



# 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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**NEWSLETTER REALISED BY  
THE ASSOCIATION EURO-NET  
AS EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA CENTRE**



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## 1. Delivering new opportunities in time of global economic uncertainties

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**Despite the difficult global economic climate, European companies have continued to make good use of the opportunities created by the European Union's trade network - the largest in the world.**

In 2018 this network covered 31% of Europe's trade exchanges, a figure that is set to rise significantly (to almost 40%) as more trade agreements enter into force, according to the European Commission's annual report on the implementation of trade agreements released. Overall, trade accounts for 35% of the EU's gross domestic product (GDP). In 2018 EU exports



to and imports from trade agreement partners showed positive developments, with a continued growth of 2% and 4.6% respectively, with a strong performance of EU agri-food exports. The EU's growing network of trade agreements is creating economic opportunities for workers across Europe, with over 36 million jobs being supported by exports to outside of the EU. The EU recorded a surplus of €84.6 billion in trade in goods with its trade agreement partners, compared to its overall trade deficit with the rest of the world of about €24.6 billion. Commenting on the report, Commissioner for Trade **Cecilia Malmström** said "Trade agreements create opportunities for European businesses to grow and hire more people. This report shows that overall trade is up, and more of our global trade is covered by

preferential deals than ever before. Our food and drink exports in particular are flourishing thanks to lower tariffs and legal protection abroad for artisanal EU products like Champagne and Feta. The report also provides evidence of how our focus on trade and sustainable development is bearing fruit. Furthermore, we have taken a number of unprecedented steps to enforce the commitments made by our trade partners in the last year, including notably on workers' rights. There is still work to be done, of course. But by opening up this data to the wider public we hope to launch a wider discussion about how to make sure trade agreements benefit as many citizens as possible." Looking at specific sectors across agreements, the 2018 report shows: **EU agri-food** exports to trade partners continued to grow with an overall increase of 2.2% compared to the previous year. Exports of agri-food products to South Korea also gained 4.8 %. Also noteworthy are agri-food exports to Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, which grew by 11% compared to 2017; **EU industrial goods** exports also increased overall by 2%, with stronger growth among others for chemicals (2.5 %), mineral products (6 %) and base metals (4.4 %). Looking for instance at one of the recent trade agreements, the report shows that in the first full calendar year (2018) of the **EU-Canada trade agreement** implementation: bilateral trade in goods grew by 10.3% and the EU's trade surplus with Canada increased by 60%; EU goods exports to Canada rose by 15% (or €36 billion in extra export revenue), especially for sectors where import duties were previously high such as pharmaceuticals (up 29%), machinery (up 16%) or organic chemicals (up 77 %); EU Agri-food exports to Canada (accounting for 9% of total EU exports) rose by 7%. Moreover, following intensive discussions in the joint committees created under the different trade agreements, several partner countries **lifted barriers to trade**, thus allowing more EU companies to benefit fully from the opportunities these agreements offer. Danish and Dutch farmers, for example, will be able to export beef to South Korea, while Poland and Spain will be able to export poultry meat to South Africa. The report investigates also the impact of the provisions included in the dedicated '**Trade and Sustainable Development**' (TSD) chapters, which are part of all modern EU trade agreements. These chapters aim at engaging with trade partners to implement international rules on labour and the environment, as incorporated in multilateral environmental agreements or International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions. Recent achievements ahead of the entry into force of the respective agreements include the ratification by Mexico and Vietnam of ILO Convention 98 on the rights to organise and collective bargaining. Additionally, the agreements with Vietnam, Japan, Singapore, Mercosur and Mexico include reinforced commitments to effectively implement the **Paris Agreement on Climate Change**. In 2018 and 2019, the EU also took several **enforcement actions** under its trade agreements, including in relation to labour standards. Among other examples, the EU requested a panel following South Korea's failure to ratify ILO Conventions on workers' rights, notably freedom of association and collective bargaining. However, the report

also highlights the need to increase efforts – together with Member States and stakeholders - to **raise awareness of the opportunities** trade agreements offer, as well as **stepping up enforcement action** so the agreements deliver the intended results. The report will now be subject to discussion with the European Parliament and Member States' representatives in the Council.

### **Background**

At present, the EU has in place the largest trade network in the world, with 41 trade agreements covering 72 countries. Types of EU trade agreements include: "first generation" agreements, negotiated before 2006, that focus on tariff elimination; "second generation" agreements, that extend to new areas, including intellectual property rights, services and sustainable development; Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (DCFTA) that create stronger economic links between the EU and its neighbouring countries; Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) focusing on development needs of African, Caribbean and Pacific regions.

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## **2. Report about the management of the EU budget**

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**In its latest report about the management of the EU budget, the European Court of Auditors – the independent auditor of EU spending – confirmed that the Juncker Commission had significantly improved the way it administered the EU budget.**

The auditors gave the EU annual accounts a clean bill of health for a 12<sup>th</sup> year in a row and a qualified opinion on the 2018 payments for a third consecutive year. This is a high assessment of the targeted efforts of the Juncker Commission to make sure that every euro from the EU budget is spent in line with the rules and generates added value for our citizens. Günther H. **Oettinger**, European Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources, said: *"The European Commission works hard to make sure every euro from the EU budget is spent to the benefit of our citizens and creates an EU added value. We make sure that the rules are fully respected and errors are brought down to the minimum. We are glad that our efforts bear fruit and our independent auditors have once again confirmed that we have done a good job."*



### **EU Member States – important partners in the management of the EU budget**

The Commission is responsible for the implementation of the EU budget together with a variety of partners – it manages around 75% of the EU spending jointly with the EU Member States. They play a key role in areas like cohesion and agriculture, where most of the budget is channelled through the national and regional management authorities. The Commission has strict rules regarding the good and effective management of the funds. We work hand in hand with Member States to guarantee that the budget is spent in line with these rules and that each euro from the EU budget goes where it is most needed. Günther H. **Oettinger**, European Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources, said: *"Both the EU Cohesion Policy and our Common Agricultural Policy have proven their ability to deliver good results. At the same time, cohesion and rural development remain the most challenging to manage because of the many actors involved. The Commission helps Member States and the different managing authorities to do better when necessary. Our efforts so far show we are on the right track, we will continue working in the same direction."*

### **Making the most out of every euro**

Making sure that every euro out of the EU budget achieves the best results possible across policy areas is of key importance to the Commission. This is why we have directed a lot of efforts to make sure that the EU budget is not only spent in line with the rules but also finances projects that address EU-wide challenges and make a difference for a large number of people. In the area of research for example, thanks to the world's largest publicly funded Research and Innovation funding program Horizon 2020, the EU is supporting more than 300,000 researchers, including since 18 Nobel Prize laureates, and innovators. When it comes to border protection and migration management – an area of key importance to EU citizens – since 2015, EU-funded



initiatives have helped save almost 760,000 lives in the Mediterranean and have led to a 92% decrease in arrivals in 2018 compared to the peak of the migratory crisis in 2015. The focus on EU added value is also at the heart of the Commission's proposal for the long-term budget for 2021-2027. It seeks to set clearer objectives and focus more on performance. The goal is to make it easier to monitor and measure results – and to make changes when necessary. This is expected to further improve the way the EU budget is spent.

#### **Simpler rules to increase the effectiveness of EU funding**

In the recent years, the Commission has worked to further simplify the rules under which the EU budget is spent, as simpler rules mean easier access to the funds and fewer management errors.

#### **Recovering EU funds spent incorrectly**

The Commission as a manager of the EU budget aims to ensure that, once a programme is closed and all controls are carried out, the remaining risk to the EU budget is below 2% – the level considered by the Court as material. For this purpose, the Commission is monitoring the implementation of the EU budget on the ground. If Member States or final beneficiaries are found to be spending the EU money incorrectly, the Commission may recover funds to protect the EU budget. In 2018, the Commission estimates that, after such corrections and recoveries, the remaining risk of error for the EU budget is below 1%.

#### **Background**

The publication of the Annual Report by the European Court of Auditors kicks off the annual 'discharge procedure' of the EU budget. To prepare the ground for the process, in July 2019 the Commission published information on EU revenue, expenditure, budget management and performance in the reports of the Integrated Financial and Accountability Reporting. This reporting confirms that the EU budget in 2018 has delivered concrete results, helped achieve the political priorities of the European Union, created added value for EU citizens, and was spent in line with EU rules. The estimated level of error is not a measure of fraud, inefficiency or waste. It is simply an estimate of the money already paid from the EU budget despite non-compliance with certain rules.

