



EURO-NET

The Youth European Network



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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



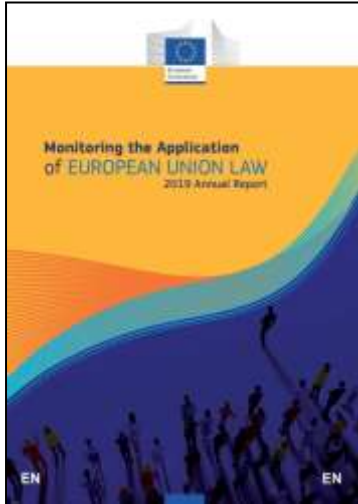
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1. Member States' compliance with EU law in 2019: more work needed

The Annual Report on Monitoring the Application of EU Law sets out how the Commission monitored and enforced EU law in 2019, and the performance of Member States in various policy areas.

The effective enforcement of EU law matters to citizens as it upholds the rights and benefits that they derive from EU law, which otherwise they would be denied. It also matters to businesses in



order ensure a level-playing field across the internal market. While the number of open infringement cases remained stable over the past year, the number of new infringement cases increased by over 20% compared to the previous year. Luxembourg, Estonia and Lithuania had the fewest number new opened cases for incorrect transposition or wrong application of EU law in 2019, whereas Spain, Italy and Greece faced the highest number. The Commission continued to enforce firmly the rules across all policy fields while prioritising the areas which have the highest impact on the everyday lives of people and businesses. Some of the main policy areas targeted were environment, internal market, industry, entrepreneurship and SMEs, and transport and mobility. Together these represented half of all cases. For example, it took action against three Member States for excessive air pollution, and against five Member States which failed to ensure equivalent access for disabled users to the 112 single European emergency number.

The enforcement of EU law is based on cooperation. That is why the European Commission actively supports Member States in implementing EU law through guidance and dialogue. In 2019, it put particular focus on supporting national and regional authorities in implementing rules on waste management, air quality, energy efficiency, agricultural markets and gender equality.

Combatting late transposition of EU directives

For citizens and businesses to reap the benefits of EU law, it is crucial that Member States transpose European Directives into their national legal order within the agreed deadlines. Over half of all infringement proceedings in 2019 were related to the late transposition of directives, although the number went down slightly (from 419 cases in 2018 to 406 in 2019). In comparison, the highest number of new late transposition cases in the last five years was in 2016 (847 cases). To facilitate timely and correct transposition, the Commission continued to assist Member States by preparing implementation plans, dedicated websites and guidance documents, and by exchanging best practices in expert group meetings. Concerning late transposition cases, Bulgaria, Belgium, Greece and Cyprus had the highest number of new cases opened against them, whereas the fewest were open against Denmark, Italy and Lithuania. The Commission continued to bring late transposition infringement cases to the Court of Justice with a request for daily penalties under Article 260(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the Europe Union (TFEU). Last year, the Commission referred Spain to the Court of Justice of the EU requesting financial penalties be applied (case C-658-19). In its judgment of 8 July 2019 in *Commission v Belgium*, the Court of Justice applied for the first time the sanctions scheme of Article 260(3) TFEU. It imposed a daily penalty on Belgium (case C-543/17) for failure to adopt and communicate all the measures necessary for the transposition of the Directive on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communications networks.

Background

Following a request made in 1984 by the European Parliament, the European Commission presents every year a report on the monitoring of application of EU law during the preceding year. The European Parliament then adopts a resolution on the Commission's report. As a matter of priority, the Commission targets problems where its enforcement action can make a real difference and benefit individuals and businesses. In the division of responsibilities between the European institutions, the European Commission has the general responsibility of initiating the legislative process. The Council and the European Parliament decide on the Commission's proposals. The Member States are responsible for the timely and correct application, implementation and enforcement of EU law in the national legal order. The Commission closes this circle: once proposals are adopted and become EU law, it monitors whether the Member States are applying this law correctly and takes action if they are not. Upholding the rule of law is one of the political priorities of the von der Leyen Commission.

2. EU Security Union Strategy: a new security ecosystem

The European Commission sets out a new EU Security Union Strategy for the period 2020 to 2025, focusing on priority areas where the EU can bring value to support Member States in fostering security for all those living in Europe.

From combatting terrorism and organised crime, to preventing and detecting hybrid threats and increasing the resilience of our critical infrastructure, to promoting cybersecurity and fostering research and innovation, the strategy lays out the tools and measures to be developed over the next 5 years to ensure security in our physical and digital environment. Margaritis **Schinas**, Vice-

President for Promoting our European Way of Life, said: *"Security is a cross-cutting issue which goes into almost every sphere of life and affects a multitude of policy areas. With the new EU Security Union Strategy, we are connecting all the dots to build a real security ecosystem. It is time to overcome the false dichotomy between online and offline, between digital and physical and between internal and external security concerns and threats. From protecting our critical infrastructure to fighting cybercrime and countering hybrid threats, we can*



leave no stone unturned when it comes to our security. This strategy will serve as an umbrella framework for our security policies, which must always be fully grounded in our common values." Ylva **Johansson**, Commissioner for Home Affairs, said: *"Knowing you are safe, online, in public, in your home, for your children, builds trust and cohesion in society. With Security Union Strategy, we focus on areas where the EU can make a difference in protecting people throughout Europe, anticipating and tackling evolving threats. In the coming years, my work on the EU's internal security will build a system that delivers, starting with action on child sexual abuse, drugs and illegal firearms."* This strategy lays out 4 strategic priorities for action at EU level:

1. A future-proof security environment

Individuals rely on **key infrastructures**, online and offline, to travel, work or benefit from essential public services; and attacks on such infrastructures can cause huge disruptions. Preparedness and resilience are key for quick recovery. The Commission will put forward **new EU rules on the protection and resilience of critical infrastructure**, physical and digital. Recent terrorist attacks have focused on **public spaces**, including places of worship and transport hubs, exploiting their open and accessible nature. The Commission will promote **stepped up public-private cooperation** in this area, to ensure stronger physical protection of public places and adequate detection systems. Cyberattacks have become more frequent and sophisticated. By the end of the year, the Commission should complete the review of the **Network and Information Systems Directive** (the main European cybersecurity legislation) and outline strategic cybersecurity priorities to ensure the EU can anticipate and respond to evolving threats. In addition, the Commission has also identified the need for a **Joint Cyber Unit** as a platform for structured and coordinated cooperation. Lastly, the EU should continue building and maintaining **robust international partnerships** to further prevent, deter and respond to cyberattacks, as well as promote EU standards to increase the cybersecurity of partner countries.

2. Tackling evolving threats

Criminals increasingly exploit technological developments to their ends, with malware and data theft on the rise. The Commission will make sure that **existing EU rules against cybercrime** are fit for purpose and correctly implemented, and will explore **measures against identity theft**. The Commission will look into measures to **enhance law enforcement capacity in digital investigations**, making sure they have adequate tools, techniques and skills. These would include artificial intelligence, big data and high performance computing into security policy. Concrete action is needed to tackle core threats to citizens, such as terrorism, extremism or child sexual abuse, under a framework ensuring the respect of fundamental rights. The Commission is putting **a strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse online**. Countering **hybrid threats** that aim to weaken social cohesion and undermine trust in institutions, as well as enhancing EU resilience are an important element of the Security Union Strategy. Key measures include **an EU approach** on countering hybrid threats, from early detection, analysis, awareness, building resilience and prevention to crisis response and

consequence management – mainstreaming hybrid considerations into broader policy-making. The Commission and the High Representative will continue to jointly take forward this work, in close cooperation with **strategic partners**, notably **NATO** and **G7**.

3. Protecting Europeans from terrorism and organised crime

Fighting terrorism starts with addressing the polarisation of society, discrimination and other factors that can reinforce people's vulnerability to radical discourse. The work on **anti-radicalisation** will focus on early detection, resilience building and disengagement, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration in society. In addition to fighting root causes, effective prosecution of terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters, will be essential – to achieve this, steps are under way to strengthen border security legislation and better use of existing databases. **Cooperation with non-EU countries** and international organisations will also be key in the fight against terrorism, for instance to cut off all sources of terrorism financing. **Organised crime** comes at huge costs for victims, as well as for the economy, with €218 to €282 billion estimated to be lost every year. Key **measures** include an **Agenda for tackling organised crime**, including **trafficking in human beings** for next year. More than a third of organised crime groups active in the EU are involved in trafficking illicit drugs. The Commission putting forward a **new EU Agenda on Drugs** to strengthen efforts on drug demand and supply reduction, and reinforce cooperation with external partners. Organised crime groups and terrorists are also key players in the trade of illegal firearms. The Commission is presenting a **new EU Action Plan against firearms trafficking**. To ensure that crime does not pay, the Commission will review the current framework on **seizing criminals' assets**. Criminal organisations treat migrants and people in need of international protection as a commodity. The



Commission will soon put forward a new EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling focussing on combatting criminal networks, boosting cooperation and support the work of law enforcement.

4. A strong European security ecosystem

Governments, law enforcement authorities, businesses, social organisations, and those living in Europe all have a common responsibility in fostering security. The EU will help promote cooperation and information sharing, with the aim to combat crime and pursue justice. Key measures

include strengthening Europol's mandate and further developing Eurojust to better link judicial and law enforcement authorities. Working with partners outside of the EU is also crucial to secure information and evidence. **Cooperation with Interpol** will also be reinforced. **Research and innovation** are powerful tools to counter threats and to anticipate risks and opportunities. As part of the review of Europol's mandate, the Commission will look into the creation of a **European Innovation hub for internal security**. Skills and increased awareness can benefit both law enforcement and citizens alike. Even a **basic knowledge of security threats** and how to combat them can have a real impact on society's resilience. Consciousness of the risks of cybercrime and basic skills to protect oneself from it can work together with protection from service providers to counter cyber-attacks. The **European Skills Agenda**, adopted on 1 July 2020, supports skills-building throughout life, including in the area of security.

