



EURO-NET

The Youth European Network



EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre
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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.*

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1. Spring 2016 Standard Eurobarometer

Europeans see immigration and terrorism as the major challenges facing the EU at the moment, and they support the political priorities of the European Commission. These are two key results of the latest Standard Eurobarometer survey published. The survey was carried out between 21 and 31 May 2016 in 34 countries and territories.



Immigration and terrorism are seen as the major challenges facing the EU:

Asking citizens about their main concerns, **immigration remains at the top of the most frequently cited issues facing the EU** (48%, -10). Terrorism (39%, +14) remains the second most frequently cited item after a sharp increase since the previous survey in autumn 2015. It is well ahead of the economic situation (19%, -2), the state of Member States public finances (16%, -1) and unemployment (15%, -2). Immigration is number one concern for the EU in 20 Member States and among the top two concerns in all countries, except Portugal. Terrorism is number one concern in eight Member States

and among the top two concerns in all countries, except Greece. **At national level**, main concerns are unemployment (33%, -3) and immigration (28%, -8). The economic situation is in third place (19%, unchanged).

Support for European Commission's political priorities:

As in the previous survey of November 2015, there is positive endorsement of the **priority topics set by the European Commission**.

- Regarding the issue of **migration**, 67% of Europeans say they are in favour of a common European policy on migration. Almost six Europeans out of ten (58%) are positive about migration of people from other EU Member States. However, the same proportion is negative about immigration of people from outside the EU.
- 79% of Europeans are in favour of the **"free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU"**. Majorities of respondents support free movement in all countries from UK (63%) to Latvia (95%). In addition, most Europeans regard the free movement of people, goods and services within the EU as the most positive achievement of the EU (56%), alongside peace among the Member States (55%).
- Europeans see the **EU as a global actor**: 68% think that the EU's voice counts in the world.
- On **investment** within the EU, 56% of Europeans agree public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level.
- 56% of Europeans are also in favour of a **digital single market** within the EU.
- On **energy**, 70% of Europeans are in favour of a common energy policy among EU Member States.
- Support for **the euro** remains stable (55% in the EU overall, 68% in the euro area). There is majority support for the single currency in 22 Member States including all those belonging to the Euro area.
- Support for a **free trade and investment agreement between the EU and the USA** is the majority view in 24 Member States. Overall, 51% of respondents in the EU are in favour.

Trust in the EU is higher than trust in national governments; EU citizenship stands firm

The number of Europeans who say they **trust the European Union** has gone up to 33%. The average level of trust in national governments is stable at 27%. An unchanged proportion of Europeans (38%) say they have a neutral **image of the EU**. The number of Europeans who say they have a positive image of the EU stands at 34% while 27% have a negative image. The number of citizens who say that **their voice counts in the EU** remains stable at 38% (-1 point), maintaining the positive boost observed since the European elections in 2014. Two thirds of Europeans (66%, +2) feel that they are **citizens of the EU**. This view is shared by majorities of respondents in 26 Member States.

Background

The Spring 2016 Standard Eurobarometer was conducted through face-to-face interviews between 21 and 31 May 2016. A total of 31,946 people were interviewed across the EU Member States and in the candidate countries.

Further information

The 'First results report' published outlines Europeans' attitudes towards the EU, as well as citizens' main concerns and perceptions of the economic situation. It is available online [here](#).

2. Towards better social statistics for a social Europe

The European Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation on new, integrated ways to collect and use data from social surveys so as to better support policy making in general and social policy in particular.

A more solid evidence base in terms of social indicators will improve the analysis of social developments and contribute to a social triple-A for Europe. As **Marianne Thyssen**, Commissioner responsible for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, as well as for European statistics (EUROSTAT), said: *"We take an important step to modernise social statistics. Yet this is not about numbers, this is about people. Good policies start with good data. We need the most accurate information in the social field. We need more up to date data and receive it faster in order to design social policies that correspond to the real needs of citizens in Europe today. This proposal is another example of how this Commission puts the social dimension at the heart of its agenda."* The proposed framework Regulation will allow data to be published faster, as it reduces the transmission deadlines in a number of areas. It will also increase the comparability and coherence of EU social statistics, by bringing together seven existing household surveys that are currently carried out in the EU and harmonising variables that are common to two or more surveys. This will, in addition, facilitate joint analysis of social phenomena, based on new survey methods. Finally, we will have a richer and broader data set at our disposal, thanks to the use of innovative approaches and methods by national statistical authorities and the combination of data from several sources.

Background

This initiative is part of a major programme for the modernisation of social statistics undertaken in close cooperation with the Member States. It addresses the increased challenges in this area of statistics, which include rapid innovation in methodologies and uses of IT, the availability of new data sources, emerging needs and expectations of data users as well as continued pressure on available resources. It will also support the planned [European Pillar of Social Rights](#) which requires a solid evidence base in subjects such as inequalities, skills, access to employment for all and social protection expenditures - all of which should be better described with sound and timely statistics. This initiative is also part of the Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme (REFIT) and aims to streamline the European social statistics collected from samples and to make the data collection process more efficient and the statistical output more relevant. Similar initiatives are being developed in other areas of statistics, such as business and agricultural statistics. Seven household surveys are targeted with this framework Regulation: the Labour Force Survey (LFS), European Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), the Adult Education Survey (AES), the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), the Survey on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) usage in households (ICT-HH), the Household Budget Survey (HBS) and the Harmonised European Time Use Survey (HETUS). It should also be noted that this initiative will reduce the costs for Member States involved in carrying out sample surveys and the burden on EU residents responding to them. The Commission aims at gradually implementing the framework Regulation starting from 2019. The Proposal is the result of extensive consultations with all interested parties: data producers, data providers and data users. The results of the consultation are summarised in an impact assessment publicly available [here](#). The [European Statistical System \(ESS\)](#) produces the statistical data used to assess Member States' performance in the context of the European semester, to monitor the key targets of Europe 2020, to implement many Commission evaluation frameworks on employment and social developments, and to pave the way for a future strategic vision for Europe beyond Europe 2020. Additionally, the Union's political priorities require good analytical and monitoring tools in the fields of jobs, growth and investment, the digital single market, a deeper and fairer European Monetary Union (EMU), migration, internal market, energy union and climate. Over the years, the ESS has set up advanced tools to provide improved and comparable statistics for better policy