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### **3. Report on risk assessment of 5G networks security**

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#### **Press release by the European Commission and the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU.**

The Member States, with the support of the Commission and the European Agency for Cybersecurity published a report on the EU coordinated risk assessment on cybersecurity in Fifth Generation (5G) networks. This major step is part of the implementation of the European Commission Recommendation adopted in March 2019 to ensure a high level of cybersecurity of 5G networks across the EU. 5G networks is the future backbone of our increasingly digitised economies and societies. Billions of connected objects and systems are concerned, including in critical sectors such as energy, transport, banking, and health, as well as industrial control systems carrying sensitive information and supporting safety systems. Ensuring the security and resilience of 5G networks is therefore essential. The report is based on the results of the national cybersecurity risk assessments by all EU Member States. It identifies the main threats and threat actors, the most sensitive assets, the main vulnerabilities (including technical ones and other types of vulnerabilities) and a number of strategic risks. This assessment provides the basis to identify mitigation measures that can be applied at national and European level.



#### **Main insights of the EU coordinated risk assessment**

The report identifies a number of important **security challenges**, which are likely to appear or become more prominent in 5G networks, compared with the situation in existing networks: These security challenges are mainly linked to: key *innovations* in the 5G technology (which will also

bring a number of specific security improvements), in particular the important part of software and the wide range of services and applications enabled by 5G; the role of *suppliers* in building and operating 5G networks and the degree of dependency on individual suppliers.

Specifically, the roll-out of 5G networks is expected to have the following effects:

- An **increased exposure to attacks and more potential entry points for attackers**: With 5G networks increasingly based on software, risks related to major security flaws, such as those deriving from poor software development processes within suppliers are gaining in importance. They could also make it easier for threat actors to maliciously insert backdoors into products and make them harder to detect.
- Due to new characteristics of the 5G network architecture and new functionalities, **certain pieces of network equipment or functions are becoming more sensitive**, such as base stations or key technical management functions of the networks.
- An increased exposure to risks related to the **reliance of mobile network operators on suppliers**. This will also lead to a higher **number of attacks paths that might be exploited by threat actors** and increase the potential severity of the impact of such attacks. Among the various potential actors, non-EU States or State-backed are considered as the most serious ones and the most likely to target 5G networks.
- In this context of increased exposure to attacks facilitated by suppliers, the **risk profile of individual suppliers** will become particularly important, including the likelihood of the supplier being subject to interference from a non-EU country.
- **Increased risks from major dependencies on suppliers**: a major dependency on a single supplier increases the exposure to a potential supply interruption, resulting for instance from a commercial failure, and its consequences. It also aggravates the potential impact of weaknesses or vulnerabilities, and of their possible exploitation by threat actors, in particular where the dependency concerns a supplier presenting a high degree of risk.
- **Threats to availability and integrity of networks will become major security concerns**: in addition to confidentiality and privacy threats, with 5G networks expected to become the backbone of many critical IT applications, the integrity and availability of those networks will become major national security concerns and a major security challenge from an EU perspective.

Together, these challenges create a **new security paradigm**, making it necessary to reassess the current policy and security framework applicable to the sector and its ecosystem and essential for Member states to take the necessary mitigating measures. **European Agency for Cybersecurity threat landscape**: To complement the Member States' report, the European



Agency for Cybersecurity is finalising a specific threat landscape mapping related to 5G networks, which considers in more detail certain technical aspects covered in the report.

#### **Next Steps**

By 31 December 2019, the Cooperation Group should agree on a toolbox of mitigating measures to address the identified cybersecurity risks at national and Union level. By 1 October 2020, Member States – in cooperation with the Commission – should assess the effects of the Recommendation in order to determine

whether there is a need for further action. This assessment should take into account the outcome of the coordinated European risk assessment and of the effectiveness of the measures.

#### **Background**

On 26 March 2019, after receiving the support from the European Council, the Commission adopted a Recommendation on Cybersecurity of 5G networks calling on Member States to complete national risk assessments and review national measures and to work together at EU level on a coordinated risk assessment and a common toolbox of mitigating measures. At national level, each Member State has completed a national risk assessment of 5G network infrastructures and transmitted the results to the Commission and ENISA, the EU Agency for cybersecurity. The national risk assessments reviewed in particular main threats and threat actors affecting 5G networks, sensitive 5G assets as well as relevant vulnerabilities, including both technical ones and other types of vulnerabilities, such as those potentially arising from the 5G supply chain, in line with the EC Recommendation.

## 4. EC launches new edition of the Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor 2019

**The European Commission released the second edition of its Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor, a tool designed to benchmark and boost the creative and cultural potential of European cities, which is vital to driving economic growth and social cohesion.**

After the success of the first edition in 2017, the 2019 release presents an updated portrait of Europe's cultural and creative richness in an extended sample of 190 cities in 30 countries, including Norway and Switzerland. The Monitor was created by the Joint Research Centre, the Commission's science and knowledge service, and is accompanied by a revamped online tool which enables cities to add their own data for more in-depth coverage and benchmarking. Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth, Sport, and responsible for the Joint Research Centre said: *"The first edition of the Cultural and Creative City Monitor proved to be a success, enabling cities across Europe to boost development by better harnessing their cultural assets. I am confident that the second, expanded edition will be equally useful for city authorities, the cultural and creative sectors, and citizens themselves. The Monitor is an excellent example of how the Joint Research Centre*



*can empower policy-makers and help improve citizens' quality of life through concrete, evidence-based tools."* **Key findings of the second edition include:** Paris (France), Copenhagen (Denmark), Florence (Italy) and Lund (Sweden) rank top in their respective population groups, with Lund being a 'new entry' among the top cities compared to the 2017 edition. Jobs in the cultural and creative sectors have been growing particularly in cities in the North and East of Europe, with an average yearly increase of around 12% in Budapest (Hungary), Tallinn (Estonia), Vilnius (Lithuania), Krakow and Wroclaw (Poland) and Tartu (Estonia). Macro-regional performance shows that Northern Europe does best. Western Europe leads on 'Cultural Vibrancy', very closely followed by both Northern and Southern Europe. Western Europe is also the top performer on 'Creative Economy', with northern Europe coming close behind. The best job creation dynamics are found, on average, in Northern and Eastern European cities. In the analysed city-sample, cultural venues are generally a 30-minute walk away (or just 5 minutes by bicycle) from where European citizens live and are highly accessible by public transportation. Future EU Cohesion Policy funds could further support socio-economic convergence and territorial cohesion by focusing on creative jobs and innovation, transport connections and governance – the areas where the biggest gaps remain. Leading cultural and creative cities are more prosperous: there is a positive and significant association between the Cultural and Creative Cities Index scores and the cities' income levels. The first edition of the Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor has inspired local governments across Europe. For instance, Madrid (Spain) used evidence included in the Monitor to understand which cultural and creative assets, such as monuments, museums, cinemas, theatres and art galleries, the Spanish capital should focus its branding strategy on to improve its international ranking. As a result, Madrid published a new leaflet "Madrid - Facts and Figures 2018" promoting the city's rich cultural venues. The Monitor also helped Győr (Hungary) analyse future investment needs and provided evidence to support the city's decision to adopt a 2019-2028 cultural and creative economy strategy which identifies key measures to be implemented such as the creation of creative spaces for artists and a design incubation centre. Umeå (Sweden) used the tool to raise awareness among local stakeholders of the role cultural investments have to play in fostering sustainable growth.

### Background

Launched in July 2017, the Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor uses quantitative and qualitative information to measure cities' cultural and creative potential. The Monitor's quantitative information is captured in 29 individual indicators relevant to nine policy dimensions, which reflect three major facets of a city's cultural and socio-economic vitality: "Cultural Vibrancy" measures a city's cultural 'pulse' in terms of cultural infrastructure and participation in culture. "Creative Economy" captures the extent to which the cultural and creative sectors contribute to a city's economy in terms of employment and innovation. "Enabling Environment" identifies the tangible and intangible assets that help cities attract creative talent and stimulate cultural engagement. **New features of the 2019 edition include:** 22 European cities from 14 Member States have been added, taking the total to 190; New sources of web data (OpenStreetMap) have been used



to better grasp Europe's cultural vibrancy in a more dynamic way; Novel findings from the spatial analysis of cultural venues help to put the social inclusion perspective at the core of the research alongside economic wealth; The Monitor supports EU policy on culture: it was a basis for the economic impact assessment underpinning the 2018 “New European Agenda for Culture”, and is one of the actions included in the “European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage” to help ensure that the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 has a lasting impact. The Monitor is expected to be updated every two years.

