



# EURO-NET

## The Youth European Network



EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre  
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### ***Bimonthly newsletter:***

- *to spread European opportunities and initiatives,*
- *to disseminate the respect of human rights and the awareness about the development of Europe's cultural identity and diversity,*
- *to fight discrimination against minorities, xenophobia, intolerance and racism,*
- *to help, with youth activities, the democratic stability and social inclusion in Europe,*
- *develop active European citizenship and civil society by giving impetus to the training of youth leaders and youth workers working within a European dimension;*
- *to promote European youth activities, such as exchanges, seminars, conferences, debates and training courses,*
- *to encourage exchange of ideas, proposals, experiences and good practises at international level.*

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## 1. Historic climate deal in Paris: EU leads global efforts

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The European Union has played a key role in brokering historic agreement in Paris, where 195 countries adopted a new universal, legally binding global climate deal.

The ambitious and balanced agreement, the first major multilateral deal of the 21st century, sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. The deal is the culmination of years of efforts by the international community to bring about a universal multilateral agreement on climate change. Following limited participation in the Kyoto Protocol and the lack of agreement in Copenhagen in 2009, the EU has been

building a broad coalition of developed and developing countries in favour of high ambition that shaped the successful outcome of the Paris conference. The Paris Agreement sends a clear signal to investors, businesses, and policy-makers that the global transition to clean energy is here to stay and resources have to shift away from polluting fossil fuels. European Commission President **Jean-Claude Juncker** said: *"The world is united in the fight against climate change. The world gets a lifeline, a last chance to hand over to future generations a world that is more stable, a healthier planet, fairer societies and more prosperous economies. This robust agreement will steer the world towards a global clean energy transition. This deal is also a success for the European Union. We have long been the global leader in climate action, and the Paris Agreement now reflects our ambition worldwide. I would like to thank the EU's chief negotiator Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete and his team for working day and night to make this agreement happen and for keeping the European Union the central player throughout the negotiations. I am proud of all of you."* EU Climate Action and Energy Commissioner **Miguel Arias Cañete** said: *"This agreement is a major win for Europe. But more importantly, it is a major win for the global community. Europe has led the efforts in Paris to get an ambitious and legally binding global climate deal. We have forged alliances and others have joined. Our key objectives – on the long-term goal, the 5-yearly review cycles and transparency – are in the new agreement. The agreement also reconfirms global commitment to continued support to those in need of assistance. We succeeded. Now, what has been promised must be delivered. Europe will continue to lead the global low-carbon transition we have agreed."*

### The Paris climate deal

The Paris climate change agreement is a bridge between policies and climate-neutrality before the end of the century. In Paris, governments agreed on ambition, commitment, and solidarity.

- **Ambition:** Governments agreed a long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C, since this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change. The agreement calls for global emissions to peak as soon as possible, recognising that this will take longer for developing countries and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with the best available science. Before and during the Paris conference, countries submitted comprehensive national climate action plans to reduce their emissions. The sum total of the 185 intended nationally determined contributions prepared in advance of the Paris conference are not yet enough to keep the world below 2°C by the end of the century. However, the agreement traces the way to achieving this target.
- **Commitment:** To achieve this common ambition, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science. They also accepted to report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets, to ensure transparency and oversight. A global stocktake will take place every five years. A robust transparency and accountability system will track progress towards the long-term goal.
- **Solidarity:** The EU and other developed countries will continue to support climate action to reduce emissions and build resilience to climate change impacts in developing countries. Other countries are encouraged to provide or continue to provide such support voluntarily. Continued and enhanced international support for adaptation will be provided to developing countries. Developed countries intend to continue their existing collective goal to mobilise USD 100 billion per year until 2025 when a new collective goal will be set.

### Loss and Damage

The Paris Agreement also features a standalone article dealing with the issue of loss and damage associated with the impacts of climate change. Countries also acknowledge the need to cooperate and enhance the understanding, action and support in different areas such as early warning systems, emergency preparedness and risk insurance.

### **Lima-Paris Action Agenda**

The Lima-Paris Action Agenda, an initiative of the Peruvian and French COP Presidencies aimed at catalysing multi-stakeholder action, brought an unprecedented number of countries, cities, businesses and civil society members together on a global stage to accelerate cooperative climate action in support of the new agreement. The initiative demonstrated that the world is ready to catalyse efforts into climate action even before the Paris agreement enters into force in 2020. A number of major announcements and ground breaking initiatives were presented during the two week conference.

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## **2. All 118 Rural Development Programmes adopted**

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### **Worth €99.6 billion for 2014-2020, all 118 EU Rural Development Programmes for 2014-2020 are now ready to roll.**

The Commission adoption of Greece's Rural Development Programme (RDP) marks the end of the adoption process for all 118 programmes for the 2014-2020 period. With €99.6 billion from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and another €60.6 billion of co-funding from national and regional public funds or private investment, the RDPs will help European rural areas and communities face the current economic, environmental and social challenges, and take advantage of the opportunities ahead of them. Marking this milestone, Commissioner **Phil Hogan** said: *"The Rural Development Programme is about jobs, growth, investment and competitiveness in rural Europe. The goal is to empower rural areas and communities to meet the wide range of challenges and opportunities that face them in the 21st century: economic, social and environmental. With smart and strategic investment, the RDPs will drive generational renewal and create the conditions for a vibrant rural economy, society and environment. With COP21 ongoing in Paris, there is an inevitable focus in addressing the considerable climate challenge and the Rural Development Programme has a significant role to play in contributing to meeting this challenge."* Predominantly rural regions represent 52% of the EU territory and have a population of 112.1 million people. These regions differ significantly from one to the other and the challenges they face reflect many different circumstances. That is why the Commission provides greater flexibility to Member States so that the support is more closely tailored to the particular needs of each region or country and reflects a greater emphasis on subsidiarity. This way, Member States can build their



own national or regional programmes, reflecting these particularities, based on at least four of the six common priorities: knowledge and innovation, competitiveness, better food chain organisation, preserving ecosystems, resource efficiency, and social inclusion. These priorities also reflect the extent to which RDP funding has a beneficial impact on society in general and not just on the farming and other rural communities. For example, the Polish authorities decided to dedicate one third of their RDP's funding to enhance farm viability and competitiveness, with a programme that will provide investment support to roughly 200 000 farms and more than 1 800 producer groups, targeting the creation of thousands of jobs. Support for the setting-up of young farmers is included in many regional programmes, such as those for Picardie and Basse-Normandie in France. Climate action is amongst the most frequent project priority in national and regional RDPs. For example, Austria allocated 71% of its support to better management of natural resources and to encourage climate friendly farming practices, with the objective of having 83 % of farmland managed under contracts to support improved biodiversity and 75 % to improve water quality. Similarly, the central priority of Ireland's RDP is restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry. Three quarters of the total funding for Ireland is allocated to this priority. Connecting rural areas and enhancing infrastructure is an important pre-requisite for competitiveness. In Italy, Calabria's RDP will contribute to social inclusion and economic development in rural areas by

bringing improved broadband infrastructure to about 48% of the rural population. Some of the overall expected achievements for the 2014-2020 period are outlined in this factsheet. The implementation and impact of Rural Development Programmes is monitored and evaluated in detail. The findings are available in reports published on the Commission's website.

