EURO-NET

The Youth European Network

EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre promoted by the association EURO-NET and realised with the grant of E.U. in the framework of the namesake project

Bimonthly newsletter:

➢ *to spread European opportunities and initiatives,*

➢ *to disseminate the respect of human rights and the awareness about the development of Europe's cultural identity and diversity,*

➢ *to fight discrimination against minorities, xenophobia, intolerance and racism,*

➢ *to help, with youth activities, the democratic stability and social inclusion in Europe,*

➢ *develop active European citizenship and civil society by giving impetus to the training of youth leaders and youth workers working within a European dimension;*

➢ *to promote European youth activities, such as exchanges, seminars, conferences, debates and training courses,*

➢ *to encourage exchange of ideas, proposals, experiences and good practises at international level.*

Contents

1. Major campaign launched to promote sustainable work and healthy ageing

The Commission and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work in cooperation with the Dutch EU Presidency launched a major Europe-wide campaign: Healthy Workplaces for All Ages. It promotes sustainable work and workplace safety and health in the context of the ageing workforce.

The campaign focuses on Europe's enterprises (both private and public) and the need to promote sustainable work and healthy ageing from the beginning of working life. By doing so, they will be protecting their workers' health up to and beyond retirement age and their organisations' productivity. Commissioner **Thyssen** highlighted the timeliness of this campaign topic: *"At a time when there are important discussions going on about the future landscape of occupational safety and health in the EU, this campaign is extremely relevant. We need to start now to cater for the needs of Europe's future workplaces and workers. Workplaces that address the health challenges of an ageing workforce gain in productivity. This is good for workers and good for business."* The Netherlands' Presidency representative, **Lodewijk Asscher**, emphasized the need to make our labour market sustainable for the future. "*This campaign contributes to it. We need to stimulate employers and workers to invest in employability. After all, using the power of people will always get the best result. It energises people no matter what age. Here, the cradle to the grave concept certainly applies. The sooner you start, the longer you stay healthy and vital, and the better you can cope with change. Because the jobs of today might not exist in the future or might look a lot different to now. Therefore, it is important not to wait until that happens, but to prepare properly in good time."*
Christa Sedlatschek, Director of EU-OSHA, underlined the business case for this campaign topic: *"By focusing on sustainable working throughout working life, not only can all workers better protect their health, but companies are likely to see major benefits too. Healthy workers are productive workers, and productive workers are essential to any effective organisation: it's a win–win situation. We therefore highly value the cooperation between EU-OSHA and our focal points, official campaign partners and media partners and thank them for all their efforts in previous campaigns. We look forward to working with them again over the next two years."* This campaign's objectives are four-fold:

- to promote **sustainable work** and **healthy ageing** from the **beginning of working life**;
- to highlight the importance of **risk prevention throughout working life**;
- to assist employers and workers (including in small and medium-sized enterprises) by providing **information and tools** for managing occupational safety and health in the context of an ageing workforce;
- to facilitate **information** and **good practice exchange**.

This campaign topic is based on a European Parliament project conducted by EU-OSHA, 'Safer and healthier work at any age', along with various other EU-OSHA reports on safety and health in the context of the ageing workforce. As part of this new campaign, EU-OSHA is also releasing an [e-guide on managing safety and health for an ageing workforce](#).

Background

The **Healthy Workplaces for All Ages** 2016-17 campaign raises awareness of the importance of good occupational safety and health management and risk prevention throughout the working life and of tailoring work to individual abilities — whether at the start of a worker's career or at its close. Like previous Healthy Workplaces Campaigns, it is coordinated at national level by EU-OSHA's focal points and supported by official campaign and media partners. The campaign has been launched on 15 April 2016. Key dates in the campaign calendar include the European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work (October 2016 and 2017) and the Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards ceremony (April 2017). The campaign will end with the Healthy Workplaces Summit (November 2017), when all those who have contributed to the campaign will come together with EU-OSHA to take stock of the campaign's achievements and the lessons learnt. The **[European Agency for Safety and Health at Work](#) (EU-OSHA)** contributes to making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work. The Agency researches, develops, and distributes reliable, balanced, and impartial safety and health information and organises pan-European

awareness raising campaigns. Set up by the European Union in 1994 and based in Bilbao, Spain, the Agency brings together representatives from the European Commission, Member State governments, employers' and workers' organisations, as well as leading experts in each of the EU Member States and beyond. You can follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube or subscribe to its monthly newsletter OSHmail. You can also register for regular news and information from EU-OSHA via RSS feeds.

2. Interim report of sector inquiry on electricity capacity mechanisms

The Commission inquiry on capacity mechanisms shows they can increase security of electricity supply but many Member States must be more thorough assessing whether they are necessary and in their design to ensure they are targeted and cost-effective.
Unnecessary and badly designed capacity mechanisms can distort competition, hinder electricity flows across borders and lead to consumers overpaying for electricity. The Commission now invites Member States, stakeholders in the electricity sector and others to submit comments on its initial findings. Commissioner **Margrethe Vestager**, in charge of competition policy, said: "*European consumers and companies should not have to face black-outs, and capacity mechanisms can help to reduce this risk. At the same time, consumers should not overpay for electricity and competition should not be undermined. The report shows that there is a lot of room for Member States to improve how they assess whether capacity mechanisms are needed, and how they design them. For a capacity mechanism to be well-designed it needs to be open and take into account electricity that can be provided across EU borders, thereby also contributing to building an Energy Union in Europe.*" In April 2015, the

Commission launched a state aid sector inquiry into national measures to ensure that adequate capacity to produce electricity is available at all times to ensure a reliable electricity supply (so-called "capacity mechanisms"). The purpose of the inquiry is to gather information on capacity mechanisms to examine, in particular, whether they ensure sufficient electricity supply without distorting competition or trade in the EU Single Market. It complements the Commission's Energy Union Strategy to create a connected, integrated and secure energy market in Europe. Over the past year the Commission has collected a large amount of information from over 120 market participants and public bodies on past, existing and planned capacity mechanisms in 11 Member States - Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. The Commission found 28 capacity mechanisms which can be categorised in six different types. The most common type is a strategic reserve, by which the State pays specific power plants to become operational in case of need. Recent initiatives by Member States suggest there is a general trend towards more open and inclusive mechanisms, which are in principle open to participation from all categories of capacity providers. This is a positive development: to create a true Energy Union and ensure costs for consumers and companies are kept to a minimum, capacity mechanisms should be open to all types of providers, domestic or foreign, regardless of technology. However, interim report also points to a lack of proper and consistent analysis by many Member States of the actual need for capacity mechanisms. It also appears that some capacity mechanisms in place could be better targeted and more cost effective. These findings do not prejudge the Commission's assessment of the compatibility with EU state aid rules of any individual capacity mechanism, which requires a case-by-case analysis.
Capacity mechanisms may be necessary...
A number of EU Member States have voiced concerns that electricity supplies may be unable to meet demand as a result of insufficient investment due to market uncertainties and regulatory interventions. An additional issue is that demand needs to be fully met by supply also in times when there is a shortfall from variable renewable energy sources (e.g. as a result of less wind or sun at a given time). The preliminary results of the inquiry indicate that currently the market on its own may not maintain appropriate levels of security of supply in certain regions. This may partly be because

rather low price caps are in place in several countries or investors may not believe electricity prices will rise sufficiently in times of scarcity to encourage investment in capacity. Ongoing reform plans to the current electricity market design – one of the key objectives of the EU's Energy Union - aim to significantly improve market functioning in the future. In specific cases, however, capacity mechanisms may be necessary, for instance to bridge the transitional period in which shortages may occur.

