: the Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, Latin America and Asia.

Projects must be presented by public or private organisations active in the sport and physical activity field and organising sport and physical activities, that are legally registered in one of the 28 EU Member States.

Activities should start before 1st January 2019 and 31st March 2019 and should be completed by 31st December 2020.

The minimum duration of projects is 6 months.

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-financing rate of 80% of eligible costs.

The EU envisages that approximately 5 projects will be financed.

The maximum amount per individual grant will be 240,000 EUR.

Deadline: **26th July 2018**, 12.00 noon CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2kIY8g2>

Promotion of European values through sport initiatives at the municipal level

Launched by the European Commission, this call for proposals EAC/S14/2018, serves to implement the Preparatory action "Promotion of European values through sport initiatives at the municipal level" which aims to support organisations that promote sport initiatives at local level with the goal of disseminating the positive values of sport. This action is implemented into two lots.

Lot 1 aims to encourage capacity-building in order to support organisations that promote common values through the development of sport at municipal level throughout the EU.

Lot 2 aims to support the establishment of networking links and mutual information sharing activities between municipalities in areas related to sport.

The call is open to legal entities established in EU Member States:

-For Lot 1, public or private organisation with legal personality, active in the sport and physical activity field and organising sport and physical activities; non-profit organisation (private or public); public authorities (national, regional, local); international organisations; sport clubs; universities; educational institutions; companies;

-For Lot 2, public body active at local or municipal level in one of the 28 EU Member States; towns/municipalities, other levels of local/regional authorities; federations/associations of local authorities; non-profit organisations representing local authorities.

Activities:

-For Lot 1, organisations need to pursue activities in at least 10 municipalities, all located in different EU Member States.

-For Lot 2, the applicant public bodies need to establish links with at least 9 public entities (i.e. towns/municipalities, local/regional public authorities, federations/associations of local authorities, or non-profit organisations representing local authorities). The applicant public body and the partner public entities need to be established in at least 3 different EU Member States.

All activities must take place in the EU Member States between 1st January 2019 and 31st March 2019. They will have to be completed by 31st December 2020.

The minimum duration of projects is 6 months.

Deadline: 26th July 2018, 12.00 noon CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2sA5HsC>

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

Highlights

European Commission proposal for Erasmus programme

On 30th May the European Commission proposed the next Erasmus programme, which has the ambition to follow the Commission's vision to work towards a European Education Area by 2025 as set out in its Communication on 'Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture' of 14th November 2017. For the new Erasmus programme the Commission is proposing to increase its budget to €30 billion from 2021-2027 with €25.9 billion for education and training, €3.1 billion for youth and €550 million for sport.

The aim is to:

- Increase the number of beneficiaries: doubling the programme's budget will make it possible to support up to 12 million people between 2021-2027, three times as many as in the current financing period. Beneficiaries include school pupils, higher education students, trainees, teachers, trainers, youth workers, sports coaches, and also learners in vocational education and training and adult learning staff, including those participating in ErasmusPro.
- Reach out to people from all social backgrounds: through new formats and easier access for smaller and grassroots organisations, the new programme will make it easier for people from disadvantaged backgrounds to participate.
- Build stronger relations with the rest of the world: mobility and cooperation with third countries will also be boosted, through a combination of physical and virtual mobility.
- Focus on promoting forward-looking study fields: the strengthened programme will give more attention to study fields such as renewable energy, climate change, environmental engineering, artificial intelligence or design.
- Promote a European identity with a travel experience: the new DiscoverEU initiative will give young people opportunities to discover Europe's cultural heritage and diversity.

In the EC [staff working document](#) Eurodesk is mentioned in KEY ACTION 3 under the section DISSEMINATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES:

[Legal proposals & factsheets](#)

[Establishing Erasmus: education, training, youth and sport – Proposal for a Regulation COM\(2018\)367](#)

[Establishing Erasmus: education, training, youth and sport – Annex to Proposal for a Regulation COM\(2018\)367](#)

[Main actions implementing the Erasmus Programme – Staff working document COM\(2018\)276](#)

Statement by the President of the European Parliament, Antonio Tajani, on the plenary resolution on the proposal for MFF 2021-2027

Following the approval of the European Parliament resolution on the European Commission's proposal for the new Multiannual Financial Framework 2021 - 2027, President Tajani declared that Erasmus funds must be tripled to ensure the largest possible number of young people benefit from this extraordinary opportunity.