Background

In recent years, new, increasingly complex cross-border and cross-sectorial security threats have emerged, highlighting the need for closer cooperation on security at all levels. The coronavirus crisis has also put European security into sharp focus, testing the resilience of Europe's critical infrastructure, crisis preparedness and crisis management systems. President von der Leyen's political guidelines called for improved cooperation to protect all those living in Europe. The EU Security Union Strategy maps the priority actions, tools and measures to deliver on that objective, both in the physical and in the digital world, and across all parts of society. The strategy builds upon progress achieved previously under the Commission's European Agenda on Security 2015-2020 and focuses on priorities endorsed by the European Parliament and the Council. It also recognises the increasing inter-connection between internal and external security. Many work strands will build on a joined up EU approach and implementation of the strategy will be taken forward in full complementarity and coherence with EU external action in the field of security and defence under the responsibility of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The Commission will regularly report on the progress made and will keep the European Parliament, the Council and stakeholders fully informed and engaged in all relevant actions.

3. Making capital markets work for Europe's recovery

The European Commission has adopted a Capital Markets Recovery Package, as part of the Commission's overall coronavirus recovery strategy.

On 28 April, the Commission had already proposed a Banking Package to facilitate bank lending to households and businesses throughout the EU. The measures aim to make it easier for capital markets to support European businesses to recover from the crisis. The package proposes targeted changes to capital market rules, which will encourage greater investments in the economy, allow for the rapid re-capitalisation of companies and increase banks' capacity to finance the recovery.

Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that works for the people said: *"We are continuing with our efforts to help EU citizens and businesses during the coronavirus crisis and the subsequent recovery. One way of doing so is to help businesses raise capital on public markets. The targeted amendments will make it easier for our businesses to get the funding they need and to invest in our economy. Capital markets are vital to the recovery, because public financing alone will not be enough to get our economies back on track.*



We will present a wider Capital Markets Union Action Plan in September." The package contains targeted adjustments to the Prospectus Regulation, MiFID II and securitisation rules. All of the amendments are at the heart of the Capital Markets Union project aimed at better integrating national capital markets and ensuring equal access to investments and funding opportunities across the EU.

Targeted amendments to the prospectus regime - EU Recovery Prospectus: Easy to produce – Easy to read – Easy to scrutinise

A prospectus is a document that companies need to disclose to their investors when they issue shares and bonds. The Commission proposing to create an "EU Recovery Prospectus" – a type of short-form prospectus – for companies that have a track record in the public market. This temporary prospectus would be easy to produce for companies, easy to read for investors, and easy to scrutinise for national competent authorities. It would cut down the length of prospectuses from hundreds of pages to just 30 pages. This will help companies to raise capital – such as shares - instead of going deeper into debt. A second set of targeted amendments to the Prospectus Regulation aims at facilitating fundraising by banks that play an essential role in financing the recovery of the real economy.

Targeted amendments to the MiFID II requirements for European firms

The Commission proposing to make some targeted amendments to MiFID II requirements, in order to reduce some of the administrative burdens that experienced investors face in their business-to-business relationships. Lesser-experienced investors (such as households investing their savings for retirement) will remain just as protected as before. These amendments refer to a number of requirements that were already identified (during the MiFID/MiFIR public consultation) as being overly burdensome or hindering the development of European markets. The current crisis makes it even more important to alleviate unnecessary burdens and provide opportunities to nascent markets. The Commission therefore proposes to recalibrate requirements to ensure that there is a high level of transparency towards the client, while also ensuring the highest standards of protection and acceptable compliance costs for European firms. In parallel, the Commission opened a public consultation on amendments to the MiFID II delegated directive to increase the research coverage regime for small and mid-cap issuers and for bonds. In particular, SMEs need a good level of investment research to give them enough visibility to attract new investors. We are also proposing to amend the MiFID rules affecting energy derivatives markets. This is intended to help the development of euro-denominated energy markets – important for the international role of the euro – as well as allow European companies to cover their risks, while safeguarding the integrity of commodity markets, especially for agricultural products.

Targeted amendments to securitisation rules

The Commission proposing a package of measures amending the Securitisation Regulation and the Capital Requirements Regulation. Securitisation is a tool through which banks can bundle

loans, turn them into securities, and sell them onto capital markets. The aim of these changes is to facilitate the use of securitisation in Europe's recovery by enabling banks to expand their lending and to free their balance sheets of non-performing exposures. It is helpful to let banks transfer some of the risk of SME (small and medium-sized enterprises) loans to the markets so that they can keep lending to SMEs. In particular, the Commission proposes creating a specific framework for simple, transparent and standardised on-balance-sheet securitisation that would benefit from a prudential treatment reflecting the actual riskiness of these instruments. In addition, the Commission proposes to remove existing regulatory obstacles to the securitisation of non-performing exposures. This can help banks offload non-performing exposures that can be expected to grow because of the coronavirus crisis. The changes are based on extensive work and analysis carried out by the European Banking Authority in 2019 and 2020.



4. Initiatives to fight child sexual abuse, drugs and illegal firearm

The Commission is presenting 3 immediate initiatives to implement the Security Union Strategy: an EU strategy for a more effective fight against child abuse; a new EU Agenda and Action Plan on Drugs and an EU Action Plan on firearms trafficking.

These threats all require resolute EU-level action as they are cross-border in nature and active both online and offline. They have also been worsened by the coronavirus pandemic, particularly child sexual abuse, demonstrably exacerbated by physical isolation and increased online activity. Fighting drug and firearms trafficking is key to action against organised crime, a top internal security priority across Europe. Vice-President for promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinias**, said: *"Unlike many who have suffered economically from the pandemic, for organised criminals business is booming. Those who profit from causing misery and harm from sales of illicit drugs and firearms or who disseminate heinous child sexual abuse material must be stopped and brought to justice. Internal security is a central pillar of the EU's Security Union Strategy to protect Europeans and promote our way of life and with these three initiatives we are immediately transforming strategic vision into concrete action."* Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva **Johansson**, said: *"Child abuse and sexual abuse online is a repulsive crime. The coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated the problem. I can announce we will propose legislation to require online platforms to detect and report sharing of this illegal content. We will also look into the possible creation of a new European centre to prevent and counter child sexual abuse so that Europe can continue to lead in fighting abuse. At the same time, we are putting forward concrete actions to reinforce our fight against illicit drug and firearms trafficking, both of which are poisons to our society."*



EU strategy for a more effective fight against child sexual abuse

It is estimated that 1 in 5 children are victim to some form of sexual violence in Europe. There are indications that the coronavirus crisis has served to exacerbate the problem for many children living with abusers, while reports of online child sexual abuse in the EU have increased from 23,000 in 2010 to more than 725,000 in 2019. Europol found that the coronavirus pandemic correlates with increased sharing of abuse images online. To complement and improve existing EU activities in protecting children from sexual abuse, and to address new challenges such as unforeseen risks of end-to-end encryption, the Commission is putting forward a new strategy to fight child sexual abuse both offline and online. The strategy proposes **a number of initiatives** for 2020-2025 that focus on:

- **Better coordination** by immediately launching a study to work towards possibly creating a new **European Centre** on child sexual abuse. The centre would build upon best practices from similar centres around the world, such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in the US, and it could receive reports of child abuse from companies, support prevention and help assist victims. In addition, cooperation with industry can continue through

the EU Internet Forum and improving protection of children globally by promoting multi-stakeholder cooperation through the WePROTECT Global Alliance to End Child Sexual Exploitation Online is also a priority.

- **Prevention**, addressing the fact that research into what motivates people to offend is scarce and fragmented, and the communication between research and practitioners is minimal. The Commission will work on setting up a **prevention network**, to support stronger research-practice links (especially on programmes for people who may fear they might offend) and create focused awareness-raising campaigns and media material.
- **A strong legal framework** that includes complete implementation of existing EU legislation on combating sexual abuse and exploitation of children (Directive 2011/93); identifying legislative gaps, best practices and priority actions; and considering new legislation, particularly to require online service providers to detect and report known sexual abuse material to public authorities.
- **Strengthened law enforcement response** including an **Innovation Hub and Lab** to be set up by Europol; working towards the creation of a European Centre to counter child sexual abuse and funding to develop digital capabilities of law enforcement authorities in Member States.

The new EU Agenda and Action Plan on Drugs 2021-2025

The illicit drug market has an estimated retail value of €30 billion per year in Europe alone. The social cost on lives, livelihoods and public health is untold. Drug availability and production in the EU remains high and in our interconnected world, the involvement of organised criminal groups



mean that the drug phenomenon is increasingly global. This requires better coordinated action to address the security and health implications of drug trafficking and drug use to better protect Europeans. The new EU Agenda and Action Plan on Drugs 2021-2025 sets out the political framework and priorities for action in the next 5 years and include **a number of strategic priorities of the EU Agenda on Drugs**. The main focus of the Agenda will be: **enhanced security measures** that

focus on all aspects of illicit trafficking of drugs from organised crime groups to external border management and illicit distribution and production; **increased prevention** including awareness raising of the adverse effects of drugs, notably the intersection between drug use, violence and other forms of criminality; and **addressing drug related harms** through access to treatment, risk and harm reduction, and a balanced approach to the issue of drugs in prisons. The EU Agenda and Action Plan on Drugs will **reinforce the evidence-based, integrated and balanced approach to demand and supply reduction of drugs**, through a comprehensive, multidisciplinary lens that covers the scientific, environmental, socio-political, technological and international dimensions of the issue, while considering the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the drug phenomenon.