...but must address a genuine need...

The preliminary results of the Commission's inquiry show that many existing capacity mechanisms have been designed without prior assessment of whether a security of supply problem existed in the relevant market. Almost half of the Member States studied have not adequately established what should be their appropriate level of supply security before putting in place a capacity mechanism. Moreover, methods of assessing security of supply vary widely between Member States, which makes comparison and cooperation across borders difficult. Many assessments take a purely national perspective and do not take into account possible deliveries from neighbouring countries. Without a thorough and more harmonised method to identify problems and calculate risk, capacity mechanisms threaten to use public funds to finance expensive unnecessary capacity leading to higher prices for EU consumers and companies.

...and the design needs improvement

The interim report highlights substantial problems in relation to the design of capacity mechanisms in a number of Member States. First, the Commission found that many Member States did not adequately assess what would be the best way to increase the security of supply. Second, in most

Member States the price paid for electricity capacity is not determined through a competitive process but set by the Member State or negotiated bilaterally between the Member State and the capacity provider. This creates a serious risk of overpayment, thereby subsidising the provider. Third, many capacity mechanisms do not allow all potential capacity providers or technologies to participate, which may unnecessarily limit competition among suppliers or raise the price paid for the capacity. Finally, the inquiry showed that power plants from other Member States are rarely allowed to directly or indirectly participate in national capacity mechanisms. If these concerns are confirmed, such capacity mechanisms may distort competition and lead to higher electricity prices by unduly favouring particular producers or technologies, and they may create obstacles to trade in electricity across borders.

Next steps

The interim report is now open for public consultation. The Commission invites Member States, stakeholders in the electricity sector and others to submit comments on the interim report and the annexed staff working document by 6 July 2016. In the light of comments received, the Commission will publish a final report on the results of the sector inquiry later this year. In the meantime, the Commission continues to assess capacity mechanisms under EU State aid rules, and in particular the 2014 Guidelines on state aid for environmental protection and energy. The sector inquiry also contributes to the Commission's Energy Union objectives. In particular, the results of the inquiry will feed into legislative proposals on a revised electricity market design due to be presented later this year. See also Factsheet for further details. The report and staff working document are available here.

3. EU Justice Scoreboard 2016

The European Commission publishes the 2016 EU Justice Scoreboard which gives a comparative overview of the efficiency, quality and independence of justice systems in the EU Member States. The aim of the Scoreboard is to assist national authorities in their efforts to improve their justice systems, by providing this comparative data.

For the first time, the Justice Scoreboard also includes the results of Eurobarometer surveys conducted to examine the perception of judicial independence in the EU among citizens and businesses in more detail. This edition of the Scoreboard also uses new indicators, in particular on judicial training, the use of surveys, the availability of legal aid and the existence of quality

standards. *"The fourth EU Justice Scoreboard shows that Member States' efforts to improve justice systems continue to bear fruit. The key role of national justice systems in upholding the rule of law, enforcing EU law and establishing an investment-friendly environment deserve these efforts"* said **Věra Jourová**, EU Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality*. "The Scoreboard serves as a tool to learn from each other to render European justice systems more effective."* **Key findings from the 2016 EU Justice Scoreboard include:**

- **Shorter duration of litigious civil and commercial cases:** While there is overall stability on pending cases, improvement can be observed in several Member States that faced particular challenges with a high number of pending cases.
- **Better accessibility of justice systems,** in particular in matters like electronic submission of small claims or promotion of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methods. However, there is still room for improvement in online availability of judgements or electronic communication between courts and parties.
- Further efforts are still needed to improve the **training in judicial skills** and the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) **for case management systems**.
- Most Member States have **standards** covering similar aspects of their justice systems, but there are significant differences as regards their content. For example, less than half of Member States have standards on measures to reduce existing backlogs and even fewer define the maximum age that pending cases should have.
- The Scoreboard incorporates the results of different surveys on the **perception of judicial independence.** For Member States where perceived independence is very low, the most notable reasons given included interference or pressure from government and politicians, and from economic or other specific interests.

Next steps

The findings of the 2016 Scoreboard are being taken into account for the ongoing country-specific assessment carried out in the context of the 2016 European Semester process. The country reports for 26 Member States were published on 26 February 2016 and include findings on the justice systems of a number Member States (BE, BG, HR, ES, HU, IE, IT, LV, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI and SK). The Commission will continue to encourage the judicial networks to deepen their assessment of the effectiveness of legal safeguards aimed at protecting judicial independence.

Background

This is the fourth edition of the Justice Scoreboard. The 2016 EU Justice Scoreboard brings together data from various sources, in particular data provided by the Council of Europe Commission for the Evaluation of the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), which collects data from Member States. It also uses information obtained from other sources, for example Eurostat, the group of contact persons on national justice systems, the European judicial networks such as the European Network of Councils of the Judiciary (ENCJ), the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU or the European Judicial Training Network.

The Scoreboard focuses on three main aspects:

- **Efficiency of justice systems**: indicators on the efficiency of proceedings: length of proceedings, clearance rate and number of pending cases.
- **Quality indicators**: training, monitoring and evaluation of court activities, the use of satisfaction surveys, budget, and human resources.
- **Independence**: the Scoreboard incorporates data from different surveys on the perceived judicial independence by companies and the general public.

The EU Justice Scoreboard contributes to the European Semester process by helping to identify justice related issues that deserve particular attention for an investment, business and citizen-friendly environment. It focuses on civil and commercial cases as well as administrative cases. Together with the specific assessment of the situation in Member States, the 2015 EU Justice Scoreboard contributed to the proposal of the Commission the Council to address Country Specific Recommendations to four Member States (Croatia, Italy, Latvia and Slovenia) to render their justice system more effective. The Commission also closely monitors the efforts in this area in other Member States such as Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Spain, Ireland, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia (see factsheet). The findings of the Scoreboard are also taken into account when deciding the funding priorities under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) as

regards justice reforms. While the Scoreboard does not present an overall single ranking, it gives an overview of the functioning of all justice systems based on various indicators, which are of common interest for all Member States. It does not promote any particular type of justice system and treats all Member States on an equal footing. Whatever the model of the national justice system or the legal tradition in which it is anchored, timeliness, independence, affordability, and user-friendly access are some of the essential parameters of what constitutes an effective justice system.

4. **Commission presents measures to modernise VAT in the EU**

The Action Plan is the first step towards a single EU VAT area which is equipped to tackle fraud, to support business and help the digital economy and e-commerce.
The European Commission has presented an Action Plan setting out ways to reboot the current EU VAT system to make it simpler, more fraud-proof and business-friendly. The current VAT rules urgently need to be updated so they can better support the Single Market, facilitate cross-border trade and keep pace with today's digital and mobile economy. The 'VAT gap', which is the difference between the expected VAT revenue and VAT actually collected in Member States, was almost €170 billion in 2013. Cross-border fraud itself is estimated to be responsible for a VAT revenue loss of around €50 billion a year in the European Union. At the same time, the current VAT system remains fragmented and creates significant administrative burdens, especially for SMEs and online companies. The Action Plan sets out a pathway to modernise the current EU VAT rules, including:

- key principles for a future single European VAT system;
- short term measures to tackle VAT fraud;
- update the framework for VAT rates and set out options to grant Member States greater flexibility in setting them;
- plans to simplify VAT rules for e-commerce in the context of the Digital Single Market (DSM) Strategy and for a comprehensive VAT package to make life easier for SMEs.