<https://bit.ly/2J2pb08>

European Commission proposal for European cultural and creative sectors

On 30th May the European Commission proposed to increase the budget for the programme supporting European cultural and creative sectors (including the audiovisual industry) – Creative Europe, to €1.85 billion for the 2021-2027 period, as part of its proposal for a modern EU budget. The proposal for a new Creative Europe programme is part of the "Investing in people" chapter of the EU's long-term budget proposal. Its main objectives are to promote,

strengthen and protect European cultural and linguistic diversity, cultural heritage and creativity, as well as to reinforce the competitiveness of the European cultural and creative sectors. The increased budget (by €390 million) will also help to support the EU's media freedom and pluralism. The new Creative Europe programme will build on the achievements of the existing actions, aiming to exchange, co-create, co-produce and distribute European works and make them accessible to a wide and diverse audience. The proposed programme will support cross-border partnerships and networks as well as new collaboration models, to encourage the scaling up of Europe's cultural and creative sectors. It will include three strands:

- MEDIA - supporting the audiovisual sector;
- CULTURE - supporting other cultural and creative sectors;
- CROSS-SECTORAL - supporting actions spanning across audiovisual and other cultural sectors.

The proposal of the Commission has now to be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council.

<https://bit.ly/2kBLorg>

New initiatives to further boost role of youth, education and culture policies

On 22nd May 2018 the European Commission presented new initiatives aim to enhance learning mobility and educational opportunities in the EU, empower young people, in particular by encouraging them to participate in civic and democratic life, and harness the potential of culture for social progress and economic growth in Europe. The Commission presented a package including:

- an overarching Communication on 'Building a Stronger Europe: the role of youth, education and culture policies' which outlines how the Commission is taking forward the Gothenburg agenda and the European Council's mandate;
- a Youth Strategy for the period 2019–2027 to empower Europe's youth and give them a stronger voice in EU policymaking;
- proposals for Council Recommendations on High Quality Early Childhood Education and Care Systems to lay the foundations for later success in life; on the Automatic Mutual Recognition of Diplomas and Learning Periods Abroad to facilitate learning mobility in Europe; and on improving the Teaching and Learning of Languages to ensure that more young people become proficient in foreign languages;
- a New Agenda for Culture to raise awareness of Europe's shared, diverse heritage. It aims to use the full potential of culture in building a more inclusive and fairer Union, supporting innovation, creativity, sustainable jobs and growth and in reinforcing the external relations of the EU.

<https://bit.ly/2LrOfOR>

EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027

On 22nd May the European Commission proposed a renewed EU Youth Strategy for 2019-2027. With its Communication "Engaging, Connecting and Empowering young people: a new EU Youth Strategy" the EC plans to focus the new strategy on the following areas of action:

- ENGAGE: Fostering young people's participation in civic and democratic life;
- CONNECT: Connecting young people across the European Union and beyond to foster voluntary engagement, learning mobility, solidarity and intercultural understanding;
- EMPOWER: Supporting youth empowerment through quality, innovation and recognition of youth work.

The new EU Youth Strategy will also develop its cross-sectoral approach by addressing the needs of young people in other EU policy areas.

The Commission proposes some important novelties compared to the current policy framework:

- A new EU Youth coordinator will channel voices of young people in the Commission, thus allowing young people to contribute to shaping EU policies across areas; the coordinator will strengthen the dialogue with young people, notably via the European Youth Portal and the EU Youth Strategy Platform,
- A renewed EU Youth Dialogue to take youth concerns better into account and ensure wider outreach, including through innovative formats;
- Tracking of EU spending for youth in main funding programmes;
- An agenda for youth work to further improve its quality, innovation and recognition and to allow other sectors to capitalise on the potential of non-formal learning;
- A clearer link between EU youth policy implementation and related programme activities in Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

<https://bit.ly/2xOsozs>

Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council main results

The Education, Youth, Culture and Sport (EYCS) Council, bringing together the education, youth, culture and sport Ministers of the EU Member States met on 22nd and 23rd May 2018. The Council adopted a revised [recommendation on key competences for lifelong learning](#), the aim of which is to update the current recommendation from 2006 and take account of changes such as digitisation and constantly evolving labour markets. The Council also adopted a [recommendation on promoting common values, inclusive education](#), and the European dimension of teaching, as well as [conclusions on moving towards a vision of a European Education Area](#). Ministers had also the opportunity to discuss the potential of universities in promoting regional growth and entrepreneurial and innovative skills, focusing in particular on what measures and incentives politicians can introduce to develop the potential of higher education institutions, and on the role of smart specialisation strategies and synergies. The Council was also informed about a series of important issues, such as the role of education in addressing anti-Semitism, the European schools sport day to take place on 29th September 2018 during the European Week of Sport, and the work programme of the incoming Austrian presidency. Among other things, the presidency will focus on the regulation on Erasmus +, a recommendation on mutual recognition of higher education and school-leaving diplomas, and a recommendation on enhancing the learning of languages.

