



EURO-NET

The Youth European Network



EUROPE DIRECT BASILICATA centre
promoted by the association EURO-NET
and realised with the grant of E.U. in
the framework of the namesake project

**YEAR 15 - NUMBER 5
OF 20TH OCTOBER 2020
ENGLISH NEWSLETTER**

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. Commission Work Programme 2021

The Commission adopted its 2021 work programme, designed to make Europe healthier, fairer and more prosperous, while accelerating its long-term transformation into a greener economy, fit for the digital age.

It contains new legislative initiatives across all six headline ambitions of President **von der Leyen's** Political Guidelines and follows her first State of the Union Speech. While delivering on



the priorities set out in this work programme, the Commission will continue to put all its efforts into managing the crisis, and into making Europe's economies and societies more resilient. Ursula **von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission, said: *"Our utmost priority will continue being to save lives and livelihoods threatened by the coronavirus pandemic. We have already achieved a lot. But Europe is not out of the woods yet and the second wave is hitting hard across Europe. We must remain vigilant and step up, all of us. The European Commission will continue its efforts to secure a future vaccine for Europeans and to help our economies recover, through the green*

and digital transition." Maroš **Šefčovič**, Vice-President in charge of Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, said: *"Whilst ensuring Europe can manage the pandemic and its devastating impact, we also continue to draw lessons from the crisis. Therefore, the priorities set out in this work programme will not only help deliver Europe's recovery but also our long-term resilience – through future-proof solutions across all policy areas. For that, we will make the best use of strategic foresight as well as our better law-making principles – evidence-based and transparent, efficient and fit for the future."*

Delivering on EU priorities

The 2021 Commission work programme sees a shift from strategy to delivery across all six political priorities. It confirms the Commission's resolve to lead the twin green and digital transition – an unparalleled opportunity to move out of the fragility of the crisis and create a new vitality for the Union.

1. A European Green Deal

To achieve a climate-neutral Europe by 2050, the Commission will table a **Fit for 55 package** to reduce emissions by at least 55% by 2030. This will cover wide-ranging policy areas – from renewables to energy efficiency first, energy performance of buildings, as well as land use, energy taxation, effort sharing and emissions trading. A **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism** will help reduce the risk of carbon leakage and ensure a level-playing field by encouraging EU partners to raise their climate ambition. In addition, the Commission will propose measures to implement Europe's **circular economy action plan**, the **EU biodiversity strategy** and the **farm to fork strategy**.

2. A Europe fit for the digital age

To make this Europe's digital decade, the Commission will put forward a roadmap of clearly defined **2030 digital targets**, related to connectivity, skills and digital public services. The focus will be on the right to privacy and connectivity, freedom of speech, free flow of data and cybersecurity. The Commission will legislate in areas covering safety, liability, fundamental rights and data aspects of **artificial intelligence**. In the same spirit, it will propose a **European e-ID**. Initiatives will also include an **update of the new industrial strategy for Europe**, to take into account the impacts of the coronavirus, as well as a legislative proposal to improve the working conditions of **platform workers**

3. An economy that works for people

To ensure that the health and economic crisis does not turn into a social crisis, the Commission will put forward an ambitious **action plan to implement fully the European Pillar of Social Rights**, making sure that no one is left behind in Europe's recovery. The Commission will also come forward with a new European **child guarantee**, ensuring access to basic services like health and education for all children. To support our economies and strengthen the **Economic and Monetary Union**, it will revise the framework for handling EU bank failures, take measures to boost cross-border investment in the EU, and step up the fight against money laundering.

4. ***A stronger Europe in the world***

The Commission will ensure that Europe plays its vital role in this fragile world, including by leading the global response to **secure a safe and accessible vaccine for all**. It will propose a Joint Communication on **strengthening the EU's contribution to a rules-based multilateralism**, a renewed partnership with our **Southern neighbourhood** and a Communication on **the Arctic**. A new strategic approach to support **disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of ex-combatants** will also be presented. A Communication on the **EU's humanitarian aid** will explore new ways of working with our partners and other donors.

5. ***Promoting our European way of life***

In the face of COVID-19, the Commission will propose to build a stronger **European Health Union**, notably by strengthening the role of existing agencies and establishing a new **agency for biomedical advanced research and development**. To preserve and improve its functioning, a **new strategy for the future of Schengen** will be tabled. The new pact on migration and asylum will be followed up with a number of proposed measures on **legal migration**, including a 'talent and skills' package. Other elements include an action plan against migrant smuggling, as well as a sustainable voluntary return and reintegration strategy. The Commission will continue to strengthen the **Security Union**, addressing terrorism, organised crime and hybrid threats. It will also present a comprehensive strategy on **combating antisemitism**.

6. ***A new push for European democracy***

To build a union of equality, the Commission will present new strategies on **rights of the child and for persons with disabilities**, as well as a proposal to **combat gender-based violence**. It will also propose to extend the list of euro-crimes to include all forms of hate crime and hate speech. The Commission will propose clearer rules on the **financing of European political parties** and take action to **protect journalists and civil society against abusive litigation**. A **long-term vision for rural areas** will propose actions to harness the full potential of these regions.

Given the long-term and transformative nature of the initiatives planned, it is more important than ever to legislate in the most impactful way and with the future in mind. The upcoming **Communication on Better Regulation** will renew this emphasis. It will focus on simplification and burden reduction, notably by introducing a 'one-in-one-out' approach. The Fit for Future Platform will support the Commission in this ambition, particularly needed in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. To deliver on the ground, the Commission will also step up its outreach, with the **Conference on the Future of Europe** playing a central role. A full list of the 44 new policy objectives under the six headline ambitions are set out in Annex 1 of the 2021 work programme.

Next Steps

The Commission's 2021 work programme is the result of close cooperation with the European Parliament, Member States and the EU consultative bodies. The Commission will now start discussions with the Parliament and Council to establish a list of joint priorities on which co-legislators agree to take swift action.

Background

Every year, the Commission adopts a work programme setting out the list of actions it will take in the coming twelve months. The work programme informs the public and the co-legislators of our political commitments to present new initiatives, withdraw pending proposals and review existing EU legislation. It does not cover the ongoing work of the Commission to implement its role as Guardian of the Treaties and enforce existing legislation or the regular initiatives that the Commission adopts every year. The 2021 Commission work programme is closely linked to the recovery plan for Europe, with the NextGenerationEU recovery instrument and a reinforced EU budget for 2021-2027. The Recovery and Resilience Facility will channel an unprecedented €672.5 billion of grants and loans in the crucial first year of recovery. Meanwhile, Member States are drawing up recovery and resilience plans that set out reforms and investments aligned with the EU green and digital policy objectives: with a minimum 37% of green transition expenditure, and a minimum 20% related to digital. To repay the funds raised under NextGenerationEU, the Commission will put forward proposals for new own resources starting with a revised Emission Trading System, a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and a digital levy.