Vice-President **Valdis Dombrovskis**, responsible for the Euro and Social Dialogue said: *"We are*

starting a dialogue with the European Parliament and the Member States for a simpler and more fraud-proof VAT system in the EU. Every year, cross-border VAT fraud costs our Member States and tax payers about EUR 50 billion. At the same time, the administrative burden for small businesses is high and technical innovation poses new challenges for VAT collection. This Commission has already proposed clear measures to address corporate tax avoidance, and we will be equally decisive in tackling VAT fraud." **Pierre Moscovici**, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs, said: "*VAT is a major source of tax revenue for EU Member States. Yet we face a staggering fiscal gap: the*
VAT revenues collected are €170 billion short of what they should be. This is a huge waste of money that could be invested on growth and jobs. It's time to have this money back. We are also keen to grant Member States more autonomy on how to define their VAT reduced rates. Our Action Plan will deliver on each of these points."
Key elements
A future definitive EU VAT system for cross-border trade to reduce opportunities for fraud
The current VAT system needs to be modernised to keep pace with the challenges of today's global, digital and mobile economy. The current VAT system for cross-border trade which came into force in 1993 was intended to be a transitional system and leaves the door open to fraud. The Commission therefore intends to come forward in 2017 with a proposal to put in place **definitive rules for a single European VAT area**. Under the new rules, cross-border transactions would continue to be taxed at the rates of the Member State of destination ('destination principle') as today, but the way taxes are collected would be gradually changed towards a more fraud-proof system. At the same time, an EU-wide web portal would be implemented to ensure a simple VAT collection system for businesses and a more robust system for Member States to gather revenue.
Immediate measures to tackle VAT fraud under the current rules
Cross-border VAT fraud deprives Member States of vast sums of revenue. Estimates show that the**future VAT system could reduce cross-border fraud by around EUR 40 billion** (or by 80%) a year. Later this year, the Commission will propose **measures to reinforce current tools used by**

Member States to exchange information related to VAT fraud, fraud schemes and good practices. We will continue to closely monitor the performance of tax administrations in collecting and controlling VAT.

More autonomy for Member States to choose their own rates policy

Under the current rules, Member States need to stick to a pre-defined list of goods and services when it comes to applying zero or reduced VAT rates. The Commission plans to modernise the framework for rates and to give Member States more flexibility in future. It proposes **two options:** one option would be to maintain the minimum standard rate of 15% and to review regularly the list of goods and services which can benefit from reduced rates, based on Member States' input. The second option would abolish the list of goods and services that can benefit from reduced rates. This would, however, require safeguards to prevent fraud, avoid unfair tax competition within the Single Market and it could also increase compliance costs for businesses. Under both options, the currently applicable zero and reduced rates would be maintained.

Support for e-commerce and SMEs

The current VAT system for cross-border e-commerce is complex and costly for Member States and businesses alike. EU businesses are at a competitive disadvantage because certain non-EU traders can import VAT-free goods to the EU. The complexity of the system also makes it difficult for Member States to ensure compliance. The Commission will come forward by the end of 2016 with **a legislative proposal to modernise and simplify VAT for [cross-border e-commerce](#)** as part of the Digital Single Market strategy. This will include a proposal to ensure that e-publications can benefit from the same reduced rates as physical publications. As a second step, we will present in 2017 **a VAT simplification package designed to support the growth of SMEs** and to make it easier for them to trade across borders.

Background

The common Value Added Tax (VAT) system plays an important role in Europe's Single Market. It was originally put in place to do away with turnover taxes which distorted competition and hindered the free movement of goods and to remove fiscal checks and formalities at internal borders. It is a major and growing source of revenue in the EU, raising almost EUR 1 trillion in 2014, corresponding to 7% of EU GDP. One of the EU's own resources is also based on VAT. As a consumption tax, it is one of the most growth-friendly forms of taxation. But the VAT system has been unable to keep pace with the challenges of today's global, digital and mobile economy. The current VAT system, which was intended to be a transitional system, is fragmented, complex for the growing number of businesses operating cross-border and leaves the door open to fraud: domestic and cross-border transactions are treated differently and goods or services can be bought free of VAT within the Single Market. The Commission has consistently pressed for the reform of the VAT system. We have listened to the European Parliament and the Council, which both agreed that any future VAT system should be based on the principle of destination, i.e.: where the goods or services are consumed. The Action Plan is part of the Commission's [Better Regulation](#) agenda.

Next Steps

The Commission will ask the European Parliament and the Council, supported by the European Economic and Social Committee, to provide clear political guidance on the options put forward in this Action Plan and to confirm their support for the reforms set out in this Communication. The Commission will present proposals on all issues in 2016 and 2017.

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5. Security: EU strengthens response to hybrid threats

The European Commission and the High Representative adopted a Joint Framework to counter hybrid threats and foster the resilience of the EU, its Member States and partner countries while increasing cooperation with NATO on countering these threats.

In recent years, the EU and its Member States have been increasingly exposed to hybrid threats that comprise hostile actions designed to destabilise a region or a state. The European Commission and the High Representative adopted a Joint Framework to counter hybrid threats and foster the resilience of the EU, its Member States and partner countries while increasing cooperation with

NATO on countering these threats. High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy **Federica Mogherini** said: *"In recent years, the security environment has changed dramatically. We have seen the rise of hybrid threats on EU's borders. There has been a strong call for the EU to adapt and increase its capacities as a security provider. The relationship between internal and external security needs to be further strengthened. With these new proposals, we want to enhance our capacity to counter threats of hybrid nature. In this effort, we will also step up cooperation and coordination with NATO."* **Elżbieta Bieńkowska**, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, said: *"The EU must become a security provider, able to adapt, anticipate and react to the changing nature of the threats we are facing. This means enhancing our resilience and security from within while increasing our capacity to counter emerging external threats. With this Framework, we act together to counter common hybrid threats. We are presenting concrete proposals for the Union and Member States to increase cooperation in security and defence, improve resilience, address strategic vulnerabilities and prepare a coordinated response."* The Joint Framework offers a comprehensive approach to improve the common response to the challenges posed by hybrid threats to Member States, citizens and the collective security of Europe. It brings together all relevant actors, policies and instruments to both counter and mitigate the impact of hybrid threats in a more coordinated manner. In particular, it builds on the [European Agenda on Security](#) adopted by the Commission in April 2015, as well as on sectorial strategies such as [EU Cyber Security Strategy](#), the [Energy Security Strategy](#) and the[European Union Maritime Security Strategy](#). The Joint Framework brings together existing policies and proposes twenty-two operational Actions aimed at:

- **raising awareness** by establishing dedicated mechanisms for the exchange of information between Member States and by coordinating EU actions to deliver strategic communication;
- **building resilience** by addressing potential strategic and critical sectors such as cybersecurity, critical infrastructures (Energy, Transport, Space), protection of the financial system, protection of public health, and supporting efforts to counter violent extremism and radicalisation;
- **preventing, responding to crisis and recovering** by defining effective procedures to follow, but also by examining the applicability and practical implications of the Solidarity Clause (Article 222 TFEU) and the mutual defence clause (Art. 42(7) TEU), in case a wide-ranging and serious hybrid attack occurs;
- **stepping up the cooperation between the EU and NATO as well as other partner organisations,** in a joint effort to counter hybrid threats, while respecting the principles of inclusiveness and autonomy of each organisation's decision making process.

