



NEWLETTER REALIZED BY  
THE ASSOCIATION EURO-NET AS  
EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA CENTRE

# Our Europe, Our Future!

Year 21 | Number 1 | Bimonthly Newsletter "Our Europe, Our Future!" 20/02/2026

## *Newsletter in English*

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.

## *Table of contents*

### PAG.2

Last news from the European Union

### PAG.4

Our activities in the last two months

### PAG.5

News from other organizations

***Newsletter developed  
with the support of the  
European Commission  
Representation in Italy***

## New Action Plan Against Cyberbullying to Protect Young People Online

The European Commission has launched a new Action Plan against cyberbullying to protect children and adolescents online, on the occasion of Safer Internet Day on February 10, 2026. The plan stems from the awareness that approximately one in six students between the ages of 11 and 15 reports having been a victim of cyberbullying, and aims to effectively combat this phenomenon, which can seriously damage young people's mental health. At the heart of the plan is the development of a Europe-wide application that will allow those experiencing cyberbullying to easily report abuse to a national helpline, obtain support, and securely store evidence of the incidents. This will be a common model that Member States can adapt, translate, and connect to the relevant national services, with the aim of creating a simple and widely accessible tool for victims and families. The Plan also promotes stronger coordination among Member States, calling on them to develop coherent national plans to combat cyberbullying and to use a common definition of the phenomenon to effectively collect and compare data and achieve a more unified and comparable response at EU level. Prevention is another pillar of the initiative: the Commission wants to encourage "safer and more responsible digital practices" from a young age, exploring ways to use EU tools and rules to better train teachers, students, and schools on cyberbullying and how to address it. The Plan builds on existing EU initiatives and tools, such as the Better Internet for Kids (BIK+) strategy, the Digital Services Act guidelines, and the activities of the Safer Internet Centres, but aims to strengthen and expand them to improve the protection of minors online. The Commission will now work with Member States, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, and young people themselves to concretely implement the Plan, with the aim of making digital spaces safer and promoting young people's well-being online. More information is available at the following [link](#).

## A new anti-racism EU strategy

The European Commission has adopted the new EU anti-racism strategy, championing a Europe free of racism where people can thrive, participate fully in society, and contribute to its stability and prosperity. The strategy builds on the EU Action Plan against Racism 2020-2025. Over the past five years, the EU has made significant progress in the fight against racism, particularly by addressing the obstacles created by racial discrimination and mainstreaming anti-racism efforts across all relevant EU policies. Despite this progress, the latest Eurobarometer on discrimination reveals that nearly two in three citizens still consider racial discrimination to be a widespread problem in their countries. The new strategy aims to combat racism in all its forms by:

- ensuring the full implementation and enforcement of EU anti-discrimination laws.
- continuing to address obstacles and promote inclusion in education, employment, healthcare, and housing.
- building partnerships against racism at all levels of society.

More information is available at the following link.



Image source: Freepik-<https://it.freepik.com/>

## ***The Commission announces the winners of the 2025 "Juvenes Translatores" competition***

The European Commission announced a few days ago the 27 winners, one from each EU country, selected from the 716 schools that participated in the "Juvenes Translatores" translation competition for 17-year-olds in the European Union. For the 2025 edition, 3,004 students challenged themselves to translate a text between any two of the EU's 24 official languages. While English was the dominant choice, the 155 language combinations selected by the students also included pairs such as Bulgarian-Greek, Danish-Czech, Irish-Spanish, and Croatian-Swedish. The awards ceremony will be held on March 27, 2026. The 27 young translators, accompanied by their teachers and parents, will be able to discover how European Commission translators work on a daily basis. The visit will also provide an opportunity for them to meet at the European level, allowing them to get to know each other and better understand how the European Union works to serve them. The winner for Italy is Marta Marini of the Democrito High School in Casal Palocco (Rome), who translated from English into Italian.

**“EU competition rewarding the best projects supported by EU cohesion policy”**



Image source: Freepik-<https://it.freepik.com/>

## ***EU competition open to graduates in any field of study***

The European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) is organizing an open competition (ref. EPSO/AD/427/26) to establish a reserve list from which European Union institutions, bodies, and agencies can recruit new officials to serve as administrators (grade AD 5). Administrators generally support policymakers in fulfilling the mission of their institution or body, contributing to policies and programs that impact millions of people across Europe. Successful candidates typically work in a multicultural team in one of the following areas: 1) policy development and formulation; 2) policy implementation and operational interventions; 3) resource management. The competition notice provides detailed information on the specific tasks selected candidates can expect to perform. You can apply until 10 March 2026 at 12:00 (midday) Brussels time by uploading a scanned copy of your valid identity card or passport, and by 7 October 2026 at 12:00 (midday) Brussels time, scanned copies of the supporting documents for the declarations made in the application form.

## ***REGIOSTARS 2026 competition***

On February 10, the European Commission launched the REGIOSTARS 2026 competition to recognize excellent projects supported by the European Union's Cohesion Policy. The competition, which highlights the positive impact and inclusive nature of regional development, is recognized as the European label of excellence for EU-funded projects and is now open to all beneficiaries of Cohesion Policy funds in five categories: 'A competitive and smart Europe'; 'A green Europe'; 'A connected Europe'; 'A social and inclusive Europe'; and 'A Europe closer to citizens'. Additionally, a Public Choice Award will be awarded to the finalist project receiving the highest number of votes from citizens. "The REGIOSTARS awards," said Executive Vice-President for Cohesion and Reforms Raffaele Fitto, "recognize flagship Cohesion Policy projects that deliver tangible positive impacts in their regions. They showcase how Europe supports development, promotes progress, and makes a real difference locally. I encourage all exemplary projects to apply for this year's REGIOSTARS competition." Applications must be submitted online by Friday, May 22, 2026.