### Background

Support for Rural Development is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy. It provides Member States with an envelope of EU funding to manage nationally or regionally under multi-annual, co-funded programmes. In total, 118 programmes worth €99.6 billion are foreseen for all 28 Member States (more than the €95.6 billion announced one year ago because of transfers from the 1<sup>st</sup> pillar). The new Rural Development Regulation for the period 2014-2020 addresses six economic, environmental and social priorities. The programmes contain clear targets setting out what is to be achieved. Moreover and in order to coordinate actions better and maximise synergies with the other European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF), a partnership agreement has been agreed with each Member State. These agreements highlight the broad strategy of EU-funded structural investment. With a budget of €454 billion for 2014-2020, the ESIFs are the EU's main investment policy tool.

## 3. The Commission adopted a Communication on the contribution of the ESI Funds

### The Commission adopted a Communication on the contribution of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) to the EU's growth strategy, the Investment Plan and the Commission's priorities over the next decade.

The Commission adopted a Communication on the contribution of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) to the EU's growth strategy, the Investment Plan and the Commission's priorities over the next decade. The report also includes the outcomes of the negotiations with all the Member States on Partnership Agreements and programmes and the key challenges per country. Vice-President **Jyrki Katainen**, responsible for Jobs, Growth, Investment



and Competitiveness, said: *"There is a huge potential to combine ESI Funds and the Investment Plan's European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), but local and regional authorities may not be aware. That is why Commissioner Crețu and I will soon issue guidelines on the complementarity of the Funds, to make sure Member States make full use of these new opportunities."* Commissioner for Regional Policy **Corina Crețu** said: *"The ESI funds are increasingly needed as national and regional investments are declining. They robustly support Europe's return to lasting prosperity, by targeting the most promising sectors, bringing more cohesion and convergence in the EU and helping regions and cities capitalize on the talent and ideas of their people. It is*

*now up to the Member States to efficiently manage and invest the Funds, so they can reach the objectives detailed in the Communication."* For example, over 2014-2020, the Funds will invest €121 billion in research & innovation, ICT and support to small businesses throughout Europe. Two million companies will be directly supported by the Funds, to boost their competitiveness and increase their research and innovation capacity. Almost 15 million households will have access to high-speed broadband thanks to the European Regional Development Fund, while almost 20 million people in rural areas will have new or improved ICT services or infrastructure with the support of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Reformed for the 2014-2020 period, the ESI Funds have a clear focus on four key growth-generating sectors: research & innovation, digital technologies, the support to the low-carbon economy and to small businesses. Performance-oriented and in line with the European Semester and Country Specific Recommendations, ESI Funds investments will establish the right conditions for quality projects to flourish, for businesses to thrive and for the people's everyday life to improve, all leading to a new start in Europe.

### Background

In 2014-2020, €454 billion from the EU budget - €637 billion with national co-financing included - will be invested in Europe's cities and regions through more than 500 ESI Funds programmes. The ESI Funds are an important part of public investments in the EU; between 2014 and 2016, the ESI Funds



are expected to account for approximately 14% of total public investment on average, and to reach up to 70% in some Member States. As foreseen by the Article 16 of the Common Provisions Regulation, this Communication presents the main results of the negotiations between Member States, their partners, including regional and local actors, and the Commission on the Partnership Agreements and the programmes. It includes an overview of the key issues for each Member State in Annex II, while Annex I focuses on the Interregional cooperation programmes. To ensure maximum transparency for the public, the Commission is launching a new Open Data Platform for ESI Funds to show the progress in the implementation of ESI Funds programmes.

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#### 4. Record EU humanitarian budget adopted for 2016

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**As global humanitarian needs are set to reach a historic high in 2016, the European Commission is stepping up its humanitarian budget to record levels.**

The European Commission has adopted its humanitarian aid budget for 2016. With nearly €1.1 billion as an initial allocation, it is the highest EU humanitarian budget for life-saving relief in man-made and natural disasters to date. The record budget comes as global humanitarian needs are increasing due to the growing number of refugees and displaced persons as a result of armed conflict, the increasing impact of natural disasters, climate change and the economic crisis. The delivery of aid and access to beneficiaries has also become more dangerous. *"Next year we'll have a record budget due to tragically high levels of needs. The EU will continue to play its role to address the needs of the most vulnerable and can be proud to remain among the leading global donors of humanitarian assistance in 2016. At the same, I call on other donors to step up their commitments. From the refugee crisis to the impact of natural disasters, a stronger global response is needed."* said **Christos Stylianides**, EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management. The 2016 humanitarian budget will address the external dimension of the refugee crisis in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, the Western Balkans and Iraq. It will also assist people affected by other conflicts, such as in South Sudan and Ukraine, and it will address the needs of communities affected by complex and recurring crises in the Sahel region and Lake Chad Basin. The funding will also help vulnerable people caught up in many of the world's 'forgotten crises', such as to displaced people in Colombia, Myanmar and Afghanistan, which otherwise escape the attention of the international community. As a particular priority, the European Commission is set to increase in 2016 its humanitarian funding for education in emergencies from 1% to 4% of the EU's overall humanitarian budget, meeting the UN set target. Other priorities include helping vulnerable communities prepare for and better cope with recurrent natural disasters, such as those of South East Asia, as well as to improve aid delivery.



##### **Background:**

In keeping with guidance of the European Council of 23 September 2015, the budget includes a further €300 million to address the essential needs of people affected by crisis in Syria and Iraq. Together with €200 million already contracted in 2015, the Commission will thereby have delivered on its commitment to provide an extra €500 million over 2015-16 to help meet the humanitarian needs of the refugee crisis. Given the unpredictable nature of disasters, €189 million will remain in reserve in 2016 to respond to sudden catastrophes such as earthquakes and flooding or for allocation to ongoing crises during the course of the year, based on needs assessments. EU humanitarian aid is impartial and independent, and is entirely based on needs, delivered in accordance with humanitarian principles. The EU's humanitarian assistance on average annually amounts to just over €2 per EU citizen per year, reaching over 120 million people in need across the world. EU assistance is implemented via humanitarian partner organisations, including UN agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross family, who have signed partnership agreements with the European Commission. The Commission is closely monitoring the use of EU funds via its global network of humanitarian experts.

