



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. December European Council: A Summit of Results

The outcome of the European Council showed progress in implementing European responses to the challenges the EU is facing in the areas of migration, security, defence and economic and social development. The situation in Ukraine and Syria was addressed, too.

Migration

The European Council welcomed progress made under the new **Partnership Framework with five priority African countries** – Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal - as an important tool for addressing illegal migration and its root causes, particularly with regard to the Central Mediterranean route, and called upon Member States to step up their engagement. President Juncker underlined – after a meeting with the President of Niger – that this is “a good example for a structured cooperation between Europe and African countries.”



The Council also approved the External Investment Plan, which will mobilise up to 44 billion Euro. President Juncker welcomed this as an important step, saying “it is wiser to invest in Africa than accepting that many Africans have to leave their home crossing the Mediterranean”. The European Council also confirmed its commitment to the EU-Turkey statement which continues to deliver tangible results and underlined the importance of a full and non-discriminatory implementation of all aspects. As for the

reform of the **Common European Asylum System**, the European Council recalled that the effective application of the principles of **responsibility and solidarity** remains a shared objective. It invited the Council to aim at achieving consensus on the EU's asylum policy during the incoming Maltese Presidency of the EU.

Security and Defence

The European Council welcomed in this context the **Commission's proposals on the European Defence Action Plan** and invited the Commission to make proposals in the first semester of 2017 for the establishment of a **European Defence Fund** including a window on the joint development of capabilities commonly agreed by the Member States. President Juncker underlined that Europeans need to spend their money on expense more wisely: “The US spends 500 billion Euro on defence, while Europeans spend 200 billion, but the efficiency of the European expenses is only 12 to 15%”. The European Council welcomed the Commission's European Defence Action Plan, which will improve Europe's efficiency in defence research and spending.

Economic and social issues and youth

The European Council welcomed the agreement reached on the **extension of the Investment Plan for Europe** and expects the co-legislators to adopt it in the first half of 2017. The European Council backed the continuation of the **Youth Guarantee**, welcomed the increased support for the Youth Employment Initiative and called for the work on initiatives like the **European Solidarity Corps** to be continued.

External relations

The European Council reconfirmed its commitment to international law and the territorial integrity of **Ukraine** as well as the conclusion of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, including the establishment of a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement. The European Council found a solution that addresses the concerns raised in the Dutch referendum. At the same time this agreement allows the European Union to keep its commitments to its close partner, the Ukraine, which is a matter of geopolitical responsibility. Further to the adoption of a robust suspension mechanism, the European Council also invited the co-legislators to complete the procedure leading to the **lifting of visa requirements for Ukraine and Georgia**. The European Council strongly condemned the latest developments in **Syria** and called on all global players present in Syria to use all available diplomatic channels. Europe's first priority at the moment is the protection of civilians, the immediate opening of a humanitarian corridor as well as the full and unrestricted access for aid workers and medical personnel.

Brexit

At an informal meeting following the European Council, the leaders of 27 Member States met to discuss how the Brexit process will be handled once the United Kingdom has submitted its

notification. They welcomed the appointment of Michel Barnier as the Union's chief negotiator who will be working in an inclusive way so as to guarantee the unity of the EU-27.

2. Galileo goes live!

On 15 December 2016, Europe's satellite navigation system Galileo will start offering its initial services to public authorities, businesses and citizens.

Commission Vice-President **Maroš Šefčovič**, responsible for the Energy Union, said: "Geo-localisation is at the heart of the ongoing digital revolution with new services that transform our daily lives. Galileo will increase geo-location precision ten-fold and enable the next generation of location-based technologies; such as autonomous cars, connected devices, or smart city services. I call on European entrepreneurs and say: imagine what you can do with Galileo – don't wait, innovate!"

Commissioner **Elżbieta Bieńkowska**, responsible for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, said: "Galileo offering initial services is a major achievement for Europe and a first delivery of our recent Space Strategy. This is the result of a concerted effort to design and build the most accurate satellite navigation system in the world. It demonstrates the technological excellence of Europe, its know-how and its commitment to delivering space-based services and applications. No single European country could have done it alone." With the Declaration of Initial Services, which will be officially launched by the European Commission in Brussels on Thursday 15 December, Galileo will start to deliver, in conjunction with GPS, the following services free of charge:



- **Support to emergency operations:** It can take hours to detect a person lost at sea or in the mountains. With the Search and Rescue Service (SAR), people placing a distress call from a Galileo-enabled beacon can now be found and rescued more quickly, since the detection time will be reduced to only 10 minutes. This service should be later improved by notifying the sender of the emergency call that he/she has been located and help is underway.
- **More accurate navigation for citizens:** The Galileo Open Service will offer a free mass-market service for positioning, navigation and timing that can be used by Galileo-enabled chipsets in smartphones or in car navigation systems. A number of such smartphones have been on the market since autumn 2016 and they can now use the signals to provide more accurate positions. By 2018, Galileo will also be found in every new model of vehicle sold in Europe, providing enhanced navigation services to a range of devices as well as enabling the eCall emergency response system. People using navigation devices in cities, where satellite signals can often be blocked by tall buildings, will particularly benefit from the increase in positioning accuracy provided by Galileo.
- **Better time synchronisation for critical infrastructures:** Galileo will, through its high precision clocks, enable more resilient time synchronisation of banking and financial transactions, telecommunications and energy distribution networks such as smart-grids. This will help them operate more efficiently.
- **Secure services for public authorities:** Galileo will also support public authorities such as civil protection services, humanitarian aid services, customs officers and the police through the Public Regulated Service. It will offer a particularly robust and fully encrypted service for government users during national emergencies or crisis situations, such as terrorist attacks, to ensure continuity of services.

The Declaration of Galileo Initial Services means that the Galileo satellites and ground infrastructure are now operationally ready. These signals will be highly accurate but not available all the time. That's why during the initial phase, the first Galileo signals will be used in combination with other satellite navigation systems, like GPS. In the coming years, new satellites will be launched to enlarge the Galileo constellation, which will gradually improve Galileo availability worldwide. The constellation is expected to be completed by 2020 when Galileo will reach full operational capacity.

Background

Galileo is Europe's Global Satellite Navigation System. It provides a range of state-of-the-art positioning, navigation and timing services to users worldwide. Galileo is fully interoperable with

GPS, but will offer more accurate and reliable positioning for end users. At the moment, the Galileo constellation consists of 18 satellites, all of which are already in orbit. The full constellation foresees a total of 30 satellites and is expected to be completed by 2020. So far, the first Galileo smartphone by Spanish company BQ is already available on the market and other manufacturers are expected to follow suit. It will allow also application developers to test their ideas on the basis of real signal. Galileo Initial Services are managed by the European GNSS Agency (GSA). The overall Galileo programme is run by the European Commission, which has handed over the responsibility for the deployment of the system and technical support to operational tasks to the European Space Agency (ESA).

3. Commission's proposal to update EU rules on social security coordination

The European Commission is presenting a revision of the EU legislation on social security coordination.