The new Action Plan on firearms trafficking

The proliferation and availability of illicit firearms increase the danger posed by serious and organised crime, including terrorist attacks and is often linked to illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, smuggling of migrants, counterfeiting, environmental crime or organised property crime. The EU has been coordinating activities to counter firearms trafficking for several years, but new threats continue to emerge that require new actions. The new Action Plan on firearms trafficking focusses on 4 priorities:

- **Securing the legal framework** to reduce risks of diversion of firearms from the legal to the black market;
- **Improving knowledge of the threat**, addressing the lack of comparable statistics on firearms events and seizures across the EU;
- **Reinforcing law enforcement** to stop the traffickers;
- **Stepping up international cooperation**, with a strong set of activities focusing on south-east Europe.

Background

These initiatives adopted are part of the **Security Union Strategy**. The objective is to create a multidisciplinary, coordinated and integrated approach to security. This strategy sets out strategic and inter-dependent priorities on security to be taken forward at EU level in 2020-2025.

5. Coronavirus: EC strengthens preparedness for future outbreaks

The Commission has presented immediate short-term measures to strengthen EU health preparedness for COVID-19 outbreaks.

The Commission has from the outset coordinated the exchange of information and recommendations with regard to cross border health actions and measures. A continued vigilance and fast response from the Commission and the Member States is essential to ensure that the spread of the virus can be contained and new, generalised lockdowns can be avoided. The Communication focuses on all necessary actions needed to enhance preparedness, including testing and contact tracing, improved public health surveillance and widened access to medical countermeasures such as personal protective equipment, medicines and medical devices. Actions also include measures on healthcare surge capacity, non-pharmaceutical countermeasures, support to minorities and vulnerable persons, and activities to reduce the burden of seasonal influenza. The communication lays out a number of priority actions for national authorities, the Commission and EU Agencies: **Increased testing coverage, contact tracing and surveillance** by public health bodies to map clusters in order to contain the spread of outbreaks. In addition to the Communication, the Commission adopted an Implementing Decision to support interoperability of mobile tracing and warning apps across national borders in the EU. Ensuring the smooth supply of **personal protective equipment, medicines and medical devices** through mechanisms such as emergency joint procurements and strategic EU stockpiles. Maintaining rapid access to **public health surge capacities** without neglecting other areas of healthcare, including through financial support for the transport of medical personnel and patients between Member States and the coordination of the deployment of emergency medical teams and equipment to requesting countries through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Provision of targeted and localised **non-pharmaceutical measures**, informed by research and evidence as well as timely information exchange on the effectiveness of re-introduced measures. **Supporting vulnerable groups** such as the elderly, those with underlying medical conditions and those on the margins of society **through sharing best practices of testing, care, and treatment, including in mental health and psychosocial support.** **Reducing the burden of seasonal flu** to avoid additional pressure on the already-stretched health care systems, through increased vaccination coverage and other means such as ensuring additional national procurements for influenza vaccines.



Members of the College said:

Margaritis **Schinas**, Vice-President for Promoting the European Way of Life, said: *"We now know more about the virus but our duty is to remain vigilant and preventive. The set of measures presented aim to counter further possible outbreaks of COVID-19. Drawing on the lessons of the past months we are planning ahead to avoid improvisation, reinforcing our preparedness on all fronts, preserving the single market and its main freedoms, and facilitating the path towards economic and social recovery across the EU."* Stella **Kyriakides**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, said: *"We have come a long way from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic but the virus is still circulating. Vigilance, preparedness and coordination are indispensable to prevent generalised outbreaks. We call for strong and joint action to protect our citizens and will support Member States in doing so. It is our responsibility to ensure that we are fully prepared. Now is not the time to let our guard down."*

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has put unparalleled pressure across the EU and indeed around the world. Many countries had to face widespread transmission of the virus in the community. The EU and its Member States have introduced measures to mitigate social and economic impacts, such as maintaining the functioning of the internal market, supporting the transport and tourism sectors, protecting employment and supporting medical care services for vulnerable groups. The Commission has also issued recommendations on travel and border measures necessary to protect the health of our citizens while also preserving the internal market. Member States are increasingly coordinating their response, which is absolutely vital in ensuring that the epidemiological situation remains low across the EU. The public health measures taken by the

countries helped to decrease the numbers of new infections to a level that was manageable by health systems. This in turn allowed the progressive lifting of the various restrictions imposed and the reopening of most activities, guided by the European roadmap to lifting of coronavirus measures. The virus does not stop at EU borders. The Commission will continue to coordinate with other global actors, including the UN and WHO, to ensure the required international response to this global health threat, including equitable access to a COVID-19 vaccine.

6. New survey shows EU citizens are more aware of their rights

A new Eurobarometer survey on EU Citizenship and Democracy released by the European Commission shows that a vast majority of Europeans (91%) are familiar with the term “citizen of the European Union”.

This is the highest level of awareness yet since 2007 and a steady increase from 87% recorded in 2015. Most Europeans are well informed about their electoral rights – at national and European



levels. The European Commission is also launching a public consultation on EU Citizenship Rights. Vice-President for Values and Transparency, Věra **Jourová** said: “*I am happy to see that more and more Europeans are aware of their EU citizenship rights: the right to reside in another Member State, to be treated equally regardless of their nationality or to vote and stand in EU elections. But citizens also need to know how to protect those rights when they are not respected. I want to empower European citizens, so that they can fully benefit from what Europe has to*

offer. Commissioner for Justice and Consumers, Didier **Reynders**, said, “*Fostering EU citizenship and participation in democratic life remains one of the Commission's highest priorities. It is therefore very encouraging to see that an overwhelming majority of Europeans know what being a citizen of the European Union means concretely. The European Commission is equally committed to ensuring that citizens can continue enjoying all the rights that EU citizenship gives them. This holds particularly true in COVID-19 times, where we have to be extra vigilant to protect citizen's rights.*” **Main findings of EU Citizenship and Democracy survey**

1. High level of awareness of EU citizenship rights

According to the survey, more than six in ten Europeans (65%) are aware of the term “*citizenship of the European Union*” and know what it means, while almost one in three (26%) have heard about it. Citizens are particularly aware about the right to make a complaint to the European Union institutions (89%), the right to reside in any Member State of the EU (85%) and when in another Member State, the right to be treated in the same way as a national of that Member State (81%). Although a number of Europeans, who know what to do when their rights as an EU citizen are not respected, is steadily growing only 37% feel well informed. This represents an 11 percentage point increase from 26% recorded in 2015. Finally, 92% of respondents said that if they were in a country outside the EU with no consulate or embassy from their own country and needed help, they would seek support from an EU Delegation.

2. Overall benefits of free movement in the EU

When asked about free movement, 84% of respondents said they think the free movement of EU citizens within the European Union brings overall benefits to the economy of their country. This shows a 13 percentage points rise since 2015, when 71% citizens recognised the benefits of the free movement. This Eurobarometer was carried out before the COVID-19 lockdown measures were introduced in majority of Member States.

3. Good knowledge of EU electoral rights

The Eurobarometer also included questions on the electoral rights of the EU citizens. Just over seven in ten respondents (71%) know that a European citizen living in different EU country than the country of his/her origin has the right to vote or stand as a candidate in European Parliament elections. When asked about the 2019 European Parliament elections, a vast majority of respondents said that having more or better information about the elections in general and the impact of the EU on daily lives more specifically, would have made them more inclined to vote.

Public consultation on EU Citizenship

The European Commission is also launching a public consultation on EU Citizenship Rights. The focus of this consultation is to gather information, experiences and views on EU citizenship rights, which will feed into the next EU Citizenship Report. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, this consultation also includes questions related to the impact of emergency measures on EU citizenship rights. All citizens and organisations are welcome to contribute to this consultation until 1 October 2020.



Next steps

The feedback from the Eurobarometer on EU citizenship and democracy, the public consultation and a broader stakeholder consultation (to be launched in the second half of 2020), will feed into the next EU Citizenship Report. This Report will set out concrete actions to further advance the EU citizenship rights, including democratic participation and in a cross-border context. The 2020 EU Citizenship Report will complement the

European Democracy Action Plan, both to be adopted by the end of 2020, to help improve the resilience of EU democracies.

Background

In line with Article 25 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission is legally obliged to publish an EU Citizenship Report on the application of the provisions on non-discrimination and citizenship and outlining new priorities in this area every three years. With regard to the Political Guidelines of the Commission 2019-2024, the upcoming Citizenship Report will provide an additional impetus to deliver on the priorities of the Commission including nurturing, strengthening and protecting democracy in the European Union.

7. Summer 2020 Economic Forecast

The EU economy will experience a deep recession this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, despite the swift and comprehensive policy response at both EU and national levels.

Because the lifting of lockdown measures is proceeding at a more gradual pace than assumed in our Spring Forecast, the impact on economic activity in 2020 will be more significant than anticipated. The Summer 2020 Economic Forecast projects that the euro area economy will contract by 8.7% in 2020 and grow by 6.1% in 2021. The EU economy is forecast to contract by 8.3% in 2020 and grow by 5.8% in 2021. The contraction in 2020 is, therefore, projected to be significantly greater than the 7.7% projected for the euro area and 7.4% for the EU as a whole in the Spring Forecast. Growth in 2021 will also be slightly less robust than projected in the spring. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that works for People, said:

"The economic impact of the lockdown is more severe than we initially expected. We continue to navigate in stormy waters and face many risks, including another major wave of infections. If anything, this forecast is a powerful illustration of why we need a deal on our ambitious recovery package, NextGenerationEU, to help the economy. Looking forward to this year and next, we can expect a rebound but we will need to be vigilant about the differing pace of the recovery. We need to continue protecting workers and companies and coordinate our policies closely at EU level to ensure we emerge stronger and united." Paolo Gentiloni, Commissioner for the Economy, said: "Coronavirus has now claimed the lives of more than half a million people worldwide, a number still rising by the day - in some parts of the world at an alarming rate. And this forecast shows the devastating economic effects of that pandemic. The policy response across Europe has helped to cushion the blow for our citizens, yet this remains a story of increasing divergence, inequality and insecurity. This is why it is so important to reach a swift agreement on the recovery plan proposed by the Commission – to inject both new confidence and new financing into our economies at this critical time."