After an informal lunch on how to reform the existing mechanisms for consulting young people, the so-called structured dialogue on youth, the Council adopted [conclusions on the role of youth in building a secure, cohesive and harmonious society](#), as well as [conclusions on the role of youth in addressing the demographic challenges](#). The Council also discussed the future priorities of the EU youth policy in the presence of Mr. Hassan Al Hilou, Community Leader of the YouthTalks Foundation. The debate was intended to feed the debate on the revised European Youth Strategy. The new strategy sets out proposals to define a European cooperation framework for youth for the period 2019-2024 and focuses, among other things, on the active participation of young people in democratic life in Europe. Finally, ministers were informed about a declaration on the prevention of violent radicalisation, the European Youth Together initiative. In the field of culture, the Council had a policy debate on a long-term vision for the contribution of culture to the EU after 2020. Ministers adopted [conclusions on the need of bringing cultural heritage to the fore across policies in the EU](#). In the field of sport, ministers debated "The future of club and national team competition" in the presence of UEFA president Mr Čeferin. They also adopted [conclusions on promoting the common values of the EU through sport](#), and held a policy debate on the commercialisation of elite sports and the sustainability of the European model of sport. The Council was also informed about the latest meetings of the World Anti-Doping Agency, the declaration "For a Europe of sport".

<https://bit.ly/2kQ0nhk>

Kosovo joins Erasmus+ and Creative Europe programme

On 5th June Commissioner Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport and Mr Kujtim Gashi, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo, signed an Agreement for the participation of Kosovo in Erasmus+ and Creative Europe. However, before applicants from Kosovo are eligible to participate in the 2018 Creative Europe calls for proposals, the Agreement will have to be ratified by the Kosovar Assembly.

With Kosovo joining Creative Europe all the six Western Balkan countries are now participating in the programme.

<https://bit.ly/2sDR1K9>

Consultation on the Future of Europe

On Europe Day, 9th May, the European Commission has launched an online public consultation addressed to all Europeans, asking them what direction they want the European Union to take in the future. The consultation was prepared on 5th-6th May by a Citizens' panel of 96 citizens from 27 Member States, who came together to draft a 12-question online survey to put to their fellow Europeans. The two-day meeting was hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee. The consultation is part of the ongoing debate on the future of the EU at 27, launched with the Commission's White Paper of 1st March 2017.

The consultation will run in parallel to the ongoing Citizens' Dialogues being organised by the European Commission and by Member States. Almost 700 of these interactive public debates have been held in 160 cities since 2012, and the Commission will increase their frequency between now and the European elections in May 2019, with a target of organising 500 more events. In addition to the Commission's work, Citizens' Dialogues are now being organised by national governments in all Member States, following an initiative from France which received the support of the Heads of State or Government of the future EU27.

The Commission will present an interim report to Member States on the White Paper process at the December 2018 European Council.

A final report will then be presented at the first EU27 Summit in Sibiu, Romania, on 9th May 2019, just a few weeks ahead of the European elections.

The Consultation is available [here](#) until **9th May 2019**.

OECD Youth Stocktaking report: Public consultation

How does a "youth-friendly" government and public administration operate? This OECD public consultation process provides a space for young people and youth policy practitioners to answer this question and enrich the **Youth Stocktaking** report with practical examples. The consultation is open to everyone, from interested citizens to youth workers and activists, governments, representatives of international organisations, NGOs and academics. Based on the feedback received, the OECD Secretariat will prepare a revised version of the report which will be presented at the next meeting of the OECD Public Governance Committee, held on 12th-14th November 2018 in Paris.

The consultation is available [here](#) until **18th July 2018**.

