



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.

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



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1. The European Commission presented The European Green Deal

The European Commission presented The European Green Deal – a roadmap for making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all.

President Ursula von der Leyen said: *'The European Green Deal is our new growth strategy –*



for a growth that gives back more than it takes away. It shows how to transform our way of living and working, of producing and consuming so that we live healthier and make our businesses innovative. We can all be involved in the transition and we can all benefit from the opportunities. We will help our economy to be a global leader by moving first and moving fast. We are determined to succeed for the sake of this planet and life on it – for Europe's

natural heritage, for biodiversity, for our forests and our seas. By showing the rest of the world how to be sustainable and competitive, we can convince other countries to move with us.'

Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans added *'We are in a climate and environmental emergency. The European Green Deal is an opportunity to improve the health and well-being of our people by transforming our economic model. Our plan sets out how to cut emissions, restore the health of our natural environment, protect our wildlife, create new economic opportunities, and improve the quality of life of our citizens. We all have an important part to play and every industry and country will be part of this transformation. Moreover, our responsibility is to make sure that this transition is a just transition, and that nobody is left behind as we deliver the European Green Deal.'*

The European Green Deal provides a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy and stop climate change, revert biodiversity loss and cut pollution. It outlines investments needed and financing tools available, and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. The European Green Deal covers **all sectors of the economy**, notably transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals. To set into legislation the political ambition of being the world's first climate neutral continent by 2050, the Commission will present within 100 days the first **'European Climate Law'**. To reach our climate and environmental ambition, the Commission will also present the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, the new Industrial Strategy and Circular Economy Action Plan, the Farm to Fork Strategy for sustainable food and proposals for pollution-free Europe. Work will immediately start for upping Europe's 2030 emissions targets, setting a realistic path to the 2050 goal. Meeting the objectives of the European Green Deal will require **significant investment**. Achieving the current 2030 climate and energy targets is estimated to require €260 billion of additional annual investment, representing about 1.5% of 2018 GDP. This investment will need the mobilisation of the public and private sectors. The Commission will present in early 2020 a Sustainable Europe Investment Plan to help meet investment needs. At least 25% of the EU's long-term budget should be dedicated to climate action, and the European Investment Bank, Europe's climate bank, will provide further support. For the private sector to contribute to financing the green transition, the Commission will present a Green Financing Strategy in 2020. Fighting climate change and environmental degradation is a common endeavour but not all regions and Member States start from the same point. A **Just Transition Mechanism** will support those regions that rely heavily on very carbon intensive activities. It will support the citizens most vulnerable to the transition, providing access to reskilling programmes and employment opportunities in new economic sectors. In March 2020, the Commission will launch a 'Climate Pact' to **give citizens a voice and role** in designing new actions, sharing information, launching grassroots activities and show-casing solutions that others can follow. The global challenges of climate change and environmental degradation require a **global response**. The EU will continue to promote its environmental goals and standards in the UN's Biodiversity and Climate Conventions and reinforce its green diplomacy. The G7, G20, international conventions, and bilateral relationships will be used to persuade others to step up their efforts. The EU will also use trade policy to ensure sustainability and it will build partnerships with its neighbours in the Balkans and Africa to help them with their own transitions.

Next steps

The Commission invites the European Parliament and the European Council to endorse the Commission's ambition for Europe's future economy and the environment and to help realise it. The Commission will bring forward the measures announced in the European Green Deal roadmap.

Background

Climate change and environmental degradation present an existential threat to Europe and the world. To overcome this challenge, Europe needs a new growth strategy that transforms the Union into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050, where economic growth is decoupled from resource use and where no one and no place is left behind. The European Union already has a strong track record in reducing its emissions of greenhouse gases while maintaining economic growth. Emissions in 2018 were 23% lower than in 1990 while the Union's GDP grew by 61% in the same period. But more needs to be done. The EU, given its extensive experience, is leading the way in creating a green and inclusive economy. The Green Deal Communication sets the path for action in the months and years ahead. The Commission's future work will be guided by the public's demand for action and by undeniable scientific evidence as demonstrated most comprehensively by IPCC, IPBES, Global Resources Outlook and EEA SOER 2019 reports. Our proposals will be evidence-based and underpinned by broad consultation. An overwhelming majority of Europeans consider that protecting the environment is important (95%). Almost 8 in 10 Europeans (77%) say that protection of the environment can boost economic growth. The results of the Eurobarometer survey concerning environmental attitudes of EU citizens confirm the wide public support for environmental legislation at EU level and EU funding for environmentally friendly activities.

2. Europeans show record support for the euro

More than three in four citizens think that the single currency is good for the European Union, according to the latest Eurobarometer results. This is the highest support since surveys began in 2002.

According to the results of the latest Eurobarometer survey on the euro area, 76% of respondents think the single currency is good for the EU. This is the highest support since the introduction of euro coins and banknotes in 2002 and a 2-percentage point increase since last year's already record levels. Similarly, a majority of 65% of citizens across the euro area think that the euro is beneficial for their own country: this is also the highest number ever measured. The common currency is supported by a majority of citizens in all 19 euro area Member States. Jean-Claude **Juncker**, President of the European Commission, said: *"Almost 28 years after I added my name to the Maastricht Treaty, I remain convinced that this was the most important signature I ever made. The euro – now 20 years young – has become a symbol of unity, sovereignty and stability. We have worked hard over the past five years to turn the page of Europe's crisis, ensure that the benefits of jobs, growth and investment are reaching all Europeans and make Europe's Economic and Monetary Union stronger than ever. The euro and I being the only survivors of the Maastricht Treaty, I am glad to see this record-high support for our single currency on my last days in office as President of the European Commission. The euro has been the fight of a lifetime and it is one of Europe's best assets for the future. Let's make sure that it continues to deliver prosperity and protection to our citizens."* Valdis **Dombrovskis**, Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue, also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, said: *"The euro today is stronger than ever, bringing numerous benefits for people, businesses and countries from replacing 19 different currencies with one. It is not a coincidence that most Europeans support the euro. This record-high support gives us a clear mandate to work on further strengthening of our Economic and Monetary Union and reinforcing the international role of the euro."* Pierre **Moscovici**, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and



Customs, said: *“Long gone are the days when the integrity of the single currency was in question. The euro is one of the biggest European success stories, and it has brought tangible benefits to European citizens, businesses and governments alike. We have strengthened our Economic and Monetary Union since the crisis and since the start of this Commission, but the work is not yet finished. The future of the euro is still to be written. We must make sure that this support continues to rise and that the benefits of the euro are shared more equally among all of our citizens.”*

The euro makes it easy

Still a young currency, the euro has just turned 20 this year. Nevertheless, Europeans clearly see the very practical benefits it has brought to their everyday lives. Four fifths of respondents agree that the euro has made it easier to do business across borders, compare prices and shop in other countries, including online. An absolute majority in the euro area also think that the euro has made traveling easier and less costly. The euro is more than just the coins and notes in our pockets: it is a symbol of Europe's unity and global strength. Today, it is already the currency of 340 million Europeans in 19 Member States. It has brought tangible benefits to all: stable prices, lower transaction costs, protected savings, more transparent and competitive markets, increased trade, easier travel and higher living standards. Some 60 countries around the world link their currencies to the euro in one way or another.

Strong support for reforms, coordinated economic policies, but also for abolishing one- and two-cent coins

Asked about their views on the coordination of economic policy, including budgetary policies, 69% of Europeans see the need for more coordination in the euro area, whilst only 7% would like to see less cooperation. There is also continued strong support at 80% for economic reforms to improve the performance of national economies. This is also reflected in national results, with clear majorities in all euro area countries. A majority of 65% of respondents said they were in favour of doing away with inconvenient one- and two-euro cent coins through the mandatory rounding of the final price of purchases in shops and supermarkets to the nearest five cents. An absolute majority supports this idea in 16 out of the 19 euro area countries.

Background

Citizens replied to a set of questions focusing on issues ranging from perception and practical aspects of the euro to their assessment of the economic situation, policy and reforms in their country and in the euro area. In addition, the survey asked citizens about their views and expectations regarding household income and inflation. Some 17,500 respondents across the 19 euro area countries were interviewed by phone between 14 and 19 October 2019.

3. State of Health in the EU

The European Commission published the reports that depict the profile of health systems in 30 countries. Country Health Profiles are being issued with the Companion Report that shows some of the biggest trends in the transformation of the healthcare systems and draws key conclusions from the Profiles.