Recovery expected to gain traction in second half of 2020

The impact of the pandemic on economic activity was already considerable in the first quarter of 2020, even though most Member States only began introducing lockdown measures in mid-March. With a far longer period of disruption and lockdown taking place in the second quarter of 2020, economic output is expected to have contracted significantly more than in the first quarter. However, early data for May and June suggest that the worst may have passed. The recovery is expected to gain traction in the second half of the year, albeit remaining incomplete and uneven across Member States. The shock to the EU economy is symmetric in that the pandemic has hit all Member States. However, both the drop in output in 2020 and the strength of the rebound in 2021 are set to differ markedly. The differences in the scale of the impact of the pandemic and the strength of recoveries across Member States are now forecast to be still more pronounced than expected in the Spring Forecast.

An unchanged outlook for inflation

The overall outlook for inflation has changed little since the Spring Forecast, although there have been significant changes to the underlying forces driving prices. While oil and food prices have risen more than expected, their effect is expected to be balanced by the weaker economic outlook and the effect of VAT reductions and other measures taken in some Member States. Inflation in the euro area, as measured by the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), is now forecast at 0.3% in 2020 and 1.1% in 2021. For the EU, inflation is forecast at 0.6% in 2020 and 1.3% in 2021.

Exceptionally high risks

The risks to the forecast are exceptionally high and mainly to the downside. The scale and duration of the pandemic, and of possibly necessary future lockdown measures, remain essentially unknown. The forecast assumes that lockdown measures will continue to ease and there will not be a 'second wave' of infections. There are considerable risks that the labour market could suffer more long-term scars than expected and that liquidity difficulties could turn into solvency problems for many companies. There are risks to the stability of financial markets and a danger that Member States may fail to sufficiently coordinate national policy responses. A failure to secure an agreement on the future trading relationship between the UK and the EU could also result in lower growth, particularly for the UK. More broadly, protectionist policies and an excessive turning away from global production chains could also negatively affect trade and the global economy. There are also upside risks, such as an early availability of a vaccine against the coronavirus. The Commission's proposal for a recovery plan, centred on a new instrument, NextGenerationEU, is not factored into this forecast since it has yet to be agreed. An agreement on the Commission's proposal is therefore also considered an upside risk. More generally, a swifter-than-expected rebound cannot be excluded, particularly if the epidemiological situation allows a faster lifting of remaining restrictions than assumed.

For the UK, a purely technical assumption

Given that the future relations between the EU and the UK are not yet clear, projections for 2021 are based on a purely technical assumption of status quo in terms of their trading relations. This is for forecasting purposes only and reflects no anticipation nor prediction as regards the outcome of the negotiations between the EU and the UK on their future relationship.

Background

This forecast is based on a set of technical assumptions concerning exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices with a cut-off date of 26 June. For all other incoming data, including assumptions about government policies, this forecast takes into consideration information up until and including 30 June. Unless policies are credibly announced and specified in adequate detail, the projections assume no policy changes. The European Commission publishes two comprehensive forecasts (spring and autumn) and two interim forecasts (winter and summer) each year. The interim forecasts cover annual and quarterly GDP and inflation for the current and following year for all Member States, as well as EU and euro area aggregates. The European Commission's next economic forecast will be the Autumn 2020 Economic Forecast which is scheduled to be published in November 2020.



8. Cambodia loses duty-free access to the EU market

As of 12 August, some of Cambodia's typical export products such as garments, footwear and travel goods are subject to the European Union's customs duties.

The EU's decision to partially withdraw Cambodia's duty-free quota-free access to the EU market is now effective. The preferential treatment enjoyed by Cambodia under "Everything But Arms" (EBA) – the EU's trade arrangement for Least Developed Countries – is now temporarily lifted due to serious and systematic concerns related to human rights ascertained in the country. The EU enforces this measure while staying open to engage with Cambodia on the necessary reforms. Commissioner for Trade Phil Hogan said: *"We have provided Cambodia with trade opportunities that let the country develop an export-oriented industry and gave jobs to thousands of Cambodians. We stand by their side also now in the difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic. Nonetheless, our continued support does not diminish the urgent need for Cambodia to respect human rights and labour rights. I stand ready to continue our engagement and to restore fully free access to the EU market for products from Cambodia provided we see substantial improvement in that respect."*

The withdrawal of preferential access to the EU market concerns approximately 20% of Cambodia's exports to the EU. Cambodia may still export those products to the EU but they will be subject to general tariffs applicable to any other member of the World Trade Organization. The remaining 80% of Cambodia's exports continue to enjoy preferential (duty-free, quota-free) access to the EU market. The Commission, together with the European External Action Service (EEAS), will continue its enhanced engagement with Cambodia. The EU will keep on monitoring the situation in the country, with a particular focus on current restrictions in the areas of freedom of expression and civil and political rights, as well as land disputes and labour rights in the context of the ongoing reforms. The EU is aware of the significant impact of the coronavirus pandemic on Cambodia's economy and employment and stands ready to support the country in its fight against the coronavirus crisis and towards economic recovery. This, however, does not waive the urgent need to ensure respect for human rights and labour rights in Cambodia. Since February 2020, when the EU's decision on partial withdrawal was taken, the Cambodian Government could at any time have taken the necessary steps to fulfil the conditions allowing the European Union to fully restore EBA preferential access to the EU market. This remains the case. The Cambodian authorities should take action to restore political freedoms in the country, to re-establish the necessary conditions for a credible, democratic opposition and to initiate a process of national reconciliation through genuine and inclusive dialogue. The Commission and the EEAS have outlined the necessary actions to the Cambodian authorities on numerous occasions, as well as in the Commission's Delegated Regulation. Actions include the reinstatement of the political rights of opposition members and the repeal or revision of laws, such as the Law on Political Parties and the Law on Non-Governmental Organisations. If the government of Cambodia shows significant progress, particularly on civil and political rights, the Commission may review its decision and reinstate tariff preferences under the "Everything But Arms" arrangement, in line with the provisions of the EU Generalised Scheme of Preferences.



Background

The "Everything But Arms" (EBA) arrangement is part of the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP). The GSP allows vulnerable developing countries to benefit from lower duties or duty-free exports to the EU, and hence stimulate their economic growth. It is a one-way arrangement: it does not require reciprocity vis-a-vis EU exports. Through the EBA arrangement, the EU grants duty-free and quota-free access to its market for all products – except arms and ammunition – from Least Developed Countries (as defined by the United Nations). Under the GSP Regulation, tariff preferences may be suspended in the case of "serious and systematic violation of principles" laid down in the international human rights and labour rights conventions listed in an annex to the GSP Regulation. Based on serious concerns about the deterioration of political, human, land and labour rights in Cambodia, in February 2019, the Commission opened a procedure for a withdrawal of the EBA preferences granted to Cambodia. On 12 November

2019, the Commission submitted to Cambodia a report demonstrating serious and systematic violations of key principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) linked to political participation, freedom of expression and freedom of association in Cambodia. At the same time, despite remaining serious concerns, the report underlined tangible progress in solving land disputes in the sugar sector and with respect to labour rights. Following a period for comments, on 12 February 2020, the Commission adopted a Delegated Regulation on a temporary and partial withdrawal of tariff preferences granted to Cambodia under the EBA. The Regulation entered into force on 25 April 2020 and takes effect as of 12 August 2020.

9. Coronavirus: 23 new research projects to receive €128 million

The Commission will support 23 new research projects with €128 million in response to the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

The funding under Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme, is part of the Commission's €1.4 billion pledge to the Coronavirus Global Response initiative, launched by President Ursula von der Leyen in May 2020. The 23 projects shortlisted for funding involve 347 research teams from 40 countries, including 34 participants from 16 countries outside of the EU. The funding will enable researchers to address the pandemic and its consequences by strengthening the industrial capacity to manufacture and deploy readily available solutions, develop medical technologies and digital tools, improve understanding of behavioural and socio-economic impacts of the pandemic, and to learn from large groups of patients (cohorts) across Europe. These research actions complement earlier efforts to develop diagnostics, treatments and



vaccines. Mariya **Gabriel**, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, said: *"Emergency funding from Horizon 2020 will enable researchers to rapidly develop solutions with and for patients, care workers, hospitals, local communities and companies. The results will help them to better cope with and survive coronavirus infections. It's encouraging to see the research community mobilise so rapidly and strongly."* Thierry **Breton**, Commissioner for Internal Market, added: *"The excellent response to this call shows the wealth of new ideas to tackle coronavirus, including new digital health solutions. Digital solutions and technologies enabled us to stay connected and interact with each other during the confinement. They will also be an essential part of the long-term response to this virus and to increasing our resilience."* The Commission is currently negotiating grant agreements with the selected beneficiaries. The new projects will cover:

- **Repurposing manufacturing for rapid production of vital medical supplies and equipment** needed for testing, treatment and prevention – for instance using injection moulding and additive manufacturing (3-D printing), adaptive production and supply chain methods, and repurposing manufacturing as a service network for fast reaction.
- **Developing medical technologies and digital tools** to improve detection, surveillance and patients' care – for example through the development of new devices for faster, cheaper and easier diagnosis (including remotely) plus new technologies to protect healthcare workers.
- **Analysing behavioural and socio-economic impacts** of the responses of government and public health systems, for instance on mental health, including gender-specific aspects in risk factors and the socioeconomic burden, to develop inclusive guidance for policymakers and health authorities and enhance preparedness for future similar events.
- **Learning from large groups of patients** (cohorts) by connecting existing cohorts in the EU and beyond to assess their exposure to certain risk factors to better understand the possible causes of disease in order to improve responsiveness to the virus and future public health threats.
- **Enhancing collaboration of existing EU and international cohorts** by networking research institutions that are collecting data on patient care to enable studies into patient's characteristics, risk factors, safety and effectiveness of treatments and potential strategies against coronavirus.