making at the European level and in the Member States. Nevertheless, the ESS is increasingly confronted with a growing need for statistical information for analysis, research and policy-making. Furthermore, statistical data should continue to meet the high quality standards of official statistics, including timeliness. Social statistics are covering a wide range of domains (demography, employment, income and consumption, well-being and quality of life, education, health etc.) and they are taken from a variety of sources (data on persons and households collected at individual level from samples, population censuses, aggregated administrative data and data from businesses). All these aspects are being analysed in a consistent manner under the modernisation programme for social statistics. The current proposed framework Regulation is an important step forward in the modernisation of social statistics notably in terms of social survey data.

3. EU Aid Volunteers

EU Aid Volunteers brings together volunteers and organisations from different countries, providing practical support to humanitarian aid projects and contributing to strengthening the local capacity and resilience of disaster-affected communities.

The EU Aid Volunteers programme offers:



- Opportunities for European citizens to [become EU Aid Volunteers in humanitarian projects](#) worldwide, showing solidarity with those who most need it,
- Professional support by trained and well-prepared volunteers to communities affected by disaster,
- Capacity building for local staff and volunteers of organisations in countries hit by disasters,
- Technical assistance for organisations based in Europe to strengthen their capacity to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Individuals can apply to be deployed to humanitarian projects worldwide. Check out the [EU Aid Volunteers vacancies](#). The EU Aid Volunteers networking platform, soon to be launched, supports partnerships and collaboration between projects, it houses the online volunteering activities and it allows EU Aid Volunteers to share their stories from the field. Funding opportunities with the EU Aid Volunteers initiative are managed by the Commission's Education, Audio-visual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Organisations can consult the [Calls: EU Aid Volunteers](#) page for more information on the rules and procedures for participating organisations and links to further information.

4. European Commission launches EU-U.S. Privacy Shield

The European Commission adopted the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield.

This new framework protects the fundamental rights of anyone in the EU whose personal data is transferred to the United States as well as bringing legal clarity for businesses relying on transatlantic data transfers.

Andrus Ansip, Commission Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, said: *"We have approved the new EU-U.S. Privacy Shield. It will protect the personal data of our people and provide clarity for businesses. We have worked hard with all our partners in Europe and in the US to get this deal right and to have it done as soon as possible. Data flows between our two continents are essential to our society and economy – we now have a robust framework ensuring these transfers take place in the best and safest conditions".* **Věra Jourová**, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality said: *"The EU-U.S. Privacy Shield is a robust new system to protect the personal data of Europeans and ensure legal certainty for businesses. It brings stronger data protection standards that are better enforced, safeguards on government access, and easier redress for individuals in case of complaints. The new framework will restore the trust of consumers when their data is transferred across the Atlantic. We have worked together with the European data protection authorities, the European Parliament, the Member States and our U.S. counterparts to put in place an arrangement with the highest standards to protect Europeans' personal data".*

The EU-U.S. Privacy Shield is based on the following principles:

- **Strong obligations on companies handling data:** under the new arrangement, the U.S. Department of Commerce will conduct **regular updates and reviews** of participating companies, to ensure that companies follow the rules they submitted themselves to. If companies do not comply in practice they face sanctions and removal from the list. The tightening of conditions for the **onward transfers** of data to third parties will guarantee the same level of protection in case of a transfer from a Privacy Shield company.
- **Clear safeguards and transparency obligations on U.S. government access:** The **US has given the EU assurance** that the access of public authorities for law enforcement and national security is subject to clear limitations, safeguards and oversight mechanisms. Everyone in the EU will, also for the first time, benefit from **redress mechanisms** in this area. The U.S. has ruled out indiscriminate mass surveillance on personal data transferred to the US under the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield arrangement. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence further clarified that bulk collection of data could only be used under specific preconditions and needs to be as targeted and focused as possible. It details the safeguards in place for the use of data under such exceptional circumstances. The U.S. Secretary of State has established a **redress possibility** in the area of national intelligence for Europeans through an **Ombuds person mechanism** within the Department of State.
- **Effective protection of individual rights:** Any citizen who considers that their data has been misused under the Privacy Shield scheme will benefit from several accessible and affordable dispute resolution mechanisms. Ideally, the complaint will be resolved **by the company** itself; or **free of charge Alternative Dispute resolution (ADR)** solutions will be offered. Individuals **can also go to their national Data Protection Authorities, who will work with the Federal Trade Commission to ensure that complaints by EU citizens are investigated and resolved.** If a case is not resolved by any of the other means, as a last resort there will be an **arbitration** mechanism. Redress possibility in the area of national security for EU citizens' will be handled by an **Ombuds person** independent from the US intelligence services.
- **Annual joint review mechanism:** the mechanism will monitor the functioning of the Privacy Shield, including the commitments and assurance as regards access to data for law enforcement and national security purposes. The European Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce will conduct the review and associate national intelligence experts from the U.S. and European Data Protection Authorities. The Commission will draw on all other sources of information available and will issue a public report to the European Parliament and the Council.