Vytienis **Andriukaitis**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, said: *“Various surveys and debates across Europe prove us that health ranks among the top priorities of European citizens. I am particularly glad that health promotion and disease prevention are finally getting the attention they need. I am therefore very proud to have initiated the State of Health in the EU cycle and delivered two cycles together with the OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies for 28 EU Member States, plus Norway and Iceland. I can clearly see that this robust country-specific and cross-EU knowledge feeds into both national policymaking and EU level cooperation. I hope my successor will continue this exercise and that more Member States will follow up the voluntary- basis discussions on its findings and share best practices.”*



The Country Health Profiles provide an in-depth analysis of health systems, looking at the health of the population and important risk factors, as well as the effectiveness, accessibility and resilience of health systems in each EU Member State. They clearly reflect shared objectives across the Member States, and reveal potential areas where the Commission can encourage mutual learning and exchange of good practices. The Companion Report brings out some of the biggest trends in the transformation of our health systems:

- Vaccine hesitancy is a major public health threat all across Europe, which can be tackled by improving health literacy, countering disinformation and actively involving health workers.
- The digital transformation of health promotion and disease prevention can result in winners and losers. People who would most benefit from mobile health and other such digital tools may be the least likely to have easy access to it.
- Gaps in health care accessibility are still very much a reality in the EU. Both the clinical needs and socioeconomic characteristics of patients need to be accounted for when measuring access to health care and its many barriers.
- Skill mix innovations among the health workforce show great potential for increasing the resilience of health systems. Promising examples of task shifting among health workers are found across the EU, particularly when it comes to enhancing the role of nurses and pharmacists.
- The product life cycle of medicines reveals ample scope for Member State cooperation in ensuring safe, effective and affordable therapies, including everything from rational spending to responsible prescribing.

Background

In 2016, the European Commission launched the *State of Health in the EU* cycle of knowledge brokering, to assist EU Member States in improving the health of their citizens and the performance of their health systems. The reports fill a knowledge gap of a context-sensitive, comprehensive analysis and insights that has been identified as a major obstacle for health policymakers. The reports have been widely used by national authorities.

4. Autumn Fiscal Package

The European Commission has presented its Opinions on euro area Member States' 2020 Draft Budgetary Plans, taken steps under the Stability and Growth Pact and adopted the fourth Enhanced Surveillance Report for Greece.

Since July this year and for the first time since 2002, no euro area Member State is under the Excessive Deficit Procedure. The euro area debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to continue its declining path of recent years and to fall from about 86% in 2019 to about 85% in 2020. This is happening against the backdrop of a weakening European and world economy. Vice-President

Valdis **Dombrovskis**, responsible for the Euro and Social Dialogue, also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, said: *"With mounting risks weighing on Europe's economic growth prospects, it is reassuring to see euro area countries like Germany and the Netherlands using fiscal space to support investment. However, there is scope for them to do more. On the other hand, Member States with very high levels of debt – such as Belgium, France, Italy and Spain – should take advantage of the lower interest expenditure to reduce their debt. It should be their priority."* Pierre **Moscovici**, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs, said: *"For the past five years, this Commission has carefully assessed the Draft Budgetary Plans of euro area Member States. With this year's opinions, we confirm our commitment to a flexible, intelligent application of our common rules, guided by an awareness of the economic reality in each country and in the euro area as a whole. In that sense, the Commission invites countries with high debt to pursue prudent fiscal policies, while encouraging those with fiscal space to invest further. This differentiated approach will strengthen the euro area."* Following the recent Autumn 2019 Economic Forecast and consultations with the Member States, the Commission has adopted its Opinions on the Draft Budgetary Plans of all



euro area countries. It has found that no Draft Budgetary Plan for 2020 shows particularly serious non-compliance with the requirements of the Stability and Growth Pact. Nine Member States' Plans are compliant with the Stability and Growth Pact in 2020; two Member States are broadly compliant and for eight Member States, the Plans pose a risk of non-compliance with the Stability and Growth Pact next year. The Draft Budgetary Plans of **Germany, Ireland, Greece, Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands and Austria** are found to be **compliant** with the Stability and Growth Pact in 2020. The Draft Budgetary Plans of **Estonia and Latvia** are found to be **broadly compliant** with the Stability and Growth Pact in 2020. The implementation of the Draft Budgetary Plans might result in some deviation from the country's medium-term budgetary objective for Latvia and from the adjustment path towards this objective in the case of Estonia. For **Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland** the Draft Budgetary Plans pose a **risk of non-compliance** with the Stability and Growth Pact in 2020. The implementation of the Plans of these Member States might result in a significant deviation from the adjustment paths towards the respective medium-term budgetary objective. In the cases of **Belgium, Spain, France and Italy**, non-compliance with the debt reduction benchmark is also projected. Overall, between 2019 and 2020, the number of Member States at or above their medium-term budgetary objectives is estimated to increase from six to nine. The Commission projects the euro area aggregate structural deficit to increase by 0.2% of potential GDP in 2020 (to -1.1%), thus showing a **broadly neutral fiscal stance**. That increase in the structural balance is driven in particular by projected expansionary fiscal policies in Member States with fiscal space, particularly the Netherlands and to a lesser extent Germany (0.6% and 0.4% of potential GDP, respectively) and the projected increase in the structural deficit of Italy (0.3% of potential GDP). Overall, fiscal policies continue to be **insufficiently differentiated** across the euro area. Member States with fiscal space are implementing expansionary fiscal policies and should stand ready to continue using their fiscal space. By contrast, the lack of consolidation in countries with sustainability problems remains a concern.

Steps under the Stability and Growth Pact

The Commission has also taken a number of steps under the Stability and Growth Pact for Hungary and Romania. It has made two recommendations under the Significant Deviation Procedure, a tool which intends to send a warning in case of a significant deviation from the requirements of the preventive arm of the Pact. The Procedure also aims to help Member States return to – or close to – the fiscal position they would be in if the deviation had not occurred. For Hungary, the Commission has established that no effective action was taken in response to the Council recommendation of June 2019. It proposes that the Council adopt a decision on non-effective action and a revised recommendation to Hungary to take measures in 2020 to correct its significant deviation from the adjustment path towards the medium-term budgetary objective. For Romania, the Commission has established that no effective action was taken in response to the Council recommendation of June 2019. It proposes that the Council adopt a decision on non-



effective action and a revised recommendation to Romania to take measures in 2020 in order to correct its significant deviation from the adjustment path towards the medium-term budgetary objective.

Enhanced Surveillance Report for Greece

The Commission has also adopted the fourth report for Greece under the Enhanced Surveillance framework that was activated following the conclusion of the European

Stability Mechanism stability support programme in August 2018. The publication of the report follows the fourth post-programme mission to Greece which took place from 23 to 26 September 2019. The report concludes that Greece has prepared a budget for 2020 that meets the agreed primary surplus target of 3.5% of GDP in a growth-friendly manner, and that the government has overall taken the necessary actions to achieve its specific reform commitments for mid-2019, in the context of advancing a broader reform agenda. Further actions will be crucial to complete, and where necessary accelerate, reforms.

What are the next steps?

The Commission invites the Eurogroup and the Council to discuss package and endorse the guidance offered. The Commission will come forward with the next steps under the European Semester in due time, including the Annual Growth Survey 2020, the recommendation for the economic policy of the euro area, the Alert Mechanism Report, and the Draft Joint Employment Report.

5. Erasmus+: EU will invest over €3 billion for young Europeans

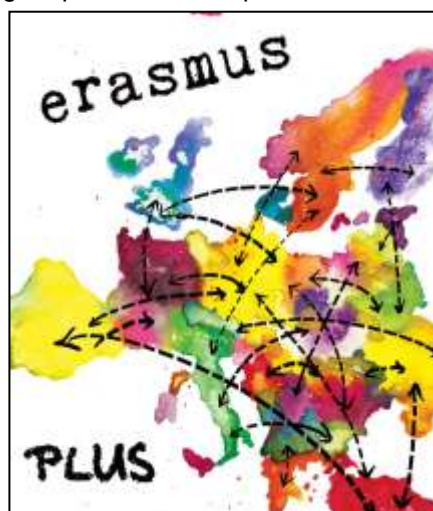
The European Commission published its 2020 call for proposals for the Erasmus+ programme. 2020 is the last year of the current European Union programme for mobility and cooperation in education, training, youth and sport.

The expected budget of over €3 billion, an increase of 12% compared to 2019, will provide even more opportunities for young Europeans to study, train or gain professional experience abroad.

As part of the 2020 call for proposals, the Commission will launch a second pilot on European Universities.

Moreover, the EU aims to create 35,000 opportunities for African students and staff to participate in the programme as part of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs. Tibor **Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, said: *"I am very pleased that in 2020 the European Union is set to invest more than €3 billion in Erasmus+. It will allow us to open up more opportunities for young Europeans to study or train abroad, enabling them to learn and develop a European identity. And it will help us to take the European Universities initiative forward, showing our continued investment in the European Education Area. I am proud to see higher education institutions form strong new alliances, paving the way for the universities of the future, for the benefit of students, staff and society across Europe."*

Marianne **Thyssen**, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, added: *"The new Erasmus funding opportunities for the vocational education and training sector will strengthen the Vocational Education and Training community; bridging sectors, regions and countries. Reinforcing ErasmusPro will make those bonds still tighter while giving more Vocational Education and Training learners more opportunities."* Any public or private body active in the fields of education, training, youth and sport may apply for funding under this call for proposals. In addition, groups of young people who are active in youth work, but not formally established as youth organisations, may apply. Together with the call for proposals, the Commission also published the Erasmus+ Programme Guide in all official EU languages. It provides applicants with details on all opportunities open to them in higher education, vocational education and training, school education and adult education, youth and sport under Erasmus+ in 2020.