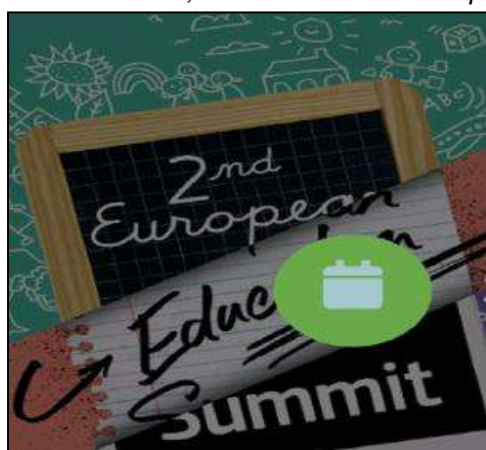
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## 5. Education and training in the EU: supporting teachers is critical

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**Coinciding with the second European Education Summit, the European Commission published the 2019 Education and Training Monitor analysing how education and training is evolving in the EU and its Member States.**

The 2019 Monitor shows further progress towards important EU education and training targets, but also highlights the need to better support teachers and make the teaching profession more attractive. Tibor **Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, said: “*To build a resilient, cohesive and fair Europe, we need to invest in education. Above all, this means*



*investing in teachers - giving them the tools and recognition they deserve. The success of any education reform depends on teachers – that is why better responding to their needs is key to building a true European Education Area by 2025. I am proud of what we have achieved with Member States over the past years, but more work lies ahead. The Education and Training Monitor has a vital role to play in driving further reform of our education systems, helping us ensure that everyone can make the most of their talents.”* The Commission supports Member States to improve their education systems through policy cooperation, benchmarking and funding programmes such as Erasmus+. The Monitor, the EU's annual flagship publication on education, is an integral part of

this work. By presenting a wealth of policies and fostering dialogue, it helps Member States benchmark and improve their education systems. This year's edition of the Monitor, the eighth, focuses on teachers. It includes and analyses the findings of an extensive survey of teachers run by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. This latest Teachers and Learning International Survey highlighted teachers' need for training to better tackle pressing issues such as the use of Information and Communication Technologies, teaching students with special needs and teaching in multicultural classrooms. To help address this, the Monitor recommends ensuring an appropriate number of teachers in the system, in all subjects, and across rural and urban areas. At the same time, it highlights that greater policy efforts are needed to attract the best candidates to teaching, while ensuring they are properly trained and motivated to stay in the profession. When it comes to investment in education, the Monitor's most recent data show that public expenditure on education in the EU has remained broadly stable at EU level, while Member States still invest less in education than they did before the economic crisis of 2007-2008. The latest edition of the Monitor reveals that Member States have now almost reached their target for reducing early school leaving. Yet, while the share of pupils dropping out has declined from 14.2% in 2009 to 10.6% in 2018, progress has slowed since 2016. The percentage of young people holding a tertiary education diploma rose from 32.3% in 2009 to 40.7% in 2018. The Monitor also shows that higher educational attainment corresponds to higher employment rates among recent graduates and more significant participation in adult learning. The share of children enrolled in early childhood education rose from 90.8% in 2009 to 95.4% in 2017. While participation in education has been growing in Europe, one in five 15-year-old pupils still cannot solve simple reading, maths and science tasks, while too many children remain at risk of educational poverty.

### Background

This year's edition of the Education and Training Monitor marks ten years since the start of the EU cooperation framework Education and Training 2020, which was agreed upon by all Member States in 2009. It measures progress on the Education and Training 2020 targets in each



Member State and informs the treatment of education issues in the annual European Semester process. Furthermore, it helps identify where EU funding for education, training and skills should be targeted in the EU's next long-term budget. The Monitor analyses the main challenges for European education systems and presents policies that can make them more responsive to societal and labour market needs. The report comprises a cross-country comparison, 28 in-depth country reports, and a dedicated webpage with additional data and information. Education is high on the EU's political agenda. Working with Member States, the Commission has laid the foundations of a European Education Area, which is about enhancing learning, cooperation and excellence. At the same time, an array of EU programmes, namely the Erasmus+ programme, the European Structural and Investment Funds, including the Youth Employment Initiative, as well as Horizon 2020, and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology help stimulate investment and support policy priorities in education. To underpin the bigger ambition in this area, the Commission has proposed to significantly boost funding for young people and learning in the EU's next long-term budget (2021 – 2027).

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## 6. EU: agreement with Montenegro on border management cooperation

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### **The European Union signed an agreement with Montenegro on border management cooperation between Montenegro and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex).**

The agreement was signed on behalf of the EU by Dimitris **Avramopoulos**, Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship and, Maria **Ohisalo**, Minister of the Interior of Finland and President of the Council, and on behalf of Montenegro by Minister of the Interior, Mevludin **Nuhodžić**. Dimitris **Avramopoulos**, Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship said: *"We are further strengthening our border cooperation with Montenegro, taking yet one more step towards bringing the Western Balkan region closer to the EU. The migratory and security challenges we face are common and our response must be joint too."* Maria **Ohisalo**, Minister of the Interior of Finland said: *"The objective of this agreement is to allow Frontex to coordinate operational cooperation between EU Member states and Montenegro on the management of the borders that the European Union and Montenegro have in common. The signing of this agreement is yet another demonstration of the deepening and expanding cooperation with Montenegro. It will bring benefits for both parties, in particular in enhancing border management activities."*



This agreement allows the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to assist Montenegro in border management, carry out joint operations and deploy teams in the regions of Montenegro that border the EU, subject to Montenegro's agreement. These activities aim at tackling irregular migration, in particular sudden changes in migratory flows, and cross-border crime, and can involve the provision of increased technical and operational assistance at the border. Strengthened cooperation between priority third countries and the European Border and Coast Guard will contribute to tackling irregular migration and further enhance security at the EU's external borders.

#### **Next steps**

The draft decision on the conclusion of the agreement was sent to the European Parliament, which needs to give its consent for the agreement to be concluded.

#### **Background**

This status agreement is the second such agreement to be concluded with a partner country, after a similar agreement was signed with Albania in October 2018. Negotiations with Montenegro were concluded on 5 July 2018 and the draft status agreement was initialled by Commissioner Avramopoulos and Montenegro Interior Minister Mevludin Nuhodžić in February 2019. The Council then authorised the signature of the agreement on 19 March 2019. Similar status agreements have also been initialled with North Macedonia (July 2018), Serbia (September 2018)

and Bosnia and Herzegovina (January 2019) and are pending finalisation. The European Border and Coast Guard launched the first-ever joint operation on the territory of a neighbouring non-EU country in Albania on 22 May this year. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency can carry out deployments and joint operations on the territory of neighbouring non-EU countries, subject to the prior conclusion of a status agreement between the European Union and the country concerned. Earlier this year, following a proposal by the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council agreed to reinforce the European Border and Coast Guard. This will allow for joint operations and deployments to take place in countries beyond the EU's immediate neighbourhood. Cooperation with third countries is an important element of the European integrated border management concept. This concept is applied through a four-tier access model which includes: measures in third countries, measures with neighbouring third countries, border control measures and measures within the Schengen area.

## 7. Fake and potentially dangerous goods stopped at EU customs in 2018

**New figures released by the European Commission show that the number of interceptions of fake goods being imported into the EU increased in 2018 due to a large amount of small parcels in express and postal traffic.**

Detention figures for seized consignments jumped from 57,433 in 2017 to 69,354 in 2018, though the total amount of articles detained decreased compared to previous years. Almost 27 million articles that infringed on intellectual property rights (IPR) were detained in 2018 with a street value of nearly €740 million. Pierre **Moscovici**, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs said: *"Customs officers across the EU have seen success in tracking down and seizing counterfeit goods that are often dangerous for consumers. Their job is made even more difficult by the rise in small packages entering the EU through online sales. Protecting the integrity of our Single Market and Customs Union, and effective enforcement of intellectual property rights in the international supply chain are also priorities. We need to continue stepping up the efforts against counterfeiting and piracy."*



The top categories of detained articles were cigarettes, which accounted for 15% of the overall amount of detained articles. This was followed by toys (14%), packaging material (9%), labels, tags and stickers (9%) and clothing (8%). Products for daily personal use in the home such as body care articles, medicines, toys and electrical household goods accounted for nearly 37% of the total number of detained articles. China continued to be the main source country for goods infringing intellectual property rights. North Macedonia was the main provenance for counterfeit alcoholic beverages. Turkey was the top source for other beverages, perfumes

and cosmetics. EU customs saw a high number of fake watches, mobile phones and accessories, ink cartridges and toners, CDs/DVDs, labels, tags and stickers from Hong Kong, China. The main source for computer equipment was India, Cambodia for cigarettes and Bosnia and Herzegovina for packaging material.