2. Sanctions and Human Rights: towards a European framework

As announced by the President Ursula von der Leyen at the State of the European Union, the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy have put forward a Joint Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning implementation of restrictive measures (sanctions) against serious human rights violations and abuses worldwide.

The Joint Proposal for a Council Regulation is one of the legal acts required by Council to proceed with the establishment of the new horizontal sanctions regime. It complements the Council Decision that is being proposed by High Representative Josep **Borrell** and that – once adopted by the Council – will establish the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime. Once in



force, the new EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime will provide the EU with greater flexibility to target those responsible for serious human rights violations and abuses worldwide, no matter where they occur or who is responsible. It is expected that the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime will consist of measures such as asset freezes and travel bans. On the latter, the Joint Proposal would also give, for the first time, the Commission oversight on the implementation of the travel bans. The new regime will not replace existing geographic sanctions

regimes, some of which already address human rights violations and abuses, for example in Syria, Belarus or Venezuela. These proposals strongly demonstrate the EU's commitment to support human rights, democracy, the rule of law and the principles of international law around the world. They respond to the political agreement by EU Foreign Ministers at the Foreign Affairs Council in December 2019 to move forward with the establishment of such a regime. The EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime is also a key deliverable proposed by the High Representative and the Commission in the **Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020 – 2024 as part of the Joint Communication adopted in March 2020**. The proposed Council Regulation will be discussed by Member States in the Council in parallel to the High Representative's Proposal for a Council Decision.

Members of the College said: Ursula **von der Leyen**, *President of the European Commission*, said: *"We must stand up for human rights and fundamental freedoms. An EU sanctions regime that holds to account those responsible for abuses and violations of human rights is long overdue. We trust that the Council will demonstrate its determination to support the Commission in this objective by adopting our proposal."* Josep **Borrell**, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President for a Stronger Europe in the World, said: *"Human rights are under attack around the world. The new EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime will be a powerful tool to hold accountable those responsible for serious human rights violations and abuses around the world. This is an opportunity for Europe not only to stand up for its values but to act."* Valdis **Dombrovskis**, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People, said: *"We are putting forward a zero tolerance policy against those who abuse and violate human rights around the world. This proposals offer broad possibilities to respond to such actions, and show our commitment to defend the values we believe in."* Mairead **McGuinness**, Commissioner for Financial Services, Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union said: *"These proposals are an important step towards a much-needed sanctions regime. By enforcing our human rights sanctions efficiently and effectively, EU countries can make sure that there is no escape for those who create human pain and suffering. As soon as the regime is adopted by the Council, the Commission will firmly support these efforts."*

Background

EU sanctions help to achieve key EU objectives such as preserving peace, strengthening international security, and consolidating and supporting democracy, international law and human rights. They are targeted at those whose actions endanger these values, and intend to reduce as much as possible any adverse consequences on the civilian population. The EU has about 40 different sanctions regimes currently in place. The Council Regulation is needed to detail the measures of the sanctions regime established by the Council Decision that can affect the functioning of the EU's internal market. It is directly binding on the national administrative authorities as well as on private operators, whereas the Council Decision is legally binding on EU Member States.

3. Coronavirus: EU interoperability gateway

To exploit the full potential of contact tracing and warning apps to break the chain of coronavirus infections across borders and save lives, the Commission, at the invitation by EU Member States, has set up an EU-wide system to ensure interoperability – a so-called “gateway”.

After a successful pilot phase, the system goes live with the first wave of national apps now linked through this service: Germany's Corona-Warn-App, Ireland's COVID tracker, and Italy's immuni. Together, these apps have been downloaded by around 30 million people, which corresponds to two-thirds of all app downloads in the EU. Thierry **Breton**, Commissioner for Single Market, said: “Many Member States have launched voluntary contact tracing and warning apps, and the Commission has supported them in make these apps safely interact with each other. Free movement is an integral part of the Single Market – the gateway is facilitating this while helping save lives.” Stella **Kyriakides**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, added: “Coronavirus tracing and warning apps can effectively complement other measures like increased testing and manual contact tracing. With cases on the rise again, they can play an important role to help us break the transmission chains. When working across borders these apps are even more powerful tools. Our gateway system going live is an important step in our work, and I would call on citizens to make use of such apps, to help protecting each other.” Jens **Spahn**, Germany's Federal Minister of Health, said: “Everywhere in Europe, infections are on the rise again. Right now, national warning apps are making a real difference. Because every infection chain that, thanks to an app, is broken more quickly helps to contain the pandemic. With the new gateway service, we are connecting apps across Europe. Like this, contacts can also be warned during or following a trip abroad.”

In the fight against coronavirus, most Member States have decided to launch a contact tracing and warning app. In total, 20 apps which are based on decentralised systems can be interoperable through the gateway service. They can be linked to the gateway after following a protocol that foresees several tests and checks, and an update has to be issued for each app. The second group of apps will be linked next week. Then, Czechia's eRouška, Denmark's smite stop, Latvia's Apturi COVID and Spain's Radar Covid are expected to join, while further apps will be linked to the system in November. The overview of participating Member States is available on a dedicated [webpage](#). The gateway ensures that apps work seamlessly cross-borders. Thus, users will only need to install one app and when they travel to another participating European country they will still benefit from contact tracing and receiving alerts, be it in their home country or abroad. The gateway server keeps the amount of data exchanged to a minimum. It will efficiently receive and pass on arbitrary identifiers between national apps. No other information than arbitrary keys, generated by the apps, will be handled by the gateway: the information is pseudonym missed, encrypted, kept to the minimum, and only stored as long as necessary to trace back infections. It does not allow the identification of individual persons, nor to track location or movement of devices. The setup of the gateway follows the agreement by Member States on technical specifications to ensure a safe exchange of information between the backend servers of national contact tracing and warning apps based on a decentralised architecture. The system was developed and set up in less than two months by T-Systems and SAP, and will be operated from the Commission's data centre in Luxembourg.



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Background

Contact tracing apps, if fully compliant with EU rules and well-coordinated, can play a key role in all phases of crisis management. They can complement existing manual contact tracing and help interrupt the transmission chain of the virus. Thereby, they can contribute to saving lives. Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, Member States, backed by the Commission, have been assessing the effectiveness, security, privacy, and data protection aspects of digital solutions to address the crisis. They have developed an EU toolbox for contact tracing and warning apps, which was accompanied by guidance on data protection. This was part of a common coordinated approach to support the gradual lifting of confinement measures, as set out in a Commission Recommendation. To ensure tracing and warning apps work cross-border, Member States, with the support of the Commission agreed on interoperability guidelines in May,

on a set of technical specifications in June, and the Commission adopted an Implementing Decision to provide a legal basis for the gateway service. In September, the system was tested in a pilot phase.