Since presenting the draft Privacy Shield in February, the Commission has drawn on the opinions of the European data protection authorities (Art. 29 working party) and the European Data Protection Supervisor, and the resolution of the European Parliament to include a number of additional clarifications and improvements. The European Commission and the U.S. notably agreed on additional clarifications on bulk collection of data, strengthening the Ombudsperson mechanism, and more explicit obligations on companies as regards limits on retention and onward transfers. **Next steps:** The "adequacy decision" will be notified to the Member States and thereby enter into force immediately. On the U.S. side, the Privacy Shield framework will be published in the Federal Register, the equivalent to our Official Journal. The U.S. Department of Commerce will start operating the Privacy Shield. Once companies have had an opportunity to review the framework and update their compliance, companies will be able to certify with the Commerce Department starting August 1. In parallel, the Commission will publish a short guide for citizens explaining the available remedies in case an individual considers that his personal data has been used without taking into account the data protection rules.

Background

On 2 February 2016 the European Commission and the U.S. Government reached a political agreement on a new framework for transatlantic exchanges of personal data for commercial purposes: the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield. The Commission presented the draft decision texts on 29 February 2016. Following the opinion of the article 29 working party (data protection authorities) of 13 April and the European Parliament resolution of 26 May, the Commission finalised the adoption procedure on 12 July 2016. The EU-U.S. Privacy Shield reflects the requirements set out by the European Court of Justice in its ruling on 6 October 2015, which declared the old Safe Harbour framework invalid..



5. Commission presents reform of the Posting of Workers Directive

The European Commission is presenting a targeted revision of the rules on the posting of workers.

This revision translates a commitment of the Political Guidelines for this Commission to promote the principle that the same work at the same place should be remunerated in the same manner. It was announced in the 2016 Commission Work Programme. The aim of this proposal is to facilitate the posting of workers within a climate of fair competition and respect for the rights of workers, who are employed in one Member State and sent to work temporarily in another by their employer. More specifically, the initiative aims at ensuring fair wage conditions and a level playing field between posting and local companies in the host country. The Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, **Marianne Thyssen**, said: *"I have said from day one of my mandate that we need to facilitate labour mobility, but that it needs to happen in a fair way. This proposal will create a legal framework for posting that is clear, fair and easy to enforce."* The targeted revision will introduce changes in three main areas: remuneration of posted workers, including in situations of subcontracting, rules on temporary agency workers, and long-term posting. The proposal sets out that posted workers will generally benefit from the same rules governing pay and working conditions



as local workers. This will be done in full respect of the principle of subsidiarity and the way these conditions are set by the public authorities and/or social partners in the Member State in question. Currently, posted workers are already subject to the same rules as host Member State employees in certain fields, such as health and safety. However, the employer is not obliged to pay a posted worker more than the minimum rate of pay set by the host country. This can create wage differences between posted and local workers and potentially lead to unfair competition

between companies. This means that posted workers are often remunerated less than other workers for the same job. From now on, all the rules on remuneration that are applied generally to local workers will also have to be granted to posted workers. Remuneration will not only include the minimum rates of pay, but also other elements such as bonuses or allowances where applicable. Member States will be required to specify in a transparent way the different elements of how remuneration is composed on their territory. Rules set by law or universally applicable collective agreements become mandatory for posted workers in all economic sectors. The proposal also gives the possibility to Member States to provide that subcontractors need to grant their workers the same pay as the main contractor. Nevertheless this can only be done in a non-discriminatory way: the same rule must apply to national and cross-border subcontractors. The proposal will also ensure that national rules on temporary agency work apply when agencies established abroad post workers. Finally, if the duration of posting exceeds 24 months, the labour law conditions of the host Member States will have to be applied, where this is favourable to the posted worker. These changes will provide better protection for workers, more transparency and legal certainty and ensure a level playing field between domestic and posting firms while in full respect of Member States' wage-bargaining systems.

Background

Posting of workers occurs when services are provided across borders within the Single Market. A posted worker is employed in one EU Member State, but sent by his employer on a temporary basis to carry out work in another Member State. Between 2010 and 2014 the number of postings has increased by almost 45%. In 2014, around 1.9 million European workers were posted to other Member States. Posting of workers is particularly frequent in the construction sector, in the manufacturing industry and in service sectors such as personal services (education, health and social work) and business services (administrative, professional, and financial services). This reform of the 1996 Posted Workers Directive will complement the 2014 Enforcement Directive on Posted Workers, which is to be transposed in national law by June 2016. The Enforcement Directive provides for new instruments to fight fraud and abuse and to improve administrative cooperation between national authorities in charge of posting.

6. Driving Europe's transition to a low-carbon economy

The Commission presented a package of measures to accelerate the shift to low-carbon emissions in all sectors of the economy in Europe. The global low-carbon transition is already underway and gaining momentum, following the adoption of the first universal climate change agreement last December. This proposal will help Member States prepare for the future and keep Europe competitive. It is part of the EU's strategy for a resilient Energy Union with a forward looking climate policy.