European Universities

The first 17 European Universities were selected in June 2019. They are in the process of starting their activities. The second call for proposals launched builds on this first test phase.

Education, vocational training and adult learning

This will be the third year of the School Exchange Partnerships – an Erasmus+ action offering opportunities for European schools to exchange pupils and teachers. Over the past two years, more than 15,000 schools have participated. In 2020, another 9,000 schools will have the opportunity to take part. In vocational education and training, investment focuses on ErasmusPro – opportunities for learners and apprentices to spend between three months and a year abroad, developing their professional and linguistic competences. Since its launch in 2018, ErasmusPro has succeeded in increasing the interest for long-term placements in vocational education and training, and has supported more than 12,000 learners per year. Support will also help set up "pilot" transnational vocational education and training Centres of Excellence, integrated in local and regional development strategies. The Centres will work closely with other education and training sectors, the scientific community and business to develop high quality curricula focused on sectoral skills. In adult learning, financial support will help set up or strengthen regional or national networks of adult learning providers, so that they can offer an increased number of quality projects for the next Erasmus programme.

Additional opportunities in the Africa-Europe Alliance

As in 2019, this year's call will offer additional opportunities to support exchanges for African students and staff to participate in Erasmus+. While 26,247 exchanges have already taken place, the aim is to support 35,000 people by 2020, as announced in the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs. Universities can also apply for capacity building in higher

education projects, which contribute directly to the recommendations made at the recent Africa-Europe high-level Conference on Higher Education collaboration.

Background

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme for mobility and transnational cooperation in the areas of education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. The current programme as well as its successor, coming into effect in 2021, have a key role in making the European Education Area a reality by 2025. Erasmus+ aims to facilitate access to the programme for participants from all backgrounds, with a particular focus on reaching out to people with social, economic, physical or geographic disadvantages. In May 2018, the Commission has proposed to double the Erasmus budget to €30 billion for 2021-2027, making it possible for up to 12 million people to have an experience abroad.

6. Security Union: significant progress and tangible results

The European Commission is taking stock of the progress made in the past years towards achieving an effective and genuine Security Union.

The report presented recaps the initiatives taken by the Commission in some of the key areas of the Security Union including, the fight against terrorism, information exchange, countering radicalisation and cybersecurity, while noting that further efforts are needed, in particular on the implementation of EU security legislation. In the context of the Christchurch attack in March 2019, the Commission is also recommending the EU start negotiations with New Zealand on the exchange of personal data with Europol to fight serious crime and terrorism. Commissioner for Migration, Citizenship and Home Affairs, Dimitris



Avramopoulos said: *“The security of European citizens has been an absolute priority for this Commission from day one. Building on the European Agenda on Security, we established an effective and genuine Security Union – built on trust, sharing resources, and facing threats together. We can be proud of many tangible results - such as EU security laws to better track down dangerous criminals, combat terrorism – online and offline and limit access to firearms - but the most important is the change of our security mentality. I call on Member States to ensure that the EU security rules are enforced and our citizens better protected.”* Commissioner for the Security Union **Julian King** said: *“Over the past few years, we have made substantial progress in enhancing our collective security. It is by*

working together and responding in a coordinated way that we can best address today's complex and multi-faceted security challenges from terrorism, cybercrime and disinformation. But there is more to do. We need to continue our efforts to close down the space in which terrorists operate – offline and online, within the EU and beyond. I look forward to the Council's green light to start negotiations with New Zealand, a strategic partner in the fight against serious crime and terrorism.”

Progress under key pillars of the Security Union

This report outlines the progress made on the priority security legislative files as well as recent initiatives taken to ensure security of European citizens both offline and online. The report in particular focuses on:

- **Terrorist content online** – Given the continuous threat posed by terrorist content online, the Commission calls on both the European Parliament and the Council to reach an agreement on the proposed legislation by the end of 2019. In parallel, work has been taken forward through voluntary partnerships with online platforms with the participants of the EU Internet Forum having committed to an EU Crisis Protocol – a rapid response mechanism to contain the viral spread of terrorist and violent extremist content online.
- **Improved information exchange** – Member States are exchanging more information than ever before, notably thanks to the assistance offered by EU Agencies such as Europol.

However, to close remaining information gaps and blind spots, it is crucial that EU security information systems can talk to each other. This is why the Commission has made the implementation of the interoperability proposals by 2020 its top security priority. The Commission also calls on the European Parliament and the Council to reach swift agreement on all pending legislative proposals on security information systems, including the technical implementation of ETIAS and the strengthened Visa Information System.

- **Cybersecurity** – The EU has significantly enhanced its cyber resilience and is now working towards ensuring cybersecurity of 5G networks. Following the EU coordinated risk assessment, Member States should now agree on a toolbox of mitigating measures by 31 December.
- **Disinformation** – The EU has also continued its efforts to tackle disinformation and protect the integrity of elections through the self-regulatory Code of Practice on Disinformation from October 2018. One year on, whilst good efforts have been made by the signatories, more action is needed from online platforms, in particular when it comes to empowering consumers and commitments to empower the research community.
- **Enforcing EU security laws** – A number of key EU security laws on terrorism and cybercrime are not yet fully implemented by all Member States. This includes priority files such as the exchange of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data and the Directive on combatting terrorism. Only 13 Member States are implementing EU rules on stricter access to firearms and 21 Member States have yet to transpose EU anti-money laundering rules. In addition, 23 Member States are still not enforcing EU rules criminalising child sexual abuse and 4 Member States are not complying with EU legislation on attacks against information systems. The Commission calls on Member States, as a matter of urgency, to take the necessary measures to ensure full implementation of EU security laws.
- **Security cooperation with the Western Balkans** – On 9 October, the Commission signed counter-terrorism arrangements with Albania and North Macedonia, as a follow up to the Joint Action Plan. On 7 October, the EU also signed an agreement on border management cooperation between Montenegro and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

Finally, the Commission has been stepping up cooperation and information exchange with other partner countries, organisations and relevant stakeholders – key in building an effective and genuine Security Union. The Commission is recommending that the Council authorise the opening of negotiations for an agreement to allow for exchange of personal data between **Europol and New Zealand** authorities responsible for fighting serious crime and terrorism. While similar negotiations are already ongoing with 8 priority countries in the Middle East/North Africa (MENA) region, the Commission considers it necessary to start such negotiations with New Zealand, adding it to the list of priority countries. The agreement would ensure the necessary data protection, privacy, fundamental rights and freedoms safeguards.

Background

Security has been a political priority 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 12 September 2018. The European Agenda on Security guides the Commission's work in this area, setting out the main actions to ensure an effective EU response to terrorism and security threats, including countering radicalisation, boosting cybersecurity, cutting terrorist financing as well as improving information exchange. Since the adoption of the Agenda, significant progress has been made in its implementation, paving the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union. This progress is reflected in the Commission's reports published on a regular basis. On 20 June, EU leaders adopted an agenda for the EU for the next five years, "A new strategic agenda 2019-2024", in which the objective of 'protecting citizens and freedoms' ranks top of 4 main priorities for the Union. In April 2019, Europol and New Zealand signed a working arrangement, which provides a framework for a structured strategic-level cooperation but not a legal basis to exchange information on personal data. Following the formal request by New Zealand in August 2019, the Commission has asked the Council to start negotiations on an agreement, which would allow for such exchange.



7. European Semester Autumn Package

The von der Leyen Commission launches a new European Semester cycle, the first of its mandate. It presents an ambitious, rebooted growth strategy focused on promoting competitive sustainability to build an economy that works for people and the planet.

The Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy delivers on the vision set out in President Ursula **von der Leyen's** Political Guidelines. It sets out the economic and employment policy strategy for the EU, placing sustainability and social inclusion at the heart of the EU's economic policymaking, in line with the priorities enshrined in the European Green Deal, the Commission's new growth strategy. It aims to ensure that Europe remains the home of the world's most advanced welfare systems, becomes the first climate-neutral continent and is a vibrant hub of innovation and competitive entrepreneurship. It will give Europe the tools to strive for more when it comes to social fairness and prosperity. More broadly, the sustainable growth strategy will help the EU and



its Member States achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which the Commission is integrating into the European Semester for the first time. Valdis **Dombrovskis**, Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People said: *"A profound transformation of our economic model is underway. Climate change, digitalisation and changing demographics require us to adapt our economic policy, so that Europe remains a competitive force on the world stage and does so in a way that's sustainable and fair. At the same time, we need EU countries to strengthen*

their defences against the global risks on the horizon. I invite countries with fiscal space to further boost investment and those with a high level of debt to bring it down." Paolo **Gentiloni**, Commissioner for Economy, said: *"Starting today, we place the climate transition at the heart of our economic governance. Because when we say the European Green Deal is Europe's new growth strategy, we mean it. One of my top priorities in the first year of my mandate will be to integrate the UN's Sustainable Development Goals into the European Semester. It is vital that we make a success of this important change to European economic policymaking."* Nicolas **Schmit**, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights said: *"The new strategy integrates the principles of fighting inequalities and the pursuit of upward economic and social convergence enshrined in the European Pillar of Social Rights. The number of people in work today is at a record high, but disparities persist. In a fast changing world and an economy where innovation is key, we have to facilitate better access to the labour market and invest more in skills for those who need to adapt to the digital and green transition, especially the most vulnerable. Social fairness must be integral to every part of this new workstream."* The Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy encompasses four interrelated and mutually reinforcing dimensions to addresses long-term challenges. These dimensions should guide structural reforms, employment policies, investments and responsible fiscal policies across all Member States to deliver an economy that works for people and the planet. The four dimensions are: environmental sustainability; productivity gains; fairness; and macroeconomic stability. The European Semester will place a stronger focus on environmental sustainability by providing specific guidance to Member States on where structural reforms and investment towards a sustainable economic model are most needed. The policy guidance under the European Semester will also help to spur productivity gains: it will promote investment and structural reforms to foster research and innovation, improve access to finance, enhance the functioning of product and services markets, and remove bottlenecks in the business environment. Fairness should be safeguarded through the implementation of social policies to guarantee fair working conditions for all and to allow people to adapt to changing circumstances at a time of important transformations. Macroeconomic stability should be preserved by respecting the fiscal rules, while using the full flexibility built into them, addressing imbalances and completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union (EMU).