### Background

Over the past 50 years, the Customs Union has developed into a cornerstone of our Single Market, keeping EU borders safe and protecting our citizens from prohibited and dangerous goods such as weapons, drugs and counterfeit products. The Commission's report on customs actions to enforce IPR has been issued annually since 2000 and is based on data transmitted by Member States' customs administrations to the Commission. The data provides valuable information, which supports the analysis of intellectual property rights infringements and helps other institutions such as the European Union Intellectual Property Office and the OECD to map economic data and the most common routes for counterfeiters. In November 2017, the Commission adopted a comprehensive package of measures to further improve the application and enforcement of intellectual property rights and step up the efforts against counterfeiting and piracy. This was followed, in 2018, by a new EU Customs Action Plan to combat intellectual property right infringements covering the years 2018-2022, now adopted by the Council. A further

complementary report is being published by the European Union Intellectual Property Office's (EUIPO's) Observatory: the "Report on EU enforcement of IPRs: results at EU borders and in Member States covering the period 2013-2017". This report, also based on DG TAXUD data, complements the trends report on border detentions over the past years with data on detentions by national enforcement authorities in the internal market. A previous study has also shown that direct sales losses for EU businesses due to counterfeit goods amount to €56 billion per year, corresponding to an employment loss of almost 468,000 jobs. Adding in knock-on effects on other sectors, total sales losses amount to €92 billion.

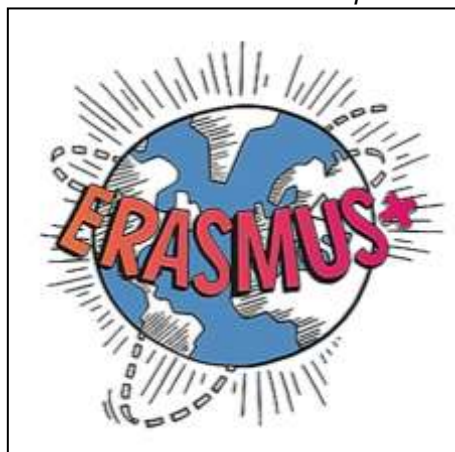
## 8. Erasmus+: EU boosts participation of African students and staff in 2019

**The EU has invested an additional €17.6 million to support over 8,500 newly selected African students and staff to participate in Erasmus+ in 2019.**

This increase in Erasmus+ funding is one more step towards the commitment announced by President Jean-Claude Juncker in his State of the Union speech in September 2018 to have supported 35,000 African students and researchers by 2020. Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Tibor **Navracsics**, said: *"Empowering young people in Africa is key in building a better future. This means promoting education, and this year, we have focused in particular on boosting cooperation with businesses to ensure that young people in Africa acquire all the skills they need for their professional life. Projects supporting innovative learning methods, entrepreneurship and opening up chances to find jobs in key areas such as food, agribusiness and energy transformation are key features of this year's selection. This is the plus that Erasmus+ offers."*

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven **Mimica**, said: *"Our Africa-Europe Alliance is first and foremost about people. We want to invest in quality education in Africa. We want to strengthen the connections between European and African students and higher education institutions. Giving them the chance to exchange know-how and inspire one another will boost inclusive socio-economic growth, and reduce poverty and inequality. On top of this, it will equip African students with the skills they need to find decent jobs"*. The results of the 2019 Erasmus+ call bring the total number of exchanges between Africa and Europe to 26,247 since the beginning of the programme in 2014 and well on track to meeting the 2020 target of supporting 35,000 people as announced in the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.

This year, 8,555 African and 4,649 European university students and staff will benefit from exchanges in 53 African countries and the 34 European countries that participate in the Erasmus+ programme. Students will be able to stay abroad for up to one year, while staff exchanges last up to two months. The additional funding of €17.6 million – coming from the Commission's external financial instruments and the EU Trust Fund for Africa – has boosted participation by African nationals by 40% overall. For countries in Western Africa and the Horn of Africa, the number of scholarships has more than doubled thanks to the additional money. It has also made it possible to include more countries in the programme, such as Eritrea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Congo and Burundi, and to increase the number of exchanges, in particular for Benin, Cape Verde, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Somalia. In addition, competing against the best students worldwide, 313 young students from 33 African countries were awarded scholarships for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programmes. This is up from 239 scholarships from 27 African countries in last year's selection. African institutions are increasingly involved in teaching the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master programmes, with 46 institutions from the continent collaborating in running the 44 programmes selected this year. They range from specialised universities to research institutes active in areas such as infectious diseases, biodiversity and ecosystems, or harnessing the power of cloud computing to benefit the environment. 35 projects promoting capacity building in higher education that are designed to improve the quality and innovation of programmes in African universities have been chosen for support. This year's selection covers a wider range of countries than ever before, with Madagascar, the Comoros, Mauritania and Guinea participating in addition to the more traditional partners, which is a sign





that Erasmus+ is successfully reaching out to new institutions on the continent. Moreover, 39 small-scale projects have been selected for funding that help build capacity in the youth sector with African partners. These projects, involving youth organisations and the non-profit sector (NGOs and social businesses for example), promote informal learning and help young people start their own businesses and play an active part in their local communities.

### Background

Investing in inclusive and equitable quality education for all is a key priority for the EU, in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Education at all levels and investment in young people are vital for improvements in skills and employment, for sustainable growth, and for active citizenship. Investing in people by investing in education and skills is one of the cornerstones of the Africa-Europe Alliance, which aims to take the EU's partnership with Africa to the next level. To do so, the Commission proposes to boost investment, to further attract private investors, to support education and skills development for employability, as well as to boost trade and improve the business climate. Besides setting up new areas and new channels for cooperation, the Africa-Europe Alliance also seeks to leverage the potential of the EU's existing programmes for international cooperation. Channelling additional funding into Erasmus+ is boosting participation by African people and organisations with the objective of supporting the mobility of 35,000 students and researchers from the African continent by 2020, leading to a total number of 105,000 by 2027. Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ funds academic and youth mobility and cooperation between Europe and other regions in the world, including Africa, where it supports activities that are closely matched with the EU's policy cooperation priorities for the continent. African countries have been able to take part in Erasmus+ as partner countries since 2014.

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## 9. Nantes is European Capital of Innovation 2019

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**The city of Nantes in north-west France is the European Capital of Innovation 2019, the Commission announced at the European Research and Innovation Days.**

The title was awarded to Nantes in recognition for its outstanding ability to harness innovation to improve the lives of its citizens and its open and collaborative governance model. It comes with a €1 million cash prize funded by Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme. The other five runner-up cities – Antwerp (Belgium), Bristol (UK), Espoo (Finland), Glasgow (UK) and Rotterdam (Netherlands) – received €100,000 each to promote and scale up their innovation practice. Carlos **Moedas**, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: *“European cities are showing the world how to combine innovation to improve urban resilience and*



*sustainability with inclusive democratic processes and open governance. Nantes stands out as a great example of how a city can engage its citizens in addressing challenges such as energy efficiency, ageing population, digital transformation, and social inclusion. This is how innovation works for the benefit of citizens.”* Johanna Rolland, the Mayor of Nantes and President of Nantes Métropole, said: *“Innovation ‘by and for all’ is at the heart of our policies. This is why I am honoured to receive the European Capital of Innovation Award 2019. For me, this is recognition of*

*the quality of our citizen dialogue and the dynamism of our metropolitan innovation ecosystem.”* Nantes is the fifth city to win the award, and the second non-capital city after Barcelona. It has developed a vision and a practice of open governance featuring a constant dialogue with citizens, associations and experts. It also has a thriving digital and start-up community, which helps develop and implement public policies. Nantes' flagship policies and projects include: “Great Debates” with the citizens to discuss topics such as energy transition: the initiative involved over 55.000 participants and resulted in a 2018 roadmap with 33 ambitious commitments, monitored by a commission of independent citizens and stakeholders. “15 places to be reinvented” (and hundreds of similar citizens initiatives): a competitive selection of ideas submitted by citizens that



resulted, for instance, in turning an unused chapel in a mushroom urban farm, in creating a zero-waste awareness hub in a former school art gallery as well as a solidarity canteen in a former restaurant where people voluntarily prepare meals for those in need. “Nantes City Lab” helps innovators test new solutions in real life by providing physical and digital infrastructure, such as a 3D printed social house constructed in mere 3 days or an autonomous shuttle powered exclusively by a solar road. “Creative factory”, a support system for creative and cultural industries, and the “Eco-innovation factory”, a programme that selects projects such as collecting bio waste from restaurants and offices with bicycle trailers for local composting. The “Nantes French Tech Capital” programme that fosters startups, scaleups, talents' attraction and breakthrough technologies, and enables the coordination and promotion of the regional innovation ecosystem. “Eco-solies”, a network that gathers private and public members that develop initiatives in the field of social and solidarity economy, and promote them by awarding the best social innovation solutions such as Hacoopa project for the housing of seniors or Bout' à Bout' association to reduce the impact of the used glass bottles. Also “MySMARTLife”, an innovative European project on smart solutions for urban transition.