This is part of the [2016 Commission Work Programme](#) and the Commission's efforts to facilitate labour mobility, ensure fairness for those who move and for taxpayers, and provide better tools for cooperation between Member State authorities. The proposal modernises the current rules to ensure that they are fair, clear and easier to enforce. Free movement of people would not be possible without EU rules on coordination of social security. These rules guarantee that you do not lose your social security protection when moving to another Member State. They exist since 1959



and are regularly modernised to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose and respond to the social and economic reality in the EU. This proposed update reflects the political commitment of this Commission to fair labour mobility. It is a balanced proposal that facilitates free movement of workers and

protects their rights, while reinforcing the tools for national authorities to fight risks of abuse or fraud. It makes a closer link between the place where contributions are paid and where benefits are claimed, ensuring a fair financial distribution of burden between Member States. Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, **Marianne Thyssen**, said: *"Free movement is a fundamental right of our Union cherished by its citizens. It brings benefits to workers, employers and the economy at large, helping tackling labour shortages and skills gaps. We need labour mobility to help restore economic growth and competitiveness. But mobility needs to be based on clear, fair and enforceable rules. This is what our proposal to update the EU rules on social security is about: it safeguards free movement and protects citizens' rights, while strengthening the tools to address possible abuse"*. The proposal updates the EU rules in the following four areas:

1. Unemployment benefits:

- **Jobseekers** may export their unemployment benefits from the current minimum period of 3 months to at least 6 months. This will give them a better chance to find work, and help tackle EU-wide unemployment and skill mismatches.
- For **frontier workers** (who live in one country, work in another country, and go home at least once a week), the Member State where they worked for the last 12 months would become responsible for paying unemployment benefits. This reflects the principle that the Member State which has received contributions should pay benefits.
- Member States may require that someone has worked for at least 3 months on its territory before a person who becomes unemployed can rely on previous experience in another Member State to claim unemployment benefits.

2. Long term care benefits:

This proposal clarifies what long-term care benefits are and where mobile citizens can claim such benefits. This will provide more legal certainty to a growing group of citizens in our aging societies relying on long term care.

3. Access of economically inactive citizens to social benefits:

Based on case law of the European Court of Justice, the proposal clarifies that Member States may decide not to grant social benefits to mobile citizens which are economically inactive citizens – this means those who are not working nor actively looking for a job, and do not have the legal right of

residence on their territory. Economically inactive citizens have a legal right of residence only when they have means of subsistence and comprehensive health coverage.

4. [Social security coordination for posted workers:](#)

The Commission proposes to strengthen the administrative rules on social security coordination for posted workers. It wants to make sure national authorities have the right tools to verify the social security status of such workers and sets clearer procedures for cooperation between Member State authorities to address potentially unfair practices or abuse.

Finally, the proposal does not modify the existing rules on **export of child benefits**. No indexation of child benefits is foreseen: the country of work of the parent(s) remains responsible for paying the child allowances, and that amount cannot be adjusted if the child resides elsewhere. Less than 1% of child benefits in the EU are exported from one Member State to another. Overall, the proposed changes will provide more transparency, legal certainty and fairness for the benefit of mobile citizens, public authorities, employers and taxpayers. They facilitate free movement whilst giving Member States better tools to avoid abuses.

Background

The EU provides rules to coordinate national social security systems and ensure social security protection when you move within Europe (EU28, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland). The rules only provide for the coordination of social security systems to determine which system a mobile citizen is subject to. The rules prevent a person from being left without social protection, or having double coverage in a cross-border situation. Each Member State is free to determine the features of its own social security system, including which benefits are provided, the conditions for eligibility, how these benefits are calculated and what contributions should be paid, and for all social security branches, such as old age, unemployment and family benefits provided that such national contributions respect the principles of EU law, in particular concerning equal treatment and non-discrimination. In this context, Member States are free to monitor developments regarding the payment of those benefits, including to citizens residing in other Member States. The Administrative Commission for the Coordination of Social Security Systems plays a particular role to exchange such information. The revision of the rules governing social security coordination was announced in the [2016 Commission Work Programme](#) as part of the Commission's broader efforts to promote free movement of workers.



4. EU law for the benefit of citizens, consumers and businesses

EU law: Commission steps up enforcement of EU law for the benefit of citizens, consumers and businesses.

The Commission [sets out](#) how it will step up its efforts on the application, implementation and enforcement of EU law for the benefit of all citizens, consumers and businesses. Common European rules matter in our daily lives – whether they increase food safety, improve air quality or make it easier and cheaper for SMEs to bid for public contracts. However, rules are only as good as their practical application. Often, when issues come to the fore – think of car emission testing, water pollution or illegal landfills – the problem is not the lack of EU rules but rather the lack of their effective application by Member States. That is why we need a robust and efficient enforcement system with the following components: making sure that Member States live up to their responsibility to respect and enforce the rules they themselves had jointly put in place; focusing the Commission's enforcement on those cases where it makes a substantial difference, and stepping up financial sanctions for Member States when they fail to transpose directives on time; raising citizens' and businesses' awareness of their rights.

Working with Member States

Member States have the primary responsibility for the complete and correct transposition, application and implementation of EU legislation. They also must give their citizens access to rapid and effective redress when the latter's rights under EU law are affected. The Commission will continue helping

Member States in their efforts in many different ways. For example, the Commission will set up high-level dialogues, networks and exchanges of best practice in partnership with national authorities and courts, and the European Network of Ombudsmen coordinated by the European Ombudsman. The Commission will also continue its focus on tackling potential breaches of EU law quickly and at an early stage.

Focus on cases that matter and step up financial sanctions

This Commission [promised](#) to be "*bigger and more ambitious on big things, and smaller and more modest on small things*". Applying this promise to enforcement policy, the Commission's handling of infringements will become more strategic and more focused, giving priority to the most important



breaches of EU law affecting the interests of citizens and businesses. The Commission will act firmly when infringements obstruct the pursuit of key EU policy objectives. Another priority will be to investigate cases where Member States incorrectly transpose EU law into national law or fail to do so at all. Such failures deny citizens and businesses the rights and the benefits they enjoy under European law. It is disappointing to see that the number of cases where Member States fail to transpose EU law on time has been rising recently. In order to incentivise earlier transposition and reduce

the number of cases ending up before the Court of Justice of the EU, the Commission is proposing to align its approach in these cases with the one it applies already to other infringement cases entailing financial sanctions. In the future, when bringing a Member State before the Court of Justice of the EU for late transposition of EU legislation, the Commission will systematically request the Court to impose not only a periodic penalty payment, as is currently the case, but a lump sum as well.

Bringing benefits of EU law to citizens

Citizens and businesses contribute significantly to effective enforcement by reporting to the Commission shortcomings in the application of EU law by the Member States. The Commission values this essential role played by individual complainants in identifying wider problems with the enforcement of EU law. At the same time, citizens and businesses are also looking for simple, practical advice on their rights under EU law - and how to make use of them. When their rights are breached, it is important that they be guided towards easily finding and making use of the most appropriate problem-solving and redress mechanisms available at EU or national levels. Via the [Single Digital Gateway](#), the Commission will provide a single access point for citizens and businesses to all Single Market-related information, including assistance, advice and problem-solving services.

For More Information

The approach set out in this [Communication](#) - "*Better Results Through Better Application*" - will be applied as from the date of its publication in the Official Journal of the EU (OJ). Anyone may [file a complaint](#) with the Commission free of charge against a Member State about any measure (law, regulation or administrative action), absence of measure or practice by a Member State which they consider incompatible with EU law.

5. Three Institutions sign Joint Declaration on the EU's legislative priorities for 2017

President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz, holder of the rotating Council Presidency, Robert Fico, and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, signed the first ever Joint Declaration setting out the EU's objectives and priorities for the legislative process in 2017.