4. New State of Nature report

The European Commission published its latest assessment of the state of nature in the European Union. It provides a comprehensive overview of the situation of Europe's most vulnerable species and habitats protected under EU nature laws.

Decline of protected habitats and species still continues, caused mostly by intensive agriculture, urbanisation, unsustainable forestry activities and changes to freshwater habitats. Pollution of air, water and soil also impacts habitats, as well as climate change, over-exploitation of animals through illegal harvesting and untenable hunting and fishing. If not addressed, this decline will inevitably result in the continued erosion of our biodiversity and the vital services it provides,



putting human health and prosperity at risk. The report underlines the clear need for action if we are to have any serious chance of putting Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, as envisaged in the new EU Biodiversity Strategy. In this regard, the full implementation of the goals and targets proposed in the Strategy, as well as in the Farm to Fork Strategy will be essential. The assessment – based on a more detailed technical report of the European Environment Agency – shows that while there are protected species and habitats that are managing to hold the line despite being subject to major pressure, the majority have poor or bad status at EU level, with some showing continued deteriorating trends. Among species, birds that are closely associated with agriculture continue to decline, while freshwater fish have the highest proportion of bad conservation status (38 %) primarily due to changes to waterbodies and water-flow and hydropower installations. Among habitats, only 15% of them are in good condition. Restoration of peatlands and other wetlands can

deliver nature benefits, but also significantly contribute to addressing climate change, creating employment opportunities in rural and peripheral areas. The report also shows that targeted conservation action brings results. The Iberian lynx, the forest reindeer and the otter, each of which has been targeted by major conservation projects, are now recovering. Initiatives under the EU LIFE programme, dedicated agri-environment schemes under the common agricultural policy, and the Natura 2000 network with its 27,000 sites continue to have a positive influence, but this needs to be scaled up considerably. Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus Sinkevičius said: *“This State of Nature assessment is the most comprehensive health check of nature ever undertaken in the EU. It shows, yet again, very clearly that we are losing our vital life support system. As much as 81 % of protected habitats are in poor condition in the EU. We urgently need to deliver on the commitments in the new EU Biodiversity Strategy to reverse this decline for the benefit of nature, people, climate and the economy.”* Hans Bruyninckx, Executive Director of the European Environment Agency, said: *“Our assessment shows that safeguarding the health and resilience of Europe's nature, and people's well-being, requires fundamental changes to the way we produce and consume food, manage and use forests, and build cities. These efforts need to be coupled with better implementation and enforcement of conservation policies, a focus on nature restoration, as well as increasingly ambitious climate action, especially in the transport and energy sector.”*

Background

Every six years, EU Member States report on the conservation status and trends of species and habitat types protected under the EU Directives. The present reporting cycle is the largest and most extensive data-gathering exercise ever undertaken on the state of Europe's nature. The report provides an analysis of data on status and trends related to all wild bird species occurring in the EU (460 species), 233 habitat types and almost 1400 other wild plants and animals of European interest. This knowledge will guide EU's action on biodiversity in the coming years, providing a crucial baseline for monitoring progress towards achieving the targets of the new EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030.

5. Vaccination strategies and vaccines deployment

As Europe learns to live with the pandemic, the development and swift global deployment of safe and effective vaccines against COVID-19 remains an essential element in the eventual solution to the public health crisis.

In this context, the Commission is working to ensure that there will be access to safe vaccines across Europe, and encourages a coordinated approach of vaccination strategies for deployment of the vaccines. The Commission is presenting the key elements to be taken into consideration by Member States for their COVID-19 vaccination strategies in order to prepare the European Union and its citizens for when a safe and effective vaccine is available, as well as priority

groups to consider for vaccination first. President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: *“A safe and effective vaccine is our best shot at beating coronavirus and returning to our normal lives. We have been working hard to make agreements with pharmaceutical companies and secure future doses. Now, we must ensure that once a vaccine is found, we are fully prepared to deploy it. With our Vaccination Strategy, we are helping EU countries prepare their vaccination campaigns: who should be vaccinated first, how to*



have a fair distribution and how to protect the most vulnerable. If we want our vaccination to be successful, we need to prepare now.” Vice-President for Promoting the European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinus**, said: *“While the evolution of the pandemic is getting back to March levels, our state of preparedness is not. We are adopting a milestone in the ongoing EU response to the COVID-19 pandemic; the aim is to ensure safe, affordable and accessible COVID-19 vaccines for all in the EU, once they will become available. It is only by acting together that we will avoid the cacophony and be more efficient than in the past.”* Stella **Kyriakides**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, said: *“It is with great concern that I am witnessing the increasingly rapid rise of infection rates all across the EU. Time is running out – everyone’s first priority should be to do what it takes to avoid the devastating consequences of generalised lockdowns. And we must all prepare for the next steps. The vaccine will not be a silver bullet, but it will play a central role to save lives and contain the pandemic. And when and if a safe and efficient vaccine is found, we need to be prepared to roll it out as quickly as possible, including building citizens’ trust in its safety and efficacy. Vaccines will not save lives – vaccinations will.”* In line with the 17 June EU Vaccines Strategy, the European Commission and Member States are securing the production of vaccines against COVID-19 through Advance Purchase Agreements with vaccine producers in Europe. Any vaccine will need to be authorised by the European Medicine Agency according to regular safety and efficacy standards. Member States should now start preparing a common vaccination strategy for vaccine deployment. Member States should, among others, ensure: capacity of vaccination services to deliver COVID-19 vaccines, including skilled workforce and medical and protective equipment; easy and affordable access to vaccines for target populations; deployment of vaccines with different characteristics and storage and transport needs, in particular in terms of cold chain, cooled transport and storage capacity; clear communication on the benefits, risks and importance of COVID-19 vaccines to build public trust.

All Member States will have access to COVID-19 vaccines at the same time on the basis of population size. The overall number of vaccine doses will be limited during the initial stages of deployment and before production can be ramped up. The Communication therefore provides examples of unranked **priority groups to be considered** by countries once COVID-19 vaccines become available, including: healthcare and long-term care facility workers; persons over 60 years of age; persons whose state of health makes them particularly at risk; essential workers; persons who cannot socially distance; more disadvantaged socio-economic groups. Whilst awaiting the arrival of approved vaccines against COVID-19, and in parallel to safeguarding the continuation of other essential healthcare and public health services and programmes, the EU must **continue mitigating the transmission of the virus**. This can be done through the protection of vulnerable groups and ensuring that citizens adhere to public health measures. Until then and most likely also throughout the initial vaccination rollout phases, non-pharmaceutical interventions, such as physical distancing, closure of public places and adapting the work environment, will continue to serve as the main public health tools to control and manage COVID-19 outbreaks.