### Background

This year's European Capital of Innovation Awards contest was launched in February 2019. Cities with over 100,000 inhabitants from EU Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 could participate. 28 cities from 16 countries applied. A high-level independent jury of experts from various universities, businesses, as well as the non-profit and civil sector selected the winner and the five runner-up cities. The award criteria – experimenting, engaging, expanding, empowering – analyse how cities use innovation and new technologies to respond to societal challenges, engage broad local communities in their decision-making processes and improve lives of their citizens. The competition first took place in 2014. Past winners include Barcelona (2014), Amsterdam (2016), Paris (2017) and Athens (2018). The awards are granted under Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation framework programme. The next edition of the European Capital of Innovation Awards will be launched in the first quarter of 2020.

## 10. EC welcomes Member States' support for greater price transparency

**Following exchange with Member States, the Commission will now adopt the measures to introduce greater transparency through improved price reporting along the food supply chain.**

After banning unfair trading practices and improving the conditions for producer cooperation, the Commission presented in May the third element to improve fairness in the food supply chain: stepping up the collection of prices of agri-food products at different stages along the supply chain to see how prices are determined. Greater transparency will allow different actors to make more informed choices and improve the understanding of price formation and the development of trends along the food chain. It can also support better business decisions, including better management of risk, and improve trust. Agriculture and rural development Commissioner Phil Hogan said: *“Increasing market transparency is about providing more information, on more products, more often. By doing so, we will give greater balance to the chain and ensure more efficient decision-making. Increasing transparency is also about fairness: we are allowing equal access to price information which will bring greater clarity on how the food supply chain functions. Supplemented by the recently adopted directive banning unfair trading practices, as well as to the 2017 improvements to producer organisation legislation, these rules will strengthen the role of farmers in the food supply chain, a key objective for the Commission.”* Following discussion in the Committee of Common Market Organisation, the measures will be adopted by the Commission in the coming weeks and will apply from 1 January 2021. While a significant amount of information is already available regarding agricultural markets (including production and consumer prices, volumes of production and trade, etc.), there is little information available on markets that operate between farmers and consumers such as food processing or retailing. This creates an asymmetry of information between farmers and other actors of the food supply chain and can put farmers at a significant



disadvantage when doing business with others. The measures agreed will apply to the meat, dairy, wine, cereals, oilseeds and protein crops, fruit and vegetables, olive oil and sugar sectors. The collection of data will rely on systems and procedures already in place, used by operators and Member States to report market information to the Commission. Each Member State will be responsible for the collection of price and market data. Representative prices will be reported in order to achieve cost-effectiveness and to limit the administrative burden. Member States will submit the data to the Commission, who will then make the information available on its agri-food data portal and EU market observatories.

### Background

Since the beginning of its mandate in 2014, the current Commission has been working on a fairer food supply chain. In 2016, Commissioner Hogan set up the Agricultural Markets Task Force with the aim of proposing recommendations to strengthen the position of farmers in the food chain. The recommendations presented in November 2016 covered three regulatory aspects: unfair trading practices, producer organisations and market transparency. In 2017, the Commission launched an inception impact assessment and a public consultation centred on these three elements. An EU-wide opinion poll published in February 2018 also showed that a great majority of respondents (88%) considers that strengthening farmers' role in the food supply chain is important. Previously, 96% of the respondents to the 2017 public consultation on the modernisation of the CAP agreed with the proposition that improving farmers' position in the value chain should be an objective of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy.

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## 11. Traineeships at the European Chemicals Agency - (ECHA)

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ECHA looks for newly-qualified graduates who are willing to make a contribution to the everyday work of the Agency. There are up to 20 graduate traineeship opportunities per year in scientific fields such as chemistry, toxicology, biology, environmental science and technologies, and administrative duties such as law, communications, finance, human resources and ICT. The traineeships usually start in the beginning of March or September. **The trainee scheme is designed for:** Recent university graduates and holders of a technical or professional qualification



of an equivalent level in fields relevant to applicable chemicals legislation or other fields relevant to the administration tasks of an EU institution. Public or private sector employees engaged in graduate-level work in fields relevant to applicable chemicals legislation. Traineeships may last from three to six months and may not be extended beyond six months.

The graduate trainee scheme offers a grant of approximately 1,300 euro. Trainees who continue to receive remuneration from their employer, or any other grant or allowance will only be entitled to a grant from ECHA if the amount they receive is less than the one indicated above. In this case, trainees will receive an amount equal to the difference between their income and the level of ECHA's grant. Trainees in employment must provide a declaration of remuneration, expenses and allowances signed by their employer. **To apply for a graduate traineeship you must:**

- Be a national of a Member State of the EU or a national of the European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein). Nationals of candidate countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy can also be accepted according to the availability of budgetary resources and the ECHA's capacity to host them. A limited number of nationals of non-Member States may also be accepted.
- Be able to communicate in English as this is the working language of ECHA.
- Have obtained a university degree or equivalent or engaged in graduate-level work in fields relevant ECHA.

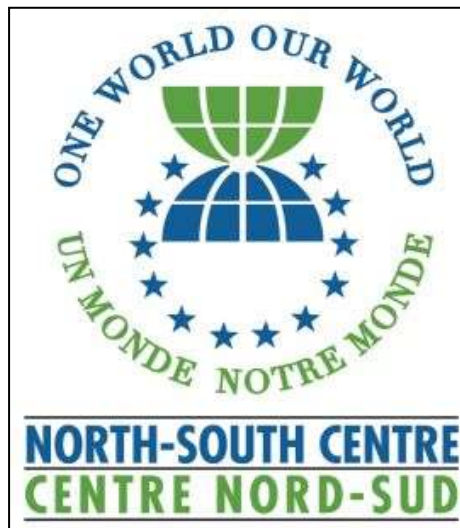
You will be invited for a telephone and/or face-to-face interview if you are selected. Trainees do not benefit from sickness insurance. Before the start of your traineeship you must prove you are covered by a sickness and accident insurance valid in Finland. Traineeships are not offered to applicants who have already been a trainee in a European institution or body, employed by a European institution or body, or worked for ECHA as an interim staff member, researcher or in house expert for more than eight weeks. **More information are available:** [Traineeship open positions](#); [Rules governing the traineeship scheme of ECHA](#) [PDF ].

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## 12. The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe offers traineeships

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**Only pre-selected candidates will be contacted for interviews.** The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe offers traineeships twice a year for a period of three (minimum) to five (maximum) months. Each year the sessions take place as follows: First session: between January and June (deadline: 31 October of the previous year). **Second session:** between July and December (deadline: 30 April of the year of the traineeship). Applications that are incomplete or received after the deadline will not be processed. **Who can apply?** Nationals of the member states of the North-South Centre and/or the Council of Europe. Candidates who have already completed an internship at the Council of Europe or any of its institutions are not eligible. **Requirements:** Completion of higher education or successful completion of at least three years of university study; A very good knowledge of one of the Council of Europe's official languages (English and French) and a good knowledge of the other; Good drafting ability. The duties to which trainees are assigned include assisting with the preparation of activities, research, different types of drafting and other day-to-day administrative tasks. The North-South Centre covers its trainees for medical and accident insurance during the traineeship period and a monthly basic allowance of 200€. Trainees are entitled to two days leave per month. The usual working hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 17:30. **How to apply?** Please fill in the available application and follow instructions for sending CV and Motivation Letter. All applications must be completed in either English or French. Applications received in other languages will not be taken into consideration. **For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).**



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## 13. Schuman Traineeships

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Parliament offers several options for traineeships within its Secretariat, to provide opportunities for vocational training and for learning more about what the European Parliament is and does. The goal of the Schuman traineeships is to contribute to EU citizens' European education and vocational training and to provide an insight into the work of the European Parliament. These



traineeships are awarded for a period of five months. Applicants for a Schuman traineeship must: be aged 18+; hold a university level diploma(s); fulfil the language requirement; provide an eligible criminal record; not have worked for more than two consecutive months within an EU Institution or body; not have carried out a visiting junior or senior academia of six months prior the beginning of the traineeship. Traineeship dates and deadlines for receipt of applications: for the 1 October- 28/29 February traineeship - Application period: 1 June – 30 June; for the 1 March- 31 July traineeship -

Application period: 1 November – 30 November. In order to apply for a Schuman traineeship, please visit our [traineeship offers main page](#). **Candidates can apply for 3 traineeship offers per campaign.** Applications submitted after the deadline or spontaneous applications cannot be considered. Every year 21 000 people apply for a traineeship at the European Parliament and 900 of them are selected. Recruitment and selection procedures are adapted to ensure that they do not disadvantage candidates with a disability. **For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).**



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## 14. DiscoverEU

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### Are you 18 years old and a citizen of the European Union? Get ready to explore Europe!