Eurostat release: April 2018 Euro area unemployment rate

According to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, in April 2018, 3.426 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the EU28, of whom 2.433 million were in the Euro area. Compared with April 2017, youth unemployment decreased by 464 000 in the EU28 and by 306 000 in the Euro area. In April 2018, the youth unemployment rate was 15.3% in

the EU28 and 17.2% in the Euro area, compared with 17.2% and 19.3% respectively in April 2017. In April 2018, the lowest rates were observed in Germany (6.0%), Malta (6.8%) and the Netherlands (6.9%), while the highest were recorded in Greece (45.4% in February 2018), Spain (34.4%) and Italy (33.1%).

<https://bit.ly/2Lck0f1>

No Hate Speech Movement Campaign Closing Conference

More than 150 people representing the various stakeholders of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign took part in the Evaluation conference – Is This It? - held at the European Youth Centre, on 10th-12th April. In his speech to the conference, Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, stressed that this youth campaign was “the first broad international initiative to tackle hate speech and to address it as a major human rights issue” and it especially succeeded in raising awareness of the extent and risk of hate speech to young people and to all of society. The conference conclusions stress the need to continue work for strengthening Human Rights by using both online and offline platforms, through education, awareness raising and adequate legislative measures.

All campaign materials are available at www.coe.int/youthcampaign

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

Upcoming Events

EURES Job Days

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

Find out more: <https://www.europeanjobdays.eu/en>

Citizens' Dialogues

Citizens' Dialogues are public debates with European Commissioners and other EU decision-makers, such as members of the European Parliament, national, regional and local politicians. The events take the form of a question and answer session. It's a chance for citizens to ask EU politicians questions and make their voice heard.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/citizens-dialogues_en

1st January-30th June 2018: Bulgarian EU Council Presidency

As of 1st January 2018, Bulgaria is holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time since the country joined the EU ten years ago. It will be the second of a Trio Presidency, composed of Estonia, Bulgaria and Austria. Under the motto "United We Stand Strong", the Bulgarian Presidency will focus on the Future of Europe and young people, the Western Balkans, security and stability and the digital economy.

Find out more: <https://eu2018bg.bg/en/home>

19th June 2018: Digital4Her conference, Brussels, Belgium

This event is part of an initiative to foster women's participation in the tech sector, as a means to boost the economy and bridge gender gaps within society. Organised by the European Commission, the event is hosted by the Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, Mariya Gabriel. The event aims to generate thought-provoking talks on the various roles assumed by women and girls in the digital field. Representatives of the public, private and non-profit sectors, hailing from numerous different EU countries, will come together to engage in dialogues on the promotion of digital skills and STEM studies among girls, the fostering of women-driven entrepreneurship, as well as the ways of combating gender stereotypes in the media.

The event will be broadcast live [here](#).

Deadline to [register](#): **11th June 2018**.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2rYy0AH>

26th June 2018: "High-Level conference: Cultural Heritage in Europe: linking past and future", Brussels, Belgium

To highlight the importance and diversity of European culture, the Parliament is organising a conference on Cultural heritage in Europe, bringing together political leaders, policy makers and stakeholders, as well as some guests to debate the challenges of the sector in three panels:

- Cultural heritage and Europeanness;
- Preserving and promoting cultural heritage
- Innovation and the economic potential of cultural heritage.

Deadline to register: **20th June 2018**.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2Jgc2R7>

4th-8th July 2018: Antiracist World Cup, Bosco Albergati, Italy

The International antiracist football tournament is an annual project offering five days of football but also concerts, debates and other cultural and sporting events designed to fight racism and discrimination.

Find out more: <http://www.mondialiantirazzisti.org>

25th July-8th August 2018: The London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF), London, United Kingdom

LIYSF is a two week residential event with lectures and demonstrations from leading scientists, visits to industrial sites, research centres, scientific institutions and organisations, including world class laboratories and universities. The week aims to broaden scientific understanding, to engage students in education on other cultures and to develop lasting, international friendships. World's leading young scientists aged 16-21 years old from more than 75 participating countries are invited to apply.

Applications are considered on a first come, first served basis.

There are participation fees.

Find out more: <http://www.liysf.org.uk>

8th-11th August 2018: Training of trainers in youth work as a preventive practice, Sibiu, Romania

ToT-course will give participants the chance to develop their competences as a trainer in youth work, with a particular focus on prevention of violent extremism and radicalisation.

Its aim is to train trainers who have the competences and the motivation to contribute to the improvement of quality youth work in Council of Europe countries.