Background

As Europe moves to the next stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is even more imperative that countries follow common vaccination strategies and approaches. At the **Special European Council meeting of 2 October**, Member States called on the Council and Commission to further step up the overall coordination effort and the work on the development and distribution of vaccines at EU level. On 24 September, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) published its **updated risk assessment** regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside a set of guidelines for non-pharmaceutical interventions (such as hand hygiene, physical distancing, cleaning and ventilation). As stressed by **President von der Leyen in the State of the Union 2020 Address**, Europe needs to continue to handle the COVID-19 pandemic with extreme care, responsibility and unity, and use the lessons learnt to strengthen the EU's crisis preparedness and management of cross-border health threats. On 15 July, the Commission adopted a **Communication on short-term EU health preparedness**, calling on Member States to have prevention, preparedness and response measures ready in case of future COVID-19 outbreaks. The Communication made a set of recommendations to achieve this, in the areas of e.g. testing, contact tracing and health system capacities. The effective implementation of these measures requires coordination and effective information exchange between Member States. The recommendations provided in the Strategy are still relevant and Member States are encouraged to follow them. One of the main action points necessary for Europe to overcome the coronavirus pandemic is accelerating the development, manufacturing, and deployment of vaccines against COVID-19. **The EU's vaccines strategy published in June charts the way forward. Vaccine safety, quality and efficacy** are the cornerstones of any vaccine development and authorisation process, and vaccine developers are required to submit extensive documentation and data to the European Medicines Agency through the EU Marketing Authorisation procedure. After authorisation, EU law requires that the safety of the vaccine as well as its effectiveness be **monitored**. Further evidence will need to be centrally collected to assess the impact and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines once rolled out in the population from a public health perspective. **This will be key to overcoming the pandemic and instilling confidence in Europeans.**

6. The European Commission has published its Renovation Wave Strategy

The European Commission has published its Renovation Wave Strategy to improve the energy performance of buildings.

The Commission aims to at least **double renovation rates in the next ten years and make sure renovations lead to higher energy and resource efficiency**. This will enhance the quality of life for people living in and using the buildings, reduce Europe's greenhouse gas emissions, foster digitalisation and improve the reuse and recycling of materials. By 2030, **35 million buildings could be renovated and up to 160,000 additional green jobs created** in the



construction sector. Buildings are responsible for about 40% of the EU's energy consumption, and 36% of greenhouse gas emissions from energy. But only 1% of buildings undergo energy efficient renovation every year, so effective action is **crucial to making Europe climate-neutral by 2050**. With nearly 34 million Europeans unable to afford keeping their homes heated, public policies to promote energy efficient renovation are also **a response to energy poverty**, support the health and wellbeing of people and help reduce their energy bills. The Commission has also

published a Recommendation for Member States on tackling energy poverty. Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal, Frans **Timmermans** said: *"We want everyone in Europe to have a home they can light, heat, or cool without breaking the bank or breaking the planet. The Renovation Wave will improve the places where we work, live and study, while reducing our impact on the environment and providing jobs for thousands of Europeans. We need better buildings if we want to build back better."* Commissioner for Energy, Kadri **Simson**, said: *"The green recovery starts at home. With the Renovation Wave we will tackle the many barriers that make renovation complex, expensive and time consuming, holding back much needed action. We*

will propose better ways to measure renovation benefits, minimum energy performance standards, more EU funding and technical assistance encourage green mortgages and support more renewables in heating and cooling. This will be a game changer for home-owners, tenants and public authorities.” The strategy will prioritise action in three areas: decarbonisation of heating and cooling; tackling energy poverty and worst-performing buildings; and renovation of public buildings such as schools, hospitals and administrative buildings. The Commission proposes to break down existing barriers throughout the renovation chain – from the conception of a project to its funding and completion - with a set of policy measures, funding tools and technical assistance instruments. The strategy will include the following lead actions: Stronger **regulations, standards and information on the energy performance of buildings to set better incentives for public and private sector renovations**, including a phased introduction of mandatory minimum energy performance standards for existing buildings, updated rules for Energy Performance Certificates, and a possible extension of building renovation requirements for the public sector; Ensuring accessible and **well-targeted funding**, including through the “Renovate” and “Power Up” Flagships in the Recovery and Resilience Facility **under NextGenerationEU**, simplified rules for combining different funding streams, and multiple incentives for private financing; **Increasing capacity** to prepare and implement renovation projects, from technical assistance to national and local authorities through to training and skills development for workers in **new green jobs**; Expanding the market for **sustainable construction products and services**, including the integration of new materials and nature-based solutions, and revised legislation on marketing of construction products and material reuse and recovery targets; Creating a **New European Bauhaus**, an interdisciplinary project co-steered by an advisory board of external experts including scientists, architects, designers, artists, planners and civil society. From now until summer 2021 the Commission will conduct a broad participatory co-creation process, and will then **set up a network of five founding Bauhaus in 2022** in different EU countries. Developing **neighbourhood-based approaches** for local communities to integrate renewable and digital solutions and create zero-energy districts, where consumers become prosumers selling energy to the grid. The strategy also includes an **Affordable Housing Initiative** for 100 districts. The review of the Renewable Energy Directive in June 2021 will consider strengthening the renewable heating and cooling target and introducing a minimum renewable energy level in buildings. The Commission will also examine how the EU budget resources alongside the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) revenues could be used to fund national energy efficiency and savings schemes targeting lower income populations. The Ecodesign Framework will be further developed to provide efficient products for use in buildings and promote their use. The Renovation Wave is not only about making the existing buildings more energy efficient and climate neutral. It can trigger a large-scale transformation of our cities and built environment. It can be an opportunity to start a forward-looking process to match sustainability with style. As announced by President von der Leyen, the Commission will launch the New European Bauhaus to nurture a new European aesthetic that combines performance with inventiveness. We want to make liveable environments accessible to everyone, and again marry the affordable with the artistic, in a newly sustainable future.



Background

The COVID-19 crisis has turned the spotlight on our buildings, their importance in our daily lives and their fragilities. Throughout the pandemic, the home has been the focal point of daily life for millions of Europeans: an office for those teleworking, a make-shift nursery or classroom for children and pupils, for many a hub for online shopping or entertainment. Investing in buildings can inject a much-needed stimulus into the construction sector and the macro-economy. Renovation works are labour-intensive, create jobs and investments rooted in often local supply chains, generate demand for highly energy-efficient equipment, increase climate resilience and bring long-term value to properties. To achieve the at least 55% emissions reduction target for 2030, proposed by the Commission in September 2020, the EU must reduce buildings' greenhouse gas emissions by 60%, their energy consumption by 14%, and the energy consumption of heating and cooling by 18%. European policy and funding has already had a positive impact on the energy efficiency of new buildings, which now consume only half the energy of those built over 20 years ago. However, 85% of buildings in the EU were built over 20 years ago, and 85-95% are expected to still be standing in 2050. The Renovation Wave is needed to bring them up to similar standards.