DiscoverEU is an initiative of the European Union that gives you the opportunity to discover Europe through learning experiences. Travelling predominantly by rail (there are exceptions to allow those living on islands or in remote areas), you will discover Europe's stunning landscapes and its variety of cities and towns. Young people can apply during the two application rounds which take place each year. Successful applicants are awarded with a travel pass. As an 18-year-old citizen of the European Union, DiscoverEU offers you the opportunity to participate in a travel experience that will enable you to take advantage of the freedom of movement throughout the European Union, explore the diversity of Europe while travelling, learn about European cultural heritage and history, and connect with people from all over the continent. Furthermore, DiscoverEU enables you, as a young person, to develop life skills of value to your future, such as independence, confidence, and openness to other cultures. Almost 50 000 young people have been awarded a travel pass since the first application round in June 2018. Another round will take place between **Thursday 7 November 2019 at 12:00 (CET) and Thursday 28 November 2019 at 12:00 (CET)**. An 'Apply Now' button will appear on this page on D-Day! **To be eligible, you need to:** have been **born between 1 January 2001 (included) and 31 December 2001 (included)**; have the nationality of one of the Member States of the European Union at the time of the award decision; complete the correct ID or passport number on the online application form. Then you will need to participate in a quiz (unless you apply as a group member). If you are selected, you can travel for a period of **minimum 1 day and up to 30 days between 1 April 2020 and 31 October 2020**. Note that if you have a disability or a health problem that makes your trip challenging, you will receive assistance and support to help you take part in DiscoverEU. Check our [FAQ](#) C.19 to know more. Yes you can! It really is up to you. You can go solo or add up to 4 friends in your group provided they meet the eligibility conditions above. They will use your application code to submit their own application. Check out our [FAQs](#) B.5 to B.11 to know more. You can also organise meet-ups and combine travel plans with other DiscoverEU travellers! The [DiscoverEU Facebook Group](#) is a good platform to do this. Join the Group **now** to chat with other participants. As a DiscoverEU **Ambassador**, we will invite you to share your travel experiences through social media tools - Instagram, Facebook and/or Twitter - using #DiscoverEU. You may decide to give a presentation at your school or local community. Moreover, you could participate in the [#DiscoverEU photo/video #Competition](#) and win great prizes. Interested in the previous application rounds? Check the [DiscoverEU factsheet](#) to read more about the initiative and the experiences of some of our young DiscoverEU travellers. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**



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## 15. The #EFAquiz comes back for a second edition

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Creative Europe MEDIA runs #EFAquiz again in 2019! European film lovers can win a trip to the European Film Awards taking place in December in Berlin. After a successful edition of [#EFAquiz](#) last year, in 2019 the contest is back on, for you to win a trip to Berlin and participate the European Film Awards in Berlin in December. Thanks to this online 10-question quiz on European cinema (with a special focus on the European Film Awards), participants can test until 3



November how much they know about European films for a chance to win one of the 8 trips to experience a unique awards ceremony and discover European cinema from a different perspective. This initiative is led by the [Creative Europe MEDIA](#) Desks - in particular to the Creative Europe Desk Berlin-Brandenburg – in partnership with the European Film Academy. The winners will travel to Berlin from 6 to 8 December and will attend the 32nd edition of the European Film Awards. They will go to the screenings of EFA nominated films, have the chance to explore a bit the city and attend the official awards ceremony, among other activities. The European Film Awards, presented jointly by the European Film Academy and EFA Productions, honour the greatest achievements (split in a total of 23 categories) in European cinema. The awards ceremony takes place in Berlin every second year. In the other years, the Awards travel around Europe. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

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## 16. MoW project steps: fifth project meeting and fourth training course

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In the period 9-10 September 2019 took place in London, United Kingdom, the fifth project meeting of "MORE THAN WORDS - integrating creativity in intercultural training" (acronym "MoW") approved as action n. 2017-1-UK01-KA204-036613 in the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education program by the UK National Agency. During the meeting the partners took stock of the activities developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. This initiative will last 3 years and the partner are: EURO-NET (Italy), Border Crossings Company Limited (UK), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Integralt Kifejezes- es Tancterapias Egyesulet (Hungary), Association des Égyptiens au Luxembourg (Luxembourg), Stowarzyszenie "Dla Ziemi" (Poland) e Network African Rural and Urban Development e.V. (Germany). In the period 12-19 October took place in Luxembourg, the fourth training course provided in the project. The European initiative, which is aimed at improving the intercultural communication and training skills of educators, social workers and all those engaged as professionals or artists in supporting integration and inclusion of migrants and other ethnic minorities, can be followed either on the web site <http://www.motw.eu/> or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MoThWor/>.




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## 17. Concluded third project meeting of the project "Life Styles"

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In the period 15-18 September 2019 (including travel days) took place in London, United Kingdom, the third meeting of the European project "Life Styles, Deviance and Prevention: Non Formal Education and Interdisciplinary Resources for Vulnerable Youth" that is an initiative approved by the Slovak Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. During the third meeting the partners took stock of the activities developed in these months and defined the further steps of the project to be implemented (including the dates of the

next meeting in Potenza). More information on the project can be found on the Facebook page at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/YouthLifestyles-deviance-and-prevention-330204640941364/>.

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## 18. Concluded the second training course and third meeting of the "BIM"

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In the period 23-27 September 2019 took place in Madrid, Spain, the second training course (a JSTE) of the project "Borders in the Mind" (acronym "BIM"), approved in Spain in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project proposes modern and relevant reception services designed by residents of local communities to inform visitors. At this second training course participated four people from the EURO-NET staff. The main objective of the project is to devise and provide innovative, practical and relevant tools and methodologies to promote tolerance and celebrate difference and identity. The project is also exploring the intangible cultural heritage, observing how current cultural beliefs, traditions and lifestyles have been influenced and continue to be influenced by events in our past, even though many people are unaware of it. The project is trying to bring to life this hidden cultural heritage, sometimes misunderstood. In the coming days, exactly from 24 to 27 October, the third project meeting will take place in Marseille, France. During the project meeting, in which three delegates of EURO-NET association will participate, the partners will discuss on the activities to be developed and will define the further project steps to be implemented in the coming months. Partner of the project are the following organisations: Interacting S.L. (Spain), project coordinator; Youth Power (Cyprus); EURASIA NET (France); Youth Center of Epirus (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Stichting chain foundation (The Netherlands); THE NERVE CENTRE (UK). More information are available on the Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/Borders-in-the-Mind-2227951067468445/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/Borders-in-the-Mind-2227951067468445/?modal=admin_todo_tour).



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## 19. Concluded the first meeting of the "TheArThee" project

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In the period 26-27 September 2019 took place in London, United Kingdom, the first meeting of the project "TheArThee" (acronym "TAT"), approved in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. During the project meeting attended by EURO-NET a delegate of our association, the partners discussed of the activities to be developed and defined the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. More project details can be found on the official Facebook page created

precisely during the first meeting at the following link: [https://www.facebook.com/Thearthee-114642043269776/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/Thearthee-114642043269776/?modal=admin_todo_tour)

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## 20. Concluded second training course in Thessaloniki of the project "INDI"

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In the period 29 September-05 October took place in Thessaloniki, Greece, the second training course (JSTE) of the project "Intercultural dialogue: a holistic approach to teaching drama, storytelling and video making techniques" (acronym InDi) that is an initiative approved by the UK Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education - Exchange of Good Practices. The partnership is composed by: Sirius Training C.I.C. (UK) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Mitra France (France); EESTI



People to People (Estonia); Youth Information Centre-Municipality Kordelio Evosmosi (Greece). The objectives of the project are: to share best practices among project partners; to increase professional development of adult educators; to collect and develop methods of intercultural dialogue; to develop and reinforce EU networks for teaching and learning; to enrich partnership of adult education providers in partners' countries and Europe; to support social and educational value of European cultural heritage. Educators who work in adult education. Teachers, tutors, mentors, social workers involved in lifelong learning in partners' institutions are the main target group. The final beneficiaries are adult learners, including people with fewer opportunities. More information on the project is available on the official Facebook page at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/IN-DI-1421157744681293/>.