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## 5. Agreement on Commission's EU data protection reform will boost Digital Single Market

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**The European Commission put forward its EU Data Protection Reform in 2012 to make Europe fit for the digital age.**

The European Commission put forward its EU Data Protection Reform in January 2012 to make Europe fit for the digital age. An agreement was found with the European Parliament and the Council, following final negotiations between the three institutions (so-called 'trilogue' meetings). More than 90% of Europeans say they want the same data protection rights across the EU – and regardless of where their data is processed: this will soon be a reality. The Reform package will put an end to the patchwork of data protection rules that currently exists in the EU. **Andrus Ansip**, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, said: *"Agreement is a major step towards a Digital Single Market. It will remove barriers and unlock opportunities. The digital future of Europe can only be built on trust. With solid common standards for data protection, people can be sure they are in control of*



*their personal information. And they can enjoy all the services and opportunities of a Digital Single Market. We should not see privacy and data protection as holding back economic activities. They are, in fact, an essential competitive advantage. Agreement builds a strong basis to help Europe develop innovative digital services. Our next step is now to remove unjustified barriers which limit cross-border data flow: local practice and sometimes national law, limiting storage and processing of certain data outside national territory. So let us move ahead and build an open and thriving data economy in the EU –*

*based on the highest data protection standards and without unjustified barriers."* **Věra Jourová**, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality said, *"We deliver on the promise of the Juncker Commission to finalize data protection reform in 2015. These new pan-European rules are good for citizens and good for businesses. Citizens and businesses will profit from clear rules that are fit for the digital age, that give strong protection and at the same time create opportunities and encourage innovation in a European Digital Single Market. And harmonised data protection rules for police and criminal justice authorities will ease law enforcement cooperation between Member States based on mutual trust, contributing to the European Agenda for Security."*

The Reform consists of two instruments:

- The **General Data Protection Regulation** will enable people to better control their personal data. At the same time modernised and unified rules will allow businesses to make the most of the opportunities of the Digital Single Market by cutting red tape and benefiting from reinforced consumer trust.
- The **Data Protection Directive** for the police and criminal justice sector will ensure that the data of victims, witnesses, and suspects of crimes, are duly protected in the context of a criminal investigation or a law enforcement action. At the same time more harmonised laws will also facilitate cross-border cooperation of police or prosecutors to combat crime and terrorism more effectively across Europe.

### **A fundamental right for citizens**

The reform will allow people to regain control of their personal data. Two-thirds of Europeans (67%), according to a recent Eurobarometer survey, stated they are concerned about not having complete control over the information they provide online. Seven Europeans out of ten worry about the potential use that companies may make of the information disclosed. The data protection reform will strengthen the right to data protection, which is a fundamental right in the EU, and allow them to have trust when they give their personal data.

The new rules address these concerns by strengthening the existing rights and empowering individuals with more control over their personal data. Most notably, these include:

- **easier access to your own data:** individuals will have more information on how their data is processed and this information should be available in a clear and understandable way;
- **a right to data portability:** it will be easier to transfer your personal data between service providers;
- **a clarified "right to be forgotten":** when you no longer want your data to be processed, and provided that there are no legitimate grounds for retaining it, the data will be deleted;

- **the right to know when your data has been hacked:** For example, companies and organisations must notify the national supervisory authority of serious data breaches as soon as possible so that users can take appropriate measures.

#### **Clear modern rules for businesses**

In digital economy, personal data has acquired enormous economic significance, in particular in the area of big data. By unifying Europe's rules on data protection, lawmakers are creating a business opportunity and encouraging innovation.

- **One continent, one law:** The regulation will establish one single set of rules which will make it simpler and cheaper for companies to do business in the EU.
- **One-stop-shop:** businesses will only have to deal with one single supervisory authority. This is estimated to save €2.3 billion per year.
- **European rules on European soil–** companies based outside of Europe will have to apply the same rules when offering services in the EU.
- **Risk-based approach:** the rules will avoid a burdensome one-size-fits-all obligation and rather tailor them to the respective risks.
- **Rules fit for innovation:** the regulation will guarantee that data protection safeguards are built into products and services from the earliest stage of development (Data protection by design). Privacy-friendly techniques such as pseudonymisation will be encouraged, to reap the benefits of big data innovation while protecting privacy.

#### **Benefits for big and small alike**

The data protection reform will stimulate economic growth by cutting costs and red tape for European business, especially for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The EU's data protection reform will help SMEs break into new markets. Under the new rules, SMEs will benefit from four reductions in red tape:

- **No more notifications:** Notifications to supervisory authorities are a formality that represents a cost for business of €130 million every year. The reform will scrap these entirely.
- **Every penny counts:** Where requests to access data are manifestly unfounded or excessive, SMEs will be able to charge a fee for providing access.
- **Data Protection Officers:** SMEs are exempt from the obligation to appoint a data protection officer insofar as data processing is not their core business activity.
- **Impact Assessments:** SMEs will have no obligation to carry out an impact assessment unless there is a high risk.

#### **Protecting personal data in the area of law enforcement**

##### **Better cooperation between law enforcement authorities**

With the new Data Protection Directive for Police and Criminal Justice Authorities, law enforcement authorities in EU Member States will be able to exchange information necessary for investigations more efficiently and effectively, improving cooperation in the fight against terrorism and other serious crime in Europe. The Data Protection Directive for Police and Criminal Justice Authorities takes account of the specific needs of law enforcement, respects the different legal traditions in Member States and is fully in line with the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

##### **Better protection of citizens' data**

Individuals' personal data will be better protected, when processed for any law enforcement purpose including prevention of crime. It will protect everyone – regardless of whether they are a victim, criminal or witness. All law enforcement processing in the Union must comply with the principles of necessity, proportionality and legality, with appropriate safeguards for the individuals. Supervision is ensured by independent national data protection authorities, and effective judicial remedies must be provided. The Data Protection Directive for Police and Criminal Justice Authorities provides clear rules for the transfer of personal data by law enforcement authorities outside the EU, to ensure that the level of protection of individuals guaranteed in the EU is not undermined.

#### **Next steps**

Following political agreement reached in trilogue, the final texts will be formally adopted by the European Parliament and Council at the beginning 2016. The new rules will become applicable two years thereafter. The Commission will work closely with Member State Data protection authorities to ensure a uniform application of the new rules. During the two-year transition phase, the Commission will inform citizens about their rights and companies about their obligations. Data Protection





Authorities will work more closely together in the future, especially through the one-stop shop mechanism to solve cross-border data protection cases.

### Background

The Data protection package is a key enabler of the Digital Single Market and the EU Agenda on Security. Proposed by then EU Justice Commissioner, Vice-President Viviane Reding in January 2012, the data protection reform package includes the General Data Protection Regulation and the data Protection Directive for Police and Criminal Justice Authorities. It updates and replaces the current Data protection rules that are based on the 1995 Data Protection Directive and the 2008 Framework Decision for the police and criminal justice sector.

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## 6. Making EU copyright rules fit for the digital age

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Delivering on its Digital Single Market strategy, the Commission presents a proposal to allow Europeans to travel with their online content and an action plan to modernise EU copyright rules. At present, Europeans travelling within the EU may be cut off from online services providing films, sports broadcasts, music, e-books or games that they have paid for in their home country. The proposed **Regulation on the cross-border portability of online content services** addresses these restrictions in order to allow EU residents to travel with the digital content they have purchased or subscribed to at home. Cross-border portability, a new EU right for consumers, is expected to be a reality in 2017, the same year as the end of roaming charges in the EU. Since it is a proposal for a Regulation, once adopted it will be directly applicable in all 28 EU Member States. In addition, the Commission outlines its **vision of a modern EU copyright framework**. This "political preview" will be translated into legislative proposals and policy initiatives in the next six months, taking into



account all inputs from several public consultations. Overall, the Commission wants to make sure that Europeans can access a wide legal offer of content, while ensuring that authors and other rights holders are better protected and fairly remunerated. The key sectors of education, culture, research and innovation will also benefit from a more modern and European framework. **Andrus Ansip**, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, said: "Seven months ago, we promised fast delivery of the Digital Single Market. We present our first proposals. We want to ensure the portability of content across borders. People who legally buy content – films, books, football matches, TV