The Framework is designed to provide a robust foundation to support Member States in countering hybrid threats collectively, supported by a wide range of EU instruments and initiatives and using the full potential of the Treaties.

Background

Hybrid threats refer to mixture of activities often combining conventional and unconventional methods that can be used in a coordinated manner by state and non-state actors while remaining below the threshold of formally declared warfare. The objective is not only to cause direct damage and exploit vulnerabilities, but also to destabilise societies and create ambiguity to hinder decision-making. Countering hybrid threats is largely a matter of national competence, the primary responsibility lying with the Member States. However, the Joint Framework presented by the European Commission and High Representative **Mogherini** aims to help EU Member States and their partners counter hybrid threats and improve their resilience when facing them, by combining European and national instruments in a more effective way than in the past. Moreover, many EU Member States face common threats, which can target cross-border networks or infrastructures. The Framework follows the [Political Guidelines](#) of the Commission President Jean-Claude **Juncker** who called on the need "to work on a stronger Europe when it comes to security and defence". It also delivers on the invitation of the [Foreign Affairs Council](#) of 18 May 2015 to present actionable proposals to counter hybrid threats. **Next Steps**: The Framework will be presented to the Council of the European Union.

6. Road Safety: new statistics call for fresh efforts to save lives on EU roads

The 2015 road safety statistics published by the European Commission confirm that European roads remain the safest in the world despite a recent slowdown in reducing road fatalities.

The 2015 road safety statistics published by the European Commission confirm that European roads remain the safest in the world despite a recent slowdown in reducing road fatalities. 26, 000 people lost their lives on EU roads last year, 5, 500 fewer than in 2010. There is however no improvement at EU level compared to 2014. In addition, the Commission estimates that 135, 000 people were seriously injured on EU roads. The social cost (rehabilitation, healthcare, material damages, etc.) of road fatalities and injuries is estimated to be of at least €100 billion. EU Commissioner for Transport **Violeta Bulc** said *"Every death or serious injury is one too many. We have achieved impressive results in reducing road fatalities over the last decades but the current stagnation is alarming. If Europe is to reach its objective of halving road fatalities by 2020, much more needs to be done. I invite Member States to step up efforts in terms of enforcement and campaigning. This may have a cost, but it is nothing compared to the €100 billion social cost of road fatalities and injuries. For its part, the Commission will continue to act where it can bring a clear European added-value. Technology and innovation are increasingly shaping the future of road safety. In the medium to long term, connected and automated driving, for instance, has great potential in helping to avoid crashes, and we are working hard to put the right framework in place."* The average EU fatality rate for 2015 was 51.5 road deaths per 1 million inhabitants, similar to the past two years. This slowdown, which follows a significant reduction of 8% in 2012 and 2013, has several contributing factors, such as a higher interaction between unprotected and motorised road users in our cities. Vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists, etc.) also account for a large proportion of the 135 000 people the Commission estimates were injured. This is the first time the Commission publishes such a figure, as EU Member States have started to report comparable and reliable data on serious road traffic injuries. This is the first step towards a European approach to serious injuries. The country-specific statistics (see below) reveal that the number of road fatalities still varies greatly across the EU, though this gap is becoming smaller every year. Some traditionally well-performing countries recorded less progress while three of the Member States with the highest number of road deaths improved their road safety situation.

Improving EU road safety

In order to reach the EU strategic target of halving the number of road deaths from 2010 to 2020, additional efforts are needed. Member States are the main actors as most of the day-to-day actions are delivered at national and local level: enforcement of traffic rules, infrastructure development and maintenance but also education and awareness raising campaigns. The European Commission acts where there is a clear EU added-value, for instance through legislation enabling the enforcement of cross-border traffic offences or by setting technical safety standards for infrastructure and vehicles. The Commission actively monitors the situation, stimulates and helps Member States to improve their performance through the exchange of data, knowledge and experience, and by sharing best practices. Technological breakthroughs in the last decade have greatly improved vehicle safety. The significant advances in innovation and technology have a strong future potential to improve road safety, in particular in the area of vehicle automation and connectivity. To pave the way towards automation and better management of traffic, the Commission aims to develop a master plan on the deployment of cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) – a two-way communication between vehicles, with and between road infrastructure – in the second half of 2016. Such systems allow vehicles to warn each other directly (e.g. in case of emergency breaking) or through the infrastructure (e.g. upcoming road works).

The 2016 EU Drug Markets Report, published by the **European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)**and **Europol**, estimates that Europeans spend at least €24 billion on illicit drugs each year, making it one of the main profit-generating activities for organised criminals in Europe. The report provides a state-of-the-art analysis of the EU illicit drug market, covering the trends along the supply chain from production and trafficking to marketing, distribution and consumption. It also analyses the considerable costs of these markets for society including their impact on businesses, government institutions, neighbourhoods, families, individuals and the environment. Presenting the report's findings **Dimitris Avramopoulos**, European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenshipsaid: *"Today's drug business criminals are quick to exploit and harm global flows of transport, goods and people, while posing a threat to public health. They use new technology and the internet, the growth of global trade and commercial infrastructure to perform their criminal activities rapidly across international borders. In addition, the instability in regions neighbouring the EU could have potentially profound effects on the drug market in Europe. This valuable report explores the links to other criminal activities and how the illicit income from the drug trade can fund migrant smuggling and terrorism, and undermine international development efforts."* **Alexis Goosdeel**,EMCDDA Director, added*"The EU drug market is driven by two simple motives: profit and power. Understanding this, and the wider impacts of drug markets on society, is critical if we are to reduce drug-related harm. This knowledge is essential for the development of new strategies for tackling crime and safeguarding the health, security and prosperity of our citizens".* **Rob Wainwright**, Europol Director, said*"Illicit drug production and trafficking remains one of the largest and most innovative criminal markets in Europe. As it grows more complex and becomes entwined with other forms of crime, and even terrorism, it represents a key threat to the internal security of the EU. Concerted cross-border law enforcement cooperation is essential in reducing its scale and impact, and this can be achieved through the unique operational capabilities of Europol and other EU instruments."* The report — accompanied by a Strategic Overview — combines the EMCDDA's drug monitoring and analytical skills with Europol's operational intelligence on trends in organised crime.It describes a market which is constantly evolving, adaptable and opportunistic, posing a key challenge for policy-makers, law-enforcement agencies and public health. The report shows that, while traditional trafficking routes persist, diversification continues. Routes appear to be less commodity-specific than before, whilst legitimate transport and logistic infrastructures continue to be exploited, with maritime containers representing a convenient channel for large consignments of drugs to be imported into Europe. Recent developments in internet markets including the dark net, anonymising software and crypto-currencies also offer new opportunities for online drug supply. Three main themes emerge from the analysis in the Report:

- *Increasing links between drug trafficking and other forms of crime:* organised crime groups involved in the drug market are diversifying across multiple drugs, engaging in other forms of criminality including terrorism, forming alliances across ethnic and geographical borders and harnessing specialist expertise.
- *Accelerated rate of change in the drug market due to globalisation and technology:* criminal groups are quick to exploit opportunities provided by easier access to information, the internet and the growth in international trade.
- *Geographical concentration of groups specialised in drug related crimes:*drug production or trafficking are concentrated in specific geographical locations, within Europe and elsewhere; some are long established, while new zones are also emerging (e.g. heroin trafficking through the Southern Caucasus).