The course is addressed to youth workers, trainers, youth leaders from Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme and Partner Countries Neighbouring the EU.

Deadline: **24th June 2018**, 24:00 CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2JqtJxt>

12th-23rd September 2018: ASEF Summer University, Croatia & Slovenia

2-week experiential learning journey and "Interdisciplinary Innovathon" for Asian and European students & young professionals focusing on the theme of "Sustainable Tourism: Youth Driving Green Growth". It will offer students, entrepreneurs, academics and professionals, citizens of any of the 51 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Partner countries, between 18 and 30 year old, with a strong command of English (verbal and written), a mix of practical team exercises, thought-provoking lectures, group research and experiential learning.

Travel, accommodation costs and meals will be provided by the organisers.

Deadline: **3rd July 2018**, 13:00 GMT.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2JlZu4>

12th-16th November 2018: XIII Tool Fair #PowerUp Split, Croatia

The 13th edition of the Tool Fair #PowerUp! will provide a stimulating environment for varied approaches & practices for those working to support youth empowerment with a focus on human rights, active participation, intercultural dialogue, social inclusion & mental health. Youth workers, trainers, youth leaders, project managers, youth policy makers, etc (ex-ivs)

mentors/tutors from Erasmus+ Youth in Action programme countries and partners countries neighbouring the EU are invited to take part.

Deadline to apply: **22nd July 2018**, 24:00 CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2kg5APk>

28th-30th November 2018: Bridges for Trainers 2018, Prague, Czech Republic

Bridges for Trainers is a space to debate on trends and issues related to training in the youth field. BfT 2018 will explore the roles of trainers connected with the policy initiatives in the field of youth, including the new EU Youth Strategy. Trainers, training course providers implementing training strategy for trainers, NA and Salto staff working with trainers/trainer pools from Erasmus+ Youth in Action programme countries and partners countries neighbouring the EU are invited to take part.

Deadline to apply: **24th September 2018**, 24:00 CET.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2skTGHp>

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

2 May 2018	<p>Visibility action on Fair Internships. Location: EP. Participant from EBL: Cecilia.</p>
3 May 2018	<p>DiscoverEU stakeholders meeting. Location: Berlaymont. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia.</p>
4 May 2018	<p>Meeting with ESN President Joao Pinto and Carlos García on co-operation between Eurodesk and Erasmus Student Network. Location: EBL. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Safi.</p>
4 May 2018	<p>Eurodesk Awards Preparatory Meeting. Location: EP. Participant from EBL: Zsolt</p>
15 May 2018	<p>Meeting with Jint National Agency director Koen Lambert. Location: EBL. Participant from EBL: Audrey.</p>
15 May 2018	<p>Erasmus+ Coalition Meeting. Location: LLLP. Participant from EBL: Safi.</p>
15-18 May 2018	<p>Expert seminar on the quality framework of learning mobility projects in the youth field "From good to better". Location: Lille, France. Participant from EBL: Safi.</p>
16 May 2018	<p>EBL director participated as speaker to the EfVET policy debate "Measuring the impact of European VET mobility: turning intangible into tangible". Location: European Parliament.</p>
16 May 2018	<p>EYE2018 online preparatory meeting. Participant from EBL: Grazia.</p>
17 May 2018	<p>Online preparatory network meeting. Participants from EBL: Audrey , Denise.</p>
18 May 2018	<p>Webinar with Ernst and Young on Eurodesk as part of DG COMM Survey: Prospective synergies review of EU outreach networks. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia.</p>
22-25 May 2018	<p>Eurodesk Multipliers' Seminar. Location: EBL & Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI). All EBL staff and Eurodesk President attended.</p>

23 May 2018	<p>Eurodesk Awards 2018. Location: European Parliament. Participants from EBL: Eurodesk President, Audrey, Denise, Gheorghe, Grazia, Safi, Zsolt, Cecilia, Pedro.</p> <hr/>
25 May 2018	<p>Meeting with Magdalena Jakubowska on Euroclass Participation Module. Location: Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI). Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia</p> <hr/>
29 May 2018	<p>Online meeting: ED 2021 working group. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Safi.</p> <hr/>
30 May 2018	<p>EYP editorial board meeting. Location: EAC. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia, Cecilia.</p> <hr/>
30 May 2018	<p>EYE2018 online preparatory meeting. Participants from EBL: Audrey, Grazia.</p> <hr/>