series – must be able to carry it with them anywhere they go in Europe. This is a real change, similar to what we did to end roaming charges. We also set out our vision for a modern copyright regime in the EU – and the gradual steps to achieve it. Our aim is to widen people's access to cultural content online and support creators. We want to strengthen European R&D, using technologies like text and data mining. The Digital Single Market is the blueprint for Europe claiming its place in the digital era, we start making it a reality". **Günther H. Oettinger**, Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society, said: "The Regulation proposed is the first step of an ambitious reform. I count on the co-legislators to make sure that portability becomes reality for European consumers by 2017 so that they can enjoy their favourite content also when they travel in the EU – and without the fear of roaming charges, which will end by mid-2017. Our action plan gives the direction for further reform in spring next year: we want a copyright environment that is stimulating, fair, rewards investment in creativity and makes it easier for Europeans to access and use content legally. Our ongoing work on the role of platforms and online intermediaries will also help to translate our plan into concrete proposals." The Commission also proposes new rules to improve the protection of European consumers when shopping online and to help businesses sell across borders. Together, these are the first legislative proposals under the Digital Single Market strategy presented in May.

### A modern and more European copyright framework

The Commission's action plan is built on four complementary pillars of equal importance. It also sets out a long-term vision for copyright in the EU.

#### 1. Widening access to content across the EU



The rules on the content portability represent a first step towards improving access to cultural works. For example: a French user of the online service MyTF1 for films and series is not able to rent a new film while on business trip to the UK. A Dutch subscriber to Netflix travelling to Germany is only able to watch films offered by Netflix to German consumers. If he visits Poland, he is not able to watch films on Netflix as Netflix is not available in Poland. This will change. When travelling across the EU, users will have access to their music, films and games as if they were at home. More will be proposed in spring next year. Our aims are to allow a better circulation of content, offer more choice to Europeans, to strengthen cultural diversity and provide more opportunities for the creative sector. The Commission intends to improve the cross-border distribution of television and radio programmes online (via the review of the Satellite and Cable Directive) and to facilitate the granting of licences for cross-border access to content. The Commission will also help give new life to works which are no longer commercialised. The Commission will further use its Creative Europe programme to help European cinema to reach a broader audience. The action plan foresees the development of innovative tools, such as a "European aggregator" of online search portals and "licencing hubs" to foster the distribution of films which are only available in a few Member States.

## **2. Exceptions to copyright rules for an innovative and inclusive society**

The Commission intends to work on key EU exceptions to copyright. Exceptions allow for copyright-protected works to be used, in defined circumstances, without prior authorisation from the rights holders. The Commission will revise EU rules to make it easier for researchers to use "text and data mining" technologies to analyse large sets of data. Education is another priority. For example, teachers who give online courses should be subject to better and clearer rules, that work across Europe. Also, the Commission wants to help people with disabilities to access more works (this is the aim of the Marrakesh Treaty). The Commission will finally assess the need to reduce the legal uncertainty for internet users who upload their photos of buildings and public art works permanently located in public places (current exception for panorama).



## **3. Creating a fairer marketplace**

The Commission will assess if the online use of copyright-protected works, resulting from the investment of creators and creative industries, is properly authorised and remunerated through licences. In other words, we will assess whether the benefits of the online use of those works is fairly shared. In this context, the Commission will look at the role of news aggregation services. The Commission's approach will be proportionate: there is no intention to "tax" hyperlinks; i.e. users will not be asked to pay for copyright when they simply share a hyperlink to content protected by copyright. The Commission will also analyse whether solutions are needed at EU level to increase legal certainty, transparency and balance in the system that governs the remuneration of authors and performers in the EU, taking EU and national competences into account. The results of the ongoing public consultation on platforms and online intermediaries will contribute to this general reflection.

## **4. Fighting piracy**

Wider availability of content will help to fight piracy, given that 22% of Europeans believe that illegal downloads are acceptable if there is no legal alternative available in their country. The Commission will go beyond this by making sure that copyright is properly enforced across the EU as part of its comprehensive approach to improve enforcement of all types of intellectual property rights. In 2016, we will work on a European framework to "follow-the-money" and cut the financial flows to businesses which make money out of piracy. This will involve all relevant partners (rights holders, advertising and payment service providers, consumers associations, etc.) with the aim to reach agreements by spring 2016. The Commission intends to improve EU rules on the enforcement of intellectual property rights and, as a first step, has launched a [public consultation](#) on the evaluation and modernisation of the existing legal framework. The Commission will also look at how to make the removal of illegal content by online intermediaries more efficient.

## **A long-term vision for copyright**

In the future, effective and uniform application of copyright legislation across the EU, by national legislators and the courts alike will be as important as the rules themselves. While all conditions are not met to consider full alignment of copyright rules across the EU in the form of a single copyright code and single copyright title, this should remain an aspiration for the future.

## **Background**

Digital technologies have radically changed the way creative content is accessed, produced and distributed. 49% of EU internet users listen to music, watch videos and play games online. Many of them, especially the youngest ones, expect to do so while they travel in the EU. These trends are expected to grow as Europeans will pay less to access the internet on their mobile devices in other EU Member States from 2017, with the end of roaming charges in the EU. European schools and universities are eager to engage in e-education, researchers want to use advanced content mining techniques, and cultural heritage institutions are willing to digitise their collections. Copyright-intensive industries (such as media, book publishers, sound recording companies, TV broadcasting) represent more than 7 million jobs in the EU. It is essential that they can work in an environment that is ready to meet new challenges. However, most copyright rules date back to 2001, so there are some aspects that are not 'fit for purpose' when it comes to creating a Digital Single Market in the EU. This is why the Commission included EU copyright modernisation in its Digital Single Market strategy, as presented in May.

#### **Making progress towards a Digital Single Market**

New rules related to copyright and digital contracts are the first legislative proposals to be presented as part of the Digital Single Market strategy. Overall, 16 initiatives will be presented by the end of next year. The proposals will complement recent major achievements to build a Digital Single Market: the agreements to end roaming charges by June 2017, to enshrine net neutrality into EU law and to strengthen cybersecurity in the EU. The Commission is also working hard to reach a political deal by the end of this year on strengthening EU data protection rules.

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## **7. Commission presents a new Aviation Strategy for Europe**

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### **The Commission adopted a new Aviation Strategy, a milestone initiative to boost Europe's economy, strengthen its industrial base and contribute to the EU global leadership.**

The European Commission adopted a new Aviation Strategy for Europe, a milestone initiative to boost Europe's economy, strengthen its industrial base and reinforce its global leadership position. These are three core priorities of President **Jean-Claude Juncker**, on which the Strategy will deliver, by ensuring that the European aviation sector remains competitive and reaps the benefits of



a fast-changing and developing global economy. A strong and outward-looking aviation sector will not only benefit businesses, but also European citizens by offering more connections to the rest of the world at lower prices. Vice-President for the Energy-Union **Maroš Šefčovič** said, "*Competitive and efficient aviation is central to Europe's growth. This new Aviation Strategy creates a framework that will enable European aviation to maintain its global leadership. It also confirms the pioneering commitment of Europe to sustainable aviation, a highly topical issue as the world has its eyes on Paris for the COP21*". EU Commissioner for Transport **Violeta Bulc** added, "*European aviation is facing a number of challenges and Strategy sets out a comprehensive and ambitious*

*action-plan to keep the sector ahead of the curve. It will keep European companies competitive, through new investment and business opportunities, allowing them to grow in a sustainable manner. European citizens will also benefit from more choice, cheaper prices and the highest levels of safety and security.*" The Commission's goal is to shape a comprehensive strategy for the whole EU aviation ecosystem. In this context, the priorities are to:

**1. Place the EU as a leading player in international aviation, whilst guaranteeing a level playing field.** The EU aviation sector must be allowed to tap into the new growth markets. This can be achieved through new external aviation agreements with key countries and regions in the world. This will not only improve market access, but also provide new business opportunities for European companies and ensure fair and transparent market conditions based on a clear regulatory framework. These agreements will also provide more connections and better prices for passengers. Global connectivity is a driver of trade and tourism, and directly contributes to economic growth and job creation.