Building on the [European Council's Strategic Guidelines](#) and the [10 priorities](#) the European Parliament gave the Juncker Commission a mandate to deliver, the Presidents of the three European Institutions agreed on a number of proposals they will give priority treatment to in the legislative process. This will ensure that the EU delivers concrete results for its citizens and addresses the most urgent challenges Europe faces today. President of the European Commission, **Jean-Claude Juncker** said: "*This Joint Declaration is a new milestone in the way the EU can deliver*

better and faster on our common challenges. It is the first time in EU history that the three European Institutions have agreed on a limited number of initiatives of major political importance that should be fast-tracked in the legislative process. We may be three different Institutions, but there is only one European project we work for, representing the interest of all EU citizens. What we have seen with the European Border and Coast Guard should become the new standard for delivering swift and meaningful solutions together. Where there is a will, there is a way in Europe." In addition to the EU's commitment to the ongoing work on all legislative proposals already tabled, the Presidents of the three Institutions set out in the Joint Declaration six specific areas in which proposals should be fast-tracked. The Presidents of the Parliament, Council and Commission commit to streamlining the efforts of their Institutions to ensure swift legislative progress on these priority initiatives and, where possible, delivery before the end of 2017.



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1. **Giving a new boost to jobs, growth and investment** – through the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI 2.0), revamped Trade Defence Instruments, the Banking Union, the Capital Markets Union, and the improvement of waste management in the circular economy;
2. **Addressing the social dimension of the European Union** – through the Youth Employment Initiative, improved social security coordination, the European Accessibility Act and the European Solidarity Corps;
3. **Better protecting the security of our citizens** – through the Entry-Exit System, Smart Borders and the European Travel Information Authorisation System (ETIAS), the control of firearms, instruments to criminalise terrorism, money laundering and terrorist financing, and the European Criminal Records Information Systems (ECRIS);
4. **Reforming and developing our migration policy in a spirit of responsibility and solidarity** – through the reform of the Common European Asylum System (including the Dublin mechanism), the Legal Migration package and the External Investment Plan to help to address the root causes of migration by enhancing investment and job creation in partner countries;
5. **Delivering on our commitment to implement a connected Digital Single market** – through the EU telecoms and copyright reforms, the Union of the 700 MHz band, preventing unjustified geo-blocking, the Audiovisual Media Services Directive and common data protection rules;
6. **Delivering on our objective of an ambitious Energy Union and a forward looking climate change policy** - through the 2030 climate and energy framework, the Paris Agreement and the Clean Energy for all Europeans package.

In addition, the three Presidents highlight **four fundamental issues which need particular attention and further progress in 2017**: commitment to common European values, the rule of law and fundamental rights; tackling tax fraud, evasion and avoidance; preserving the principle of free movement of workers; and contributing to stability, security and peace. This joint effort of the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission is part of a new shared commitment and is explicitly foreseen in paragraph 7 of the [Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law Making](#), enabling the Union to turn proposals into action and produce results where they are most needed.

Next Steps

The three Institutions have agreed on a **careful joint monitoring and tracking of progress** when it comes to the implementation of the Joint Declaration, both at political and at senior officials' level. At political level, the implementation of the Joint Declaration will be monitored jointly and regularly through meetings of the Presidents of the three Institutions in March, July and November 2017. At the technical level, the implementation of the Joint Declaration will be monitored jointly and on a regular basis in the Interinstitutional Coordination Group, meeting at senior official level (as foreseen in point 50 of the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making). To facilitate the monitoring and tracking of the follow-up to the Joint Declaration, a **working document accompanying the Joint Declaration** sets out in detail the initiatives which are to be fast-tracked in 2017.

Background

On 15 March 2016, the three European Institutions agreed on a new Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on Better Law-Making to improve the quality and the results of European legislation. The IIA on Better Law-Making is bringing changes across the full policy-making cycle, from consultations and impact assessment to adoption, implementation and evaluation of EU legislation. According to the new IIA, there must be joint agreements on the key topics that should be prioritised by the legislators, including simplification exercises for existing laws. Each year, the Council, the Parliament and the Commission now discuss the EU's legislative priorities and agree common top priorities for the upcoming year. This allows the three Institutions to work more closely together to tackle the big challenges that lie ahead. This Joint Declaration is a first enactment of this new approach to law making focused on delivering results. The Declaration is also in line with the Commission's 2017 Work Programme.

6. Action Plan to tackle travel document fraud

Security Union: Commission presents Action Plan to strengthen the European response to tackle travel document fraud.

The Commission has adopted an Action Plan setting out concrete measures to improve the security of travel documents, as announced in the Communication on "[Enhancing security in a world of mobility](#)" adopted on the occasion of President Juncker's 2016 State of the Union address. The Action Plan provides clear recommendations for Member States to tackle the phenomenon of travel document fraud and outlines a comprehensive set of actions for the Commission to take. Travel document security is an important factor in the fight against terrorism and organised crime and contributes to improving border protection and migration management, paving a way towards an effective and genuine Security Union. Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Commissioner **Dimitris Avramopoulos** said: *"Ensuring the security of travel and identity documents is an important factor in the fight against terrorism and organised crime. The Action Plan proposes concrete operational measures which will allow Member States to combat travel document fraud more effectively, contributing to improving the protection of our borders, ensuring our internal security and better managing migration."* Commissioner for the Security Union **Julian King** said: *"We know that terrorists have used forged travel documents to travel undetected across the EU. Indeed, many of our security measures rely on secure travel and identity documents – such as the checks at the external border under the Schengen Border Code or behind*



the border against the Schengen Information System. That's why Member States and EU agencies must work together to improve the security of travel documents and detection of travel document fraud. Taken together, these measures will help close down existing security gaps." The Action Plan is targeted at travel documents issued by EU Member States to EU citizens and third-country nationals which are used for identification and border crossing. Member States

retain full responsibility for issuing the documents which are used to establish the identity of a person (so called breeder documents such as birth, marriage and death certificates) before issuing travel documents as well as the actual production and issuance of travel documents. However, security standards for travel documents issued by Member States as well as border control requirements are set at EU level. The Action Plan addresses all aspects of travel document security and aims at closing potential loopholes, in close cooperation between Member States and with the support of the Commission and EU agencies. In full respect of fundamental rights and data protection rules and division of competences between Member States and the Commission, the Action Plan outlines measures in four key areas:

- **Registration of identity:** With the support of the Commission, Member States should consider how best to avoid issuing authentic documents based on false identities, examine how 'breeder' documents can be made more fraud-resistant and promote the use of the Europol handbook on breeder documents.

- **Issuance of documents:** Member States should improve the exchange of information on best practices regarding biometrics enrolment and document issuance procedures and strengthen the monitoring of the issuance of identity and travel documents to prevent theft of blank documents. The Commission will facilitate the exchange of best practices through workshops in 2017.
- **Document production:** The Action Plan calls on the European Parliament and the Council to adopt as soon as possible the proposals on a more secure uniform format for visas and residence permits for third country nationals to avoid further fraud. The Commission will finalise a study on EU policy options to improve the security of EU citizens' ID cards and residence documents against fraud and forgery risks in view of a possible legislative initiative by the end of 2017 and monitor the conformity of security features.
- **Document control:** Member States should systematically register all stolen, lost, misappropriated or invalidated documents in the Schengen Information System (SIS) and Interpol's Stolen and Lost Travel Document database, ensure better access to relevant systems for border guards and accelerate the implementation of the 'fingerprint search' functionality in the SIS. The High-Level Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability is looking at how interoperability could contribute to improved document and identity checks. The Group will present its findings by mid-2017. In December 2016, the Commission will revise the legal basis of the SIS to enhance the functionalities of the system and it will implement the 'fingerprint search' functionality at central level in the Schengen Information System in 2017. The Commission will also work together with Member States and EU Agencies to boost training activities in new areas of document fraud.

The Commission will assess the progress made on the implementation of the Action Plan and will report to the European Parliament and the Council by the end of the first quarter of 2018 on the progress achieved.