Background

This second emergency request for expressions of interest, launched by the Commission on 19 May 2020 gave researchers just under 4 weeks to prepare collaborative research projects. The research community mobilised rapidly. Research proposals were fast-tracked through evaluation by independent experts, enabling the Commission to shortlist a number of projects of excellent scientific quality and high potential impact. Although funding is conditional on a final Commission decision and the signature of the Horizon 2020 Grant Agreement, the research teams can already start their work. Many of the 23 short-listed projects have an international dimension beyond the EU and associated countries, with 34 organisations involved from 16 countries outside of the EU including countries associated to the Horizon 2020 programme (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Israel, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey) and third countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Columbia, Congo, Gabon, India, Korea, South Africa and the United States). This new special call under Horizon 2020 complements earlier actions to support 18 projects with €48.2 million to develop diagnostics, treatments, vaccines and preparedness for epidemics, as well as the €117 million invested in 8 projects on diagnostics and treatments through the Innovative Medicines Initiative, and measures to support innovative ideas through the European Innovation Council. It implements Action 3 of the ERAvsCorona Action Plan, a working document resulting from dialogues between the Commission and national institutions.

10. Response and recovery partnerships between EU regions

The European Commission is launching a call for expressions of interest for thematic partnerships to pilot interregional innovation projects that support the response and recovery following the coronavirus pandemic.

The aim of the call is to help regions catch the opportunities emerging from the crisis, develop resilience and build on green and digital transformation for the recovery of the most affected sectors, such as health and tourism. Elisa Ferreira,

Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, said:

“Based on previous successful similar pilot actions to boost innovation and competitiveness at regional level, the launch of this call is yet another example of EU capacity and willingness to support local economies in such difficult time. The focus on health, tourism, sustainability and digitalisation is perfectly in line with Commission's priorities and the needed response to counterattack the effects of the coronavirus crisis.”

Under this call, the European Commission seeks expressions of interest from transnational partnerships of regional authorities and other stakeholders as universities, research centres, clusters and SMEs willing to pilot interregional innovation partnerships aimed at facilitating the commercialisation and scale-up of interregional innovation projects and to incentivise business investment. The call will support interregional partnerships in four thematic areas. First, the partnership for the development of the medical value chain is about working on medical products or devices to tackle the coronavirus at any level of the value chain, i.e. from conception to distribution. Second, the partnership on the safety and management of medical waste is linked to the topic of circular economy in the field of health. The third partnership is about projects that encourage sustainable and digital tourism. The fourth partnership focuses on developing hydrogen technologies in carbon-intensive regions, for instance through the conversion of existing coal mines, smelters or production facilities.



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Next steps

By the end of 2021, each selected partnership should have defined a set of actions to accelerate innovation uptake, commercialisation and scale-up of interregional investment projects. The selected partnerships should have also analysed the financial and legal obstacles to commercialisation and scale-up, and developed cooperation with other EU programmes and initiatives. In addition, the selected actions will have to collaborate with established partnerships under other areas that are covered by the three Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms.

Background

On 18 July 2017, the European Commission adopted the Communication "Strengthening innovation in Europe's regions: towards resilient, inclusive and sustainable territorial growth strategies" (COM(2017)376 final). In this context, the pilot action on interregional innovation projects was proposed. Following the Commission call for expression of interest, eight interregional partnerships (partnerships on 3D printing; bio-economy; cybersecurity; circular economy in the manufacturing sector; high-tech farming; marine renewable energy; sustainable buildings, traceability and big data in agri-food. An additional partnership on advanced materials for batteries was introduced later) were selected in late 2017, with one or several coordinating regions in the lead. An additional partnership on batteries was introduced at a later stage. The nine partnerships got the support from Commission's special teams, involving experts from several thematic departments. The experts provided advice on how to best combine different EU funds to finance innovation projects and how to make the business and investment plan bankable. In addition to this hands-on support from the Commission, each partnership could benefit from external advisory service up to a value of €100,000 via European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for demonstration, scale-up and commercialisation activities. Given this positive experience, the Commission decided to use the same line to stimulate regions joining forces to react to the coronavirus pandemic. The call will be open for 6 weeks, i.e. until 7 September 2020 (23h00 – Brussels time). The overall budget is €400,000 from the European Regional Development Fund to develop four thematic partnerships (up to €100,000 per partnership).

11. EESC Civil Solidarity Prize

Rewarding solidarity initiatives to tackle the Covid-19 emergency and its consequences in Europe

The Civil Solidarity Prize will reward up to 29 not-for-profit initiatives carried out by natural persons, civil society organisations or private companies which aim to tackle the Covid-19 crisis



and its manifold consequences. The overall aim of the prize, which is awarded as a one-off edition instead of the annual EESC Civil Society Prize, is to raise awareness and increase visibility of the contribution that natural persons, civil society organisations and private companies have made or are making to creating a European identity and solidarity in a way that underpins the common values that are the foundation of European integration. **The deadline for**

submitting applications is 30 September 2020 at 12:00 noon (CEST). The awards ceremony will take place during the EESC plenary session in January 2021. The contest rules and the application form are available by clicking on the links below. For further information, please send an email to: EESCprize@eesc.europa.eu. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

12. #DiscoverEU photo & video #Competition

Take part in the DiscoverEU Competition and get a chance to win nice prizes. The central theme of our competition is: **Expand your comfort zone with #DiscoverEU, even if at home!** The competition will run from **1 July to 28 February 2021**. To take part in the competition, follow these steps:

1. Share your photo or short video (max. 15 seconds) on your public Instagram;
2. Add the **#DiscoverEU** and **#Competition** hashtags in your post;
3. Tag the European Youth Instagram account @european_youth_eu on the photo or on the social media post;
4. Fill in the survey at: <https://europea.eu/youth/discovereu/competition/consent> (you will need your application code for that, it can be found in the email you received right after applying to DiscoverEU);
5. Ask your friends to 'like' your photo/video.

Your photos and videos will be moderated before they are displayed on the [European Youth Portal](#). This may take up to 24 hours during the week, and the weekend entries will be moderated on Mondays. If your videos and photos meet the above-mentioned criteria, you could become one of the #DiscoverEU monthly winners!

How will the winners be selected?

The competition is only open to the young people who applied to one of the #DiscoverEU application rounds in 2018 and 2019 (selected and non-selected participants). The 20 most popular entries having received the most like will go to the next round, as well as up to 10 'wildcards'. Then, a professional jury of photography and social media experts will select up to 10 winning photos/videos. The most visually original and creative will win. **Up to 10 lucky winners will be chosen each month, which means July, August, September, October, November and December 2020 as well as January and February 2021!** The monthly winners will be contacted by ICF Next who is managing the prizes for this competition on behalf of the European Commission. Participants should keep an eye on their incoming messages and make sure they reply within 7 working days to the message sent by ICF Next. With no reply from them, another participant will be chosen as a winner. Then, the winners will be publicly announced by name on the following social media platform(s): [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



What are the prizes?

Each winner will receive a prize worth of 100 EUR! The winners will be announced in the beginning of each month on European Youth's [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

13. REDISCOVER Nature - Photo competition 2020

Isn't nature full of wonders? No matter where we are, we can always appreciate its beauty. Have you ever sat near a quiet lake in a mountain, watched sparrows nesting in your garden or a tiny herb seedling grow on your kitchen windowsill? Taking in nature in all its beautiful shapes and forms can bring us a lot of joy – now possibly more than ever.



The European Environment Agency is inviting you to reconnect with nature and capture all its wonders on camera. So grab your cameras and go for a hike on a local trail or relax in your garden and observe the tree leaves bending or the fluffy clouds floating in the sky. Be curious and discover the parts of nature you have never noticed before, both small and large. Every year, the EEA organises a photo competition to raise awareness about an environmental theme and invites Europeans to share their takes on

it. This year's competition "REDISCOVER Nature" is a call for all of us to look around us and let ourselves be amazed by nature.

Categories

Participants can submit photographs depicting any of the following three categories:

1 - Close-ups of nature: Zoom in and find the beauty of nature in the tiniest of details, from the complex biological structure of an emerging flower to the soil composition or skin details of a reptile. Nature is calling for you to look closer and access the ever-changing micro universe. Can you see the magical shapes, lines, patterns, textures and colours?

2 - Nature on my doorstep: Exploring nature doesn't necessarily mean hitting a mountain trail or going camping in remote areas. You can simply head out your back door and quietly watch nature unfold in front of you. From birdwatching in a nearby park to observing nature regaining control of urban structures, the wonders of nature are everywhere. Look around... Can you capture nature's presence around you?

3 - Zoom out on nature: Take a step back and enjoy the nature in the landscapes that surround you. Watch the waves hitting a rugged coastline, distant villages scattered across the countryside, the deer roaming a forest, or people working in the fields. Perhaps gain altitude and

witness the world from above. Can you capture the endless landscapes of the world, be they untouched or shaped by human activities? Additional information on the topics covered by 'REDISCOVER Nature' can be found on the following EEA pages and related publications:

- [Biodiversity – Ecosystems](#)
- [Land Use](#)
- [Soil](#)
- [Water and marine environment](#)

How to enter the competition?