**2. Tackle limits to growth in the air and on the ground.** The main challenge for the growth of EU aviation is to address the capacity, efficiency and connectivity constraints. The fragmentation of the

European airspace costs at least €5 billion a year and up to 50 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. Capacity constraints at EU airports could cost up to 818,000 jobs by 2035. Now is therefore the time for the EU to plan for future air travel demand and avoid congestion. For this reason, the Strategy stresses the importance of completing the Single European Sky project, optimising the use of our busiest airports, and monitoring intra-EU and extra-EU connectivity to identify shortcomings.

**3. Maintain high EU standards.** In the interest of European citizens and businesses, it is crucial to maintain high EU standards for safety, security, the environment, social issues and passenger rights. The Strategy proposes important measures in this sense, with an update of the EU's safety rules in order to maintain high safety standards alongside growing air traffic. Further more an effective and efficient regulatory framework will give the industry more flexibility to thrive and remain competitive globally. The Commission will also seek ways to reduce the burden of security checks and costs, through the use of new technology and a risk-based approach. It will further reinforce the social dialogue and employment conditions in aviation, and pursue a robust global measure to achieve carbon neutral growth from 2020.

**4. Make progress on innovation, digital technologies and investments.** A catalyst for the development of aviation, and its function as an enabler of growth, will be innovation and digitalisation. Europe must in particular unleash the full potential of drones. That is why the Strategy proposes a legal framework to ensure safety and legal certainty for industry and addresses concerns related to privacy and data protection, security and the environment. In addition, appropriate investments into technology and innovation will secure Europe's leading role in international aviation. The European Union has planned to invest €430 million each year, until 2020, in the Single European Sky ATM Research (SESAR) project. The timely deployment of SESAR solutions can potentially result in the creation of over 300 000 new jobs. The deployment and optimisation of information and communications technologies are also particularly relevant for airport capacity, performance and quality of service.

#### **Background**

The Aviation Strategy is one of the initiatives listed in the Commission Work Programme for 2015. It consists of a Communication, a proposal for a revision of the EU's aviation safety rules and requests to negotiate Comprehensive EU-level air transport agreements with a number of key third countries. Aviation is a strong driver of economic growth, jobs, trade and mobility for the European Union and plays a crucial role in the EU economy. The sector employs almost 2 million people in the EU and is worth €110 billion to Europe's economy. Over the last 20 years, the EU's liberalisation of the internal market for air services and the substantial growth of demand in air transport within the EU and worldwide, have resulted in the significant development of the European aviation sector. The aviation traffic in Europe is predicted to reach 14.4 million flights in 2035, 50% more than in 2012.

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## **8. Young researchers across Europe receive €429 million in grants**

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**The European Research Council (ERC) has announced the awarding of its Starting Grants to 291 early-career researchers. The funding, worth in total €429 million and up to €1.5 million per grant, will enable them to set up their own research teams and pursue ground-breaking ideas. The grants are awarded under the 'excellent science' pillar of Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme.**

On this occasion, **Carlos Moedas**, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: *"We need to keep our most talented researchers in Europe while attracting the new and diverse perspectives of top researchers from elsewhere in the world. These grants ensure many of the world's most exciting ideas are developed right here: giving researchers and scientists the freedom and security to pursue their careers and ambitions on our continent."* The President of the ERC, Professor **Jean-Pierre Bourguignon**, said: *"With the granting of two thirds of its support to younger researchers, the ERC has shown its strong commitment to backing up-and-coming talent. The latest funding round adds to the many Starting Grant holders already supported across Europe, allowing them to gain early independence and to go after their*



*most creative ideas without preset themes. Europe needs to encourage such creativity and risky, cutting-edge research. This year, the number of grantees based in Central and Eastern Europe doubled. Although still a very low figure, I hope this will be the basis for a sustained positive trend."* The new grantees will work on a wide range of topics, such as exploring Earth's past climates, investigating neglected tropical diseases, and studying how diplomacy transforms under the pressure of new media. The funded research covers all disciplines: physical sciences and engineering, life sciences, and social science and humanities. ERC grants are awarded to researchers of any nationality based in, or willing to move to, Europe. In this competition, grantees of 38 nationalities received the funding. The new ERC projects will be hosted in 23 countries across Europe, with the United Kingdom (48), Germany (47), Netherlands (32) and France (29) as top locations. The number of grantees based in countries covered by the ERC initiative to widen participation, mainly in Central and Eastern Europe, increased compared with the past few years. Malta will host its first ERC grantee. These grants will also enable the selected scientists to build their own research teams, engaging an estimated 1,000 postdocs and PhD students as ERC team members. The ERC thereby also contributes to supporting a new generation of top researchers in Europe.

#### **Note to the editors ERC**

Starting Grants are awarded to researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD (or equivalent degree) and a scientific track record showing great promise. Research must be conducted in a public or private research organisation located in one of the EU Member States or Associated Countries. The funding (maximum €1.5 million per grant) is provided over up to five years. Two thirds of the ERC budget is earmarked for the Starting Grant and Consolidator Grant schemes, and calls for proposals are published once a year. The European Research Council, set up by the European Union in 2007, is the first European funding organisation for excellent frontier research. Every year, it selects and funds the very best, creative researchers of any nationality and age, to run projects based in Europe. The ERC also strives to attract top researchers from anywhere in the world to come to Europe. To date, the ERC has funded more than 5,000 top researchers at various stages of their careers. The ERC is led by an independent governing body, the Scientific Council, and, since January 2014, the ERC President is Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon. The ERC has a budget of over €13 billion for the years 2014-2020 and is part of the EU research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020, for which European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science Carlos Moedas is responsible.

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## **9. Commission registers European Citizens' Initiative**

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### **Commission registers European Citizens' Initiative on the definition of marriage and family if used in EU law.**

The European Commission has registered a European Citizens Initiative (ECI) inviting the Commission to propose legislation that defines the meaning of marriage as a union between a man



and a woman and of family as based on marriage and/or descent for the purpose of EU law. This registration starts a one-year process of collection of signatures in support of the proposed ECI by its organisers. The Commission's decision to register concerns only the legal admissibility of the proposal. The conditions for admissibility, as foreseen by the ECI Regulation, are that the proposed action does not manifestly fall outside the framework of the Commission's powers to submit a proposal for a legal act, that it is not manifestly abusive, frivolous or vexatious and that it is not manifestly contrary to the values of the Union. The College of Commissioners discussed the legal admissibility of the proposed

ECI on 9 December and concluded that the legal conditions for the registration of the ECI were fulfilled. The College has not analysed the substance of the initiative at this stage. Should the ECI receive one million statements of support within one year, from at least seven different Member States, the Commission will have to react within three months. The Commission can decide either to follow the request or not follow the request and in both instances would be required to explain its reasoning.