In 2014, EU leaders agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels across all sectors of the economy. This proposals present binding greenhouse gas emission targets for Member States from 2021-2030 for the transport, buildings, agriculture, waste and land use and forestry sectors. These national targets contribute to the overall EU target. The new framework is based on the principles of fairness, solidarity, cost-effectiveness and environmental integrity. Member States will be at the forefront of deciding how to implement the measures to meet the agreed 2030 target. The Commission also presented a strategy on low-emission mobility setting the course for the development of EU-wide measures on low and zero-emission vehicles and alternative low-emissions fuels. EU Vice-President in charge of the Energy Union **Maroš Šefčovič** said:

"The Energy Union is delivering. With the proposed reform of the Emissions Trading System last year and this proposal on greenhouse gas emissions targets for Member States, we anchor the 2030 Energy and Climate framework in legislation. We are also setting our transport system firmly on the path towards zero-emissions. This package shows that we are mobilising all our policies towards the competitive, circular and low-carbon economy that we promised in the Energy Union Strategy".

EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy **Miguel Arias Cañete** said: *"The EU has an ambitious emissions reduction target, one I am convinced we can achieve through the collective efforts of all Member States. The national binding targets we are proposing are fair, flexible and realistic. They set the right incentives to unleash investments in sectors like transport, agriculture, buildings and waste management. With these proposals, we are showing that we have done our homework and that we keep our promises.* EU Commissioner for Transport **Violeta Bulc** said: *"Transport accounts for a quarter of Europe's greenhouse gas emissions and is a main cause of air pollution. The transition to low-emission mobility is therefore essential to reach the EU's ambitious climate objectives and to improve the quality of life in our cities. It is also an opportunity to modernise the EU's economy and keep Europe's industry competitive. The Strategy we adopted this presents a roadmap towards low-emission mobility and will give an impetus to that shift."* In the EU, efforts have already started to align private investments with climate and resource-efficiency objectives. EU financial instruments are significant contributors to climate funding. Over 50% of the investments approved so far are climate-related. As part of the Investment Plan for Europe, the European Fund for Strategic Investments is on track to deliver on mobilising at least EUR 315 billion in additional investment in the real economy by mid-2018. In addition, the Commission actively works to ensure that EU budget spending is aligned with climate objectives. At least 20% of the current EU budget will be spent on climate action.



7. Circular economy: Commission expands Ecolabel criteria



The European Commission has adopted a new set of ecological criteria under the existing EU Ecolabel scheme for the product groups of: **Furniture, Footwear and Computers.**

From now on, manufacturers of footwear, furniture and computers (personal, notebook and tablet computers) who wish to benefit from the EU Ecolabel will have to comply with strict requirements that focus on the environmental performance of the product, but also cover product safety and social aspects. *"The EU Ecolabel promotes Europe's transition to a circular economy, supporting both sustainable production and consumption. Thanks to transparent ecological criteria, consumers can make conscious choices, without compromising on the quality of the products. Similarly, the Ecolabel*

rewards those manufacturers who choose to design products that are durable and repairable, promoting innovation and saving resources", said Commissioner for Environment **Karmenu Vella**. For the computer product group, energy efficiency and device upgradability will need to be considered during the design and manufacturing process, along with taking into account how easy it is to dismantle, recover and recycle resources from the devices. In the case of furniture, in addition to a mandate on producing products that are more durable and easier to repair, the new criteria require manufacturers to conduct a more comprehensive life cycle assessment, while paying special attention to the hazardous compounds and residues, which in some cases could contribute to indoor air pollution. Special attention is also given to improving Corporate Social Responsibility with regard to labour conditions which will apply to the final footwear assembly site, following the provisions of recognised international labour standards (the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, the UN Global Compact, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multi-National Enterprises). The criteria revision is valid for six years following its date of adoption.

Background

The EU Ecolabel is a voluntary scheme and a component of the European Commission's action plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Industrial Policy. It was established as a way of encouraging manufactures to produce goods and services that are more environmentally friendly. Any good or services that has been awarded the EU Ecolabel meets a set of **high environmental and performance standards**. The EU Ecolabel has acted as a pioneer in promoting circular economy. From the beginning, its strict product group criteria were already based on the main principles of circular economy: products that have a lower environmental impact and contribute to sustainable development along their life cycle, are energy efficient, durable and repairable. More information is available on the [website EU Ecolabel](#).

8. EU and UNICEF widen partnership to better protect child rights

The European Union (EU) and UNICEF have broadened an important regional partnership that aims to protect children from violence and better include children with disabilities into society.

Since 2011, UNICEF and the EU have been working together with countries currently in the process of joining the EU, such as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Turkey. This partnership is now expanding to include Kosovo, Montenegro, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. As of this year, the European Disability Forum (EDF) has joined the partnership. Violence is a daily reality for thousands of children across south eastern Europe. Data shows that more than 50 per cent of boys and girls aged 2-14 (and in some countries, more than 70 per cent) were exposed to at least one form of physical or psychological severe punishment by family members. Many children still find it extremely difficult to speak to outsiders when violence occurs within the family, let alone to seek protection and redress. The situation of children with disabilities is even more complicated: they are often separated from their families, overrepresented in residential institutions, kept out of schools and are excluded from every day public life. They face prejudice, stigma and severe discrimination. Many are "invisible" – they are not represented in official data. They are also nearly four times more likely to experience violence. The