Further Reports

The Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area calls on euro area Member States to take measures to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth, as well as to boost competitiveness. It also calls for differentiated fiscal policies as well as their further coordination in the framework of the Eurogroup in case of a worsening outlook. The recommendation also calls for more progress in deepening the EMU, notably through the completion of Banking Union and Capital Market Union, which will also help to strengthen the international role of the euro. These actions, when taken together, will help to address common challenges for the euro area as a whole. The Alert Mechanism Report, a screening device for macroeconomic imbalances, recommends that 13 Member States should undergo an “in-depth review” in 2020 to identify and assess the severity of possible macroeconomic imbalances. Member States need to continue to address the macroeconomic imbalances they are experiencing to prepare for long-term challenges and possible future shocks. The Member States identified for these reviews are Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Sweden. The proposal for a Joint Employment Report analyses the employment and social situation in Europe and highlights the areas in which progress has been made, and where more needs to be done. 241.5 million people are now in work, unemployment in the EU is at a record low (6.3%), and labour market conditions are improving. However, gender inequality remains a substantial challenge, as does wage inequality; certain groups, in particular children and people with disabilities, are still at high risk of poverty or social exclusion; and youth unemployment is a serious concern in some Member States. The Single Market Performance Report aims to assess the results and achievements of the Single Market. It has been integrated into the Semester cycle for the first time to highlight the importance of implementing reforms that facilitate the smooth functioning of the Single Market. The report shows that goods markets present a high level of integration while services markets present the highest potential for further integration. Significant progress has also been achieved in the integration of energy markets, but cross-border energy trade and competition in energy markets must be improved. Ensuring high standards of environmental protection and product safety is a major component of the performance of the Single Market spanning over a broad range of economic activities. The delivery of the full potential of the Single Market depends on the implementation of structural reforms at national level that can help to establish effective competition and improve the business environment. The increasing integration of Single Market issues in the Semester will facilitate the implementation of these reforms. The second annual monitoring report on the implementation of the 2018 Structural Reform Support Programme shows that the programme can significantly contribute to the efforts of the Member States' authorities to identify and overcome structural weaknesses in the design and implementation of reforms. In 2018, 146 requests from 24 Member States were selected for funding from the programme. Of those, 93% relate directly to the strategic priorities of the EU in areas such as improving the operational capacity and efficiency of public administrations, modernising public financial management, reforming tax administrations and developing the digital economy.



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Next steps

The European Council is invited to endorse the sustainable growth strategy presented. Member States should take account of the priorities identified by the Commission in its sustainable growth strategy in their national policies and strategies, as set out in their Stability or Convergence Programmes and their National Reform Programmes which they will submit next year. On that basis, the Commission will propose Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs) as part of the European Semester Spring Package. The CSRs will be adopted by the Member States in the Council. Member States are thus ultimately responsible for their content and implementation. President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines emphasised the importance of the European Parliament having a “louder voice” in economic governance. To this end, the Commission looks

forward to engaging in a constructive dialogue with the Parliament on the contents of this package and each subsequent step in the European Semester cycle.

8. New EU cross-border payments rules

As of today, consumers and businesses in non-eurozone Member States will enjoy cheaper cross-border payments in euro.

New EU rules will ensure that all cross-border payments in euro in non-eurozone Member States - Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom - will be priced the same as domestic payments. For example, a Bulgarian consumer who decides to send euro abroad will from now on pay the same fee as for a credit transfer in lev, within Bulgaria. In other words, cross-border euro payments will incur very low or even zero fees. Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis, responsible for an Economy that Works for People, said: *"These rules will allow all our citizens and companies to equally benefit from cheap cross-border euro payments. This is a positive and concrete example of how the Single Market can bring real benefits to European consumers. For instance, a family in Romania that wants to send money in euro to their child doing an Erasmus exchange in Paris will no longer have to factor in additional costs, as they will now be paying the same fee as for a domestic transaction in Romania."* The Commission will closely monitor the application of these rules, and will liaise closely with



competent national authorities to ensure that they are implemented correctly. These rules, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2019/518, are part of ongoing efforts by the Commission to create better and cheaper access to financial services for consumers, as set out in the Consumer Financial Services Action Plan of March 2017. As a next step, in April 2020, additional provisions will apply which will allow EU consumers to compare currency conversion charges when paying with their cards in another EU currency. On 28 March 2018, the Commission proposed to amend the existing EU Regulation on Cross-border Payments. These proposals stemmed from the Consumer Financial Services Action Plan that was published in March 2017. Further to agreement by co-legislators, Regulation (EU) was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 29 March 2019.

9. Reinforces tools to ensure Europe's interests in international trade

The European Commission unveiled a proposal that will allow the European Union to protect its trade interests despite the paralysis of the multilateral dispute settlement system in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

To further increase the focus on compliance and enforcement of the EU's trade agreements, the Commission created the position of Chief Trade Enforcement Officer. President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said: *"A stronger Europe in the world implies efficient EU leadership on global trade and appropriate powers to ensure that international trade rules are respected. For that reason, I start my mandate by taking swift action to strengthen our trade toolbox. This proposals will let us defend our interests in these particularly uneasy times for international trade. As many European jobs are at stake, the EU needs to be equipped to ensure that our partners respect their commitments and that's what this proposal aims for."* Commissioner for Trade, Phil Hogan, said: *"This is a critical moment for multilateralism and for the global trading system. With the Appellate Body removed from the equation, we have lost an enforceable dispute settlement system that has been an independent guarantor that the WTO's rules are applied impartially. Whilst we seek to reform the WTO and re-establish a well-functioning WTO system, we cannot afford being defenceless if there is no possibility to get a satisfactory solution within*



the WTO. The amendments we propose will allow us to defend our companies, workers and consumers, whenever our partners do not play by the rules.” This proposal to amend the existing Enforcement Regulation comes as a direct reaction to the blockage yesterday of the operations of the WTO Appellate Body. The current regulation – a basis under EU law for adopting trade countermeasures – requires that a dispute go all the way through the WTO procedures, including the appeal stage, before the Union can react. The lack of a functioning WTO Appellate Body allows WTO Members to avoid their obligations and escape a binding ruling by simply appealing a panel report. The Commission's proposal will enable the EU to react even if the WTO is not delivering a final ruling at the appellate level because the other WTO member blocks the dispute procedure by appealing into the void. This new mechanism will also apply to the dispute settlement provisions included in regional or bilateral trade agreements to which the EU is party. The EU must be able to respond resolutely in case trade partners hinder effective dispute settlement resolution, for instance, by blocking the composition of panels. In line with the Political Guidelines of President **von der Leyen**, the Commission is further reinforcing the Union's tools to focus on compliance and enforcement of the EU's trade agreements and created the post of Chief Trade Enforcement Officer that will be filled in early 2020. Ensuring the respect of the commitments agreed with other trade partners is a key priority of the **von der Leyen** Commission. The EU is therefore increasing its focus on enforcing its partners' commitments in multilateral, regional and bilateral trade agreements. In so doing the Union will rely on a suite of instruments. This proposal will now be subject to validation by the European Parliament and the EU Member States in the Council in a normal legislative process.

10. Roaming market review: use of mobile phones abroad has surged

The Commission has published the first full review of the roaming market, showing that travellers across the EU have benefitted a lot from the end of roaming charges in June 2017.