#### **Background**

ECIs were introduced with the Lisbon Treaty and launched as an agenda-setting tool in the hands of citizens in April 2012, upon the entry into force of the ECI Regulation which implements the Treaty



provisions. Once formally registered, an ECI allows one million citizens from at least one quarter of EU Member States to invite the European Commission to propose a legal act in areas where the Commission has the power to do so. If – and only if – a registered ECI receives the signatures of one million validated statements of support from at least seven Member States, the Commission must decide whether or not it would act, and explain the reasons for that choice.

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## 10. A European Border and Coast Guard to protect Europe's External Borders

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The European Commission is adopting an important set of measures to manage the EU's external borders and protect our Schengen area without internal borders. The proposals will help to manage migration more effectively, improve the internal security of the European Union, and safeguard the principle of free movement of persons. The Commission is proposing to establish a European Border and Coast Guard to ensure a strong and shared management of the external borders. To further increase security for Europe's citizens, the Commission is also proposing to introduce systematic checks against relevant databases for all people entering or exiting the Schengen area. European Commission First Vice-President

**Frans Timmermans** said: *"In an area of free movement without internal borders, managing Europe's external borders must be a shared responsibility. The crisis has exposed clear weaknesses and gaps in existing mechanisms aimed at making sure that EU standards are upheld. Therefore, it is now time to move to a truly integrated system of border management. The European Border and Coast Guard will*



*bring together a reinforced Agency, with the ability to draw on a reserve pool of people and equipment, and the Member States' authorities, who will continue to exercise day-to-day border management. The system we propose will allow for an identification of any weaknesses in real time so that they can be remedied quickly, also improving our collective ability to deal effectively with crisis situations where a section of the external border is placed under strong pressure."* European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship, **Dimitris Avramopoulos** added: *"The current migration and security challenges know no borders, and require a truly European approach. Where Frontex used to be limited to supporting Member States in managing their external borders, the new Border Agency will go beyond this. What we are creating is more Europe: to manage our external borders, to step up returns of irregular migrants, to allow our asylum system to function properly for those in need and to strengthen checks at the external borders of the European Union. The Border Package we are presenting will increase security for our citizens and ensure high standards of border management."*

### **A European Border and Coast Guard**

The European Border and Coast Guard will bring together a European Border and Coast Guard Agency built from Frontex and the Member States' authorities responsible for border management, who will continue to exercise the day-to-day management of the external border.

The new European Border and Coast Guard will have:

- **A rapid reserve pool of border guards and technical equipment:** The Agency will be able to draw on at least **1,500 experts** that can be deployed in under 3 days. For the first time the Agency will be able to **acquire equipment itself** and to draw on a **pool of technical equipment** provided by the Member States. There will no longer be shortages of staff or equipment for European border operations. The new Agency's human resources will more than double that of Frontex, to **reach 1,000 permanent staff**, including field operatives, by 2020.
- **A monitoring and supervisory role:** A **monitoring and risk analysis centre** will be established to monitor migratory flows towards and within the European Union and to carry out **risk analysis** and **mandatory vulnerability assessments** to identify and address weak spots. **Liaison officers** will be seconded to Member States to ensure presence on the ground where the borders are at risk. The Agency will be able to **assess the operational capacity**, technical equipment and resources of Member States to face challenges at their external borders and **require Member States to take measures** to address the situation within a set time-limit in case of vulnerabilities.

- **The right to intervene:** Member States can request joint operations and rapid border interventions, and deployment of the European Border and Coast Guard Teams to support these. Where deficiencies persist or where a Member State is under significant migratory pressure putting in peril the Schengen area and national action is not forthcoming or not enough, the Commission will be able to adopt an **implementing decision** determining that the situation at a particular section of the external borders requires urgent action at European level. This will allow the Agency to step in and **deploy European Border and Coast Guard Teams** to ensure that action is taken on the ground even when a Member State is unable or unwilling to take the necessary measures.
- **Coast Guard surveillance:** National coastguards will be part of the European Border and Coast Guard to the extent that they carry out border control tasks. The mandates of the European Fisheries Control Agency and the European Maritime Safety Agency will be aligned to the new European Border and Coast Guard. The three Agencies will be able to launch **joint surveillance operations**, for instance by jointly operating Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (drones) in the Mediterranean Sea.
- **A mandate to work in third countries:** The Agency will have a new mandate to send liaison officers to and launch **joint operations** with neighbouring third countries, including operating on their territory.
- **A stronger role in returns:** A European Return Office will be established within the Agency to allow for the deployment of **European Return Intervention Teams** composed of escorts, monitors and return specialists who will work to effectively return illegally staying third country nationals. A **standard European travel document for return** will ensure a wider acceptance of returnees by third countries.
- **Guaranteeing Internal Security:** The Agency will include cross-border crime and terrorism in its risk analysis and cooperate with other Union agencies and international organisations on the **prevention of terrorism**, in full respect of fundamental rights.

#### **Systematic checks of EU citizens at external borders**

To increase security within the Schengen area, the Commission is proposing a targeted modification of the Schengen Borders Code to introduce **mandatory systematic checks of EU citizens** at external land, sea, and air borders. Obligatory checks on EU citizens will be introduced against databases such as the Schengen Information System, the Interpol Stolen and Lost Travel Documents Database and relevant national systems, in order to verify that persons arriving do not represent a threat to public order and internal security. The proposal also reinforces the need to



verify the **biometric identifiers** in the passports of EU citizens in case of doubts on the authenticity of the passport or on the legitimacy of the holder. Checks will now also be **mandatory when exiting the European Union**. In principle, since controls on documents and persons can be carried out in parallel, authorities should be able to consult relevant databases without delaying border crossings. The rules provide for flexibility in cases where systematic checks could have a disproportionate impact on the flow of traffic at the border. In such cases Member States can, based on risk assessments, decide to carry out targeted checks at some land and sea borders crossings.

The risk assessment shall be communicated to the Agency, which can assess the way the exception is applied in its vulnerability assessment. The systematic checks in the databases are done on a 'hit/no hit' basis. This means that if the person does not present a risk then the check is not registered and no further processing of their data happens. Using the databases in this way means that personal data rights are only impacted to a very limited extent, and justified by the security objectives.