## Focus Groups for the project "FitGenerations Smart TrAIner"

The initiative was approved by EACEA as part of the ERASMUS-SPORT-2025 call for proposals within the ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants actions. It has already entered the operational phase with focus groups in each partner country. Participants are asked to complete a questionnaire to gather information on the preferences and potential difficulties that young and old people encounter when engaging in physical activity together. The responses are used to design the app, define the AI recommendations, and create realistic use cases for intergenerational sports activities. All questionnaire questions were prepared by the Italian association EURO-NET, which is responsible for all data collection activities at the transnational level. The survey (conducted in both partners' languages) can also be completed online. The questions are closed-ended, with four response options and space for additional comments. The two project partners, Spoldzielnia Socjalna Reha Silesia (Poland) and EURO-NET (Italy), are now collecting data from the focus groups and the responses of at least 15 people (between young people under 30 and seniors over 60) and will then draft a report on the results obtained.

## New activities for the MBSS project

Although successfully completed last November and achieving far greater than expected results, the "Register BSS sector" project (an initiative approved by EACEA as project no. 101132877 under the ERASMUS-EDU-2023-PI-FORWARD-LOT3 call for proposals in the ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants Actions) continues its promotional and dissemination activities. The primary objective is to tap into the growing interest in the Register, established as a hub for the BSS sector, by addressing the needs of the sector's various stakeholders (employers, employees, training providers). To this end, all project partners, including EURO-NET, are now committed to reaching at least 200 new stakeholders interested in implementing or supporting the solution by the end of February. Other objectives have to be reached till the end of 2026



200 new stakeholders interested in implementing or supporting the solution by the end of February



100 organizations interested in adding new training topics to the Register by the end of May 2026



300 users have completed a training course thanks to the availability and functionality of the Registry by the end of November 2026

## Training registry of the MODERN BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR



## The EUTRAIN Project

The EUTRAIN project, co-funded by the European Commission under the COMM/IT/GRANTS/2025 call for proposals (aimed at selecting proposals for communication and media initiatives to strengthen dialogue on the European Union within the country), continues its journey. The Youth Europe Service association in Potenza is developing its innovative project proposal to introduce younger generations to the European Union and the concrete opportunities for their personal and professional growth that the EU provides. This project is aimed specifically at young people from inland and rural areas of Italy, where Europe is often perceived in an abstract way. The project is focusing on developing powerful communication tools that can maximize learning in EU-related subjects, encouraging young people to better understand the EU and the opportunities it offers and to become more active European citizens. EUTRAIN was designed specifically to tell the story of Europe in an authentic and engaging way, through the eyes of those who, starting from marginalized conditions, discover new possibilities for change and inclusion. The project involves the development of a seven-episode animated web series, chronicling the personal, professional, and physical journey of a 25-year-old woman (from a mixed, low-income family) who, from a small, sparsely populated mountain village in Basilicata, embarks on a journey of discovery among the "rails," ideas, and faces of Europe. Each stop on the train journey offers an opportunity to learn about the EU's priorities and their concrete impact on people's lives. EUTRAIN aims to inspire young people to feel part of the common European project, in a Europe of opportunities, rights, culture, and active participation. To this end, the association is already finalizing the web series' operational program and developing the scripts and characters that will revolve around the protagonist's life and provide her with an unforgettable and meaningful experience. Once this work is completed, the Potenza association's team will move on to the production phase, also hoping to secure appropriate local co-financing from public institutions and private organizations in Basilicata. The highly ambitious goal is to directly involve at least 600 young people in local events, workshops, and activities, and to achieve 60,000 total views for the web series across all digital platforms, with at least 20,000 followers across various social media, as well as 5,000 total interactions including likes, comments, and shares on social media.



Image source: Freepik-<https://it.freepik.com/>

## Focus group activities, interviews, and survey of EmpowerHement

The project "EmpowerHERment – Equipping Migrant Women with Skills for Social Business, Leadership, and Sustainability, Empowered by Problem-Based Learning, Digital Innovation, and AI Tools" (acronym "EmpowerHERment"), an initiative co-funded by the European Union and approved by the Erasmus+ National Agency in Spain as part of cooperative partnerships in adult education, has entered the heart of its WP2 activities. The project partners, including Godesk), are currently developing three different actions to assess the needs and requirements of educators working with migrant women. Among these, focus groups and interviews aim to gather qualitative insights from adult educators, trainers, mentors, and professionals working with the aforementioned target group. This will help us better understand the educators' skills, needs, and capacity gaps, as well as identify key challenges in providing training and support to migrant women. The aforementioned activities will serve to validate and contextualize the results of the broad online survey, exploring the specific contexts of the countries and organizations, and will provide evidence-based input for the design of an inclusive, transferable, and needs-oriented curriculum. Each partner is expected to reach approximately 50 participants in total through surveys, focus groups, and interviews (35-40 responses to the online survey, one focus group with 6-8 participants, and three to five semi-structured interviews). The results of the three activities will provide a comprehensive overview of the needs of the project's target