Background

Security has been a constant theme since the beginning of the Juncker Commission's mandate – from President Juncker's Political Guidelines of July 2014 to the latest State of the Union address on September 2016. The European Commission adopted the European Agenda on Security on 28 April 2015, setting out the main actions to ensure an effective EU response to terrorism and security threats in the European Union over the period 2015-2020. Since the adoption of the Agenda, significant progress has been made in its implementation paving the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union. The creation by President Juncker of a specific Commissioner portfolio for the Security Union in August 2016 shows the importance the Commission has attached to stepping up its response to the terrorist threat. As outlined in the Communication of 6 April 2016 on Stronger and Smarter Information Systems for Borders



and Security in order to enhance security and strengthen our borders, beyond well-performing systems, travel and identity documents must be authenticated easily and securely. The increasingly significant problem of travel document fraud has come under the spotlight in the context of the recent terrorist attacks in Europe and current migration flows. Document fraud has become an enabler of terrorism and organised crime, and is linked to the trafficking of human beings and migrant smuggling. Against this background, it is crucial that the EU and especially Member States intensify efforts to improve the security of travel documents issued to EU and third-country nationals. To that end, the Commission announced that it will present measures to fight against document fraud. In order to initiate a process towards the interoperability of information systems at EU level, the Commission decided to set up an Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability at senior level with EU agencies, national experts and institutional stakeholders to start the process. In September, the Commission published a Communication on enhancing security in a world of mobility, in which it committed to adopting an Action Plan on travel document security by December 2016.

7. Investing in Europe's youth: Commission launches European Solidarity Corps

The European Commission is launched the European Solidarity Corps.

The European Commission is launched the European Solidarity Corps, just two months after President Juncker [announced](#) it and as a first deliverable of the priorities for action identified in the Bratislava Roadmap. As of today, young people between the ages of 18 and 30 can sign up for new opportunities to make an important contribution to society across the EU, and to gain invaluable experience and acquire valuable skills at the start of their career. The Commission is also presenting a series of measures to boost youth employment, improve and modernise education, more investment in skills of young people, and better opportunities to learn and study abroad. European Commission President **Jean-Claude Juncker** said: *"The European Solidarity Corps will create opportunities for young people willing to make a meaningful contribution to society and help show solidarity – something the world and our European Union needs more of. For me, this has always been the very essence of what the European Union is about. It is not the Treaties or industrial or economic interests that bind us together, but our values. And those who work as volunteers are living European values each and every day."* These proposals bring together at EU-level for the first time different types of action with a single goal: to improve opportunities for young people: **European Solidarity Corps**. With the new European Solidarity Corps, participants will have the opportunity to be placed with a project either for volunteering or for a traineeship, an apprenticeship or a job for a



period between 2 and 12 months. Participants will be able to engage in a broad range of activities such as education, health, social integration, assistance in the provision of food, shelter construction, reception, support and integration of migrants and refugees, environmental protection or prevention of natural disasters. Young people registering for the European Solidarity Corps will need to subscribe to the European Solidarity Corps Mission

Statement and its Principles. Each participating organisation will need to adhere to the European Solidarity Corps Charter, setting out the rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. As of today, interested young people between 17 and 30 can register with the European Solidarity Corps on <http://europa.eu/solidarity-corps>. The minimum age to participate in a project is 18. The aim is to have 100,000 young people joining the European Solidarity Corps by the end of 2020.

Youth Guarantee

Fighting youth unemployment is a top priority for the EU. Promoting employment is a matter of common concern, shared by all Member States, and the Commission supports their effort through a range of policies and actions. To this end, the EU Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative were launched three years ago. There are now 1.6 million less young unemployed in the EU since 2013 and 900,000 less young people not in employment, education or training. These trends suggest that the Youth Guarantee, backed up by the Youth Employment Initiative, has helped make a difference on the ground. Around 9 million young people took up an offer, the majority of which were offers of employment. To ensure a full and sustainable implementation of the Youth Guarantee and to roll it out in the regions which need it most, the Commission recently proposed to add an extra €2 billion to continue rolling out the Youth Guarantee across Europe and support an additional 1 million young people by 2020.

Mobility of Apprenticeships

We also need to enhance youth employability. Learning and studying in another country has proven to be of great added value for young people to develop their skills, improve their career chances and enhance European citizenship. More young people, from all layers of society, should profit from these opportunities. The Commission will therefore launch "**ErasmusPro**", a new dedicated activity within the Erasmus+ programme to support long-duration placements of apprentices abroad. The Commission will also propose a **Quality Framework for Apprenticeships** setting out key principles

for the design and delivery of apprenticeships at all levels. A demand driven apprenticeships support service will be set up in 2017, supporting countries introducing or reforming apprenticeship systems.

Ensuring high-quality education

As part of today's measures, the Commission is presenting a series of actions to help Member States provide high quality education for all young people, so they acquire the knowledge and skills to participate fully in society and to respond to new opportunities and challenges opened up by globalisation and technological change.

Background

During his 2016 State of the Union address, European Commission President **Juncker** announced his intention to step up efforts in support of youth. He notably announced the creation of a European Solidarity Corps, as part of a broader policy agenda geared towards the inclusion of young people in society, saying *"I cannot and will not accept that Europe is and remains the continent of youth unemployment. I cannot and will not accept that the millennials, Generation Y, might be the first generation in 70 years to be poorer than their parents.[...] We will continue to roll out the Youth Guarantee across Europe, improving the skillset of Europeans and reaching out to the regions and young people most in need."* At the Bratislava Summit of 16 September 2016, the Heads of State and Government of 27 EU Member States also confirmed their commitment to fighting youth unemployment and creating more opportunities for young people.

The so-called 'Bratislava Roadmap' establishes concrete deliverables and deadlines in view of *'creating a promising economic future for all, safeguard our way of life and provide better opportunities for youth'*. Among these deliverables, the Council committed to *'taking decisions on EU support for Member States in fighting youth unemployment and on enhanced EU programmes dedicated to youth'* before the end of the year. On 4 October 2016, the Commission reported on the main achievements of the existing Youth Guarantee and Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) since their launch in 2013.



8. End of roaming charges: Commission determined to make it work

End of roaming charges: Commission determined to make it work.

Following intensive exchanges with the European Parliament, Member States, stakeholders, consumer representatives, regulators and operators, yesterday the College of Commissioners discussed draft rules which reinforce the [approach](#) adopted by the College in September to end roaming charges in the EU in 2017. The latest draft further clarifies consumer rights and introduces safeguards to ensure the most competitive domestic offers remain attractive. Vice-President in charge of the Digital Single Market **Andrus Ansip** said: *"We are providing a balanced solution which is in the interest of everyone who uses mobile phones and devices. Every European will be able to roam without extra charges, when travelling from the place they call "home". Every European should also be able to benefit from the most competitive domestic offers. In close cooperation with European consumers, we have designed safeguards to ensure travellers benefit*



from "roam like at home", while avoiding negative effects on the most competitive domestic data packages. We have listened, we have consulted, we have refined our proposals; I believe we

provide legal certainty. It is now up to EU Member States to support what we are proposing in order to make Europeans' lives easier, cut bills and keep prices down." Commissioner **Günther H. Oettinger**, in charge of the Digital Economy and Society, said: "Our proposal provides protection for consumers and also ensures sustainability for telecoms operators." The EU's commitment of 2015 to end roaming charges for periodic travel in the European Union requires the Commission to adopt rules by 15 December 2016 on "fair use" to achieve "Roam like at Home". In September, the College decided that consumers should be able to use their mobile devices without any time limit while travelling away from "home", subject to proportionate checks for abuses.