## 21. InnovatiVET: concluded the fourth meeting in London

In the period 2-5 October 2019 took place in place in London, United Kingdom, the fourth meeting of the project "InnovatiVET". The project involves the following partners: Erhvervsakademi Sydvest (Denmark); EURO-NET (Italy); FAB LAB LIMITED (UK), TURUN YLIOPISTO (Finland); MEDNARODNI CENTRO ZA PRENOS ZNANJA DOO (Slovenia). This is a project approved in



the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET (action n. 2017-1-DK01- KA202-034250) which intends to introduce new models of innovation in the VET system; explore innovation in this sector in Europe and create different orientations (interactive, practical and easy-to-use suggestions) on ways to develop truly work-oriented vocational training. The purpose of the meeting was to define the new project steps and the state of implementation of the intellectual products

envisaged in the initiative. The European initiative can already be followed on the official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/innovatiVETproject/>

## 22. "SME" project multiplier event

On the next 25/10/2019, will take place in Picerno at the "Einstein-De Lorenzo" Institute the multiplier event planned for the project "Skills for Migrants Entrepreneurs". The project wants to create tools to support the migrants' integration and the birth of new companies created by qualified migrants through guides, online training and reports. The objectives to be achieved are the following: good examples of activities for the social integration of refugees; concrete contribution to innovative education for disadvantaged groups; real exchange of good practices and cooperation in the field of refugees; concrete changes in behavior that reflect a positive attitude towards refugees; improvement of staff skills and abilities through a training course for staff; development of skills of migrant entrepreneurs; improving the capacity of organizations working with migrants/refugees; development of networks and connections at local, national and international level; development of communication and cross-border collaboration; improving the knowledge of different cultures; promotion of the values of equality, social cohesion and active citizenship; development of a modern dynamic environment within organizations and higher quality of actions. During the event,



the intellectual outputs produced during the project will be showed. For more information, visit the website: <http://theskills.eu/>.

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### 23. Training course in the UK of the project “My Community 2020”

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In the period 27 October – 02 November 2019 (including travel days) will take place in Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom, the training course (JSTE) planned for the project of "My Community 2020" that is an initiative approved by the UK Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education. The



project aims to improve the digital skills, self-esteem and occupational skills of adult learners, as well as to encourage them to play an active role in their community as citizens. The project involves the realization of the following 3 intellectual outputs: **Design training course Digital Skills to Create Local History:** The purpose of the training course is to create a product which combines the needs of improving digital skills, provide confidence in engaging, meeting and interviewing others, raising interest in and making an important contribution to local cultural heritage. Combining these different aspects into one training course will provide an

innovative way to widen interest in local history and cultural heritage. **Development of a pilot training course:** Development of training course in order to gain an appreciation of what works well and what can be improved, as well as enabling the creation of materials for the online platform. **My Community Handbook:** The aim is to create a manual that can be used as a toolkit to effectively implement the activities developed in intellectual products 1 and 2. The partnership is composed by: Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service LTD (UK) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Magenta Consultoria Projects SL (Spain); Gulbenes novada dome (Latvia); Pistes Solidaires (France); Catro Bulgaria (Bulgaria); Exchange House Ireland (Ireland). The European initiative can already be followed on the official Facebook page at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/My-Community-2020-893155357540688/>.

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### 24. Third meeting in the UK for project EU-ACT

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In the days 21 and 22 October 2019 will take place in Stockton-on-Tees in United Kingdom third meeting of the European project “EU-ACT” (action n° 2018-1-IT02-KA204-048011), approved by Italian National Agency Indire in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The aim of this project is to develop a new kind of tourism, to promote local traditions, to pay attention on sustainability, to protect and valorize the cultural heritage, natural beauty and local culture in line with the new tourism market and tourists need. The partners are from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Germany and UK. During the meeting, in which 2 members of the EURO-NET's staff will participate, will be defined the new steps of the activities to be carried out. More information on the project can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Europe-City-Teller-1552751178163969/> and on the internet website <http://www.europecitytellers.eu>.



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### 25. First meeting of the project "Wir machen Europas Bürger finanzfit"

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In the days 28 and 29 October 2019 will take place in Düsseldorf, Germany, the first meeting of the European project “Wir machen Europas Bürger finanzfit – Basic Economic Training European Adults”, an initiative approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education.

During the project meeting, in which one delegate of our association will participate for EURO-NET, the partners will discuss on the activities to be developed and will define the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. More information on the meeting will be available in our upcoming newsletters.



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## 26. IOT for Everyone: second meeting in Spain

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In the period 30-31 October 2019 will take place in Madrid, in Spain, the second meeting of the project "Internet Rzeczy dla każdego" (in English "IoT for everyone"), an initiative approved in Poland as action n.2018-1-PL01-KA204-051035 in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. The project partners are: Antares Foundation (Poland), project coordinator; HIRD (Tunisia); Fundación Cibervoluntarios (Spain); EURO-NET (Italy). The project includes 4 meetings to be held respectively in the project partner countries with two participants per meeting for each partner organization. During the next project meeting in Spain, in which two delegates of EURO-NET will participate, the partners will discuss of the activities to be developed and will define the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. More information can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lot-for-Everyone-Erasmus-project-426230398158902/>.



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## 27. Training course for the You(th)r Culture project in Lithuania

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In the days 2-9 November 2019 (including travel days) will take place in Vilnius, Lithuania, Lithuania the training course entitled "You(th)r Culture" which was approved as part of the Erasmus Plus program. Four young people (over 18) will participate in the course. More information on the meeting will be available in our upcoming newsletters.

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## 28. First meeting of the CDTMOOC project

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In the period 4-5 November 2019 (including travel days) will take place in Potenza, Italy, the first meeting of the project "CDTMOOC", an initiative approved by the Finnish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the project meeting the partners will plan of the activities to be developed and will define the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. More information on the meeting will be available in our upcoming newsletters.



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## 29. Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults: last meeting

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In the period 8-11 November will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, the fifth and final meeting of the European project "Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults", that was approved by Turkish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project aims to develop the capacities of refugees; helping their social integration, developing their skills, empowering them in conflict management, improving their living conditions, literacy, access to public services, IT and language skills, fostering intercultural learning and physical-social development. The partnership is composed by: Gaziantep Egitim ve Genclik Dernegi (Turkey) project coordinator; Association of citizens CEFE Macedonia Skopje (FYROM); Association for education and development of disable people (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Balkanska Agenciya za Ustoychivo Razvitie (Bulgaria). More information on the project activities is available on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/bottomupeducation>.

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## 30. REUERHC: third meeting in Romania

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In the period 21-22 November 2019 will take place in Arad, Romania the third meeting of "Reinforce EU economies, reinforcing human capital" ("REUERHC" acronyms). This initiative has the aim to give more opportunities to be self-employed to migrants and refugees. The target

group could become a source in terms of job for the European countries because they could sustain and increase the local economies. Migrants and refugees often are victims of social exclusion and so with this project we want to give them the possibility to acquire skills useful for job. This project, so, respects the Copenhagen Declaration and European Strategy 2020. During the meeting the partners will discuss on the activities already developed and will plan the new project steps. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project at the link <https://www.facebook.com/ReuerhcReinforce-EUeconomies-reinforcing-human-capital-653532511711152/> or the website of the initiative at the internet address <https://reuerhc.eu/>.