1. Take or create an original photo (long side >2000px, preferably more than 4960px) supported by a short text and following the guidelines in the Competition rules.
2. Submit your entry through the online [submission form](#).

Submission deadline: 30 September 2020 at 23:59 (CEST). Entry is free of charge.

Eligibility criteria

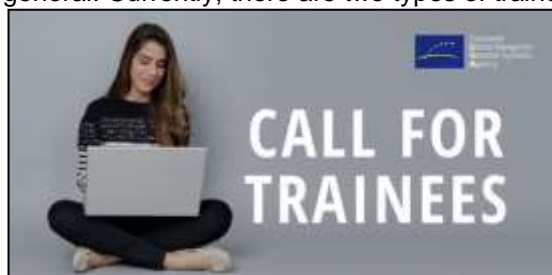
Citizens of the following countries are eligible to enter the competition: EU 27 Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey; under the stabilisation and association agreements: North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. United Kingdom citizens: Please be aware that after the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, UK citizens are eligible to participate in this competition. The photos must be taken in the countries mentioned above. All participants must be 18 or older. You must have full copyrights to the submitted material. By submitting an entry, you will be presumed to have agreed to accept the Competition rules and the Terms and Conditions. One entrant may submit maximum 5 entries in total in the competition. As each entry will be handled separately, you need to fill out the online submission form for each entry if you chose to submit more than one entry. *This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Prizes

The winners in each category (Close-ups of nature, Nature on my doorstep, Zoom out on nature) will be awarded a cash prize of EUR 1000, while EUR 500 is on offer for both the Public Choice Award and the Youth Prize. The Youth Prize will be awarded to the winning entry, selected among those submitted by persons aged between 18 and 24 (born between calendar years 1996-2002, both included) to any of the three competition categories. All finalists will be put forward for the Public Choice Award and may also feature in future digital and print material from the EEA and its European partners. The copyright of the materials submitted for this competition remains with the respective participants. However, each entrant grants the EEA and its partners the right to use the submitted materials in its environmental communication, crediting the copyright owners. The winners will be notified by email and the official announcement of the winners will follow on the 16 November 2020. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

14. Traineeship at the European GNSS Agency (GSA)

The European GNSS Agency (GSA) provides university students and graduates with a unique and first-hand experience of the workings of the GSA, in particular, and of the EU institutions in general. Currently, there are two types of traineeships:



Short-term unpaid traineeship to complete and validate mandatory academic requirements (maximum duration three months). To apply please send the following documents in English to jobs@gsa.europa.eu: CV in Europass Format; motivation letter, indicating area/s of interest within the scope of the Agency and justifying the need of the traineeship for educational purposes.

Regular paid traineeship (maximum duration one year). GSA has various traineeships open for applications **until 30 September 2020** (see the list below). The eligible applications will be evaluated on a regular basis. The starting date of traineeship depends on the Agency's needs and budget availability. **You are advised to submit**

your application online as soon as possible, the earlier you submit the sooner your application can be considered.

You may find more information about the eligibility criteria as well as the rights and duties of the trainees in the [Rules governing the traineeship](#) scheme of the European GNSS Agency. We recommend you to read them carefully before submitting your CV.

Please note:

When applying, please carefully read the [GSA e-recruitment guidelines](#). Please note that it is recommended to use Google Chrome to ensure all functionalities of the e-recruitment portal. Should you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact jobs@gsa.europa.eu. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

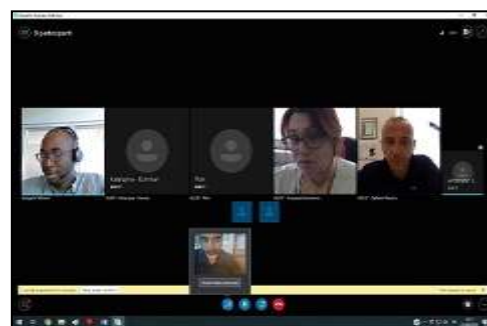
15. Traineeship at the ENISA

The European Union Cyber Security Agency (ENISA) is a centre of expertise on cyber security in Europe. It is addressed mainly to young university graduates, without excluding those who – in the framework of lifelong learning – have recently obtained a university diploma and are at the beginning of a new professional career. **The aims of the traineeship at ENISA are:** to provide trainees an understanding of the objectives and activities of ENISA; to enable trainees to acquire practical experience and knowledge of the day-to-day work of ENISA Departments and Units; to promote European integration within the spirit of new governance and through active participation to create awareness of true European citizenship; to enable trainees to put into practice knowledge acquired during their studies, or professional careers. Through its traineeship scheme, ENISA benefits from the input of enthusiastic graduates who can give a fresh point of view and up-to-date academic knowledge, which will enhance the everyday work of ENISA. Every year the Executive Director shall decide the number of traineeships to be offered in each Department, depending on the level of funds available and on the capacity of each Department to accommodate trainees. [Rules governing traineeships at ENISA](#). [Apply for the ENISA traineeship programme](#). For any enquiry or technical issues related to the submission of the application form, please send an email to: traineeship@enisa.europa.eu. **Closing Date: 30 September 2020 15:00 CET. For more information please consult the following [link](#).**



16. Virtual meeting of the F.A.M.E.T. project

In date 25 June 2020, our association, together with all the project partners, realised an online meeting, to discuss in particular the national interviews and reports to be carried out on the intellectual product 1 to be realized in the project "Fostering Adult Migrant Entrepreneurial Training and Qualification" (acronym F.A.M.E.T.) that focuses on adult education and lifelong learning, excluding barriers and obstacles to discrimination through the provision of education and training. The project is aimed at developing entrepreneurial skills and is aimed at migrants and refugees who wish to start a business. The project was approved under the Erasmus Plus



program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark. The project' partners are: AALBORG UNIVERSITET (Denmark); MARKEUT SKILLS SOCIEDAD LIMITADA (Spain); KAINOTOMIA & SIA EE (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); DANMAR COMPUTERS SP ZOO (Poland); CROS-

SING BORDERS (Denmark). More information on the official project's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FAMET-117061303388382/>

17. Digital Europe 2021/2027

On 29 June our last video realized as a EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre on Digital Europe 2021-2027 was published. The video aims to inform citizens about the birth of the first pan-



European digital programme, an important step to strengthen Europe's global leadership in achieving Digital Transformation. "Digital Europe" has a budget of €9.2 billion over seven years and will aim to increase the EU's international competitiveness, develop and strengthen the strategic digital capabilities of the Member States and Europe as a whole. We are talking about high-performance computing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity,

advanced digital skills. Capacities that will need to be accessible and used in all sectors of the economy and society, both by business and the public sector. Are we ready for the future? WE ARE READY FOR THE FUTURE! You can watch our video on our YouTube channel at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FiVhh-F2Sw>.

18. New project approved in Greece

We are pleased to inform you that in these days we have received the news that a new project of ours has been approved in Greece in the Erasmus Plus KA101 actions entitled "Introducing our school to Europe". In this action (n.2020-1-EL01-KA101-078609) we will host, as soon as possible, for several days, a group of teachers from a high school in the city of Karditsa for an intensive course on Europe and the opportunities it offers. In short, thanks to the supranational concreteness we will give, once again, a small but significant and real hand both to those who want to know more about European opportunities, and to the Lucanian tourism operators supporting the local economy (which we care a lot about).



19. Our centre participates in the activities of "The Children's Forest"



This year the EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre takes part in the activities of "LA FORESTA DEI BAMBINI" (THE CHILDREN'S FOREST), considering it an activity of high educational value and of extreme interest for the relaunch of the local economy, for the promotion of Lucanian tourism, for the protection of the environment (moreover perfectly in line with the new European Green Deal) and for the growth of the confidence of families and young people. Come and visit us and have fun, also

learning useful things about Europe and its policies for our future!

20. Third virtual meeting of the EURBANITIES 2.0 project

In date 02 July 2020 took place a third virtual encounter in the project "Eurbanities 2.0", during which the project partners planned the next actions to be taken until the next meeting. This initiative approved in Germany as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006159. Eurbanities 2.0 aims to empower citizens to actively engage in the development of fair and sustainable European urban neighborhoods. The project intends to transfer knowledge of citizens' tools and methods of participation in urban planning and neighborhood



development through the creation of a nice and funny game-based learning tool. Eurbanities 2.0 will build on the most recent approach to urban participation by considering citizens as co-creators of their neighborhoods. The project was approved under the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Germany. More information on the project's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/eurbanities/>.

21. New project approved in Iceland

We are pleased to inform you that in these days we have received the news that a new project of ours has been approved in Iceland in the Erasmus Plus KA2 VET actions. In the project, entitled "European Career Help and Occupational Orientation Play" (Action 2020-1-IS01-KA202-065802),



we will be the first to apply the "Lego Serious Play" methodology to transnational training! For those who do not know, "Lego Serious Play" is a method aimed at developing pen-serum, communication and solving complex business management problems through the use of the Lego construction game. And we at EURO-NET, interested in making real cultural

innovation and promoting highly creative ideas, will experience it in vocational training at European level.

22. The "SPEAK" project approved in Sweden



In the last days we received the communication of our new Erasmus Plus KA2 project approved in Sweden as a strategic partnership for adult education, "Speaking skill Performance Enhancement in entrepreneurial customs for social workers" (acronym SPEAK), dedicated to social workers. In this case we will experiment, always with a high level international partnership, new ways and new innovative skills to help and professionalize more and more this category of operators. Follow us!