Protecting consumers while ensuring a "fair use" policy

As set out in the [Telecoms Single Market Regulation](#), the Commission is committed to make the end of roaming charges a reality. All European travellers will enjoy the "Roam like at Home" opportunity created by the European Regulation, i.e. they will pay the same price for mobile calls, SMS or data whether they travel away from their "home" (their country of residence or with which they have stable links). The draft rules enshrine this basic principle. In the light of feedback received on an earlier draft, the latest Commission draft rules:

- Provide further detail on the concept of a "stable link" with a country, to ensure that people such as frontier workers, posted workers, students and retired people who have stable links with a country without officially residing in that country can benefit from offers in the country where they work, study or spend substantial time.
- Ensure that consumers are not subject to over-intrusive checking or burdensome requests for documentation. This is done by foreseeing a minimum "observation period" before operators can identify a risk of abusive roaming use – on the basis of presence and consumption at home and abroad. Based on the advice of consumer organisations, this period should not be less than four months.
- Establish an additional minimum alert period of 14 days before surcharges can be imposed on consumers.
- Safeguard the access of all consumers, travellers and non-travellers, to the best, most competitive domestic deals. This is done by allowing an exceptional brake on intensive roaming data consumption, linked to the wholesale price level. Such intensive use could otherwise make low-price packages economically unattractive, and provoke price hikes, domestic volume restrictions or restrictions on roaming.

Next steps

After discussion, the draft legislation (an implementing act) has been sent to the Representatives of Member States, Monday 12 December they voted on the text. Afterwards, the Commission will be able to adopt the rules. In addition, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers in charge of Telecoms will have to finalise their negotiations on regulation of the wholesale roaming market (the prices operators charge each other to allow roaming across Europe on each other's networks). The Commission will continue to act as an honest broker to help reach an agreement as soon as possible.

Background

For a decade, the Commission has been working to reduce and ultimately end the surcharges that telecoms operators imposed on their customers each time they crossed a border while using their mobile device on holiday or during business trips. Since 2007, roaming prices have decreased by more than 90%, a further decrease in prices was reached in April. In 2015, and based on a proposal of the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council agreed to end roaming charges for people who travel periodically in the EU. "Roam like at Home" - where customers pay domestic prices, irrespective of where they are traveling in the EU - will become a reality for all European travellers by June 2017.



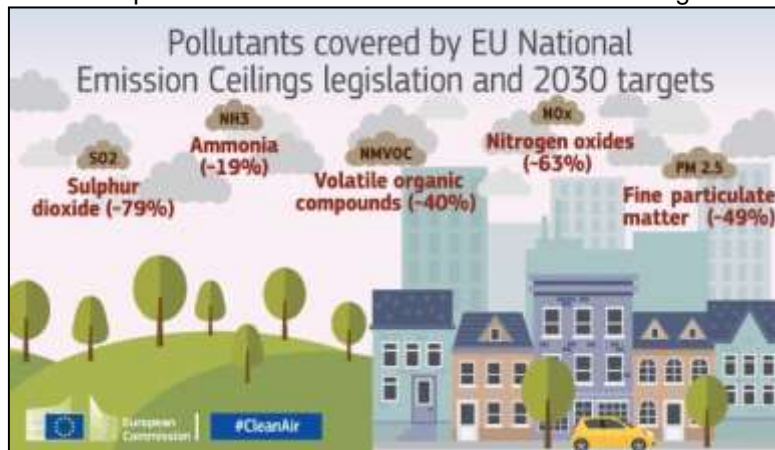
9. EU approves new rules for Member States to drastically cut air pollution

The European Parliament and the Council have signed into law the new National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive, based on a Commission proposal that sets stricter limits on the five main pollutants in Europe. It will enter into force on 31 December 2016.

When fully implemented, the Directive will reduce by almost 50% the negative health impacts of air pollution, such as respiratory diseases and premature death, by 2030. Even if air pollutants are invisible killers, people are increasingly aware and concerned at the quality of the air they breathe and the agreement of stricter limits in the NEC is therefore an important achievement. It will also have substantial benefits for the quality of fresh water, soil, and ecosystems and help address the impacts of harmful particles causing climate change like black carbon. The Directive is the central element of the Commission's more comprehensive Clean Air Programme for Europe. **Karmenu Vella**, Commissioner for the Environment, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, said: *"The new European air quality rules are a significant landmark in the fight against this invisible killer that is air pollution. Air pollution kills over 450 000 people in Europe each year. This is more than ten times as many as road traffic accidents. Now it is for the national governments to start with implementation so that people can benefit from cleaner air. We will work with Member States to support them in this challenge for improving the health of EU citizens."*

Putting the new rules into practice

The role of the Member States in coordinating and implementing the Directive at national level is very important. Member States must transpose the Directive into national legislation by 30 June 2018 and produce a National Air Pollution Control Programme by 2019 setting out measures to



ensure that emissions of the five main air pollutants are reduced by the percentages agreed by 2020 and 2030. They must also coordinate with plans in fields such as transport, agriculture, energy and climate. This will require investment, but the costs will be many times outweighed by the benefits in cost savings, particularly on health care and sickness at work. The recently published Commission proposal for an Energy Union Governan-

ce Regulation highlights the importance of synergies between air quality and climate and energy policies and the new NEC Directive. The Commission will work with Member States to ensure sound implementation, for example by setting up a new Clean Air Forum by autumn 2017. This will bring together stakeholders to exchange experience and good practice. The Commission will also facilitate access to EU funding instruments. Finally, the Directive will pave the way for the ratification of the revised Gothenburg Protocol internationally agreed by Member States in 2012 under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. This will reduce pollution in the Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian states benefiting both the countries themselves and the EU citizens who are most directly exposed to transboundary pollution.

Background

In December 2013 the Commission published the Clean Air Programme for Europe, which updated the air policy objectives for 2020 and 2030. It comprised a proposal on medium-sized combustion plants (Directive 2015/2193); the proposal for a new NEC Directive; and a proposal for ratification of the recently amended Gothenburg Protocol. The NEC Directive sets maximum emission ceilings for each country per year for the five main pollutants: fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, non-methane volatile organic compounds, and ammonia. The 2020 reduction commitments are identical with those that Member States have already agreed internationally in the 2012 revision of the Gothenburg Protocol. The 2030 commitments require substantially deeper reductions. These will help to reduce transboundary pollution and background concentrations across Europe. Both the sectors and some of the substances relevant for air policy are relevant also for climate and energy policy. Every effort was made to ensure close coordination between the air quality proposals and those implementing the Union's greenhouse gas (GHG) and energy objectives. All sectors will need to contribute to the effective implementation of the policy, including

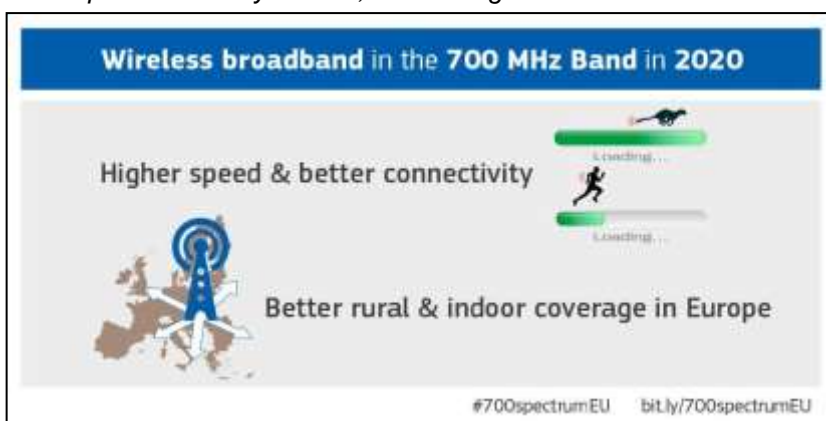
those such as agriculture which have reduced less in the past. The Commission will work closely with Member States and stakeholders to ensure delivery of the health and environmental benefits.