#### **Background**

The establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard, as announced by President Juncker in his State of the Union Speech on 9 September, is part of the measures under the European Agenda on Migration to reinforce the management and security of the EU's external borders. The European Agenda on Migration adopted by the Commission in May 2015 set out the need for a comprehensive approach to migration management. This objective has also been signalled by the European Parliament and endorsed in the clear orientations set out by the European Council on 23 September and 15 October. In response to the recent tragic attacks in Paris and the growing threat

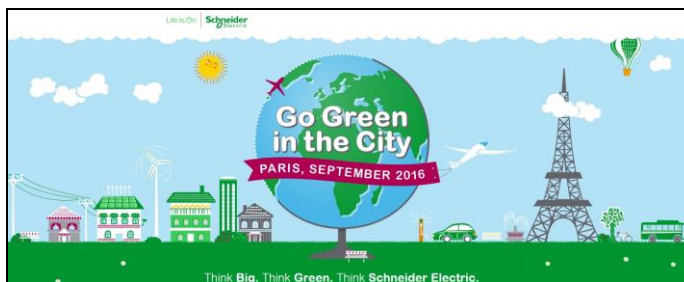
from foreign terrorist fighters, the Commission has swiftly taken action to accelerate work and implementation of measures under the European Security Agenda. This proposal responds to the need to reinforce security controls at the EU's external borders, as called for by Interior Ministers on 20 November.

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## 11. Go Green in the City 2016

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Innovative solutions for efficient energy management for smarter cities. In January 2016 Go Green in the City, the ultimate global student competition for sustainable energy solutions, will return. This time we have prepared a new experience for you. Get ready to learn, engage, create, and make a real change in the world! In teams of two, students from all over the world are invited to enter the competition and share their innovative solutions to real world business challenges within energy management from the leading global energy management company, Schneider Electric. The 12 finalist teams will be invited to Paris in September 2016 to present their ideas in front of a prominent jury and compete for a trip around the world as well as a career opportunity at Schneider Electric. Go Green in the City 2016 is the sixth edition of the ultimate student competition for smart energy solutions organized by Schneider Electric. **Deadline: April 15, 2016.** For more information visit this [link](#).



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## 12. Disarmament Poster for Peace Contest 2016

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In commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the first UN General Assembly resolution, which established the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs is pleased to sponsor the UN Poster for Peace Contest. The contest aims to raise awareness of the need for nuclear disarmament and to inspire citizens across the globe to add their voices, and use their artistic talents, to promote a world free of nuclear weapons.

### Poster File Size and File Type

Maximum file size: 10 MB.

File type: JPEG, PNG or PDF.

**Who Can Enter:** Anyone of any age can enter this contest, and it is open to all people in all countries. Children below the age of 13 will need to have their parents' permission, and will need to have parents (or a legal guardian) help with their submissions.

### Specifications

Art work must be original, submitted by the artist. It should be developed such that it could be displayed in a 60 by 90 centimetres (2 feet x 3 feet) format. Entries must be two dimensional using either traditional methods (pens, pencils, crayons, charcoal, oil paint, acrylic paint, watercolour, etc.) or modern digital illustration process. As all art work must be fully original, no entries will be accepted or considered if they are deemed to use in whole or part derivative images which could be considered plagiaristic. Multiple entries are allowed if the design concept is different from one poster to another. Words, text, and UN logo can be added on the poster submission, provided that it is relevant to the aim of the contest.

### Contest Prizes

There will be three winners: First prize will be USD 3,000; Second will be USD 2,000; Third will be USD 1,000.

**Copyright:** Those making submissions agree that the UN retains all copyrights of the materials submitted. Files uploaded to the contest website should be solely images of the artwork and not contain photographic images of the contestant nor other individuals.

**Conditions** The UN shall not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur by entering this contest and the UN reserves the right to make changes to the rules of the contest without prior notification.

**Closing date: 24 January 2016.** Entries should be uploaded to [www.unposterforpeace.org](http://www.unposterforpeace.org).

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### 13. China Summit 2016

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The 7th Annual G(irls)20 Summit will be held in China, the 2016 G20 Host Country. While **exact** dates have not yet been set, we anticipate the Summit will take place in **August 2016**.

Designed G20 style, the G(irls)20 Summit brings together one delegate from each G20 country, plus a representative from the European and African Unions, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the MENA region. During the Summit, delegates attend skills building workshops (entrepreneurship, financial



preparedness, communications, digital literacy, leadership, etc.) participate in panel discussion with local and global experts, and then produce a communique with tangible, scalable solutions towards increase FLFP. The communiqué is presented to G20 Leaders for their consideration. **All applicants must meet the following criteria:**

- Female, between the ages of 18-23 (at the time of Summit);
- Lives in and holds citizenship in a G20 member country, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the African or European Unions, or the MENA region;
- Is proficient in the English language for all verbal and written communications;
- Has or can obtain a valid passport and visa for travel no later than April 31, 2016
- Has an interest in the economic advancement of girls and women;
- Will commit to launching a post-Summit initiative/project in her own community;
- Has parental or guardian permission to travel to China and to fully participate in the summit for the duration of the Summit (This may require absence from school); and,
- Will provide consent to appear in any and all media.

**Deadline to submit applications: 15 January 2016.** For more information visit this [link](#).

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### 14. Summer Student Programme at CERN

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How do you plan to spend your summer? How does getting involved in some of the world's biggest experiments sound? This is more than summer work. It's the chance to join CERN in Geneva – getting involved in the day-to-day work of our multicultural teams. Attend lectures, visit CERN facilities, take part in discussions and workshops with people who are leaders in their fields. In fact, it will be a summer like nowhere else on Earth. **Disciplines represented:** Civil Engineering; Controls and Data Acquisition; Electricity; Electromechanics; Electronics; Health, Safety & Environment; Information Technologies; Materials Science & Surface Engineering; Mechanics; Physics.

**Eligibility Conditions:**

- You are a national of a CERN [Member State](#) or Pakistan, Romania, Serbia or Turkey.
- Students from Non-Member States are able to apply only if they have been residing in a CERN Member State for the **last 5 years and are enrolled in a Member State educational establishment (if you do not fulfill the conditions above, please check the [Non Member State Summer Student Programme](#))**.
- Your Bachelor or Master degree focuses on one of the following disciplines: Civil Engineering; Controls and Data Acquisition; Electricity; Electromechanics; Electronics; Health, Safety & Environment; Information Technologies; Materials Science & Surface Engineering; Mechanics; Physics.



- You are an **undergraduate student** and have completed, by the summer of attending, **at least three years of full-time studies at university level** or you are expecting to graduate in the summer of attending (but not earlier than May 2016).
  - You have not worked at CERN before with any other status (Technical Student, Trainee, User...) for more than 3 months.
  - You have a good knowledge of English, knowledge of French would be an advantage.
- Deadline to submit applications: 27 January 2016.** For more information visit this [link](#).

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## 15. Concluded the meeting start-up in Arad

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From 6th to 9th November took place in Arad (Romania) the 1st project meeting of the project "The suitcase, the map and the voyage of a youth worker" approved under Erasmus Plus Programme - KA2 Youth by Romanian National Agency Erasmus Plus. During the meeting the participants discussed about: action indicators; risk management; project sustainability; activity plan and dissemination. The meeting was also useful to know each other the partners and to define further international collaborations. The representative for our centre was Antonino Imbesi.




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## 16. Monitoring visit to our centre

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On 4th October, our centre Europe Direct Basilicata received a monitoring visit from European Commission. The coordinator of the visit was dr. Natalja Montefusco from the Italian Agency of the EC: she detected the complete and fair development of the initiatives made in our centre and she complimented the responsible of the centre for the large number of initiatives. During the visit, in effect, it took place a complete check about the procedures in terms of promotion of European communication and also about the activities carried out in 2015.