7. Commission adopts new Chemicals Strategy

The European Commission adopted the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability.

The Strategy is the first step towards a zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment announced in the European Green Deal. The Strategy will boost innovation for safe and sustainable chemicals, and increase protection of human health and the environment against hazardous chemicals. This includes prohibiting the use of the most harmful chemicals in consumer products such as toys, childcare articles, cosmetics, detergents, food contact materials



and textiles, unless proven essential for society, and ensuring that all chemicals are used more safely and sustainably. Chemicals Strategy fully recognises the fundamental role of chemicals for human well-being and for the green and digital transition of European economy and society. At the same time it acknowledges the urgent need to address the health and environmental challenges caused by the most harmful chemicals. In this spirit, the Strategy sets out concrete actions to make chemicals safe and sustainable by design and to ensure that chemicals can deliver all their benefits without harming the planet and current

and future generations. This includes ensuring that the most harmful chemicals for human health and the environment are avoided for non-essential societal use, in particular in consumer products and with regard to most vulnerable groups, but also that all chemicals are used more safely and sustainably. Several innovation and investment actions will be foreseen to accompany the chemicals industry through this transition. The Strategy also draws the attention of Member States to the possibilities of the Recovery and Resilience Facility to invest in the green and digital transition of EU industries, including in the chemical sector.

Increasing protection of health and the environment

The Strategy aims to significantly increase the protection of human health and the environment from harmful chemicals, paying particular attention to vulnerable population groups. Flagship initiatives include in particular: phasing out from consumer products, such as toys, childcare articles, cosmetics, detergents, food contact materials and textiles, the most harmful substances, which include among others endocrine disruptors, chemicals that affect the immune and respiratory systems, and persistent substances such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), unless their use is proven essential for society; minimising and substituting as far possible the presence of substances of concern in all products. Priority will be given to those product categories that affect vulnerable populations and those with the highest potential for circular economy; addressing the combination effect of chemicals (cocktail effect) by taking better account of the risk that is posed to human health and the environment by daily exposure to a wide mix of chemicals from different sources; ensuring that producers and consumers have access to information on chemical content and safe use, by introducing information requirements in the context of the Sustainable Product Policy Initiative.

Boosting innovation and promoting EU's competitiveness

Making chemicals safer and more sustainable is a continued necessity as well as a great economic opportunity. The Strategy aims to capture this opportunity and enable the green transition of the chemicals sector and its value chains. As far as possible, new chemicals and materials must be safe and sustainable by design i.e. from production to end of life. This will help avoid the most harmful effects of chemicals and ensure the lowest possible impact on climate, resource use, ecosystems and biodiversity. The Strategy envisages the EU industry as a globally competitive player in the production and use of safe and sustainable chemicals. The actions announced in the Strategy will support industrial innovation so that such chemicals become the norm on the EU market and a benchmark worldwide. This will be done mainly by: developing safe-and-sustainable-by-design criteria and ensuring financial support for the commercialisation and uptake of safe and sustainable chemicals; ensuring the development and uptake of safe and sustainable-by-design substances, materials and products through EU funding and investment instruments and public-private partnerships; considerably stepping up enforcement of EU rules both at the borders and in the single market; putting in place an EU research and innovation agenda for chemicals, to fill knowledge gaps on the impact of chemicals, promote innovation and move away from animal testing; simplifying and consolidating the EU legal framework – e.g. by

introducing the “One substance one assessment” process, strengthening the principles of “no data, no market” and introducing targeted amendments to REACH and sectorial legislation, to name a few. The Commission will also promote safety and sustainability standards globally, in particular by leading by example and promoting a coherent approach aiming that hazardous substances that are banned in the EU are not produced for exports. Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal Frans **Timmermans** said: *“The Chemicals Strategy is the first step towards Europe’s zero pollution ambition. Chemicals are part and parcel of our daily life, and they allow us to develop innovative solutions for greening our economy. But we need to make sure that chemicals are produced and used in a way that does not hurt human health and the environment. It is especially important to stop using the most harmful chemicals in consumer products, from toys and childcare products to textiles and materials that come in contact with our food”*. Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus **Sinkevicius** said: *“We owe our well-being and high living standards to the many useful chemicals that people have invented over the past 100 years. However, we cannot close our eyes to the harm that hazardous chemicals pose to our environment and health. We have come a long way regulating chemicals in the EU, and with this Strategy we want to build on our achievements and go further to prevent the most dangerous chemicals from entering into the environment and our bodies, and affecting especially the most fragile and vulnerable ones.”* Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella **Kyriakides** said: *“Our health should always come first. That is exactly what we have ensured in a Commission flagship initiative such as the Chemical Strategy. Chemicals are essential for our society and they must be safe and sustainably produced. But we need to be protected from the harmful chemicals around us. This Strategy shows our high level of commitment and our determination to protect the health of citizens, across the EU.”*

Background

In 2018, Europe was the second biggest producer of chemicals (accounting for 16.9% of sales). Chemical manufacturing is the fourth largest industry in the EU, directly employing approximately 1.2 million people. 59% of chemicals produced are directly supplied to other sectors, incl. health, construction, automotive, electronics, and textiles. Global chemicals production is expected to double by 2030, and the already widespread use of chemicals is likely to also increase, including in consumer products. The EU has a sophisticated chemicals legislation, which has generated the most advanced knowledge base on chemicals in the world and set up scientific bodies to carry out the risk and hazard assessments of chemicals. The EU has also managed to reduce the risks to people and the environment for certain hazardous chemicals like carcinogens. Yet, EU’s chemicals policy needs to be further strengthened to take into account the latest scientific knowledge and citizens concerns. Many chemicals can harm the environment and human health, including future generations. They can interfere with ecosystems and weaken human resilience and capacity to respond to vaccines. Human biomonitoring studies in the EU point to a growing number of different hazardous chemicals in human blood and body tissue, including certain pesticides, biocides, pharmaceuticals, heavy metals, plasticisers and flame retardants. Combined prenatal exposure to several chemicals has led to reduced foetal growth and lower birth rates.

8. Prolongation and extension of State aid Temporary Framework

The European Commission has decided to prolong and extend the scope of the State aid Temporary Framework adopted on 19 March 2020 to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak.