The Report highlights how coordinated action at EU level can make a difference in tackling the illicit drugs trade, and outlines a comprehensive range of recommendations and action points in key areas to inform future policies and initiatives. The EU Drugs Strategy (2013–20) and Action Plan (2013–16) provide a framework for addressing illicit drugs in the EU, complementing Member States' national

strategies. The overarching objective is a measurable reduction of the availability of illicit drugs through the disruption of trafficking, dismantling of Organised Crime Groups, efficient use of the criminal justice system, effective intelligence-led law enforcement and increased intelligence sharing, and an EU-level emphasis on large-scale, cross-border and organised drug-related crime.

8. Options for reforming the Common European Asylum System

Commission presents options for reforming the Common European Asylum System and developing safe and legal pathways to Europe.

The European Commission is launching the process for a reform of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS), presenting: options for a fair and sustainable system for allocating asylum applicants among Member States; a further harmonisation of asylum procedures and standards to create a level playing field across Europe and thereby reduce pull factors inducing measures to reduce irregular secondary movements; and a strengthening of the mandate of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO). At the same time, the Commission is setting out measures to ensure safe and well-managed pathways for legal migration to Europe. First Vice-President **Frans Timmermans** said: "*The refugee crisis has shown the weaknesses in our Common European Asylum System. Let there be no doubt: those who need protection must continue to receive it, and they should not have to put their lives in the hands of people smugglers. But the current system is not sustainable. Different national approaches have fuelled asylum shopping and irregular migration, while we have seen in the ongoing crisis that the Dublin rules have placed too much responsibility on just a few Member States. In the immediate term we have to apply the existing law to stabilise the situation. Beyond that, we need a sustainable system for the future, based on common rules, a fairer sharing of responsibility, and safe legal channels for those who need protection to get it in the EU.*"

Migration and Home Affairs Commissioner **Dimitris Avramopoulos** said: "*Human mobility will be an inherent feature of the 21st century. To address this challenge, Europe needs to set up a robust and effective Common European Asylum System, including Dublin, that is fair for Member States, EU citizens, migrants and countries of origin and transit. While the EU will continue to invest in its workforce and address unemployment, Europe also needs to enhance legal and safe channels for people who come into the EU, whether it is for protection or to work. Europe needs to attract talent from abroad to support its economic growth. Such reforms are a necessary complement to the actions undertaken to reduce irregular flows to and within Europe, and protecting our external borders. Finally, diversity is increasingly becoming a defining element of many communities and cities in the EU – we should embrace it and turn it into an opportunity through innovative integration policies.*" As part of the implementation of the European Agenda on Migration, this Communication sets out the different paths to move towards a more humane and efficient European asylum policy, as well as a better managed legal migration policy. Based on the feedback it receives to this Communication, the Commission will then come forward with appropriate proposals.

Building a fair and sustainable common asylum policy

The large-scale, uncontrolled arrival of migrants and asylum seekers has put a strain not only on many Member States' asylum systems, but also on the Common European Asylum System as a whole. The volume and concentration of arrivals has exposed in particular the weaknesses of the Dublin System, which establishes the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application based primarily on the first point of irregular entry. The differing treatment of asylum seekers across Member States has further exacerbated the problem of irregular secondary movements. The Commission has identified five priority areas where the Common European Asylum System should be structurally improved:

- ***Establishing a sustainable and fair system for determining the Member State responsible for asylum seekers***: To deal better with a high number of arrivals and ensure a fair sharing of

responsibility, the Commission could propose to amend the Dublin Regulation, either by streamlining and supplementing it with a corrective fairness mechanism or by moving to a new system based on a distribution key.

- *Achieving greater convergence and reducing asylum shopping*: The Commission intends to propose a further harmonisation of asylum procedures, to ensure a more humane and equal treatment across the EU and reduce pull factors that draw people to a small number of Member States. The Commission could propose a new Regulation to replace the Asylum Procedures Directive, and a new Regulation to replace the Qualification Directive. Targeted modifications of the Reception Conditions Directive could also be proposed.
- *Preventing secondary movements within the EU*: To ensure that the Dublin System is not disrupted by abuses and asylum shopping, the Commission could propose measures to discourage and sanction irregular secondary movements. In particular, certain rights could be made conditional upon registration, fingerprinting and stay in the EU country assigned to the applicant.
- *A new mandate for the EU's asylum agency:* The Commission could propose to amend the European Asylum Support Office's mandate so it can play a new policy-implementing role as well as a strengthened operational role. This could include operating the distribution mechanism under a reformed Dublin System, monitoring the compliance of Member States with EU asylum rules, identifying measures to remedy shortcomings, and a capacity to take operational measures in emergency situations.
- *Reinforcing the Eurodac system*: To support the application of a reformed Dublin System, the Commission could propose to adapt the Eurodac system and could also propose to expand its purpose, facilitating the fight against irregular migration, better retention and sharing of fingerprints, and support to returns.

Ensuring and enhancing safe and legal migration routes

In April 2014, in Malta, Jean-Claude Juncker presented as part of his election campaign a five-point plan on migration, including a call for Europe to show more political determination when it comes to legal migration. The EU must allow people in need of international protection to arrive in the EU in an orderly, managed, safe and dignified manner, as part of the shared responsibility of the international community. In addition, it is necessary to better position the EU to fill talent and skills gaps and address demographic challenges through a proactive labour migration policy. The Commission will work on a number of measures concerning legal migration routes to Europe and integration policies:

- *A structured resettlement system*: Building on existing initiatives, the Commission will set out a proposal to frame the EU's policy on resettlement. This proposal will put in place a horizontal mechanism with common EU rules for admission and distribution, on the status to be accorded to resettled persons, on financial support, and on measures to discourage secondary movements.
- *A reform of the EU Blue Card Directive:* Strengthening its role as an EU-wide system by developing a harmonised approach including more flexible admission conditions, improved admission procedures and enhanced rights could be put in place for highly-skilled third country nationals.
- *Measures to attract and support innovative entrepreneurs*, who can boost economic growth and help create jobs.
- *A REFIT evaluation of the existing legal migration rules,* with a view to streamlining and simplifying the current rules for different categories of third-country nationals to reside, work or study in the EU.
- *Pursuing close cooperation with third countries*, as part of existing policy dialogues and operational cooperation under the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) to ensure a more effective management of migratory flows.

The Commission will also come forward with an **EU Action Plan on Integration**.

Background

The European Commission has been consistently and continuously working for a coordinated European response on the refugees and migration front. Upon taking office, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker entrusted a Commissioner with special responsibility for Migration, Dimitris Avramopoulos, to work together with the other Commissioners, coordinated by First Vice-President Frans Timmermans, on a new policy on migration as one of the 10 priorities of the Political
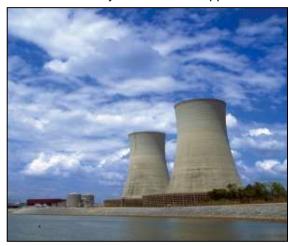
Guidelines. On 13 May 2015, the European Commission proposed a far-reaching strategy, through the European Agenda on Migration, to tackle the immediate challenges of the ongoing crisis situation, as well as to equip the EU with the tools to better manage migration in the medium and long term in the areas of irregular migration, borders, asylum and legal migration. Three implementation packages under the Agenda, on 27 May 2015, on 9 September 2015 and 15 December 2015 have already been adopted.