10. Agreed on the use of high-quality radio frequencies for mobile services

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission have agreed on how to coordinate the use of the 700 MHz band to bring mobile internet services to all Europeans and new applications across borders, thus facilitating the introduction of 5G as of 2020.

Demand for wireless connectivity using smart phones and future 5G devices is continuously growing. By 2020 there will be nearly eight times as much mobile internet traffic as today. This connectivity depends on radio spectrum – the key and finite resource for wireless communications. Since radio frequencies know no borders, the timing of spectrum release needs to be better coordinated at EU level to avoid interference. This will also help innovative services, such as connected cars, remote health care, smart cities or video streaming on the move to work across the continent. Negotiators from the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission reached political agreement on an EU-wide approach for the use of the ultra-high frequency (UHF) band (470-790 MHz) including the 700 MHz band (694-790 MHz). This agreement builds on a proposal presented by the [Commission in February 2016](#). The Council reached its common position on 26 May and the Parliament (ITRE Committee) – on 10 November. Both institutions are expected to formally endorse the agreement in the coming weeks. This agreement is also the first deal made under the Digital Single Market strategy presented by the Commission in May 2015. **Andrus Ansip**, Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, welcomed this agreement: *"Better spectrum coordination is vital to provide higher quality internet to all Europeans. It paves the way for 5G, the next generation of communication networks, and the internet of things. We made a first step with a joint approach to use the 700 MHz band in the EU. We should go further and this is one of the main objectives of our new Electronic Communications Code and 5G action plan presented earlier this year. We should progress as swiftly on these initiatives which are essential to have first-class connectivity in the*

Digital Single Market. We struck a first agreement, we should reach many more as soon as possible". (recent blog post on [Connectivity, radio spectrum and the Digital Single Market: preparing for the future](#)). **Günther H. Oettinger**, Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society, said: *"A coordinated strategy for the whole UHF band asserts our European vision. It ensures that Europeans can access innovative services and creative content on the move from their tablets and smartphones, as well as on smart TV sets at home. The coordinated release of the 700 MHz band is major leap forward on the Union's path to 5G".* The ultra-high frequency (UHF) band comprises the range 470-790 MHz and is currently used for digital terrestrial television and for wireless microphones in programme making and at special events. As a result of this agreement:



"A coordinated strategy for the whole UHF band asserts our European vision. It ensures that Europeans can access innovative services and creative content on the move from their tablets and smartphones, as well as on smart TV sets at home. The coordinated release of the 700 MHz band is major leap forward on the Union's path to 5G". The ultra-high frequency (UHF) band comprises the range 470-790 MHz and is currently used for digital terrestrial television and for wireless microphones in programme making and at special events. As a result of this agreement:

- **The 700 MHz band** should be assigned to mobile operators and made available for **wireless broadband** use by 30 June 2020 at the latest in all EU Member states. Duly justified exceptions – on grounds defined in the Decision – are possible until 30 June 2022. Member States will adopt and make public their national plans for releasing this band by 30 June 2018. They will need also to conclude cross-border coordination agreements by the end of 2017.
- In the **sub-700 MHz band (470-694 MHz)**, long-term priority is given to broadcasting use until 2030. This is balanced with the opportunity for each Member States to take a more flexible approach to alternative spectrum use – such as advanced mobile multimedia services – according to different levels of digital terrestrial television (DTT) take-up. The Commission shall also review the use of this band with a view to ensuring efficient spectrum use.

The coordinated approach laid down through this Decision links to the wider Commission proposals to reduce divergences between regulatory practices and for **greater coordination of the assignment of radio spectrum** outlined in the draft European Electronic Communications Code in

September 2016. The Code proposes long licence durations, coupled with more stringent requirements to use spectrum effectively and efficiently. It also proposes to coordinate basic parameters, including the timing of assignments to ensure timely release of spectrum to the EU market and more converged spectrum policies across the EU with the aim to provide full wireless coverage across the EU.

Background

The ultra-high frequency (UHF) band comprises the range 470-790 MHz and is currently used for digital terrestrial television and for wireless microphones for programme making and special events. This agreement will provide more valuable spectrum for wireless broadband in the 700 MHz band by 30 June 2020. This band is ideal for providing high-quality internet to users whether they are indoors in a large city, in a small distant village or on a highway. Frequencies in the sub-700 MHz band will remain available, as a priority, for broadcasting, thereby preserving Europe's audiovisual model, which offers free-to-view public broadcasting. However, the latter band could be flexibly used for other technologies or services in support of 5G innovation and in accordance with national broadcasting needs.

11. 10th edition of Charlemagne Youth Prize open for applications

Young people who make a difference deserve recognition. That is why the European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation award the Charlemagne Youth Prize every year. Open applications for the 10th edition. If you are between 16 and 30 years old and run a project with a European dimension, do not hesitate to apply for our competition. The winning projects will benefit from recognition and media coverage as well as prize money to further develop the initiative.

The prize

The Charlemagne Youth Prize is organised by the European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation in Aachen and is awarded each year to projects run by young people



aged between 16 and 30. The winning projects should provide models for young people living in Europe and offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community. The three winning projects will be chosen from the 28 projects nominated by national juries in the

individual EU member states. This year the financial rewards are higher than in previous years: the first prize will be awarded €7,500, second prize €5,000 and third prize €2,500. Representatives of all 28 national winning projects will be invited to the Charlemagne Youth Prize award ceremony in Aachen in May 2017.

The rules

Projects must: meet several criteria in order to qualify. They have to promote European and international understanding, foster the development of a shared sense of European identity and integration, as well as serve as a role model for young people living in Europe and offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community. The application deadline is **30 January 2017**. Applications must be completed online on the website of the **European Charlemagne Youth Prize** (www.charlemagneyouthprize.eu).

12. Mattador Award Competition

The **MATTADOR** Cultural Association is the organiser of the **MATTADOR International Screenwriting Award dedicated to Matteo Caenazzo**, the young Triestine talent who died prematurely on 28th June 2009 while studying and working with the aim of embarking on a future in screenwriting with great care and enthusiasm. The Award aims at discovering and recognizing young talents who decide to start a professional and artistic career in screenwriting. It acts as an

encouragement to write screenplays able to tell fascinating and moving stories, free expression both in terms of lifestyle and artistic attitude. It is in line with Matteo's keen perception of the world today which conveys the idea of ironic, synthetic and razor sharp art. The Award is intended for Italian and foreign screenwriters and mainly for young authors aged from 16 to 29 **by 15th April 2017**.

The Award includes the following sections:

- **MATTADOR Award for Best Screenplay** (see Terms and Conditions for participants as follow).
- **MATTADOR Award for Best Story** (see Terms and Conditions for participants as follow).
- **CORTO86 Award for Best Short Film Screenplay** (see CORTO86 Terms and Conditions for participants).
- **DOLLY Award "Screenwriting with pictures"** (see DOLLY Terms and Conditions for participants).

Each participant can present a maximum of one work for each section. Only original and unpublished works will be accepted, which means they must have been neither produced, published or awarded a prize before. The subject is free. The screenplay has to be written following the American format ([click here](#)). Scenes and pages have to be numbered. The length of the scripts has to be **between 80 and 100 pages** (character 12), using one of the following formats: .fdr (final draft), .celtx (available for free download) or other equivalent software for screenwriting. Scripts have to be accompanied by a synopsis of maximum one page. Works must be sent in .pdf format. The length of the stories has to be between 5 and 10 pages (character 12, line-spacing 1,5).