EU and UNICEF are contributing 5.89 million Euros – of which 5 million Euros come from the EU – for this regional partnership over the next three years, and have pledged to continue strongly advocating for each and every child to be protected from all forms of violence and to be an equal member of society. *"We believe that this partnership can make a real difference to the life of children in the region. We rely on UNICEF's and EDF's expertise and knowledge to influence policies that have an impact on children who are victims of violence and children with disabilities. At the same time, it is crucial to reach out to civil society and grass-root organisations working on child protection and to promote children inclusion in societies. Therefore, a large part of the funding will be devoted to support small civil society organisations to achieve real change and sustainable improvements of children's daily life and future perspective,"* said **Johannes Hahn**, EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations. The partnership will contribute to improving



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coordination for multi-sectoral responses to violence against children. Key professionals will get better data, innovative tools, knowledge and the mechanisms to prevent or respond to violence, abuse and neglect and to narrow the social distance between children with and without disabilities. *"Each case of violence against children is one too many. It places their lives, health, safety, education and future at risk, and can mark them for life. We must speak out against violence and discrimination. It is unacceptable to use violence against children, especially against children who are the most vulnerable. We must find effective national and community-based solutions to protect the rights of all children and help seek redress for each and every child,"* said **Marie-Pierre Poirier**, Regional Director and Special Coordinator for Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Europe. Disability Persons Organisations including children with disabilities themselves will play a more vocal and active role in monitoring and influencing policies equal rights and social inclusion of children with disabilities. *"It is critical that children with disabilities are included all actions to tackle violence against children. This initiative is also very important in that it seeks to build the capacity and the involvement of organizations of persons with disabilities and other members of the civil society. EDF is happy to partner with UNICEF and the EU, to help make the rights of children with disabilities a reality in the region, as we aim to do in our work in Europe and globally,"* said **Yannis Vardakastanis**, President of the European Disability Forum.

About UNICEF

UNICEF promotes the rights and wellbeing of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere. Website: www.unicef.org/ceecis or www.unicef.org/eu

About EDF

The European Disability Forum is an independent NGO that represents the interests of 80 million Europeans with disabilities. EDF is a unique platform which brings together representative organisations of persons with disabilities from across Europe. EDF is run by persons with disabilities and their families. We are a front runner for disability rights. We are a strong, united voice of persons with disabilities in Europe. Website: www.edf-feph.org.

9. EU publishes key results of its international cooperation and development

The first report based on the new "EU International Cooperation and Development Results Framework" provides a selection of results achieved in about 100 partner countries across the globe with the support of EU-funded projects and programmes.

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with the support of EU-funded projects and programmes. This marks a significant step forward in terms of transparency, and strengthens the focus on performance and results in EU international cooperation and development. The European Commission publishes its first comprehensive report on its Results Framework. This constitutes a new way of reporting on results of EU-financed development projects and programmes – and outlines that the EU has contributed to significant results in partner countries. The report presents the results of the most financially important EU funded projects and programmes completed between mid-2013 and mid-2014. It shows that, with the contribution of EU development cooperation, **over 4.5 million** women of reproductive age and children under 5 benefited from nutrition-related programmes, and **over 1.1 million** births were attended by skilled health personnel, helping to reduce maternal mortality. Over **29 million** children were enrolled at school, with over **19 million** in primary education and **9.5 million** in secondary education. Other

key results in the report highlight that more than **19** elections were supported where the electoral process was perceived by independent observers as free and fair and almost **14 million** hectares of protected areas were managed to help ensure biological diversity and preserve natural heritage. Meanwhile, more than **325,000** people benefited from training and skills development intended to improve their employability, productivity and competitiveness. Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, **Neven Mimica** commented: *"I am proud to present this report,*

which showcases the outstanding results that were achieved in our partner countries through projects and programmes financed by the European Union. Demonstrating the actual results of our work is crucial to maintain strong support from all of our partners, and in particular from EU citizens. I am strongly committed to an approach that is better focused on results – we need to show that every euro we spend on development is helping to make a difference". The **EU International Cooperation and Development Results Framework** has provided the basis for this annual EU report, which is the first of its kind. It presents results of development cooperation activities based on data reported by the partners implementing EU financed projects and programmes (i.e. partner countries, international organisations, EU Member State development agencies, international financial institutions and NGOs.) This report marks a significant step forward in terms of transparency, providing a selection of results achieved by about 100 **partner countries** across the globe with the support of EU-funded projects and programmes. The areas it covers are: **good governance, conflict prevention, energy, education, health, sustainable agriculture, transport, and environment and climate change.**

Background

The **EU Results Report** is the first of a series of systematic annual reports that present the results of development cooperation activities in an aggregated way, using quantitative indicators. It comprises results to which the EU has contributed (i.e. where a project was financed by the EU jointly with other funders, donors and/or the partner country governments themselves). The report draws on the results of projects and programmes which ended between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014. It represents approximately 90% of the value of all EU-funded projects and programmes ending in that period of time. The report aims to provide European citizens and other stakeholders with selected results obtained from EU financed development cooperation projects and programmes implemented in partner countries. It is part of a broader effort to strengthen the focus on performance and results in EU international cooperation and development.

10. Commission signs agreement with industry on cybersecurity

The Commission launches a new public-private partnership on cybersecurity that is expected to trigger €1.8 billion of investment by 2020. This is part of a series of new initiatives to better equip Europe against cyber-attacks and to strengthen the competitiveness of its cybersecurity sector.

According to a [recent survey](#), at least 80% of European companies have experienced at least one cybersecurity incident over the last year and the number of security incidents across all industries worldwide rose by 38% in 2015. This damages European companies, whether they are big or small, and threats to undermine trust in the digital economy. As part of its [Digital Single Market strategy](#) the Commission wants to reinforce cooperation across borders, and between all actors and sectors active in cybersecurity, and to help develop innovative and secure technologies, products and services throughout the EU.