9. Commission presents Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC)

This is the first report since Fukushima in 2011, focusing on the investments related to post-Fukushima safety upgrades and to the safe operation of existing facilities.
In addition, this Nuclear Illustrative Programme highlights the estimated financing needs related to nuclear power plants' decommissioning and to the management of radioactive waste and spent fuel. The Nuclear Illustrative Program provides a basis for discussion and aims to include all stakeholders, especially civil society, in the discussion on nuclear energy trends and related investments for the period up to 2050. While Member States are free to decide their energy mix, the Energy Union Strategy and the European Energy Security Strategy stressed that Member States who decide to use nuclear energy in their own energy mix to apply the highest standards of safety, security, waste management and non-proliferation as well as diversify nuclear fuel supplies. Vice-President responsible for Energy Union, **Maroš Šefčovič** said: "*Based on Member States input, the Nuclear Illustrative Programme of the Commission (PINC) provides a useful photograph of the whole lifecycle of nuclear power in Europe: from the front-end of fuel fabrication, to safety upgrades and long-term operations, to the back-end of the cycle, including waste management and decommissioning. The PINC contributes to the implementation of the Energy Union strategy, by looking into relevant Member States' investments from the perspective of safety, security of supply, diversification, technological and industrial leadership"* Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, **Miguel Arias Cañete** said: "*Five years after the accident at Fukushima Daiichi, Europe has learnt the lessons. The Nuclear Illustrative Program brings together for the first time an overview of all investment aspects of nuclear energy in a single document. It thus contributes to the public discussion on nuclear matters. Together we should be able to identify ways to cooperate across Europe to ensure that knowledge about the safest use of nuclear power plants is shared, rather than done separately by each regulator, and that the management of radioactive waste is secured financially by Member States until its final disposal.*" The Commission also presented a recommendation to Member States concerning the application of Article 103 of the Euratom Treaty. The recommendation requires Member States to have the Commission's opinion on agreements with third countries on nuclear matters (Intergovernmental Agreements) before concluding them. This recommendation aims to make that process more efficient by clarifying the key aspects and requirements that Member States have to take into account when negotiating such agreements, in particular regarding the new directives on nuclear safety and the safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste. The application of this recommendation should reduce the need for the Commission to object to the conclusion of agreements, and thereby reduce the risk of delay in their conclusion.
Background
Nuclear Illustrative Programme
The Nuclear Illustrative Programme is a requirement under Article 40 of the Euratom Treaty. It builds on the analysis of i) the effects of recently adopted policy and legislative initiatives (e.g. Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive, revised Basic Safety Standards, amended Nuclear Safety Directive), ii) publicly available data (e.g.: documents published by the OECD/ Nuclear Energy Agency, the International Energy Agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Nuclear Association), as well as iii) information received from Member States and stakeholders (meetings and questionnaires). Questionnaires have been sent by the Commission to EU nuclear

operators and to the members of the Commission's expert group on decommissioning funding to make sure that the PINC analysis is based on the latest available figures and to receive information respectively on:

- The investments related to the safety upgrades of existing nuclear power plants following on the EU nuclear stress tests as well as in view of their potential long term operation,
- The management of financial resources for activities related to decommissioning of nuclear power plants.

Euratom Treaty Article 103 Recommendation

Member States shall communicate to the Commission draft agreements or contracts with a third State, an international organisation or a national of a third State to the extent that such agreements or contracts concern matters within the purview of this Treaty. If a draft agreement or contract contains clauses which impede the application of this Treaty, the Commission shall, within one month of receipt of such communication, make its comments known to the State concerned. The State shall not conclude the proposed agreement or contract until it has satisfied the objections of the Commission or complied with a ruling by the Court of Justice of the European Union, adjudicating urgently upon an application from the State, on the compatibility of the proposed clauses with the provisions of this Treaty. An application may be made to the Court of Justice of the European Union at any time after the State has received the comments of the Commission. Until now Article 103 has been deemed to be self-executing; however, with the progressive development of the Euratom acquis, Member States have had to take into account an increasing number of Euratom requirements when negotiating their agreements. Some of these requirements, such as those contained in the Nuclear Waste Directive (Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom), are of particular relevance in the context of external relations.

10. Commission proposes public tax transparency rules for multinationals

The Commission is leading the way towards greater corporate tax transparency by introducing public reporting requirements for the largest companies operating in the EU.

The proposal builds on the Commission's work to tackle corporate tax avoidance in Europe, estimated to cost EU countries EUR 50-70 billion a year in lost tax revenues. Supplementing other proposals to introduce sharing of information between tax authorities, it would require multinationals operating in the EU with global revenues exceeding EUR 750 million a year to publish key

information on where they make their profits and where they pay their tax in the EU on a country-by-country basis. The same rules would apply to non-European multinationals doing business in Europe. In addition, companies would have to publish an aggregate figure for total taxes paid outside the EU. This proposal is a simple, proportionate way to increase large multinationals' accountability on tax matters without damaging their competitiveness. It will apply to thousands of large firms operating in the EU, without affecting small and medium-sized companies. The proposal also provides for stronger transparency requirements for companies' activities in countries which do not observe international standards for good governance in the area of taxation. The Commission will build on its External Tax Strategy with the aim of establishing the first common EU list of such tax jurisdictions as rapidly as possible. Vice-President **Valdis Dombrovskis**, responsible for the Euro and Social Dialogue said: "*The fight against tax avoidance is a key priority of this Commission. Close cooperation between tax authorities must go hand in hand with public transparency. We are making information on income taxes paid by multinational groups readily available to the public, without imposing new burdens for SMEs and with due respect for business secrets. By adopting this proposal, Europe is demonstrating its leadership in the fight against tax avoidance".* Commissioner **Jonathan Hill** said: *"Our economies and societies depend on a tax system that's fair, a principle that applies both to individuals and to business. Yet today, by using complicated tax arrangements, some multinationals can pay nearly a third less tax than companies that only operate in one country. Our proposal to increase transparency will help make companies more accountable. It will promote fairer competition between companies regardless of their size".* This proposal will

amend the Accounting Directive ([Directive 2013/34/EU](#)) to ensure that large groups publish annually a report disclosing the profit and the tax accrued and paid in each Member State on a country-by-country basis. This information will remain available for five years. Contextual information (turnover, number of employees and nature of activities) will enable an informed analysis and will have to be disclosed for every EU country in which a company is active, as well as for those tax jurisdictions that do not abide by tax good governance standards (so-called tax havens). Aggregate figures will also have to be provided for operations in other tax jurisdictions in the rest of the world. The proposal has been carefully calibrated to ensure that no confidential business information would be published. Building on and complementing the recent Commission initiatives against tax avoidance ([IP/16/159](#)), this mandatory public country-by-country reporting will enable citizens to scrutinise the tax behaviour of multinationals. This will, in turn, encourage companies to pay tax where they make their profit. This reporting will also support efforts to gain a better insight into Member States' tax systems and help identify existing loopholes and mismatches, thereby shedding more light on the causes and consequences of corporate tax avoidance.

Background:

In June 2015, the Commission launched a broad assessment into the impact of potential measures to introduce public reporting requirements on multinationals operating in the EU. This involved an in-depth analysis of different policy options, as well as targeted consultations, in order to weigh up the objectives, benefits, risks and safeguards of further transparency on corporate income tax. The proposal reflects the outcome of this work. This proposal is closely linked to the revision of the Administrative Cooperation Directive, politically agreed by EU Member States in March 2016, which requires certain multinational enterprises to submit a CBCR to EU tax authorities. This revision implements the [OECD's BEPS Action Plan](#) endorsed by G20 leaders in Antalya in November 2015.