The use of mobile data while travelling in the EU has increased tenfold compared to the year before roam-like-at-home, with a peak of 12 times higher use of mobile data abroad during the holiday period. Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya **Gabriel** said: *“The review showcases once again how successful the abolition of roaming charges has been. Europeans are largely benefitting from the opportunity to use their mobile devices freely while travelling. At the*



same time, we can also clearly see that the EU roaming market continues to function well. Contrary to the fears of higher domestic prices due to the end of roaming charges, domestic prices for mobile services have actually overall decreased across the EU.” The use of roaming data within the EU and European Economic Area (EEA) peaked in the holiday period of summer 2018 (third quarter) with 12 times higher use of mobile data abroad compared to before all retail roaming costs were scrapped. Over the same period, the

volume of phone calls made while roaming was almost three times higher. At wholesale level, the sharp reduction in price caps has contributed to a further reduction in wholesale roaming prices, which in turn makes end of roaming charges sustainable for almost all roaming providers. The report concludes that the competition dynamics in the roaming market are not likely to change in the near future, which means that the current retail and wholesale regulation is still necessary. The current rules for roaming should continue to apply in the coming years to ensure that citizens can benefit from roaming at no additional cost within the EU. Since 15 June 2017, Europeans have been able to use their mobile phones for calls, SMS and data when travelling in the EU just as they do at home with no extra cost. This so-called roam-like-at-home approach is a tangible benefit of the creation of a Digital Single Market for businesses and consumers in Europe, and is one of the major achievements of the Juncker Commission. The Commission's first full review report follows up and confirms the findings of the interim report published in December 2018: the demand for mobile consumption while travelling in the EU/EEA has rapidly increased since the scrapping of roaming charges. It also confirms the review of the fair-use policy and derogation mechanism published earlier this year. These are essential safeguards introduced in the Roaming Regulation to prevent distortions in the domestic markets, which, according to the review, have so far worked adequately where needed. The Roaming Regulation is currently in force until June 2022.

11. Traineeships at the European Court of Auditors

The European Court of Auditors organises three traineeship sessions per year in areas of interest to its work. Traineeships are granted for three, four or five months maximum. They may be remunerated (1350 €/month) or non-remunerated depending on the budgetary appropriations available. The three sessions are organised each year with the following start dates: 1 February, 1 May, 1 September. In order to be eligible to carry out a period of traineeship, applicants must: be a national of one of the Member States of the European Union, except where a derogation has been granted by the appointing authority; either hold a recognised university-level diploma giving access to the AD function group(*) as defined in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union, or have completed at least four semesters of university study in an area of interest to the Court; wish to obtain practical training related to one of the Court of Auditors' areas of activity; have not already benefited from a traineeship at any EU institution or body; state that they have a thorough knowledge of one official language of the European Union and a satisfactory knowledge of at least one other official European Union language. Candidates selected must provide a declaration that they have never been convicted or found guilty of any criminal offence as drawn up for the civil service by their national authorities and a medical certificate certifying that they are physically fit to perform their tasks.



Before applying, please note the following important information:

- Due to the high volume of applications we do not respond to each individual applicant.
- Only on-line applications will be processed.
- Unsolicited applications or CVs sent by post, fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
- Only the successful candidates will be contacted by the Human Resources department of the ECA.

Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2020. **For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).**

12. Jan Amos Comenius Prize for high quality teaching

The European Commission has launched the Call for Applications for the "Jan Amos Comenius Prize for high quality teaching about the European Union". The prize will reward secondary



schools that help their pupils learn about the European Union in ways that inspire. It will provide EU-wide recognition and visibility to relevant work in each Member State and will highlight the importance of teaching and learning about the EU at a young age. It will showcase inspirational teaching methods that engage pupils actively in learning about the EU and will help spread these practices. There will be up to twenty-eight (28) prizes of €8,000

each, one per EU Member State. The call is open to ISCED level 2 and ISCED level 3 secondary schools established and based in the European Union (not to individual teachers). For more details, on which schools are eligible, [see question 5](#) in the Frequently Asked Questions below.

The deadline for applications is 6 February 2020, 17.00 CET.

- The [Rules of Contest](#) have now been published.
- You can submit your application only through the [EU Survey website](#).

If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU before the award decision (this follows soon after the assessment of the applications) without having concluded an agreement with the EU ensuring that British applicants continue to be eligible, British secondary schools will cease to be eligible for this prize. In this case, there will be up to 27 prizes (instead of 28) but the amount of the prize will remain the same (€8,000). **For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).**

13. The European Charlemagne Youth Prize 2020

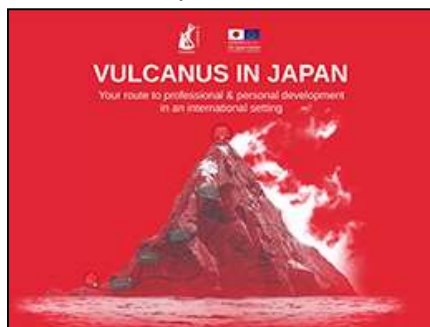
Aged 16-30 and working on a project with a European dimension? [Apply](#) for the 2020 Charlemagne Youth Prize and win funds to further develop your initiative.

The European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation of Aachen award the Charlemagne Youth Prize every year to projects run by young people with a strong EU dimension. Applications for 2020 open on 6 November 2019 and run until 31 January 2020. The three winning projects will be chosen from 28 projects nominated by national juries in the individual EU member states. The first prize is €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 2020. Projects must meet the following criteria in order to qualify: promote European and international understanding; foster the development of a shared sense of European identity and integration; serve as a role model for young people living in Europe; offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community. **For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).**



14. Vulcanus in Japan 2020/21

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. 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 – at the moment of application – in between the 4th official year of university studies (3 undergraduate + 1) and the penultimate year of PhD*; able to provide a certificate of enrollment at the university valid until at least 3 months prior to the starting of the programme. Applicants are short-listed 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. The final say lies with the Japanese host companies. (for more information: click [here](#)). **Deadline to apply : 20 January 2020. For more information please consult the following [link](#).**

15. The World Bank (WB) Internship Program

The World Bank Summer Internship Program is now open until January 31 2020. Please note, only selected candidates will be contacted. [Apply here](#).

The World Bank (WB) Internship Program offers highly motivated individuals an opportunity to be exposed to the mission and work of the WB in international development. The internship allows

individuals to bring new perspectives, innovative ideas and latest research experience into the WB's work and improve their skills while working in a diverse environment. An internship at the WB is an opportunity to learn while gaining practical experience. Interns generally find the experience to be rewarding and interesting.

In addition, it is a way to enhance their CVs with practical work experience. To be eligible for an Internship, candidates must have an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program (pursuing a master's degree or PhD with plans to return to school full-time). There is no age limit. Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of languages such as: French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Portuguese, and Chinese is desirable. Other skills such as computing skills are advantageous. We value diversity in our workplace, and encourage all qualified individuals, particularly women, with diverse professional and academic backgrounds to apply. Our aim is to attract and recruit the best talent in the world. The WB Internship Program typically seeks candidates for: Operations (Front Line) in the following fields: economics, finance, human development (public health, education, nutrition, population), social sciences (anthropology, sociology), agriculture, environment, engineering, urban planning, natural resources management, private sector development, and other related fields; or Corporate support (Accounting, Communications, Human Resources Management, Information Technology, Treasury, and other corporate services). The WB pays an hourly salary to all Interns and, where applicable, provides an allowance toward travel expenses up to USD 3,000 at the discretion of the manager. These travel expenses can only include transport expenses (airfare) to or from the duty station city. Interns are responsible for their own accommodations. Driven by business needs, most Intern positions are based in Washington, DC with a few others in the WB country offices. Usually, internship opportunities are for a minimum of four weeks. The WB Internship is offered twice a year: Summer Internship (May–September): The application period is December 1–January 31 each year. Winter Internship (November–March): The application period is October 1–31 each year. All applications must be submitted online and during the respective application period. (We do not accept applications by email.) J1 visa holders need to obtain a G4 visa abroad prior to starting employment or unpaid internship at the WB. **For more information please consult the following [link](#).**



16. Realize the multiplier event of the project "SME"

On the 25/10/2019, took place in Picerno at the "Einstein-De Lorenzo" Institute the multiplier event planned for the project "Skills for Migrants Entrepreneurs". The project wants to create tools to support the migrants' integration and the birth of new companies created by qualified migrants through guides, online training and reports. The objectives to be achieved are the following: good examples of activities for the social integration of refugees; concrete contribution to innovative education for disadvantaged groups; real exchange of good practices and cooperation in the field of refugees; concrete changes in behavior that reflect a positive attitude towards refugees; improvement of staff skills and abilities through a training course for staff;

development of skills of migrant entrepreneurs; improving the capacity of organizations working with migrants/refugees; development of networks and connections at local, national and international level; development of communication and cross-border collaboration; improving the knowledge of different cultures; promotion of the values of equality, social cohesion and active citizenship; development of a modern dynamic environment within organizations and higher quality of actions. During the event the intellectual results produced during the project were shown. For more information, visit the website: <http://theskills.eu/>.



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17. Concluded third meeting in the UK for project EU-ACT

In the days 21 and 22 October 2019 took place in Stockton-on-Tees in United Kingdom the third meeting of the European project "EU-ACT" (action n° 2018-1-IT02-KA204-048011), approved by



Italian National Agency Indire in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The aim of this project is to develop a new kind of tourism, to promote local traditions, to pay attention on sustainability, to protect and valorize the cultural heritage, natural beauty and local culture in line with the new tourism market and tourists need. The partners are from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Germany and UK. During the meeting, which was attended by 2 members of the EURO-NET

staff, the new phases of the activities to be carried out were defined. More information on the project can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Europe-City-Teller-1552751178163969/> and on the internet website <http://www.europecitytellers.eu>.