23. New project approved in Bulgaria

Approved a EURO-NET project in the Erasmus Plus programme in Bulgaria entitled "Future U-turn in European Learning" (Action n.2020-1-BG01-KA104-078910) in which we will host in Italy in 2021 a group of adult education operators coming from the organization "NARODNO CHITALISHTE BADESHTE SEGA 2006" (as soon as the covid situation will be solved and will allow it without danger... of course). Europe is there! Europe is moving! Thank you Europe!



24. Third newsletter of the DESK project



In these days the third newsletter has been published in the framework 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). 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/>.

25. Various community projects aimed at schools in the city approved

We are pleased to inform you that a number of Erasmus Plus projects have been approved, aimed at schools in the city, which, thanks to this programme, will have new opportunities to contribute to the growth of Europe and its values and open the minds of young people and adults. More details on the projects will be available in the next newsletters.



26. Approved our new project in Greece

In the last days we received the communication of our new KA201 project approved in Greece for a school in Potenza dedicated to the teaching and study of languages with digital methodologies. New opportunities, therefore, for students and teachers (at this time of great difficulty for the school) thanks to Europe that remains close to the teaching needs and innovation. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.



27. Multiplier event "More Than Words"

In date 31 July took place at TILT in Marconia di Pisticci (MT) the Multiplier Event of the More Than Words project. During the event the project was discussed with Antonino Imbesi, Raffaele Messina, Luca Caggiano. The evening was introduced and conducted by Rocco Calandriello, artistic director of the Lucania Film Festival. At 8:00 p.m. was also screened the beautiful video documentary made in this very interesting and engaging project Erasmus Plus KA2 that has seen once again the association EURO-NET to be protagonist in Europe. The aim of the project was to improve intercultural communication skills and training of educators, social workers and all people involved as professionals or artists to support migrants and other minorities facing integration and communication problems. You can see the homonymous documentary made in the project at the following links <http://motw.eu> or <https://motw.netsons.org/the-film/>, where you can also find more information about the whole initiative and all the intellectual products developed in it.



28. Approved in Greece the project "Teaching to Marginalized Groups"

In these days we have received good news from the Hellenic peninsula: where the Greek National Erasmus Plus Agency has approved an Erasmus Plus KA2 project of exchange of good practices to the EURO-NET association, which hosts the Europe Direct Basilicata, the official information centre of the European Commission. This is the project "TeaM" (Teaching to Marginalized Groups) action n.2020-1-EL01-KA204-078944 in which good practices will be exchanged between organizations



working with disadvantaged groups to try to provide these people with more training opportunities. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

29. We'll have a webradio that will operate in the Digital Radio Network

The launch of the project "ANG inRadio #POTENZA POTENZA CHANGEMAKERS" is scheduled for next August 16. The project, action n.ANG-2020-IR+-09, was approved by National Youth Agency to EURO-NET (which hosts the official information centre of the European Commission called Europe Direct Basilicata) in the framework of the <<Public call for the financing of youth initiatives for the creation of a Digital Radio Network "ANGinRadio #piùdiprima" addressed to the new generations>> expired last 30 June. *"The project - said Antonino Imbesi, director of the Europe Direct Basilicata Centre - has been developed together with 16 young people aged between 18 and 30 years and wants to develop a Lucanian web radio, located in the city of Potenza, that speaks, using a peer-to-peer system, to young people through a series of radio podcasts on European and local themes, to be developed under the constant guidance of the well-known journalist-innovator Vito Verrastro".* The initiative aims to make the 16 young people already involved and the many others who will still be involved protagonists and not passive spectators of change, especially in terms of awareness, the first step to be able to work on the employability factor. Through the radio and its podcasts, it will be possible to activate information and training dynamics, through a peer mechanism that will make concepts, themes, narratives better than existing opportunities (on a European, national and local basis). *"In a time span of 4 months, from 16 August to 15 December 2020, - said Vito Verrastro, supervisor and leader of the entire project team - the young people involved will realize the 30 podcasts planned in the initiative and the 5 budgeted in the follow up phase, while activating a call in all high schools and universities in the two provinces of Potenza and Matera to stimulate thousands of young people to be informed and proactive on the issues of change, with a particular focus on technology, work, environmental sustainability. It will be a fully-fledged "participated" radio station, with contributions that will come both from the project team and from schools and universities that will accept the invitation to get involved".* One of the strengths of the web radio will be the testimonies of role models: in particular young people and, if possible, referring to the territorial context of Lucania, so that through the proximity effect alibis can be cancelled (such as "if we live here we can't make it") and emulation drives can be activated. *"The objective - said Anna Lagrotta, President of EURO-NET - is to inspire young people to achieve the results they have set themselves in life, despite disabilities, discrimination, stereotypes or other possible obstacles in life or career. The role models selected will be chosen to become testimonials of praiseworthy behaviours from which to take inspiration to change lifestyle and adopt a more proactive and resilient way of thinking, even though they may have had a negative experience. Their attitude, instead of pushing them to give up, has guided them to find within themselves the strength not only to move forward, but to overturn a destiny that for many seemed already marked, turning obstacles and barriers into opportunities to be seized on the fly. Their storytelling can be a source of inspiration for others if not for everyone. They will be a sort of "ambassadors of possible success", able to tell that you can go far from any context, so as to instill hope and confidence in the future, in an area of the South where distrust, pessimism, resignation or the use of the classic shortcuts of "recommendations" to gain access to important positions or find a possible career outlet are still too strong".* Role Model, EuroPeers and other testimonials (e.g. startupper) will be the protagonists of the testimony and inspiration phase, both in podcasts (some of which will also be broadcast nationally on the Lavoradio format) and in live events that will take place in the territories (4 multiplier events have been planned in presence, which, if the conditions linked to the pandemic will allow it, will be developed in events to be held in high schools and Universities of Basilicata). *"The digital radio - closed Antonino Imbesi - will be developed in the EURO-NET headquarters, not a random choice, evidently, because the presence of this communication tool will be a further element to strengthen the many existing services for young people and implement a series of resources that go in the direction of responding to the basic needs of young people, such as the need to find forms of accompaniment and figures / places of reference in the age of choice, able to offer solid holds, helping them to untangle the maze of opportunities and messages that surrounds them; the need to find forms of "meaning" and self-assertion through participation in the life of one's own community of reference;*



the need to identify "value horizons" that offer tools capable of guiding them in their insertion into adult society. In this the action of Vito Verrastro, one of the few proactive journalists on the entire Italian scene, will be fundamental and will serve as a stimulus". Digital radio, as said, will also be itinerant, with appointments at schools, universities, and if possible also in cultural/social/youth aggregation centres, libraries, associations and town halls. From today you can follow the whole project on the facebook page fb.me/anginradiopotenzachangemakers, where you can also find more information about the whole project.

30. Three youth activities approved in Bulgaria



In these days we have received the communication that three Erasmus Plus KA1 youth activities (youth exchanges and training) have been approved in Bulgaria. So boys and girls continue to stay connected and follow us because as soon as the pandemic in the world will end...we are off to a great start with EURO-NET to make fundamental experiences for your human and professional growth.

More details about the activities will be available in the next newsletters.

31. More Than Words project: training manual produced

In these days has been published the training manual foreseen within the project "MORE THAN WORDS - integrating creativity in intercultural training" (acronym "MoW") approved, as action n.2017-1-UK01-KA204-036613, within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education programme by the English National Agency of the homonymous European programme. The European initiative, of which the association EURONET is a partner, is aimed, as a whole, at improving intercultural communication and training skills of educators, social workers and all people involved as professionals or artists in supporting the integration and inclusion of migrants and other ethnic minorities, can be followed both on the project website <http://www.motw.eu/> and on the official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MoThWor/>.



32. A school education project approved in Poland



In the last days we received the communication that the Erasmus Plus KA201 project, a strategic partnership for school education, was approved in Poland at EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata Centre). The granted initiative is titled "A DIGItal toolkit for promoting gender EQUALITY in science and technology" - action n.2020-1-PL01-KA201-081630.

33. Approved the project "Civically Active for Social Engagement"

In these days we received the news that a new project of EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata Centre) has been approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Luxembourg. It is the project "Civically Active for Social Engagement" (acronym CASE) - action n.2020-1-LU01-KA204-063247. Stay tuned! New opportunities then, for our region thanks always to Europe!



34. Our youth exchange approved in the UK



Our youth exchange in the UK entitled "Our planet, our future - Fighting climate change together" - action n.2020-1-UK01-KA105-078031 has

been approved. Guys, keep following us. Europe starts again with EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata Centre).

35. Another European partnership project for schools approved

We are pleased to announce that another European partnership project for schools in the city of Potenza has been approved. Europe is starting again thanks to the Erasmus Plus programme: our young people will still have plenty of opportunities to grow and train for their future. We remain at their disposal as Europe Direct Basilicata centre even in summer: you know where and how to find us for advice and help. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.



36. "IP4J": approved in Germany



In these days we received the news of the approval in Germany of the Erasmus Plus project "Innovative and Practical training for low-skilled and migrants Jobs" (acronym IP4J) - Action n.2020-1-DE02-KA202-007465. A project strongly supported in the VET system after receiving the Good Practice Award for the previous initiative last year.

37. New Adult Education project approved in Germany



Approved in Germany a new Adult Education project under the Erasmus Plus programme entitled "Green Routes - Learning about sustainable trends in European cities" - Action n.2020-1-DE02-KA204-007652. The project aims to implement a toolkit to promote sustainable solutions and trends in urban areas in line with the objectives of the European Commission's Green Deal.