Next steps:

This proposal for a Directive is now submitted to the European Parliament and the Council of the EU and the Commission hopes that this will be swiftly adopted in the co-decision process. Once adopted, the new Directive would have to be transposed into national legislation by all EU Member States, within one year after the entry in force.

11. European Youth Award (EYA)

The European Youth Award is a pan-European competition among socially committed and creative entrepreneurs, start-ups, designers, producers, application developers, journalists, writers, students under the age of 33 who use Internet and Mobile technology to create social impact.

- The project, product or application entering the contest must be mainly initiated and executed by young people under the age of 33 (born on or after January 1, 1983) from one of the member states of the Council of Europe, Belarus or Kosovo.

    (Eligible countries: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Belarus, Kosovo).

    (Only) For the Special Category 2016 (migration | integration | inclusion | refugee movement) also entries from people living in one of the follwing states are accepted: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia.

- Registrants to the contest must hold intellectual property rights to the work submitted and be legal originator of the creative project, product or application. They also must have the rights to use the music, sound or audio components used in their project.

- With the registration, contest participants accept the rules of the EYA contest as stated in this document. Any and all legal recourse to rules, actions and conditions of the EYA are entirely excluded.

Please note: Terms and conditions may be subject to change without notice. They will be published on the EYA website.

Registration procedure: Registration, including submitting project information, must be completed online via the European Youth Award database (http://register.icnmdb.at/EYA/2016). After successful registration, participants receive Login Data and an ID number via e-mail. Registration procedure includes signing and transmitting the release form to the EYA office. By signing the release form submitters confirm that they are the rightful owners to the necessary rights to submit the project. These rights include the copyright, right for using pictures, sound or audio components. Projects can also be nominated by an EYA Ambassador or former Winner . Nominated projects directly enter the online jury round 2.

Submissions must be made in one of the seven categories of the EYA:

1. *Healthy Life*
2. *Smart Learning*
3. *Connecting Cultures*
4. *Go Greenì*
5. *Active Citizenship*
6. *Money Matters*
7. *Open Innovation*

The submitted project, product or application must be completed after January 1, 2015. For projects or products completed earlier submitters have to document that significant alterations and/or improvements and/or additions have been made in the period thereafter. Projects, products or applications which have been submitted in the EYA contest in previous years cannot be submitted again. For projects which have been already submitted before, the submitters have to document significant alterations and/or improvements and/or additions. The submitted project, product or application must be free of offensive or plagiarized content and may not violate human rights as laid out in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and its application by international human rights courts or panels recognized by the United Nations Organization. **Deadline to submit applications: 15 July 2016**. For more information visit this **link**.

12. COLLIDE International Award

Arts@CERN has flourished since its creation in 2011, binding arts, science and technology to contribute to a fast growing knowledge-based culture. Today, we are pleased to announce the COLLIDE International Award, a major international residency programme and a new collaboration between CERN and FACT (Foundation for Art and Creative Technology, Liverpool). COLLIDE International Award is a unique opportunity for artists to spend dedicated time in one of the most important laboratories in the world, where crucial questions about nature are addressed. COLLIDE aims to encourage curiosity, offering experimental and open-minded artists an extraordinary framework to inspire creativity both within the sciences and the humanities. Ultimately, COLLIDE proposes to transform the way art and science encounters are understood, and to challenge new modes of dialogue and enquiry.

Criteria of the call

The competition is open to artists of any nationality or age. Their proposal should reflect upon encounters between art and science, and offer challenging methods of collaboration with CERN scientists. The scope of this proposal should also consider a second developmental phase at FACT, where the artists will have the opportunity to expand their research and test its applications through FACTLab's facilities and engagement with a wide range of communities. The ultimate goal for the residency will be the research and development of new concepts in laboratory contexts. COLLIDE Open Call for Entries encourages the participation of artists interested in the ideas described above, complying with any of the following criteria:

- Artists interested in the cultural significance of science.
- Artists working with digital and scientific media, technology and concepts as inspiration for their work.
- Artists engaging with an innovative discourse on contemporary culture, following ambitious standards of creativity.

- Artists demonstrating an active interest in the institutional visions, research methodologies, and cultural engagement of CERN and FACT.
- Artists interested in the processes of fundamental science and particle physics who are able to extrapolate this understanding into projects of artistic excellence.
- Artists pushing the traditional forms of collaboration between the artistic and scientific fields, and asking innovative and provocative questions in this respect.
- Artists approaching science and research from diverse angles of enquiry, such as political, ethical, or sociological perspectives.

Conditions and participation

COLLIDE International Award grants an artist with a fully funded residency at CERN and FACT. The artist will spend the first two months at CERN, Geneva, followed by a one-month stay at FACT, Liverpool (not necessarily consecutively). The award includes the following conditions: 15,000 Swiss Francs as an Award; Allowance for two months at CERN, Geneva and one month at FACT, Liverpool;Travel costs and accommodation within a fixed budget for the three months of the artistic residency at CERN and FACT.

The awarded artist is expected:

- To work with a scientific partner at CERN, and with the teams of Arts@CERN and FACT during the residency, exploring ideas and research and interacting with various communities in each location.
- To conduct interventions, talks and/or workshops during the residency, including CERN and FACT staff, as well as other relevant communities such as artists, scientists, academics.
- To communicate the creative process and research developed during the residency through social media platforms, a blog or similar, in order to reach global audiences.
- To meet regularly with the CERN scientific partner in order to discuss the process of artistic research, exploration and discovery, and to additionally work with other scientists.
- During the residency at FACT, to establish conversations and explore collaborations with scientists and academics from Liverpool University and Liverpool John Moores University.
- To communicate regularly with the teams at Arts@CERN and FACT to develop the proposal and ensure its satisfactory completion during the residency.

The main scientific language used at CERN and FACT is English, therefore it is essential to speak English fluently. FACT and CERN are equal opportunity organisations and are fully committed to a policy of treating all of its collaborators equally. **The deadline for applications is May 23rd, 2016**. **For more information visit this link.**

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13. Traineeship at the Eurideas Linguistic Services

Eurideas Linguistic Services is specialized in European and international translation and interpretation projects. Currently we are looking for an intern to take part in a 6-month work placement in our office in Brussels. During the internship the intern will have the opportunity to be involved in communication and event management projects. **Responsibilities:** Assisting the Event Manager in her event management duties; Finding and evaluating new suppliers and vendors; Assisting Eurideas` team in managing interpretation assignments; Participating at events in Brussels; Managing Eurideas Twitter and Facebook accounts. **Profile required:** Recently completed BA in European affairs or communication or business studies; Fluent in English and French; International background, good communication skills; Ability to work independently; Very good organisation and time management skills. **Our offer:** Interesting international projects; Opportunity to be a member of a dynamic and young team; Basic intern salary; Possibility to be hired after completing the internship; Self-development. If you are interested, please send your CV and motivation letter to **office@eurideas.eu**. Please include in the title of your email: Event organisation intern. **Deadline of application: 30 April 2016**. **For more information visit this link**.