18. Concluded training course of the project "My Community 2020"

In the period 27 October – 02 November 2019 (including travel days) took place in Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom, the training course (JSTE) planned for the project of "My Community 2020" that is an initiative approved by the UK Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education. The project aims to improve the digital skills, self-esteem and occupational skills of adult learners, as well as to encourage them to play an active role in their community as citizens. The project involves the realization of the following 3 intellectual outputs: **Design training course Digital Skills to Create Local History:**



The purpose of the training course is to create a product which combines the needs of improving digital skills, provide confidence in engaging, meeting and interviewing others, raising interest in and making an important contribution to local cultural heritage. Combining these different aspects into one training course will provide an innovative way to widen interest in local history and cultural heritage. **Development of a pilot training course:** Development of training course in order to gain an appreciation of what works well and what can be improved, as well as enabling the creation of materials for the online platform. **My Community Handbook:** The aim is to create a manual that can be used as a toolkit to effectively implement the activities developed in intellectual products 1 and 2. The European initiative can already be followed on the official Facebook page at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/My-Community-2020-893155357540688/>.

19. Concluded first meeting of the "Wir machen Europas Bürger finanzfit"



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

During the project meeting, which was attended by a delegate from our association for EURO-NET, the partners discussed the activities to be developed and defined the phases of the project to be implemented in the coming months.

20. Concluded training course for the You(th)r Culture project in Lithuania



In the days 2-9 November 2019 (including travel days) took place in Vilnius, in Lithuania, the training course entitled "You(th)r Culture" which was approved as part of the Erasmus Plus program. The course was attended by four Italian young people (over 18 years old).

21. Concluded the first meeting of the CDTMOOC project

In the days 4 and 5 November 2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, the first meeting of the project "CDTMOOC", an initiative approved by the Finnish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships. The partnership consists of: University of Turku (Finland), EURO-NET (Italy), Succubus Interactive (France), Art Square Lab (Luxembourg), MSS (Iceland). The project aims to provide new tools and methodologies in line with the modernization and complexity of the current world of work, starting from the creativity of ideas as a new competence to be developed and cultivated by students. The Potenza meeting had the purpose of discussing the creation of a free online learning platform (a so-called MOOC course) useful for operators in the education sector both in the academic and school, professional and non-formal. The design idea is based on research carried out in advance by the project partners, which shows an ever increasing need to cope with technological changes and rapid changes in the production world. In fact, an ability of the worker to manage complex information and think creatively and independently is increasingly required. During the first meeting, the partners discuss activities to get to know and better understand their organizations and organize an intense work plan that will involve the entire partnership in the next 2 years. The activities and products to be developed in the project will be based on the use of some successful methodologies (such as creative problem solving and Design Thinking) with a practical and interactive attitude, aimed at making people understand how to use these precious skills daily. The project will provide both theoretical and practical tools such as: a free online course on transversal skills based on Creative Problem Solving and Design Thinking methodologies; guides on creativity for entrepreneurship; detailed reports on the real needs in terms of innovation required by the market throughout Europe. At the end of the project, the products and results developed will be disseminated in the European Union and beyond, thanks to an attractive platform with different game elements (so-called gamification) and to the already active website (www.cdtmooc.eu) which will contain a rich database of materials and interactive guides in different languages, and also thanks to a series of seminars in each partner country to present the intellectual products created in the biennial initiative.



22. The last "Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults" ended



In the period 8-11 November took place in Istanbul, Turkey, the fifth and final meeting of the European project "Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults", that was approved by Turkish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project aimed to develop the capacities of refugees; helping their social integration, developing their skills, empowering them in conflict management, improving their living conditions, literacy, access to public services, IT and language skills, fostering intercultural

learning and physical-social development. The partnership, that developed the entire EU initiative, was composed by: Gaziantep Egitim ve Genclik Dernegi (Turkey) project coordinator; Association of citizens CEFE Macedonia Skopje (FYROM); Association for education and development of disable people (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Balkanska Agenciya za Ustoychivo Razvitie (Bulgaria). More information on the project activities is available on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/bottomupeducation>.

23. First meeting of the “Urbanities 2.0” project in Germany

In the period 18-19 November 2019 took place in Berlin, Germany the first meeting of “Urbanities 2.0”, an initiative approved as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006159 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 program Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the project meeting, in which two delegates of our association participated for EURO-NET, the partners took stock of the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be carried out in the next 3 years until August 2022.



24. Kick off meeting in Berlin of the DISACT project

In the day 20/12/2019 took place in Berlin, Germany the first meeting of “DISACT” (acronym “DA”). This initiative is approved as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006285 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education program. During the project meeting, in which two delegates of our association participated for EURO-NET, the partners examined the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months.



25. REUERHC: concluded third meeting in Romania

In the period 21-22 November 2019 took place in Arad, in Romania, the third meeting of “Reinforce EU economies, reinforcing human capital” (“REUERHC” acronyms). The partnership is composed by: Università Ca’ Foscari Venezia (Italy) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); S.C. Predict CSD Consulting S.R.L. (Romania); Pro IFALL AB (Sweden); Crossing Borders (Denmark); Kirsehir Valiligi (Turkey). The aims to: help the integration of the target group (represented by migrants and refugees); give this target group the opportunity to develop opportunities for self-employment; also help the national economies of the countries hosting migrants. In fact, the target group can become a very useful workforce mine to European countries because it would support local economies with new prosperity and new job opportunities. Since migrants and refugees represent a group that is often at risk of exclusion, the project’s primary objective is to make available, train and encourage the development of professional qualifications that help these people in their careers. In this sense, the project pursues the strategic objectives of international cooperation established in the Copenhagen process in the field of vocational education and training and follows the guidelines of the Europe 2020 strategy. Human migration is a centuries-old phenomenon that dates back to the early periods of human history and it is a complex phenomenon that affects a multiplicity of economic, social and security aspects that influence our daily life in an increasingly interconnected world. On the one hand, migration contributes to improving the lives of people moving from their countries of origin to seek a safe



and meaningful life abroad (often due to conflicts, persecutions, degradation, etc.) and on the other side, can create problems for the hosting communities. In this context, however, we must not forget that human capital coming from qualified immigrants can represent an important source of innovation in the hosting countries and can contribute, if well managed, to becoming a source of development. During the third meeting in Romania the partners took stock of the state of the art of the activities and planned the new project steps. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/ReuerhcReinforce-EUeconomies-reinforcing-human-capital-653532511711152/> or the website of the initiative at the internet address <https://reuerhc.eu/>.

26. Concluded second meeting of the "Youth Capacity" project

In the period 25-26 November 2019 took place in Alicante, Spain, the second meeting of the project "Enhancing Capacities of Youth Policy Makers Across Europe" (acronym "Youth Capacity"). It is an action approved in Italy by the National Youth Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership for Youth. (action No. 2018-2-IT03-KA205-014000). Partner of the project are the following organisations: Unione Montana Alta Langa (Italy), project coordinator; KEK TEHNIKES SHOLES EPIMELITIRIOU IRAKLEIOU (Greece);



Federación de Municipios de la Región de Murcia (Spain); AK.T.A. (Cyprus); EURO-NET (Italy). The project aims to create a network of local and regional authorities working with young people to: develop concrete strategic plans; promote the EU's youth policy agenda; plan youth activities allowing the participation and inclusion of young people in society. Policy makers and youth leaders of local and regional authorities involved in the project will be trained on: transversal skills to improve their collaboration with young people; potential sources of funding for youth

projects; youth entrepreneurship; "No-Hate Speech" campaign; opportunities available for youth volunteering. During the meeting the partners took stock of the activities already developed and planned the new project steps. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/Youth-Capacity-791315631226768/>.

27. Concluded training course for the Elblag Educators for Seniors project

In the period 25-30 November 2019 (including travel days) took place in Elbag, Poland, the first training course of the project "Elblag Educators for Seniors" (acronym acronym "EEFS"), that is an action approved in Poland in the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership for Adult Education - Good Practice Exchange. The project is aimed at senior people as well as teachers, tutors and trainers responsible for planning and developing the cultural offer for the target group. The main objective of the project is to improve the educational offer for the elderly, including original and innovative activities and workshops. Partners of the project are the following organisations: CENTRUM SPOTKAN EUROPEJSKICH SWIATOWID (Poland), project coordinator; Asociación de Innovación, Formación y Empleo para el Desarrollo sostenible (Spain); International Exchanges Berlin Molinari & Benedetti GbR (Germany); EURO-NET (Italy).