All sections of the Temporary Framework are prolonged for six months until 30 June 2021, and



the section to enable recapitalisation support is prolonged for three months until 30 September 2021. Executive Vice-President Margrethe **Vestager**, in charge of competition policy, said *“The Temporary Framework has supported Member States in their efforts to deal with the effects of the crisis. We prolong the Temporary Framework to cater for the continued needs of businesses, while protecting the EU’s Single Market. We also introduce a new measure to enable Member States to support companies facing significant*

turnover losses by contributing to part of their uncovered fixed costs. Finally, we introduce new possibilities for the State to exit from recapitalised companies while maintaining its previous

stake in those companies and limiting distortions to competition." The Temporary Framework was initially set to expire on 31 December 2020, except for recapitalisation measures that could be granted until 30 June 2021. The amendment prolongs at current thresholds the provisions of the Temporary Framework for an additional six months until 30 June 2021, except the recapitalisation measures which are prolonged for three months until 30 September 2021. The objective is to enable Member States to support businesses in the context of the coronavirus crisis, especially where the need or ability to use the Temporary Framework has not fully materialised so far, while protecting the level playing field. Before 30 June 2021, the Commission will review and examine the need to further prolong or adapt the Temporary Framework. This amendment also introduces a new measure to enable Member States to support companies facing a decline in turnover during the eligible period of at least 30% compared to the same period of 2019 due to the coronavirus outbreak. The support will contribute to a part of the beneficiaries' fixed costs that are not covered by their revenues, up to a maximum amount of €3 million per undertaking. Supporting these companies by contributing to part of their costs on a temporary basis aims at preventing the deterioration of their capital, maintaining their business activity and providing them with a strong platform to recover. This allows more targeted aid to companies that demonstrably need it.

Exit of the State from previously State-owned companies

The Commission has also adapted the conditions for recapitalisation measures under the Temporary Framework, in particular for the State's exit from the recapitalisation of enterprises where the State was an existing shareholder prior to the recapitalisation. The amendment allows the State to exit from the equity of such enterprises through an independent valuation, whilst restoring its previous shareholding and maintaining the safeguards to preserve effective competition in the Single Market.

Extension of the temporary removal of all countries from the list of "marketable risk" countries under the Short-term export-credit insurance Communication

Finally, taking into account the continued general lack of sufficient private capacity to cover all economically justifiable risks for exports to countries from the list of marketable risk countries, the amendment provides for an extension until 30 June 2021 of the temporary removal of all countries from the list of "marketable risk" countries under the Short-term export-credit insurance Communication.

Background on Temporary Framework and ongoing work to support the Recovery and Resilience Facility

On 19 March 2020, the Commission adopted a new State aid Temporary Framework to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak, based on Article 107(3)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The Temporary framework was first amended on 3 April 2020 to increase possibilities for public support to research, testing and production of products relevant to fight the coronavirus outbreak, to protect jobs and to further support the economy. It was further amended on 8 May to enable recapitalisation and subordinated debt measures, and on 29 June 2020 to further support micro, small and start-up companies and to incentivise private investments. The Temporary Framework recognises that the entire EU economy is experiencing a serious disturbance. It enables Member States to use the full flexibility foreseen under State aid rules to support the economy, while limiting negative consequences to the level playing field in the Single Market. Moreover, as Europe moves from crisis



management to economic recovery, State aid control will also accompany and facilitate the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility. In this context, the Commission will: engage with Member States to ensure investment projects supported by the Recovery and Resilience Facility are compatible with State aid rules. Indeed, certain infrastructure investments and direct support to citizens, fall outside State aid rules altogether and many measures do not need to be notified since they fall under block exemptions; provide guidance to Member States as regards the flagship investment projects, including by providing templates; and push ahead with revising key State aid rules by the end of 2021 to accommodate the green and digital transitions. In addition, the Commission will assess in which areas State aid rules could be further streamlined in view of achieving the recovery objectives. The Commission will assess all State aid notifications received from Member States in the context of the Recovery and Resilience Facility as a matter of priority.

9. EU-wide coordination of measures restricting free movement

Following the proposal of the Commission on 4 September 2020, EU ministers have reached an agreement that will provide more clarity and predictability on measures that restrict free movement due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Commission welcomes the adoption by the Council and issued the following statement:

“Our right to move freely across the EU has been severely impacted by the pandemic. On top of this, citizens have been faced with so many different rules and procedures, unclear information about areas of high and low risk, and a lack of clarity about what to do when travelling. A month ago, the Commission put forward a proposal on how to address these challenges and support the millions of EU citizens who travel in the EU every day. The Member States have reached an



agreement on how to put this into practice. We welcome this agreement to bring more order to a currently confusing situation. The coming together of Member States sends a strong signal to citizens and is a clear example of the EU acting where it absolutely should. We have learned our lessons: we will not surmount the crisis by unilaterally closing borders, but by working together. A common map with common colour codes based on common criteria, produced by the European Centre for Disease Control, is the first important outcome. We now call on Member States to ensure that the necessary data is

provided so that the map can be updated on a weekly basis with accurate information on the epidemiological situation in the EU and its regions. Secondly, while Member States can still decide what restrictive measures they apply such as quarantine or tests, we call on Member States to ensure that citizens are given clear and timely information about what they must do, and which restrictions are in force, as per the agreement. Member States also agreed on the mutual recognition of tests, and we will continue to work with them on better coordination of testing and quarantine requirements. For the millions of citizens with an essential reason to travel, be it for important family reasons, for their livelihoods, or to ensure that we receive the goods we need, agreement will also be a welcome improvement to a currently precarious situation. No quarantine measures should be applied in these cases. Our strength as a Union is when we act as one, to protect our common rights and freedoms and the health of our citizens. The agreement is a good example of this.” All information about travelling in the EU will be available on the “Re-open EU” platform, where the common map published regularly by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control will also be cross-referenced. With regard to any restrictions to free movement, Member States should provide clear, comprehensive and timely information, including about any accompanying requirements (for example negative tests for COVID-19 infection or passenger locator forms), as well as the measures applied to travellers travelling from higher risk areas) as early as possible before new measures come into effect. As a general rule, this information should be published 24 hours before the measures come into effect, taking into account that some flexibility is required for epidemiological emergencies. This information will also be made available on the “Re-open EU” web platform.

- [Re-open EU](#)
- [European Centre for Disease Control](#)

Background

The right of European citizens to move and reside freely within the European Union and the lack of border checks at internal borders are among the most cherished achievements of the European Union, as well as an important driver of our economy. Any restrictions to the fundamental right of free movement within the EU should only be used where strictly necessary and be coordinated, proportionate and non-discriminatory to address public health risks. To limit the spread of the coronavirus outbreak, Member States have adopted various measures, some of which have had an impact on free movement. A well-coordinated, predictable and transparent approach to the adoption of restrictions on freedom of movement is necessary to prevent the spread of the virus, safeguard the health of citizens as well as maintain free movement within the Union, under safe conditions. This is important for the millions of citizens who rely on frictionless cross-border travel every day, and crucial for our economic recovery efforts.

10. Reform priorities for countries aiming to join the EU

The Commission adopted its Communication on EU enlargement policy and the 2020 Enlargement Package: The annual reports, assessing the implementation of fundamental reforms in the Western Balkans and Turkey, are presented together with clearer and more precise recommendations and guidance on the next steps for those partners, in line with the enhanced enlargement methodology.



EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell, said: "The citizens of the Western Balkans are part of Europe and they belong in the European Union. This reports on the Enlargement Package provides a rigorous assessment that indicates the way forward, highlighting what has been achieved and where there is still hard work to be done."

Presenting the annual Enlargement Package, EU Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, Olivér Várhelyi, commented: "From the start of the mandate of this Commission, my aim has been to make sure both our partners in the Western Balkans and our Member States regain trust in the accession process. Our rigorous but fair assessments presented detail where the countries stand with the reforms, with clearer guidance and recommendations on the future steps. Their dynamic implementation will speed up their progress on EU path and bring long-lasting results. In parallel, we have presented an Economic and Investment plan to spur their long term recovery and accelerate their economic convergence with the EU."

Western Balkans

A credible enlargement policy is a geostrategic investment in peace, security and economic growth in the whole of Europe, more so in times of increasing global challenges and divisions. The firm and merit-based prospect of full EU membership for the Western Balkans is in the European Union's very own political, security and economic interest. The Commission's Communication "Enhancing the accession process – A credible EU perspective for the Western Balkans", endorsed by Member States in March 2020, set out concrete proposals for strengthening the accession process, by making it more predictable, more credible, more dynamic and subject to stronger political steering. The strengthened approach underlines the importance of a merit-based accession process built on trust, mutual confidence and clear commitments by the European Union and the Western Balkans, with an even stronger focus on fundamental reforms. Credible progress in the rule of law area remains a significant challenge, which often correlates with a lack of political will. A slow pace in judicial culture continues throughout the Western Balkans region without sufficient commitment to the principle of judicial independence. The overall pace in the fight against corruption has slowed down and the track record in most partners is far from meeting the requirements for membership, whilst in the area of freedom of expression and media pluralism there has been the least progress last year. For the first time, the Commission assesses the overall balance in the accession negotiations with both Montenegro and Serbia and proposes the way ahead. This should allow the intergovernmental conferences, which should take place after the publication of the Commission's annual package, to provide the fora for political dialogue on reforms, take stock of the overall accession process and set out the planning for the year ahead, including the opening and closing of chapters and possible corrective measures. In the case of Albania and North Macedonia, the Commission looks forward to the first intergovernmental conferences to be convened as soon as possible after the adoption of the negotiating frameworks by the Council. The Commission confirmed further



progress in the implementation of reforms in Albania and North Macedonia. Albania has already made decisive progress and is close to meeting the conditions set by the Council in view of the first intergovernmental conference. Bosnia and Herzegovina is expected to address 14 key priorities from the Commission's Opinion on its EU membership application, with only some steps taken so far. As regards Kosovo, limited progress was made on EU related reforms and it is important that Kosovo authorities redouble their efforts to advance on the European path, including through the implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. The Commission also adopted a comprehensive **Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans**, which aims to spur the long-term recovery of the region, a green and digital transition, foster economic regional cooperation, boost economic growth and support reforms required to move forward on the EU path.

Turkey

Turkey remains a key partner for the European Union. However, Turkey has continued to move further away from the European Union with serious backsliding in the areas of democracy, rule of law, fundamental rights and the independence of the judiciary. As stated by the Council in 2018 and 2019, Turkey's accession negotiations have effectively come to a standstill and no further chapters can be considered for opening or closing. The report presented confirms that the underlying facts leading to this assessment still hold, despite the government's repeated commitment to the objective of EU accession. Dialogue and cooperation with Turkey have continued, in particular on addressing challenges related to migration, despite concerns over the events at the Greek-Turkish border in March 2020. The reports also outlines how Turkey's foreign policy increasingly collided with the EU priorities under the Common Foreign and Security Policy.

Next steps

It is now for the Council to consider the recommendations of the Commission and take decisions on the steps ahead.

Background

Enlargement process

The current enlargement agenda covers the partners of the Western Balkans and Turkey. Accession negotiations have been opened with Montenegro (2012), Serbia (2014), and Turkey (2005). In March 2020, Member States agreed to open accession negotiations with North Macedonia and Albania. Bosnia and Herzegovina (application to join the EU submitted in February 2016) and Kosovo (Stabilisation and Association Agreement entered into force in April 2016) are potential candidates. The EU accession process continues to be based on established criteria, fair and rigorous conditionality, and the principle of own merits. EU accession



requires the implementation of complex reforms in a challenging environment; an objective which can only be achieved in the long term. For the process to move forward, accession candidates need, as a matter of priority, to deliver more swiftly genuine and sustainable results on key issues: the rule of law, justice reform, fight against corruption and organised crime, security, fundamental rights, functioning of democratic institutions and public administration reform, as well as on economic development and competitiveness. Further progress on reconciliation, good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation are also of key importance. Reporting in this year's enlargement package also reflects the proposals of the enhanced approach to the accession process. The assessments and recommendations for the partners, especially the forward-looking guidance on specific reform priorities, are even clearer and more precise. The reports provide greater transparency, including on the state of play of the accession negotiations and the extent to which fundamental reforms are being implemented. Comparative overviews of performance on the

fundamentals are provided, as well as external indices to complement the Commission's assessments. Stronger contributions were solicited from Member States, who were consulted during the process and provided input and expertise, including through their Embassies on the ground. The reports also include assessments of the public political commitment of authorities to the strategic goal of EU accession.

11. #DiscoverEU photo & video #Competition



Take part in the DiscoverEU Competition and get a chance to win amazing prizes. There is one competition per month, starting on 1 July and ending on 31 October 2020. The central theme of our competition is: Expand your comfort zone with #DiscoverEU, even if at home!

October theme: TasteEU! From local delicacies to international treats, the world is your oyster!

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://europa.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

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 winners will receive a prize worth of 100 EUR. Share your favourite EU food – it can be a delicious recipe you made at home, tasty treats you've eaten during your DiscoverEU, something you've tried for the first time recently, anything! Be imaginative & you could be one of our winners! [Read the full Terms & Conditions.](#)

12. North-South Centre of the Council of Europe traineeship opportunities

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe offers traineeships twice a year for a period of three (minimum) to five (maximum) months. Each year the sessions take place as follows: First session: March 1 - July 31, 2021: application period: 1-29 September 2020. Shortlisting: September 30 - November 20, 2020. Deadline for notification to applicants: December 15, 2020. Second session: between September 7 and January 31 2021 (if agreed by both parties and earlier start might be considered) - Deadline March 19, 2021. Applications that are incomplete or received after the deadline will not be processed. Nationals of the member states of the North-South Centre and/or the Council of Europe. Candidates who have already completed an internship at the Council of Europe or any of its institutions are not eligible. **Requirements:** Completion of higher education or successful completion of at least three years of university study; A very good knowledge of one of the Council of Europe's official languages (English and French) and a good knowledge of the other; Good drafting ability. The duties to which trainees are assigned include assisting with the preparation of activities, research, different types of drafting and other day-to-day administrative tasks.