14. Traineeship at the European Court of Auditors

Starting from 2016, the European Court of Auditors will organise three traineeship sessions per year in areas of interest to its work. Traineeships are granted for 3, 4 or 5 months maximum. They may be remunerated (1120 €/month) or non-remunerated depending on the budgetary appropriations available.
The 3 sessions are organised each year starting on: 1st February, **1st May**, 1st September. **In order to be eligible to carry out a period of traineeship, applicants must:**

- be a national of one of the Member States of the European Union, except where a derogation has been granted by the appointing authority;
- either hold a recognised university-level diploma giving access to the AD function group(*) as defined in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union, or have completed at least four semesters of university study in an area of interest to the Court;
- wish to obtain practical training related to one of the Court of Auditors' areas of activity;
- have not already benefited from a traineeship at any EU institution or body ;
- state that they have a thorough knowledge of one official language of the European Union and a satisfactory knowledge of at least one other official European Union language.

Candidates selected must provide a declaration that they have never been convicted or found guilty of any criminal offence as drawn up for the civil service by their national authorities and a medical certificate certifying that they are physically fit to perform their tasks. For more information visit this **link**.

15. Concluded the fourth workshop in Poland THE ARTIST WITHIN

Last days took place in Lodz in Poland the fourth and final workshop of the project "THE ARTIST WITHIN - APPLIED EMOTION" approved under the Erasmus+ Programme KA2 - Adult Education. The project aims to foster the development and integration of various models of art in formal and non-formal education activities. It intends to give better support to organizations in order to train staff and target groups with the aim to develop entrepreneurial skills by using different artistic tools through individual and group actions. The aim of the project is to transfer and / or to implement some innovative practices within partners by the improvement of understanding and empowerment of social diversity and by the promotion of psychological and cultural development of target groups. During this fourth workshop, attended by our association with four young animators from Potenza, it was developed a first phase of T.o.T. (Training trainers) and then a training course for Polish University students.

16. NEFELE: created profile Facebook

In last days it was launched the Facebook profile of the project "Nephele - Networking European Festivals For Mental Life Enhancement" (action n. 559274-CREATE-1-2015-1-ELCULT-COOP1. Approved and funded under "Creative Europe" programme) with the aim to disseminate all the activities and products developed by the project parnters. All interested ones could follow this initiative thanks to a simple activity: clic on "Like" at the following link: https://www.facebook.com/nefeleproject/. We hope for a large participation!!! It has been also completed the official website of the project: www.nefeleproject.eu. In the website you will find all the materials developed by the partners during the project lifetime.

17. Seminar of the project CCB

CLEAR cyberbullying, an European project funded under Erasmus+ programme is close to the end. The goal of the project was to investigate and combat the phenomenon of violence in the web through the involvement of some schools in activitiesstarting from a preliminary statistics about the topic. Thanks to some **theatre workshops** and also recreational and creative activities, some students have reflected on the roles assumed by the perpetrators and those affected by the phenomena of violence. The latest activities planned to be completed under the project lifetime are a large Flashmob event on April 30 and an information seminar on 6 May. On 30th April, the School Institute "Istituto Comprensivo Giacomo Leopardi", involved in workshop activities during the Drama Training will lead a flashmob event with a large participation in the square in foront of the school, with students wearing t-shirts with some slogans and organizing a synchronized mini-choreography. On 6th May, the school will also host an informational seminar: **"The Cyberbullying_ What's the situation in our region and which are the methodologies to manage the problem?"**. The seminar will involve several institutions and personalities already engaged in the topic and in informative activities such as Dott.sa Romano *Responsible of Medical Directorate at Family Advisory Centre in Potenza* and in collaboration with Dr. Nino Cutro journalist and president of the association IL CIELO IN UNA STANZA - longtime involved in several activities against the bullying and cyberbullying. The organizers will also involve Moige and Corecom and AIART (Italian Association of radio listeners) whose President, Dr. Loredana Albano will give a considerable contribution to the seminar discussion. It is also palnned the presence of the Superior Inspector of Police Post Department Filippo Squicciarini. The seminar is open all students of the school Istituto Comprensivo Giacomo Leopardi, the school Manager Dr. Basso and all the teachers. The next day will be tested the online game against cyberbullying produced by one of the five partners of the project, Asociacion De Investigacion De La Industria Del Juguete, Conexas Y Afines.

18. The suitcase: activity realization

The project "The suitcase, the map and the voyage of a youth worker" (developed under the Erasmus+ programme by a partnership composed by Predict CSD Consulting - Romania, Millennium Center youth organization - Romania, "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad - Romania, SC Schultz development SRL - Romania, Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service - UK; Asociacion Cultural Integra - Spain; Organization for Promotion of European Issues - Cyprus; Fundacja Centrum Aktywnosci Tworczej - Poland and Euro-Net - Italy) is working on the development of the first draft platform to be used to support young people in the process of planning their working life professionalisation pathway (ref. "youth worker").

19. Concluded third meeting of the project "EUrbanities" in Bucarest

From 20th to 22nd March 2016 took place in Bucarest, Romania, the third meeting of the project "EURbanities - empowering civil participation through game based learning" – approved by the German Erasmus+ National Agency under the Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education – action 2015-1-DE02-KA204-002434. During the third meeting the partners discussed all the activities carried out during the first project year and all the actions to be developed in order to create an electronic game.

20. ENT-NET: second newsletter and brochures

Since last days, within the European project "ENT-NET: PROMOTING SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP THROUGH A TRAINING NETWORK" (Action no. 2015-1-ES01-KA204-015882 funded by Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnerships Program for Education Adult), the partnership is promoting the second project newsletter and it is preparing all the promotional brochure. In addition, our technicians are implementing the structure of the website to be used as a platform for the courses provided by the initiative. For more details about the project, please visit the website: http://www.ent-net.eu/.

21. 2nd Transnational Project Meeting "CREATUSE" in Lisbon

The "CREATUSE" project, funded under the Erasmus + KA2 programme – Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education, is at a core point of the activities. After the first meeting held in Potenza (Italy) in the late November 2015, the partners have carried out an extensive research at European level of the Best Practice examples about the main project topics. Now they are also finalizing the first Intellectual Output: an introductory guide to the sharing and the collaborative consumption. The products were presented during the second meeting in Lisbon in the period 14th – 17th April 2016.

22. Meeting EDIC in Catania

On last 17th and 18th March it was held in Catania the EDIC national meeting organized by the Italian Delegation of the European Commission with the participation of all national Europe Direct centers. The themes discussed are listed below, including interesting insights about immigration:

- EU policies about immigration and asylum / European agenda on migration / hotspot and outplacement;
- The Frontex Agency's role and "Triton" Operation;
- The role of Europol and its support to Italy;
- The operational plan of support for Italy by the European Agency for the right to asylum;
- Communicate about immigration and promote the integration.

The Europe Direct center Basilicata attended the event with our manager Antonino Imbesi, which consider as very interesting the initiative coordinated by the European Commission Representation in Italy. The meeting was also an opportunity to thanks and celebrates the retirement of two important collaborators from the Representation as well to remind the colleague Tommaso Martinelli, died recently.

23. Concluded youth exchange in Polonia

From 24th February till 2nd March took place in Zakopa-ne (Poland) the youth exchange "DIVERSITY TOWARDS EUROPEAN UNITY AND INTEGRATION", attended by 6 young (aged 18 to 30) and one group leader coming from our organisation. The aim of the project is the support to European diversity and the promotion of unity and integration. The project is composed by 2 phases of youth exchange: the second one was held also in Zakopane in Poland in the period 14th-21st March with the participation of other six young people and leaders from the following countries: Poland, Turkey, Poland, Croatia, Greece, Romania and, of course, Italy.