38. Approved the project "Learning Europe is child's play"

We are pleased to announce that the project "Imparare l'Europa è un gioco da ragazzi" - action n.2020-1-IT02-KA201-079054 - has been approved by the National Agency Erasmus Plus Indire in Italy. This is a KA201 Strategic Partnership in the field of school education aimed at creating a "space on the European Union" suitable for the new generations with a series of tools and interactive activities of a recreational-cultural-educational nature in Europe with the direct active involvement of school students, aimed at encouraging intergenerational dialogue and a sense of active European citizenship using gamification and innovative digital products. This will allow to develop a better quality of work that, today, in the school sector is developed in relation to European citizenship because the project will generate the right tools to work with young people and will provide teachers with "a new way to explain Europe and its values" through "serious games" able to involve pupils and make them learn by actively participating and having fun. Finally we will have a didactic museum about Europe in Potenza!



39. The "FUTURE FRIENDLY AFRICA" project approved

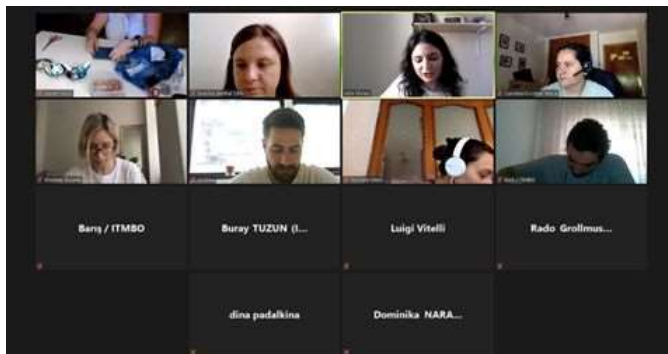


The result of Capacity Building in the youth sector has been published by EACEA: EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata Centre) wins a centralised project! It is the project "FUTURE FRIENDLY AFRICA - Capacity transfer for program for youth development and environmental entrepreneurship in Senegal and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) - action n.619137-EPP-1-2020-1-BG-EPPKA2-CBY-ACPALA. Great satisfaction for an action that will see

us operating from this year also in Africa! More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

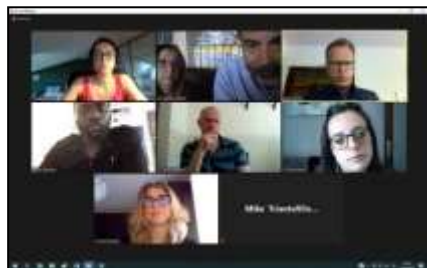
40. CircleVET: also concluded the second online training

What are the potentials of the circular economy in the industrial-industrial field? How to convey its principles, values and methods to as many people as possible? Two members of Godesk staff (Andrea Di Lascio and Luigi Vitelli) have discussed it in last July with experts from all over Europe in a very interesting training on line promoted within the project "CircleVET - Exploring the Educational Potential of Circular Economy" of which GODESK is the Italian partner. The CircleVET project has been approved by the German National Agency Erasmus Plus in the framework of the European programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET Good Practices Exchange as Action n.2018-1-DE02-KA202-005022. The second course, which took place between 8 and 16 July, involved staff members of the 7 partner organisations from the following countries: Germany (2 partners), Italy, Slovakia, Turkey, Finland and Spain. You can follow the European initiative on the Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Circlevet-308447786426005/>. Despite the pandemic, Godesk is still breathing Europe!



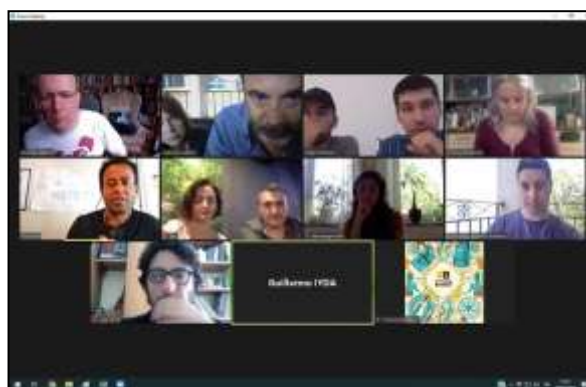
41. Online meeting of the "IMPROVE" project

In date 23 June took place the virtual 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 Italian association Youth Europe Service, took stock of the activities developed in recent months and defined the further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the project activities on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Innovative-Metodologies-and-PRactices-On-VET406262400174556/> or on the website <https://www.improveproject.eu/>.



42. Virtual meeting "EDACate" project

In date 29 June took place the virtual meeting of the project "EDACate - European Dialogue for Active Citizenship" (action n.2018-1-DE02-KA204-005181) of which the association Youth Europe Service is the Italian partner. The initiative (approved by the German Erasmus Plus National Agency) is a project that follows a cross-sectoral approach with the aim of collecting, reviewing and publishing new and innovative approaches in training on active citizenship to break down the boundaries between the education sectors and to facilitate more open and innovative training. During the meeting, which was attended by some members of the association's staff, were defined the new steps of the activities to be carried out. More information



on the project is available on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/edacate.project/> or on the website <http://edacate-project.eu>.

43. GODESK has been admitted as a full member of the European ECHN

GODESK, the best-known and most important coworking centre and innovation space in the whole Basilicata region, has been formally admitted as a full member of the ECHN (European Creative Hubs Network) which is the supranational network that brings together the most



important creative hubs in the European Union. The announcement was made by the CEO of GODESK, Antonino Imbesi, who said he was legitimately satisfied with the umpteenth recognition obtained by the company at international level. "I'm very happy - said the company's CEO - for this further success that, as GODESK, we are achieving thanks to the great work and constant commitment in recent

years to bring true innovation to Basilicata, with all the daily difficulties that those who undertake this path in our region encounter". In recent decades, the Lucanian sector has also made great strides and has seen the growth of productive realities capable of making an impact on the territory by promoting a large number of professional figures linked to innovation, creativity, culture and art, at the same time as the expansion of that vast sector of the advanced tertiary sector that goes under the definition of Cultural and Creative Industries. "But we must continue to work seriously - continued Antonino Imbesi - because the sector will take off definitively and this can only happen if, on the one hand, the bodies in charge and first of all the Basilicata Region, will invest with conviction in the creative sector and if, on the other hand, the operators active in Lucania will be able to make a unique team without personalism and partisan interests, as we at Godesk have been doing for years and this also means that every instrument, from clusters to consortia, from committees to ATS, must be open to everyone and allow each operator to make its contribution in a suitable way, without melines and tactical games that debase the interest of the entire region." In an increasingly tertiarized and globalized economy, it is necessary an urgent change of economic and political paradigm focused on the immaterial value produced by culture, design, media and innovation, opening up to the private system capable of mobilizing experiences and opportunities that the public is not able to develop in the same way, aiming to enhance the value of those who operate in the territory for years and promote activities and initiatives of national and international importance. "We ask - closed the CEO of Godesk - that an open debate be finally opened that can aim to enhance those who work in the region (because it is obviously in the interest of Lucania to grow in all sectors since in this region we live and invest daily) without dispersing, as in the past, the energy and resources in search of prophets from other shores, able only to get credit for public funds, but then end up spending huge amounts without leaving anything to the territory."



44. The documentary "Vado Verso Dove Vengo" also on uam.tv



From July 17 2020 also on uam.tv. Continue the exceptional positive parable of the documentary "Vado Verso Dove Vengo" made by Youth Europe Service in the project "Storylines - the lucanian ways" developed in the call for MATERA 2019 European Capital of Culture thanks to the co-financing of Fondazione Matera-Basilicata 2019, Lucana Film Commission and with the support of the BCC ethical program. Another great satisfaction for the Italian team. Thanks to all the staff that allowed this umpteenth great result after Amazon Prime and Chili.tv! More information about the project and direct access links to the on-

demand platforms are available on the project's Facebook page at the following web address: www.facebook.com/vadoversodovevengo/.

45. New project approved in Czech Republic for Y.E.S. Association



A new Erasmus Plus KA2 VET project has been approved in the Czech Republic to the Italian association Youth Europe Service. The project, entitled "Sustainable Agripreneurship" (action n.2020-1-CZ01-KA202-078268), foresees an action aimed at developing vocational training in sustainable agriculture. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

46. First newsletter of the Foster Social Inclusion project

In these days the first newsletter has been published within the project "Foster Social Inclusion: volunteering, social entrepreneurship and art for social inclusion" (acronym "Foster Social Inclusion"). The initiative, of which the association Youth Europe Service is Italian partner has been approved by the Polish National Agency as Action n. 2019-1-PL01-KA204-065375 within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. The partnership is composed of the following countries: Poland, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Lithuania and Iceland working on an international project "Foster Social Inclusion". The partners, active in different fields of adult education, want to discover how is possible to foster social inclusion with art, social entrepreneurship, volunteering and intercultural dialogue. Project is Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education sector, financed by Erasmus Plus. The project is aimed at anyone working within adult education with a focus on people at risk of social exclusion. More information about the project can be found on the official Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Foster-Social-Inclusion-109112230563838/>.



47. Approved the "Everywhere is home" project in France



The Erasmus Plus National Agency in France has approved a GODESK project. It is the project "Everywhere is home" - action n.2020-1-FR01-KA204-080291 - which is aimed at sharing good practices in adult education. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

48. Upcycling Europe approved project for Godesk company

Approved by the Italian National Agency Erasmus Plus INAPP, a project of the company GODESK, an initiative that sees in the whole partnership also the Chamber of Commerce of Basilicata and the University of Bari. This is the project "Upcycling Europe" (action n.2020-1-IT01-KA202-008379) which is aimed at sharing good practices on Circular Economy in the framework of a high level European partnership for a greener lifestyle.



49. Approved in Germany "Stressless Employees"



Approved in Germany a project of the Youth Europe Service association entitled "Stressless Employees - Introducing the profile of Employee Satisfaction Officer to tackle work-related stress" - action n.2020-1-DE02-KA202-007495 - just approved in the Erasmus Plus programme. The project is directed to seek and

experiment techniques to reduce work-related stress that, especially now, it is really needed. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.