Stories have to be accompanied by a synopsis of maximum half a page. Works must be sent in .pdf format. Works which are typed with a different format will not be accepted. Works have to be submitted in the Italian version and/or in the original version with a translation of the same into Italian. Works must to be sent in digital version only (on a CD using only .pdf format) in a sealed anonymous envelope **by 15th April 2017** to the following postal address: **PREMIO MATTADOR 2016/2017 - CASELLA POSTALE 1392 - UFFICIO POSTALE TRIESTE 3 - Piazza Verdi 2 - 34121 TRIESTE - ITALY** (The postmarked date will be taken as legal recognition). **NO FEE NEEDS TO BE PAID.**



The digital version must bear only the title without any reference to the author. A signed application form for acceptance (which can be downloaded from the website www.premiomattador.it) and a copy of the ID card have to be sent in a sealed envelope attached to the work. **Anything received which does not comply with the above requirements will be rejected.** by sending the Screenplay or the Story, the author accepts the present Terms and Conditions for participants. Neither the Organising Committee nor the MATTADOR Cultural Association are liable for any responsibility or cost deriving from the existence of copyrights owed to any third party. The copyrights of all the works submitted to the MATTADOR Award remain property of their authors. The authors authorise the organisers of the MATTADOR International Screenwriting Award to publish the screenplay submitted in a collection and/or a catalogue. Works submitted to the MATTADOR Award will not be returned.

The Competition will award the MATTADOR PRIZES as follows: MATTADOR Award for the Best screenplay: 5,000 euro (five thousand euro). MATTADOR Award for the Best story: 1,500 euro (one thousand and five hundred euro). The top finalists of the best stories section will be awarded a Training Grant: they will be tutored by a group of professionals who will train them to develop their story. At the end of the tutoring the best developed story will receive 1.500 euros. The Jury, made up of cinema professionals, artistic and cultural operators, has the right not to award a prize and/or to draw attention to one or other good works of special note. The artistic judgement of the Jury is unquestionable. The Prize giving Ceremony for the MATTADOR Competition will take place on Monday 17th July 2017 in the Sale Apollinee of La Fenice Theatre, Venice. For more information, please consult the following this [link](#).

13. Vulcanus in Japan - A training programme for EU

Vulcanus in Japan started in 1997. The programme consists of industrial placements for EU / COSME students. It starts in September and ends in August of the following year in order to accommodate the academic year in EU Member States. The students follow: a one-week seminar on Japan; a four-month intensive Japanese language course; and then an eight-month traineeship in a Japanese company.



Objectives:

- **To study the range of advanced technologies** employed by a leading Japanese host company.
- **To learn Japanese** and to understand and appreciate Japanese culture with a view to an enriching one year experience abroad.
- **To be well placed in your future career** to interact with Japanese businesses and people.

This programme is financed by the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and the Japanese host company. The EU / COSME students are awarded a grant (Yen 1.900.000) to cover the cost of travel to and from Japan and living expenses in Japan. There is no charge for the language course and seminar, and accommodation is provided free of charge during the course and seminar and the company traineeship. **Are you eligible?** You must be: **Citizen of an EU Member-State or a COSME* partening country. A student of engineering or science** at an EU / COSME university, enrolled in at least the fourth year of studies, when applying to the Vulcanus programme. Able to provide a certificate of enrollment at the university valid until at least 3 months prior to the starting of the programme. Non EU? Please check if your country has joined COSME and the agreement is "in force". Then you can apply. (See [here](#) the status of your country & of the country of your university.) Applicants are selected on the basis of their academic record and the opinion of their tutors, their knowledge of written and spoken English, their motivation, their attitude to EU-Japan relations and their ability to adapt to a different culture. **How to apply:** Deadline to apply: **20 January 2017**. [Application form](#). For more information, please consult the following this [link](#).

14. Climate Change: Training in Bonn!

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the focus of the political process to address Climate Change. The Convention secretariat supports the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol through a range of activities, including substantive and organizational support to meetings of the Parties. At COP 21, the Convention adopted the Paris Agreement with a view to strengthening the global response to climate change. Article 4 includes legal obligations for collective and individual mitigation action through a collective global goal and nationality determined contributions (NDCs). Mitigation action will be implemented through this Article as well as articles relating to transparency, support and the global stock take. The **Mitigation, Data and Analysis (MDA)** programme and its **Mitigation & Transparency Support (MIS)** sub-programme support the intergovernmental negotiations on mitigation and transparency as well as Parties in implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

Objectives of the internship assignment

The individual will gain experience in working in an intergovernmental organization with information, documents and records management in an international environment, while improving their knowledge and skills for managing and analyzing electronic information related to mitigation and transparency actions and policies. Under the direct supervision of the programme officer of the Mitigation & Transparency Subprogramme, the intern will work and support the team with the Mitigation, Implementation and Support process.

The particular functions are:

The intern is expected to contribute to the work under the Mitigation Implementation Support unit. The intern will perform a range of activities related to knowledge management and general technical



support tasks, including but not limited to: Conduct research to obtain relevant background information and updates on climate action relevant to individual tasks and projects of the sub-programme in the context of mitigation actions, transparency activities and the implementation of climate action under the Convention and Paris Agreement; Assist in analyzing relevant information and data; Assess, compile and format information and data, maintain internal databases and assist in the preparation of related reports; Assist with the generation of statistical tables and records, draft and type correspondence and other documents; Assist in organizing events and workshops, including administration and logistics, related to the mitigation and transparency activities conducted by the sub-programme; Support internal communication of the sub-programme; Assist in outreach activities, internal and external meetings, and other activities, as required. Support the MIT sub-programme to reach its goals to ensure MDA and secretariat operations meet the highest standards. **The internship is for a period of minimum two months to maximum six months**, the exact period will be determined based on the availability of the intern and the needs of the programme. There is the possibility of an extension, subject to the intern's on-going university enrolment and performance. The selected intern will work onsite at the UNFCCC campus in Bonn, Germany.



Minimum requirements

Candidates must have completed an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a Master's programme at a recognized university at the time of application and for the duration of the internship. Candidates must be fluent in English (both oral and written) and have strong writing and note-taking skills. Studies in the fields of economics, development studies, environmental sciences, international relations, or other related fields with good understanding of climate change, are preferred.

Internship conditions

UNFCCC secretariat internships are not remunerated and the selected intern will be responsible for all costs before, during and after the internship assignment. Interns of the UNFCCC secretariat are not considered to be staff members. The selected intern will work on a full-time basis (40 hours per week) at the UNFCCC premises in Bonn, Germany. For more detailed information about UNFCCC Internship programme please visit the internships section on our recruitment webpage:

https://unfccc.int/secretariat/internship_programme/items/2653.php.

Application procedure

Candidates who are interested in this assignment and meet the minimum requirements are encouraged to send their curriculum vitae and a cover letter to internship@unfccc.int with the subject line: "Application: Internship Mitigation, Implementation and Support" Due to the high number of applications, only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted for a telephone interview.

15. Concluded the exchange in Romania

In the period October 23 to 30 took place in Craiova, Dolj County in Romania the youth exchange "THE GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF HUMANITY". The project was approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA1. The purpose of the exchange was to increase the responsibility of young people on current issues and the future of mankind through eco-civic education and active involvement of the whole community, so as to form a positive attitude towards society and environment. The exchange was attended by five teenagers and a leader from our organization.