### 31. Second meeting of the "Youth Capacity" project

In the period 25-26 November 2019 will take place in Alicante, Spain, the second meeting of the project "Enhancing Capacities of Youth Policy Makers Across Europe" (acronym "Youth Capacity"). It is an action approved in Italy by the National Youth Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership for Youth. (action No. 2018-2-IT03-KA205-



014000). Partner of the project are the following organisations: Unione Montana Alta Langa (Italy), project coordinator; KEK TEHNIKES SHOLES EPIMELITIRIOU IRAKLEIOU (Greece); Federación de Municipios de la Región de Murcia (Spain); AK.T.A. (Cyprus); EURO-NET (Italy). The project aims to create a network of local and regional authorities working with young people to: develop concrete strategic plans; promote the EU's youth policy agenda; plan youth activities allowing the participation and inclusion of young people in society. Policy makers and youth leaders of local and regional authorities

involved in the project will be trained on: transversal skills to improve their collaboration with young people; potential sources of funding for youth projects; youth entrepreneurship; "No-Hate Speech" campaign; opportunities available for youth volunteering. During the meeting the partners will discuss on the activities already developed and will plan the new project steps. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/Youth-Capacity-791315631226768/>.

### 32. Concluded LARP - Youth training in Potenza

In the period 27 August - 4 September 2019 (including travel days) took place in Potenza, Italy, the youth training course of the project "GET YOUR HORIZONS EXPANDED!" - LIFE ACTION PLANNING ROLE GAME STEREOTYPES & CRITICAL THINKING" (acronym LARP) which hosted 23 young leaders and young people from 8 countries (Italy, Latvia, Poland, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany and Slovakia). "LARP" was approved at the association YOUTH EUROPE SERVICE by the Italian

National Erasmus Plus Youth Agency under the Erasmus Plus KA1 programme. The aim of the project was to provide young participants with knowledge of the use of LARP games as a tool to address the issue of human rights. LARP games are currently a tool used primarily for entertainment purposes but can also be used for learning purposes, as they are interesting and interactive. They also make it easier to tackle such important and sometimes complicated



problems as human rights. The primary objective of the project was to give participants the opportunity to put the knowledge received into practice and create and use LARP games on three important topics (human rights, stereotypes and critical thinking). Thanks to this course the participants returned to their communities now able to work with their target groups with new methods, approaches and abilities using the methodologies and tools learned. The evaluation

expressed by the participants was very high: the training activity and the trainers (from 3 different countries) were greatly appreciated by everyone. More information on the activities is available on the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/LARProject/>.

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### 33. Concluded the last DIGITAL INCLUSION meeting in Turkey

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In the days 5-6 September 2019 took place in Kırşehir, Turkey, the fifth meeting of the project "Digital Inclusion" (approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Good Practice Exchange as action 2017-1-IT02- KA204- 036612) of which the following organizations are Italian partners: Informamentis Europa and GODESK SRL. This was the last activity of the project that aimed to increase knowledge in the digital sector in order to promote integration and inclusion. More information on the project activities is available on the official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Digital-Inclusion-174546766467580/>.



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### 34. Concluded the fifth EDACate meeting in London

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In the days 7-8 September 2019 took place in London, in UK, the fifth meeting of the project "EDACate - European Dialogue for Active Citizenship" (action n.2018-1-DE02-KA204-005181) of which the association Youth Europe Service is the Italian partner. The initiative (approved by the German Erasmus Plus National Agency) is a project that follows a cross-sectoral approach with the aim of collecting, reviewing and publishing new and innovative approaches in training on active citizenship to break down the boundaries between the education sectors and to facilitate more open and innovative training. During the meeting, which was attended by some members of the association's staff, were defined the new steps of the activities to be carried out. More information on the project is available on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/edacate.project/>.



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### 35. CircleVET: concluded the fourth meeting in Potenza in Italy

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In the period 12-13 September 2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, the fourth meeting of the project "CircleVET – Exploring the Educational Potential of Circular Economy" of which the Italian company GODESK SRL of Potenza is the Italian partner. The CircleVET project was approved by the German National Agency Erasmus Plus in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET Exchange of Good Practices as action n.2018-1-DE02-KA202-005022. During the meeting, the calendar and the activities to be carried out over the next few months were defined, a review was made of the initiatives already developed and the good practices on the circular economy were presented. The project involves 7 organizations from the following countries: Germany (2



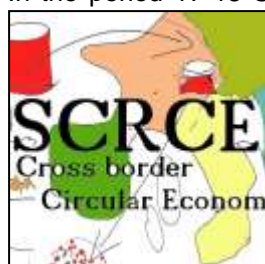


partners), Italy, Slovakia, Turkey, Finland and Spain. You can follow the initiative on the following Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/Circlevet308447786426005/>.

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### 36. Concluded the third “SCRCE” meeting in Sweden

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In the period 17-18 September 2019 took place in Göteborg, Sweden, the third meeting of the project “Sustainability through Cross Border Circular Economy” (acronym “SCRCE”), approved by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in Germany as part of the KA2 actions related to Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as action n.2018-1-DE02-KA204-005230. The Italian startup, GODESK SRL, is the Italian partner of the project. During the meeting the partners took stock of the activities developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. The Facebook page of the project, where it is possible to follow the activities of the very interesting initiative focused on an exchange of good practices in the circular economy, is the following: <https://www.facebook.com/SCRCE-313493856103545>

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### 37. Concluded the first meeting of the "Future Target" project

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In the period 17-18 October 2019 took place in Rheinbach, Germany, the first meeting of the project “Future Target”, an initiative approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the project meeting, which was attended by a delegate of Youth Europe Service association, the partners discussed of the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented during its development. More information on the project is available on the Facebook page at the following link <https://www.facebook.com/projectFutureTarget/>.

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### 38. The third meeting of the project "IMPROVE" in Italy

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In the days 28 and 29 October 2019 will take place in Caserta, Italy, the third meeting of the project "Innovative Metodologies and PRactices on VET" (acronym “IMPROVE”) approved by the UK Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET as action n.2018-1-UK01-KA202-047912. During the meeting the partners, including the Youth Europe Service association, will take stock of the activities developed in recent months and will define the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the project activities on the website <https://www.improveproject.eu/> or on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/Innovative-Metodologies-and-PRactices-On-VET-406262400174556/>.



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### 39. Second training course of the project LWRMI

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In the period 12-16 November 2019 (including travel days) will take place in Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom, the second training course (JSTE) planned for the project "Let's Work for a Real Migrants Inclusion" (acronym LWRMI), approved in Italy as action n. 2018-1-IT02-KA204-047938 in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project focuses on the exchange of good practices between seven bodies from five different countries (Italy, Bulgaria, Turkey, England and Greece), to try to find solutions to the problem of refugees and migrants. The project partnership is composed of three



Italian organizations, Youth Europe Service association (project coordinator), CO.RI.S.S.; and Basilicata Press; and of four foreign bodies, Kirsehir Il Milli Egitim Mudurlugu (Turkey), Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service Ltd (UK), Narodno Chitalishte Badeshte Sega 2006 (Bulgaria) and Aristotle Panepistimio Thessalonikis (Greece). You can follow the project activities on the website <http://migrantinclusion.eu> or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Lets-work-for-a-real-migrants-inclusion-304869633653912>.

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#### 40. Migrant in Fashion: third meeting in Luxembourg

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In the days 18-20 November will take place in Luxembourg, the third meeting of the project "Migrant in Fashion". The project (an Erasmus Plus KA2 VET activity) aims to develop the entrepreneurial skills of migrant women in an innovative way in the fashion sector. The project, in which one of the Italian partner is the company GODESK SRL, aims to find forms of inclusion for migrants who work and/or want to operate in the fashion sector. More information on the project is available on the Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/MigrantinFashion/>.



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#### 41. First meeting of the Foster Social Inclusion project

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In the days 28-29 November 2019 will take place in Krakow, Poland, the first meeting of the "Foster Social Inclusion" project, an initiative approved under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme. During the project meeting the partners will take stock of the activities to be developed and will define the steps of the project to be

implemented in the coming months. More information on the project and on the first meeting will be given in our next newsletter.

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#### 42. VET4MIGRE: fifth meeting in Italy

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In the days 3-4 December 2019 will take place in Potenza, Italy, the fifth and last meeting of the project VET4MIGRE, an initiative approved under the Erasmus Plus KA2 programme. The project starts from the result of a research conducted by the European Commission and from the observation of the difficult situation that migrants and refugees encounter in the destination countries. It is therefore more important than ever to develop new, creative and forward-looking strategies and practical ways for the population of refugees and migrants to adapt, integrate and become a positive member of the host country. One of the safest ways seems to be to integrate them into the labor market by providing the training and mentoring opportunities needed to become self-employed, as migrants and refugees can really become an important workforce for host countries. The project, therefore, in line with what was said above, wants to try to include migrants in the European economy by fostering the strengthening of ICT and innovation skills; the improvement of soft skills and competences, the promotion and exchange of good practices and the development of situations that facilitate better integration. More information on the official website <https://www.vet4migre.eu/> and on Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Vet4Migre/>.