28. The first meeting of the HOPE project in Germany has ended

In the day 25/11/2019 took place in Cottbus, Germany, the first meeting of the project "Supply of High Quality Learning Opportunities for Migrant People and Enhance Social Inclusion" (acronym "HOPE"). The initiative is approved in Germany as action n. 2019-1-DE02-KA204-006479 as part of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. The project is aimed at providing new and better learning opportunities to migrants and the organizations that work with them. Project partners are the following organizations: CENTRUM FÜR INNOVATION UND TECHNOLOGIE GMBH (Germany), project coordinator; IMH C.S.C LIMITED (Cyprus); MITROPOLITIKO COLLEGE ANOYMI EKPAIDEYTIKI ETAIRIA (Greece), FOUNDATION FOR SHELTER AND SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS (Malta), BSC, POSLOVNO PODPORNI CENTER, DOO (Slovenia) and EURO-NET (Italy). During the meeting, in which participated for EURO-NET one delegate, dr. Luigi Vitelli, were defined the project activities to be carried out in the various partner countries in the next 2 years.



29. Concluded the HOPE project training course in Cottbus



In the period 26-29 November 2019 (excluding travel days) took place in Cottbus, in Germany, the first training course (SHORT TERM STAFF TRAINING) of the project HOPE attended by 3 members of EURO-NET staff. During the training course foreseen in action no. 2019-1-DE02-KA204-006479, approved by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in Germany, various study visits have been carried out and many initiatives and good practices developed in Germany have been presented to support the integration of migrants and refugees.

30. Startup weekend: our EDIC event was held on 29 November in Potenza



In the day 29/11/2019, as part of the initiatives planned for the startup weekend, our Europe Direct centre participated in the "Built together - 54h to create your startup" initiative in collaboration with many regional and national partners. The event took place at Godesk and saw young startups and aspirants involved. EURO-NET participated in the initiative with a stand to promote the opportunities offered by the European Union to start a new business and discuss with interested operators and entrepreneurs, as well as with young people looking for work or wanting to build



a future by taking advantage of European Union. The audience was mainly composed of entrepreneurs, professionals, ITC experts, students and citizens in general. The need for communication was linked to the need to promote innovation, research and investment in the sustainable future.

31. Concluded the second meeting of the m-Game project in Greece

In the 29 November 2019 took place in Larissa, Greece, the second project meeting of MOOCs for Mobile Game Development Programme " (acronym "m-Game") approved as action n. 2018-1-TR01-KA202-059731 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership For VET



(professional training) by the National Erasmus Plus Agency of Turkey. The European initiative, which sees the participation of the EURO-NET association as an Italian partner, sees an international partnership made up also of organizations from Turkey, Spain and Greece. The initiative aims to promote a training module on how to develop e-games online to allow the development of new skills in order to promote employability. The MOOC to be implemented, in fact, will provide the new learning outcomes for students with continuous, non-formal and informal training methods, also offering new solutions to teachers, trainers and tutors in the school and work environment. The project will promote open education and innovative practices in the digital age and will also support

new teaching methods and tools for both trainees and educators. It will contribute to job creation, economic growth and social cohesion in Europe. To achieve these results, the MOOC will consist of 15 modules; each lasts 4 to 10 weeks with 2 to 6 hours of study, weekly, completely free. During the meeting in Larissa, the partners took stock of the state of the art of the activities and planned the new project steps, which aims to develop, under the coordination of the prestigious Turkish university MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, a good practice that favors the access to work in the reference sector.

32. Multiplier Event of the InnovatiVET project in Potenza

In the 1st December 2019 took place in place in Potenza, Italy, at the Godesk innovation space, the Multiplier Event of the KA2 project titled "InnovatiVET". The project has now reached its last month of activity (it will finish at the end 2019) has involved the following partners: Erhvervsakademi Sydvest (Denmark); EURO-NET (Italy); FAB LAB LIMITED (UK), TURUN YLIOPISTO (Finland); MEDNARODNI CENTRO ZA PRENOS ZNANJA DOO (Slovenia). This was a project approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET (action n. 2017-1-DK01-KA202-034250) which intended to introduce new models of innovation in the VET system; explore innovation in this sector in Europe and create different orientations (interactive, practical and easy-to-use suggestions) on ways to develop truly work-oriented vocational training. The Multiplier Event intended to promote all intellectual products developed during 26 months of activity. The European initiative can already be followed on the official Facebook page:



<https://www.facebook.com/innovatiVETproject/>

33. Concluded the first meeting of the Ruralities project in Germany

In the period 2-3 December 2019 took place in Berlin, Germany, the first meeting of the project



"Ruralities". The initiative is approved in France by the National Agency as action n.2019-1-FR01-KA204-063000 under the Erasmus Plus KA2 program Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the project meeting, in which two delegates of our association participated for EURO-NET, the partners took stock of the activities to be developed

and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months.

34. Multiplier event of the project "Life Styles"

In the period 3-6 December 2019 (including travel days) took place in Timișoara, Romania, the Multiplier Event of the European project "Life Styles, Deviance and Prevention: Non Formal Education and Interdisciplinary Resources for Vulnerable Youth" that is an initiative approved by the Slovak Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. During the multiplier event, attended by various people from Italy, the products made during the project were showed to a large public. More information on the project can be found on the official Facebook page of the European initiative at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/YouthLifestyles-deviance-and-prevention-330204640941364/>.



35. Concluded the third meeting for the "Peace Lens" project

In the period 5-8 December 2019 (including travel days) took place in Copenhagen, Denmark the third meeting of the project "Peace Lens. Creation of new generation of peace promoters", approved by the Luxembourg National Agency in programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth as action n°2018-2-LU01- KA205-037345. The partnership is composed by: Lisel asbl (Luxembourg); Intercultural Youth Dialogue Association IYDA e.V. (Germany); Crossing Borders (Denmark) and obviously also EURO-NET (Italy). The aim of this project is to give to workers in youth fields a powerful tool in order to improve their professional skills and innovative methods to reach better results in their daily activities with young people. Through the game that will be developed during the project, this youth operators will both improve their teaching competencies, therefore they will satisfy better young people needs, and also will be able to work with intergenerational and intercultural groups. During the project meeting, in which two delegates of our association participated for EURO-NET, the partners took stock of the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow project activities on the Facebook page available on the following web link <https://www.facebook.com/PeaceLens-351960512225188/>.

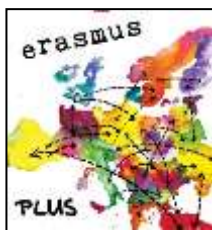


36. The kick of meeting in London for the IntegrateMe project has ended

In the period 9-10 December 2019 took place in London, United Kingdom, the first meeting of the European project "IntegrateME: The development of a VET Open Educational Resource on Cultural Literacy towards the integration of immigrants and refugees in the EU in the frames of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development focus of "leaving no one behind" (acronym "IntegrateME!"). The initiative approved as 2019-1-UK01-KA202-062109 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET program. During the project meeting, in which three delegates of our association participated for EURO-NET, the partners took stock of the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months.



37. Concluded the training course "VOLU.M.E." in Germany



In the period 7-14 December 2019 took place in Weimar, Germany, the training course of the European project "Volunteer Management Enhanced in European Solidarity Volunteering Projects". The aim of the course was to improve skills in the management of European volunteers; develop tools or documentation that will be implemented in ongoing volunteering projects and therefore improve the quality of the learning process; acquire greater competence in tutoring and learning the development of volunteers; have a broader and deeper vision of volunteering projects and what they can create at community / society level. The partnership is composed of: Politistiko Ergastiri Ayion Omoloyiton (CY), Stiftung Europäische Jugendbildungs- und Jugendbegegnungsstätte Weimar (DE), Asociatia Pro Vobis - Centrul National de Resurse pentru Voluntariat (RO), EURO-NET (IT), Socialna Akodija - Za Izobrazevanje, Raziskovanje In Kulturo (SI), Hors Pistes (FR), Kinoniki Sinetairistiki Epicherisielliniki Symmetochi Neon (GR), Social Youth Development Civil Nonprofit Society (GR), Centrum Wspolpracy Mlodziezy (PL), Örebro kommun, Ung Arena (SWE) , Team for Youth Association (RO). For our association, three boys participated in the training course.

38. DESK project: the third meeting in Potenza has ended

In the day 11/12/2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, the third meeting of the project "An Adult Digital education Skills Kit to Foster Employability" (acronym DESK) that is an initiative approved as action n. 2018-1-EL01-KA204-047819 by the Greek National Agency Erasmus Plus in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education. The partnership is composed by: MPIRMPAKOS D. & SIA O.E. (Greece) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); MECB (Malta); Media Creativa 2020, S.L. (Spain); Universitatea Politehnica Din Bucuresti (Romania); Evropska rozvojova agentura, s.r.o. (Czech Republic); Archon sp. z.o.o. (Poland). During the meeting, the partners took stock of the intellectual output activities developed in these months and defined the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. More details on the project can be read on the following official project's Facebook page at the internet link: <https://www.facebook.com/DESK362474434309114/>.