Andrus Ansip, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, said: *"Without trust and security, there can be no Digital Single Market. Europe has to be ready to tackle cyber-threats that are increasingly sophisticated and do not recognise borders. We are proposing concrete measures to strengthen Europe's resilience against such attacks and secure the capacity needed for building and expanding our digital economy."* **Günther H. Oettinger**, Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society, said: *"Europe needs high quality, affordable and interoperable cybersecurity products and services. There is a major opportunity for our cybersecurity industry to compete in a fast-growing global market. We call on Member States and all cybersecurity bodies to strengthen cooperation and pool their knowledge, information and expertise to increase Europe's cyber resilience. The milestone partnership on cybersecurity with the industry is a major step"*. This action plan includes the launch of the first European **public private partnership on cybersecurity**. The EU will invest €450 million in this partnership, under its research and innovation programme [Horizon 2020](#). Cybersecurity market players, represented by the European Cyber Security Organisation (ECSO), are expected to invest three times more. This partnership will also include members from national, regional and local public administrations,



research centres and academia. The aim of the partnership is to foster cooperation at early stages of the research and innovation process and to build cybersecurity solutions for various sectors, such as energy, health, transport and finance. The Commission also sets out different measures to tackle the fragmentation of the EU cybersecurity market. Currently an ICT company might need to undergo different certification processes to sell its products and services in several Member States. The Commission will therefore look into a possible European **certification framework** for ICT security products. A myriad of innovative European SMEs have emerged in niche markets (e.g. cryptography) and in well-established markets with new business models (e.g. antivirus software), but they are often unable to scale up their operations. The Commission wants to **ease access to finance for smaller businesses** working in the field of cybersecurity and will explore different options under the [EU investment plan](#). The **Network and Information Security Directive**, which is expected to be adopted by the European Parliament tomorrow, already creates a network of Computer Security Incident Response Teams across the EU in order to rapidly react to cyber threats



and incidents. It also establishes a 'Cooperation Group' between Member States, to support and facilitate strategic cooperation as well as the exchange of information, and to develop trust and confidence. The Commission calls on Member States to make the most of these new mechanisms and to strengthen coordination when and where possible. The Commission will propose how to **enhance cross-border cooperation in**

case of a major cyber-incident. Given the speed with which the cybersecurity landscape is evolving, the Commission will also bring forward its evaluation of the **European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)**. This evaluation will assess whether ENISA's mandate and capabilities remain adequate to achieve its mission of supporting EU Member States in boosting their own cyber resilience. The Commission also examines how to strengthen and streamline cybersecurity cooperation across different sectors of the economy, including in cybersecurity training and education.

Background

THIs action plan finds its main roots in the 2015 Digital Single Market strategy, the 2013 [EU Cybersecurity strategy](#) and the forthcoming Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive. It builds on the recent Communications on Delivering the European Agenda on Security and Countering Hybrid Threats.

11. 2016 EESC Civil Society Prize - Migrants

The 2016 prize will reward initiatives carried out by civil society organisations and/or individuals and aimed at improving migrants' lives and fostering their integration in society. The **aim** of the Civil Society Prize, which is awarded annually, is to reward and encourage tangible initiatives and achievements by civil society organisations and/or individuals that have made a significant contribution to promoting European identity and integration. Its **overall objective** is to raise awareness of the contribution that civil society organisations and/or individuals can make to the creation of a European identity and citizenship in a way that underpins the common values that shore up European integration. The prize, which has a total value of 50 000 € and will be awarded on 15 December 2016, is open to civil society organisations officially registered within the European Union and acting at European, national, regional or local level. It is furthermore open to individuals. **The deadline for submitting applications is 9 September 2016.** The contest rules and the application form are available by clicking this [link](#).



12. Sony World Photography Awards 2016

A passion for photography often starts at a young age. The Youth competition, for all photographers aged 12-19, recognises this next generation of talented young photographers. The competition helps young photographers grow and flourish into the next stages of their careers. Judges are looking for



good composition, creativity and clear photographs. This year, we are asking our young photographers to respond to the brief: **Beauty**. The definition of 'beauty' is "the quality of being pleasing, especially to look at, or someone or something that gives great pleasure, especially when you look at it." In your photograph the judges are looking to see what you consider to be 'beauty'. Take the word in its widest form – from environment to people, animals to still life. In addition to the main prizes, all winning and shortlisted photographers will be included in a global press campaign, featured across the World

Photography Organisation website and exhibited at Somerset House, London in Spring 2017. **The judges will award:** 1 Youth competition winner; Up to 10 shortlisted photographers; Up to 40 commended photographers. **Closing date:** January 5, 2017 - 11:59pm GMT. **Please note:** All submitted images must have been taken in 2016. To enter the Youth competition you must be aged between 12-19 on the closing date. For more information, please consult the following [link](#).