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## 17. Meeting EDIC at Matera

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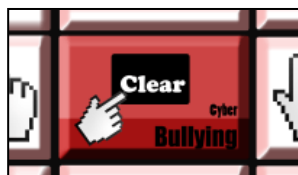
On 4th and 5th November in Matera took place the EDIC meeting by Italian Agency of the EC with the participation of the national Europe Direct centres. On 5th November the Commissioner Corina Crețu and the parliamentary secretary Claudio De Vincenti were replying to the questions from the citizens in the framework of the initiative called "Dialogues with citizens". The topics discussed were about: support and stimulus to local economy coming from European Fund for Strategic Investments and from European Structural and Investment Funds, the role of the society in the control of Structural funds effective use.




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## 18. Concluded the third meeting CCB in Ibi

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From 28th till 31st October took place in Ibi - Alicante (Spain) the 3rd meeting of the initiative Clear Cyber Bullying (an action funded under Erasmus Plus Programme - KA2). During the meeting were presented some activities planned for the 2nd project year. The project is about the possible ways to prevent the Bullying phenomena increased today within teenagers and kids. During the 2nd project year are going to be developed several actions such as flash mob, competition for a slogan against Bullying and an electronic game for students.

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## 19. Completed the training course in Kokkola

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From 23rd to 28th November took place at Youth Centre Villa Elba in Kokkola (Finlandia) the training event “For successful group-EVS: how to support a good start?”. The seminar aimed to give tools and methodology training for hosting and receiving organisations of short-time EVS projects. 2 Italian participants selected by our centre have participated to the event and they were evaluating their participation as excellent and stimulating experience – they were asking to get involved in further activities under Erasmus Plus programme.



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## 20. Soon the first meeting of the project NEFELE

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Under the programme “creative Europe”, which supports and sustains the cultural and creative sectors, the project “Nefele - Networking European Festivals For Mental Life Enhancement” – action n. 559274-CREA-1-2015-1-ELCULT-COOP1” is now in the implementation phase.



As general objectives, Creative Europe aims to promote and protect the European linguistic and cultural diversity; to improve the competitiveness in the cultural and creative sector in order to develop an intelligent, sustainable and inclusive economical growth. As specific objectives it proposes to support the internationalisation of the cultural and creative sector, to promote the international distribution and circulation of cultural and creative products as well as the mobility of the cultural operators, to improve the financial capacity of the cultural and creative sectors with a special regard to the SME, to support the international cooperation in order to foster innovation, policy

development, audience building and new business model. The first meeting is planned in Dublin in January 2016 from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> (including travelling days) and it has the aim to start all the activities planned in the project, and in particular to develop a creativity festival for disabled youngsters in each partnership country.

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## 21. Second meeting of the project "URbanities" in Budapest

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From 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December took place in Budapest, Hungary, the second meeting of the project “URbanities - empowering civil participation through game based learning” – approved from the German Erasmus plus National Agency under the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education – action 2015-1-DE02-KA204-002434. During this second meeting all the activities of the first year have been planned and all the actions to be developed in order to create the electronic game have been scheduled. The project partners have also presented the first step of the research made on the best practices between citizens and public administrations in the development and support of useful actions for the citizenship. During the meeting it has been a discussion on the logo of the project analysing different options prepared by our technicians.



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## 22. Youth Exchange in Karaman

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From 19/10/2015 till 27/10/2015 in Karaman in Turkey took place the youth exchange titled "Disadvantaged youth and social inclusion" with the participation of 5 young people (between 18 and 30) + 1 group leader from the following countries Turkey, Italy, Sweden, Romania, Latvia and



Macedonia. The aim of project was to support rural development, especially to provide awareness and training of people living in rural areas and evaluation and dissemination works in the international arena. In addition the project tried to help the participants to increase the knowledge and skills for youth work and youth programs, entrepreneurship and active involvement, team and group work, language development, communication and dialogue, social and cultural development of participants. The project

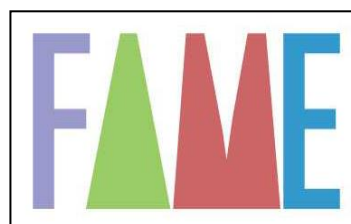
activities included an introduction to the European Union Erasmus Plus program, the integration of disadvantaged people into the social and cultural life, seminars, presentation, cultural activities, presentation of youth activity centers, thematic theatrical performances, group activities, development language skills, visits youth centers and public institutions, Karaman sightseeing, meeting with young people in rural areas. Project results have been: personal development of participants, increase the awareness of condition of disabled people in rural areas.

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## 23. Concluded the project FAME

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The project "FAME – ARTISTS' SCHOOL AND CREATIVE CENTRES' NETWORK", approved under the regional call "Visioni Urbane - Progetti per la valorizzazione dei centri per la creatività giovanile" is just concluded. In this month our operators have been involved in the reporting phase made somewhat complicated from the huge documentation requested by Basilicata regional government and from the very huge amount of fiscal document issued during the project. We would like to underline that the regional government said that the project will be for sure marked as best practice and it will be presented as example at European level.



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## 24. Second meeting of the project "The Artist Within - Applied eMOTION"

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From 3rd to 6th December it took place in Győr (Hungary) the second international meeting of the project "THE ARTIST WITHIN – APPLIED EMOTION" approved under the program project Erasmus KA2 – adult education. The aim of the meeting was to define the final steps of the project and to evaluate the activities done until now. Furthermore, the meeting has given the chance to solve some criticalities revealed during the first part of the project and to set new objectives to develop together. Andrea D'Andrea, Emanuele Sileo and Antonino Imbesi attend the meeting as representative of our association. The feeling during all the length of the meeting has been involving and



participative, surely this new attitude will be very useful to pursue the objectives that have to be achieved in 2016.

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## 25. Ready the animation on the European Year 2015

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As part of the 2015 work plan of the Europe direct centres, the new animation dedicated to the European year of development it has just been terminated after several months of work by our technicians and operators. If you are interested could visit our office and collect the DVD in the next days.

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## 26. New brochure EDIC 2015

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Since last month in our center in vicolo Luigi Lavista in Potenza, it is available the new Europe Direct Basilicata brochure . Inside you could find all the information about the activities organised by our organization: training courses and stages, seminars, congresses and conferences, laboratories and workshops about Europe, theatre, comics and animation, youth exchanges, youth mobilities and different activities and initiatives dedicated to young people. Youth information campaign; calls for schools, festival, exhibitions and fairs; television and radio programmes; publications, books manual and brochures, production of: cartoon, video, spot and comics; develop, realization and evaluation of projects; posters, leaflets, web sites and multimedia and e-learning material, researches and studies, sport activities and many more informations. simple, comprehensive and colorful you just need to consult it!

**Brochure Europe Direct 2015.**



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## 27. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all readers

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This is the last issue of our annual newsletter. We hope you have some more useful information and interesting: our aim was, is and will continue to arouse interest and curiosity in you to Europe and the opportunities it offers, as well as to promote the values of European citizenship. But because Christmas approaches, we do not want to bore you further and, therefore, we wish you peaceful holidays. We'll see on February 20th , 2016.

**Merry Christmas...  
and Happy New Year!**