39. MoW project steps: concluded the sixth meeting in Potenza

In the period 12-13 December 2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, the sixth project meeting of "MORE THAN WORDS - integrating creativity in intercultural training" (acronym "MoW") approved as action n. 2017-1-UK01-KA204-036613 in the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education program by the UK National Agency. During the meeting the partners took stock of the activities developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. This initiative will last 3 years and the partner are: EURO-NET (Italy), Border Crossings Company Limited (UK), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Integralt Kifejezes- es Tancterapias Egyesulet (Hungary), Association des Égyptiens au Luxembourg (Luxembourg), Stowarzyszenie "Dla Ziemi" (Poland) e Network African Rural and Urban Development e.V. (Germany). The European initiative, which is aimed at improving the intercultural communication and training skills of educators, social workers and all those engaged as professionals or artists in supporting integration and inclusion of migrants and other ethnic minorities, can be followed either on the web site <http://www.motw.eu/> or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MoThWor/>.



40. Multiplier event "Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults"

In the day 14/12/2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, at the institute's Einstein-De Lorenzo, the Multiplier Event of the European project "Experiential Pedagogy Of The Oppressed For Adults", that was approved by Turkish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project partnership was composed by: Gaziantep Egitim ve Genclik Dernegi (Turkey) as project coordinator; Association of citizens CEFE Macedonia Skopje (FYROM); Association for education and development of disable people (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Balkanska Agenciya za Ustoychivo Razvitie (Bulgaria). The project aimed to develop the capacities of refugees; helping their social integration, developing their skills, empowering them in conflict management, improving their living conditions, literacy, access to public services, IT and language skills, fostering intercultural learning and physical-social development. The final aim of the Italian multiplier event entitled **"National Seminar about Adult Education for Refugees and Tool Fair"** in English was to promote knowledge of the entire project and, especially, of the 2 intellectual products developed thanks to the Erasmus Plus program in the initiative (a report international on the educational needs of refugees and a guide for educators). In particular, the project developed a free manual containing concrete working methods and practices that are very useful for those who work in the sector. These methodologies have been tested in 2 training courses, one of which in Turkey (in November 2018) and another in Macedonia (in July 2019). This guide was produced in English and in all the languages of the partnership (Turkish, Italian, Greek, Bulgarian and Macedonian) to be distributed free of charge to all interested parties and to serve as an operating tool-kit. More information on the project activities is available on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/bottomupeducation>.



41. IOT for Everyone: concluded the third meeting in Poland

In the days 15 and 16 December 2019 took place in Krakow, the third meeting of the project "Internet Rzeczy dla każdego" (in English "IoT for everyone"), an initiative approved in Poland as action n.2018-1-PL01-KA204-051035 in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. The project partners are: Antares Foundation (Poland), project coordinator; HIRD (Tunisia); Fundación Cibervoluntarios (Spain); EURO-NET (Italy). The project includes 4 meetings to be held respectively in the project partner countries with two participants per meeting for each partner organization. During the project meeting in Poland, in which two delegates of EURO-NET participated, the partners took stock of the activities developed and defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. More information can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lot-for-Everyone-Erasmus-project-426230398158902/>.



42. Concluded the third meeting of the project “Creative Training”

In the days 16-19 December took place in Amsterdam, Holland, the third meeting of the project "Creativity training for Europe" that is an initiative approved by the Erasmus Plus Spanish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the meeting the participants took stock of the activities to be developed in the coming months. The project partners, coming from 5 different countries, namely Spain (Academia Postal 3 Vigo SL), Italy (EURO-NET), Holland (Stichting Amsterdam European Mobility), UK (Lancaster and Morecambe College), and Cyprus (A & A Emphasys Interactive Solutions Ltd), will have to work on different intellectual output directed to promote creativity opportunities. More details on the project are available on the web page: <https://creativitytrainingproject.netsons.org/>.



43. BIM: fourth meeting in Madrid

In the period 3-4 January 2020 will take place in Madrid, Spain, the fourth meeting of the project "Borders in the Mind" (acronym "BIM"), approved in Spain in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project proposes modern and relevant reception services designed by residents of local communities to inform visitors. The main objective of the project is to devise and provide innovative, practical and relevant tools and methodologies to promote tolerance and celebrate difference and identity. The project is also exploring the intangible cultural heritage, observing how current cultural beliefs, traditions and lifestyles have been influenced and continue to be influenced by events in our past, even though many people are unaware of it. During the project meeting, in which some delegates of our association will participate for EURO-NET, the partners will take stock of the activities to be developed and define the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. Partner of the project are the following organisations: Interacting S.L. (Spain), project coordinator; Youth Power (Cyprus); EURASIA NET (France); Youth Center of Epirus (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Stichting chain foundation (The Netherlands); THE NERVE CENTRE (UK). More information are available on the Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Borders-in-the-Mind-2227951067468445/?modal=admin_todo_tour.



44. E + Round Trip: third project meeting in London

In the period 25-26 January 2020 will take place in Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom, the third meeting of the project "E+ Round Trip Online Preparation for Young People" that is an initiative approved by the Romanian National Agency Erasmus Plus in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. The partnership is composed by: S.C. Predict Csd Consulting S.R.L. (Romania) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Dacorum Council For Voluntary Service LTD (UK); Asociatia Millennium Center Arad (Romania); Grobes Schiff (Austria). The project wants to create a more modern, dynamic, committed and professional environment for young people. The main objectives are: create an online pre-departure course tested by 150 young people and created for future European volunteers; improve the preparation of 150 young people for potential future youth exchanges; increase the valorisation skills of 150 people - participants in the online form and potential participants in experiences abroad. The "E+ ROUND TRIP" platform, hosting innovative and practical online tools for orientation and preparation, useful in all kinds of projects devoted to working with youth (youth exchanges, EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERING) will also function as database for future actions. This online platform will use participatory approaches and ICT-based methodologies to create or improve processes of recognition and validation of competences of young people. During the meeting, the partners will take stock of the activities to be developed in the coming months and define the steps of the project to be carried out. You can already follow the development of the activities on the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/eplusroundtrip/>.



45. Concluded the second training course of the project LWRMI

In the period 12-16 November 2019 took place in Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom, the second training course (JSTE) planned for the project "Let's Work for a Real Migrants Inclusion" (acronym LWRMI), approved in Italy of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project focuses on the exchange of good practices between seven bodies from five different countries (Italy, Bulgaria, Turkey, England and Greece), to try to find solutions to the problem of refugees and migrants.. You can follow the project activities on the website <http://migrantinclusion.eu>.



46. Migrant in Fashion: concluded third meeting in Luxembourg



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

47. Concluded the first meeting of the Foster Social Inclusion project

In the days 28-29 November 2019 (including travel days) took place in Krakow, Poland, the first meeting of the project "Foster Social Inclusion: volunteering, social entrepreneurship and art for social inclusion"(acronym Foster Social Inclusion), an initiative approved by the Polish National Agency as action n. 2019-1-PL01-KA204-065375 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. During the project meeting, to which for the association Youth Europe Service of Potenza (which is an Italian member of the European consortium that will manage the initiative) a special delegate participated, the partners took stock of the activities to be developed and were defined the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months, as well as the official logo just created.



48. VET4MIGRE: concluded fifth and last meeting in Italy

In the days 3-4 December 2019 took place in Potenza, Italy, the fifth and last meeting of the project VET4MIGRE, an initiative approved under the Erasmus Plus KA2 programme. The project started from the result of a research conducted by the European Commission and from the observation of the difficult situation that migrants and refugees encounter in the destination countries. The project tried to include migrants in the European economy by fostering the strengthening of ICT and innovation skills; the improvement of soft skills and competences, the promotion and exchange of good practices and the development of situations that facilitate better integration. More information on the official website <https://www.vet4migre.eu/> and on Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Vet4Migre/>.



49. First meeting of the MEM project

Today 20 December 2019 took place in Karditsa, Greece, the first meeting of the "Modern Educational Methods" project (acronym "MEM"). This is an initiative approved as action n. 2019-1-EL01-KA204-062923 as part of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. During the meeting of the project, of which the Youth Europe Service is the Italian partner, the partners organize the activities to be developed and define the steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months.



50. Fourth meeting in Greece for the "IMPROVE" project

In the days 7-8 January 2020 will take place in Larissa, Greece, the fourth meeting of the project "Innovative Metodologies and PRactices on VET" (acronym "IMPROVE") approved by the UK Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET as action n.2018-1-UK01-KA202-047912. During the meeting the partners, including the Youth Europe Service association, will take stock of the activities developed in recent months and will define the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the project activities on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/Innovative-Metodologies-and-PRactices-On-VEt-406262400174556/> or on the website <https://www.improveproject.eu/>.



51. Third meeting of the PAESIC project

In the days 9-10 January 2020 will take place in Volos, Greece, the third meeting of the project "Pedagogical Approaches for Enhanced Social Inclusion in the Classroom" (acronym "PAESIC") approved in Denmark under the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for school education as action n. 2018-1- DK01-KA201-047100 (ID n.KA201-2018- 019). The project is aimed at creating tools aimed at teachers and trainers to facilitate the inclusion of migrant and refugee students in European schools and also to foster mutual understanding and respect among young people in the classroom and build a more cohesive and inclusive European society. The project involves partners from the following countries: Denmark, Germany, Greece and Italy. During the meeting the partners will take stock of the activities developed in recent months and define the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the project on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/paesic/>.



52. 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 2020. Merry Christmas... and Happy New Year!