13. 14th International Youth Conference – application call

The International Youth Conference "European Values for the Future of the SEE Countries" was held for the very first time in 2003. The European values in the SEE countries were a significant issue affecting everyone. Now, 14 years from the organization of the first conference, the topic is still fresh and unanswered, but the political – economic map of the region has notably changed. Although all countries embarked from the same point, the situation today with all of them is different. Some of the countries of the region like Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia became members of the Euro-Atlantic integration structures. Others, like Montenegro and Serbia are already on a good path to achieving their goal. Others like Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Albania and Turkey are somewhere half way, each of them trying to overcome their specific problems. It is obvious that the situation is complicated and takes a lot of work and motivation for the mosaic of values to be properly compiled. All societies and entities from the region share the same aspirations of integration in the Euro-Atlantic structures and they all understand that the joint collaboration is the right way to build a sustainable future. The strategy of expanding the EU not only promotes stability, but also is based on regional collaboration, mutual understanding and respect, healthy neighbourly relations based on open



cooperation, reconciliation and addressing issues of the past with sobriety. The International Youth Conference "European Values for the Future of SEE Countries" for fourteen consecutive years lives as a forum where 60 active, successful and able young leaders, youth workers and representatives of prominent NGOs from 16 countries. Those fighters for a better future are sharing their visions, strategies, campaigns and way of thinking during the 5-day forum. They are using the Conference as an orientation marker for their future plans in the field of European values because it is well known that the conference is the perfect base for proclaiming new ideas and creating new politics. The International Youth Conference is a unique place, a cultural crossroad where discussions for: rule of law, democracy, human rights, freedom of speech, free-market economy, political inclusiveness and right of free sexual orientation, are mixing while we are putting together the mosaic of the future.

Application Process: The Conference will bring together up to 59 participants from the countries from the SEE region (Macedonia (host country), Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Montenegro, Italy, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia) and Turkey and guests from youth organizations partners from Germany, France and Poland in the role of mentors. The International

Youth Conference will offer the possibility for a scholarship to 59 participants, including fully covered accommodation fees, food and 80% from the travel expenses. The rest of the participants, who wish to participate, will be able to do that by covering all of the accommodation, food and travel expenses, and for that, they will be notified via e-mail.

Participants profile: youth workers, youth leaders, active young people, multipliers, as well as representatives of youth networks; available to actively attend the full duration of the Conference; able to communicate in English, the working language of the Conference; above 18 years old. The applicants are requested to fill in the online application. The call for participants will be open until **15/09/2016**. Please read over the following information carefully before submitting your application. If you have any questions, send an email to: conference2016@krusevoconference.org.mk and you will be answered promptly. For more information, please consult the following [link](#).

14. Call for applications: Internships at the International Office of the EYP



The European Youth Parliament (EYP) is a unique educational programme which brings together young people from all over Europe, to discuss current topics in a parliamentary setting. The EYP is a non-partisan and independent programme. The EYP consists of a network of 40 European associations and organisations in which thousands of young people are active in a voluntary capacity. With its international, national and regional sessions it reaches out to ca. 35 000 young people all over Europe every year. The international umbrella organisation of the EYP is the Schwarzkopf Foundation, hosting the International Office of the EYP.

They are now looking for interns from the 1st of November 2016 onwards, for periods of three months throughout the whole academic year!

Would you like to... gain relevant experience in a non-profit-organisation running an educational programme for young people all over Europe; get an inside into fields like project management, communications and event organisation; be part of a young, motivated and professional team; live in one of the coolest capitals in Europe; earn 450 EUR per month while doing so.

Do you have...

- good knowledge of English (essential) and German (desired);
- good communication skills;
- previous experience in office work;
- a good team spirit;
- knowledge of InDesign and layout (desired);
- experience in EYP (not obligatory);
- loads of enthusiasm and motivations;
- interest in the aims of our organisation.

The European Youth Parliament is offering full time internship positions at its International Office in Berlin. We are looking for students who would like to gain professional experience in the management of an international NGO for the duration of three months.

Main tasks

You support the Project Managers of the EYP team in the following areas:

- practical preparations and participant management for board meetings and other events in Berlin;
- drafting and revising of reports and applications;
- preparing and updating databases, administering online elections and polls;
- updating websites, member platform and social media sites;
- composing invitations and other materials;
- other tasks depending on current projects and events.

Please note that the maximum length of the internship is three months. Applicants are required to **complete the internship in support of their studies or as a part of them**. If an applicant has already finished his/her studies, we cannot consider the application. Applicants from outside the EU should take into account a period of at least six months for the necessary work visa permit application process before the start of the internship. We will favour applicants from European countries in the selection. We are now looking for interns from the 1st of November 2016 onwards. The concrete time periods we are offering are indicated in the application form. In the online application form, we also ask you to attach your letter of motivation and your CV in English. We welcome applications online through <http://polls.eyp.org/eyp-internship-application>. **Please apply till 05/09/2016, midnight CET**. For more information, please consult the following [link](#).

15. Realized the course in Czech Republic

From June 27 to July 6, 2016 was held in the Czech Republic the training "Let's make lasting, positive change for the common good" which was attended by two teachers coming from EURO-NET. At the project, approved under the Erasmus Plus program, participated 9 other European organizations: Young Leaders CZ z.s. (Czech Republic); The Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North of the Khabarovsk region (Russian Federation); CEDES (Moldova); ASOCIACIJA AKTYVUS JAUNIMAS (Lithuania); SEIKLEJATE VENNASKOND (Estonia); ARMENIAN PROGRESSIVE YOUTH (Armenia); SIQA (Georgia); NGO K.A.F.A.Y.STELLA (Ukraine); PLANBE, PLAN IT BE IT (Cyprus).



16. Concluded the youth exchange in Romania



From July 18 to 26 was held in Timisoara, Romania, the youth exchange "Open your mind" with the participation of representatives from the following European countries: Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Portugal, Spain and the Netherlands. The project, which, thanks to our association, was attended by a large group of boys Potenza, was approved under the Erasmus Plus program.