16. SPAHCO: concluded the first meeting and next meeting in January

From 23 to 26 October was held in Ceuti in Spain the first meeting of the project "Stronger Parents - Healthier Communities (SPAHCO)", approved as part of the Erasmus Plus program. The meeting



was attended by a manager of our organization. The goal of the project is to develop ICT tools (including an electronic game) and innovative methodologies to parents, to make them more aware of the importance of carrying out healthier lifestyles and offering them activities and tools to achieve these goals. During the entire project a special attention will be given to social inclusion, in order to reach people with fewer opportunities. During the

first meeting the partners got to know each other and have presented the activities and characteristics of each organism. From 22 to 25 January 2017 is scheduled the second meeting of the KA2 project for the adult education. At the meeting, that this time will be hosted in Potenza from our association EURO-NET, will participate in at least two delegates from each of the six foreign partners. Meanwhile, it also began the construction of the www.spacho.eu project website.



17. Leadership training: excellent results



From 13 to 20 November (including travel days) it took place in Potenza the youth training course entitled "Leadership for Employability". The training project was approved and funded under the program Erasmus Plus KA1 to the association Youth Europe Service of Potenza. The project brought together young leaders from the following countries: Italy, Azerbaijan, Estonia, UK, Slovakia, Croatia, Romania, Georgia, Armenia, and Turkey. The purpose of the project was to develop leadership techniques aimed at helping young people to find job opportunities and fulfilled in life.

18. Training course in Cyprus: everyone excited

It took place in Cyprus the youth course (approved under Erasmus Plus KA1 programme) "The future in our hands" which was attended by young leaders from the following organizations and European countries:

- EUROCIRCLE (France) - 3 participants
- ARMENIAN PROGRESSIVE YOUTH (Armenia) - 3 participants
- EURO-NET (Italy) - 3 participants
- CEDES (Moldova) - 3 participants
- JUGEND, BILDUNG UND KULTUR (Germany) - 3 participants
- ARTEMISAWORLD, S.L. (Spain) - 3 participants
- POLITISTIKI KAI LAOGRAFIKI LESXI TSADAS (Cyprus) - 3 participants
- THE ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE NORTH OF THE KHABAROVSK REGION (Russia) - 2 participants



- NGO K.A.F.A.Y.STELLA (Ukraine) - 3 participants
The activity was much appreciated by all.

19. First meeting in Malta of 3DP



(coordinating country). During the meeting all the next steps of the project were defined and planned the next transnational meetings.

In the period 24-27 November 2016 (including travel days) was realised in Malta the first meeting of the project TRAINING IN 3D PRINTING TO FOSTER INNOVATION & CREATED EU-VITY (acronym "3DP") dedicated on printers in 3 dimensions. The project, of which the Italian partner is the company GODESK SRL (a coworking center, space for innovation and Lucan incubator) is involving partners from the following European countries: Italy, Malta, Spain, Poland, Lithuania and Romania

20. Multiplier events of Vet4Start-up

The partnership project VET4Startup (Erasmus Plus - KA 2 VET) is almost over, and the partners are engaged in intensive dissemination activities of the project products, primarily the MOOC platform of e-learning for startup and Guide on Creativity for entrepreneurship. The project's promotion and dissemination is taking place through 5 Multipliers Events in Italy (Potenza and Rome), Denmark, Malta and United Kingdom. The Italian event, which was realised in date 12.11.2016, was organized at the coworking center and innovation space GODESK (sited in Potenza) by the coordinator of the entire project, ie the association EURO-NET. The multiplier event realised a day seminar with thematic discussions, expert interventions, startupper and entrepreneurs as well as practical workshops on "creative problem solving." The animated video that presents the e-learning platform is available at the following link: <https://youtu.be/RobwiYVPYQk>.



ie the association EURO-NET. The multiplier event realised a day seminar with thematic discussions, expert interventions, startupper and entrepreneurs as well as practical workshops on "creative problem solving." The animated video that presents the e-learning platform is available at the following link: <https://youtu.be/RobwiYVPYQk>.

21. JSTE in Bari for CREATUSE



The "CREATUSE" project, whose first Intellectual Output (an introductory guide to the sharing and collaborative consumption in urban areas) is now complete, has developed in recent days a training activity for the staff of the organizations involved in the initiative at the University of Bari. The training, cofunded in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education programme, has involved 2 or 3 persons from each partner of the project for a week. The participants were hosted by the University and participated in a very interesting training on the hottest topics of sharing modern economy. We remind you that the project

aims to improve the level of people skills in order to be creative in the urban areas of their cities. You can find more information on the project on the official website: www.creatuse.eu

22. Consultation phase for the launch of the Network NEFELE

In these days is started a public consultation on the statute of NEFELE Network. The consultation process, realised in the project "NEFELE - NETWORKING EUROPEAN FESTIVALS FOR MENTAL LIFE ENHANCEMENT" (action n. 559274-CREATE-1-2015-1-ELCULT-COOP1) cofunded by the European programme "Creative Europe", is now hosted on the platform at the following [link](#) where all relevant materials are available. The project, the regulations and the files are in English. The deadline for participating in the consultation and to sign up to the General Assembly to be held at the Athens Conference is next 10/01/2017.



23. NEFELE the project brochure



The project "NEFELE - NETWORKING EUROPEAN FESTIVALS FOR MENTAL LIFE ENHANCEMENT", has developed a beautiful brochure (translated, of course, in all the languages of the project partners) that describes the project and its objectives, as well as the products covered and the international partnership that is developing them. For more information about the project and/or to receive a copy of the brochure you can call at telephone number +39.0971.23300 or you can send an email to euronet2004@virgilio.it.

24. First meeting of IV4J project in Magdeburg

In the period 15-18 December (including travel days) was held in Magdeburg (Germany) the first meeting of the project "Innovation in VET for Jobs and Employment" ("IVJ4"), which was attended by two Italian organisms, both of Potenza: the association EURO-NET and the company GODESK SRL. The project, approved under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Training (VET) programme will develop various guides dedicated to the world of work and enterprise.



25. First Meeting of the project DROPOUT

It was held in the period 14-18 December in Potenza the first meeting of the "DROPOUT" project (approved under the programme "Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Schools"). The meeting was hosted by the Alberghiero of Potenza and attended by the delegations of the project partners from Romania, Latvia, Turkey and Lithuania. The goal of the meeting was to define project steps and plan activities to achieve. More details on the event will be available on the next issues of our newsletter.



26. First meeting of the project WEB 2.0 TOOLS IN EDUCATION in Turkey



The first meeting in Turkey of the project "WEB 2.0 TOOLS IN EDUCATION" was planned for next January with the participation of four representative dell'IIS Enrico Fermi in Muro Lucano (PZ). More details on this event will be available on the next issues of our newsletters.

27. Concluded the fifth meeting of the "EURBANITIES" project in Berlin

From 6 to 10 November took place in Berlin the fifth meeting of the project "EURbanities -



empowering civil participation through game based learning" - approved by the National Agency Erasmus Plus of Germany under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for the adult education programme (action 2015-1-DE02-KA204-002434). During the meeting in Germany, which was attended by two members of our staff, were discussed the state of development of the initiative and other project activities to be developed in the coming months, as well as was presented the first draft of

scenery of the electronic game to be realized by the technicians of the association EURO-NET. More details on the next issues of our newsletter.

28. Third Meeting of ENT-NET to Potenza

From 12 to 15 December was held in Potenza the third meeting of the ENT-NET project realised in



the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic partnerships for adult education programme. The project aims to create a sustainable network to develop, transfer and implement good and innovative practices and methodologies for adult education and on the other hand, to create an innovative entrepreneurship training course for adults in Europe. During the meeting was showed the use of the platform and how to implement on it the courses already completed.

Were also defined the next steps of the initiative, including the last meeting in Madrid (Spain) planned for end of July 2017. For more details about the project please see the official website at <http://www.ent-net.eu/>.

29. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all readers



This is the last issue of our annual newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it: our aim was, is and will continue to arouse your interest and curiosity in Europe and its opportunities, 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 next February 2017. *Merry Christmas... and Happy New Year!*