17. Concluded the exchange "Pinhole Photography" in Poland

From 27 June to 11 July was held in Lodz in Poland the youth exchange "Pinhole Photography" (n.2016-1-PL01-KA105-025750 share) approved under the Erasmus Plus program. The theme of the exchange was the picture through the use of a special operating technique. The exchange was attended by a large group of youngsters coming from our association. The project objectives were to: Develop a culture of learning; Motivate young people to actively participate in any educational experience; Develop greater confidence in the use of foreign languages; Improve self-development and self-reflection; Exchange good practices and mutual experiences; Educate young people in terms of social, historical, and cultural benefits; Strengthen international cohesion and the promotion of international dialogue.



18. New meeting in Cyprus for the project "THE SUITCASE"

The project "The suitcase, the map and the voyage of a youth worker" (developed in the framework of 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, Dacorom 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 now working on test of the platform to be used to support young people. In the early days of September will be realised the third project meeting in Cyprus in which the partners will meet to define the steps of this important intellectual output.



19. New course in Malta

A new training course has been approved to be held in Malta, to which will have the opportunity to participate in several trainers from our association. The project was approved under the Erasmus Plus program. More information will be available on our next newsletter.



20. Second phase of the project in Albania



Soon begins the second phase of the "New Born Memory" in Albania that will take place September 12 to 19 p.v. in Vlora. This exchange is the continuation of the meeting realized in the period 23-30 May. The project was approved under the Erasmus Plus Capacity Building program. The first meeting was attended by four young animators / youth leaders over 22.

22. Almost finished The Artist Within project

In July it took place in Tihany in Hungary the last meeting 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.



23. NEFELE Mental Life CineFestival in Italy



From 24th to 28th June 2016 took place the "NEFELE Mental Life CineFestival" that was held in two locations in Basilicata: Potenza and Marconia Pisticci (MT). To permit the initiative to be carried out in the best way (bringing the right luster to the whole region) and hoping it could become an annual event, it was decided to allow free of charge public participation in all events in the 5 days event. The "NEFELE Cinefestival Mental Life" was a way to reflect on the problems of depression, psychosis and mental well-being in general with special attention to the problems related to the loss

of employment which unfortunately are very contemporary to the present day because of the difficult economic situation. The scheduled films they were "The Measure of a man" by Stéphane Brizé, "Ready for anything" by Lorenzo Vignolo, "The fifth wheel " by Giovanni Veronesi, "Cover Boy" by Carmine Amoroso and "The Medicine Seller" by Antonio Morabito. Beside the presentation of the films mentioned there have been debates with the participation of experts and various stakeholders, workshops (theater-therapy, music-therapy, game-therapy), video portrait and artistic installations of contemporary art. More information on the festival can be read on the official web site of the project: www.nefeleproject.eu.

24. CCB project is going to end

Soon the CCB project will close. On 28th and 29th of July last was held in Catania the last meeting of CLEAR CYBER BULLYING project (a project financed by the Erasmus program PLUS KA2 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION). The purpose of the project was to find solutions to the problem of bullying and cyber-bullying now increasing rapidly among adolescents and children. At the last international meeting, which was attended by two people from our association, were presented the results of the project and discussed the final report.



25. Approved many KA1 and KA2 projects

We are pleased to inform you that also this year to our organisation, despite the change of the programs and the difficulties of approval, were approved more than twenty Erasmus Plus projects, as coordinator or as partner. The actions financed concern of Key Actions 1 initiatives (the so-called KA1) and Key Action 2 (KA2). So also this year we will also be able to respond effectively to the expectations of the young people in our region! So stay tuned!



26. Last meeting in Denmark VET4 Start-Up

Last 6th of July ended in Esbjerg (Denmark) the fifth and last meeting of the "Vet4Start-Up" project, approved under the Erasmus KA2 - Vet program (2014-1-IT01-KA202-002487 action). The project aims to educate and train anyone interested in a start-up thanks to an e-learning MOOC (Massive Open Online Course Platform) and other materials and resources and to measure. VET4Start-UP will seek to improve the level of key competences and skills needed for new entrepreneurs through vocational and pedagogical training. The goal of the meeting was to define the last step of the project and to verify the status of the implementation of the activities already carried out so far. More information is available on the official website of the project: <http://www.vet4startup.eu/>.



27. Creatuse meeting in Turkey during the coup d'état



From 14th to 17th July 2016 took place in Kirsehir, Turkey, the third meeting of the project "CREATUSE" (coordinated by the Italian association Youth Europe Service). The project is funded under the programme Erasmus + KA2 Strategic Partnership for Adult Education. During the meeting in Turkey there was a rather special event that set apprehensive all the participants: a coup d'état that finally failed. Fortunately no problem for the participants in the meeting that, despite everything, were able to define

the new step of the project and verify the status of implementation of the activities already carried out so far. The project objectives are:

- Make a research and analysis of good practices on creativity;
- Create the figure of a professional "expert in creativity and shared policies" based on ECVET;
- Develop test and implementation of innovative practices/methodologies on adult education, such as: Creative Problem Solving Methodology, Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Open Space Technology, World Café and other resources and tools;
- Transfer knowledge and materials in national languages through an integrated web platform (website, blog, social networks);
- Encourage social entrepreneurship.

The project aims to improve the level of the skills in order to be creative in the urban areas. More information on the official website of the project: www.creatuse.eu.

28. Youth Exchange in Cyprus

In the last days was held in Cyprus, the youth exchange (approved under the Erasmus Plus program) titled "Be Active" in which participated a group of young people coming from EURO-NET. More information will be available on our next newsletter