Conditions

The North-South Centre covers its trainees for medical and accident insurance during the traineeship period and a monthly basic allowance of 200€. Trainees are entitled to two days leave per month. The usual working hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 17:30.

How to apply?

Please fill in the available application and follow instructions for sending CV and Motivation Letter. All applications must be completed in either English or French. Applications received in other languages will not be taken into consideration. For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).

13. World Bank Internship Program

The World Bank Internship Program is now accepting applications through October 31st for its Winter Term (November 2020 – March 2021).



The World Bank (WB) Internship Program offers highly motivated individuals an opportunity to be exposed to the mission and work of the World Bank. The internship allows individuals to bring new perspectives, innovative ideas and research experience into the Bank's work, while improving skills in a diverse environment. In addition, it is a great way to enhance CVs with practical work experience. Internships are available in both development operations and other business units (such as Human Resources, Communications, Accounting, etc.) however, availability during a given internship term is based on business need. **To access the application, please click the**

apply button, noting that only selected candidates will be contacted.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for an Internship, candidates must have an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program (pursuing a master's degree or PhD with plans to return to school full-time). There is no age limit. Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of languages such as: French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Portuguese, and Chinese is desirable. Other skills such as computing skills are advantageous. We value diversity in our workplace, and encourage all qualified individuals, particularly women, with diverse professional and academic backgrounds to apply. Our aim is to attract and recruit the best talent in the world.

Additional Information

The WB Internship Program typically seeks candidates for: Operations (Front Line) in the following fields: economics, finance, human development (public health, education, nutrition, population), social sciences (anthropology, sociology), agriculture, environment, engineering, urban planning, natural resources management, private sector development, and other related fields; or Corporate support (Accounting, Communications, Human Resources Management, Information Technology, Treasury, and other corporate services). The WB pays an hourly salary to all Interns and, where applicable, provides an allowance toward travel expenses up to USD 3,000 at the discretion of the manager. These travel expenses can only include transport expenses (airfare) to or from the duty station city. Interns are responsible for their own accommodations. Driven by business needs, most Intern positions are based in Washington, DC with a few others in the WB country offices. Usually, internship opportunities are for a minimum of four weeks. The WB Internship is offered twice a year: **Summer Internship** (May–September): The application period is December 1–January 31 each year. **Winter Internship** (November–March): The application period is October 1-31 each year. All applications must be submitted online and during the respective application period. (We do not accept applications by email.) J1 visa holders need to obtain a G4 visa abroad prior to starting employment or unpaid internship at the WB. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

14. Traineeship at the ECHA

ECHA looks for newly-qualified graduates who are willing to make a contribution to the everyday work of the Agency. There are up to 20 graduate traineeship opportunities per year in scientific fields such as chemistry, toxicology, biology, environmental science and technologies, and administrative duties such as law, communications, finance, human resources and ICT. The traineeships usually start in the beginning of March or September. The trainee scheme is designed for: Recent university graduates and holders of a technical or professional qualification of an equivalent level in fields relevant to



applicable chemicals legislation or other fields relevant to the administration tasks of an EU institution; Public or private sector employees engaged in graduate-level work in fields relevant to applicable chemicals legislation. Traineeships may last from three to six months and may not be extended beyond six months. The graduate trainee scheme offers a grant of approximately 1,300

euro. Trainees who continue to receive remuneration from their employer, or any other grant or allowance will only be entitled to a grant from ECHA if the amount they receive is less than the one indicated above. In this case, trainees will receive an amount equal to the difference between their income and the level of ECHA's grant. Trainees in employment must provide a declaration of remuneration, expenses and allowances signed by their employer.

Eligibility Criteria

To apply for a graduate traineeship you must:

- Be a national of a Member State of the EU or a national of the European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein). Nationals of candidate countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy can also be accepted according to the availability of budgetary resources and the ECHAs capacity to host them. A limited number of nationals of non-Member States may also be accepted;
- Be able to communicate in English as this is the working language of ECHA;
- Have obtained a university degree or equivalent or engaged in graduate-level work in fields relevant ECHA.

You will be invited for a telephone and/or face-to-face interview if you are selected. Trainees do not benefit from sickness insurance. Before the start of your traineeship you must prove you are covered by a sickness and accident insurance valid in Finland. Traineeships are not offered to applicants who have already been a trainee in a European institution or body, employed by a European institution or body, or worked for ECHA as an interim staff member, researcher or in house expert for more than eight weeks. The next deadlines are scheduled for **8 November**. For more information please consult the following [link](#).

15. Traineeship at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

Approximately twenty internships are available each year for young government officials or students of law, international relations, public relations, political science, library science and translation. The programme is designed to give participants the opportunity to gain an understanding of the work and functions of the Tribunal and to enable the Tribunal and its members to benefit from the assistance of persons with relevant knowledge and skills in areas within the scope of activities of the Tribunal. Participants in the programme are expected to be able to contribute to the work of the Tribunal in fields such as the law of the sea, public international law, international organizations and international relations, political science, public information, publications and library science, and translation.



Structure of the Programme

The Tribunal's Internship Programme is normally a full-time programme, although other arrangements are possible. Internships usually cover a period of three months, from January to March, April to June, July to September and October to December. In exceptional cases, individual internships may be extended. Under supervision, the intern carries out assignments for members of the Tribunal and the Registry. Internships are offered in the following departments:

- **Legal Office** Interns are expected to carry out research on a variety of legal issues and prepare memoranda and reports for the Legal Office. Interns will be requested to conduct research on a specific topic and give an oral presentation to the Legal Office. They will work with the other interns serving at the Tribunal on the preparation of weekly press reviews.
- **Library** The Library provides research services to the Judges, Registry staff, interns, and external visitors using numerous online databases and maintaining a vast collection of books, loose leaves and journals on the law of the sea, public international law and maritime law. Interns will assist with daily operations including but not limited to: database maintenance, assistance with research, document processing, records management, copy cataloguing, conducting bibliographic research for collection development, organizing UN Documents; collection maintenance (shelf reading, shelving, inventory).
- **Linguistic Services** Since the working languages of the Tribunal are English and French, interns in Linguistic Services should have one of these languages as their mother tongue and an excellent knowledge of the other. Computer literacy is essential and familiarity with

translation tools and database management is desirable. Interns are involved with document preparation, referencing and research and other related tasks as required.

- **Press Office** Interns in the Press Office are involved in the daily tasks of the Press Office, drafting public relations material, compiling press coverage reviews, assisting with the organisation of visits and events and putting together presentation material for Registry use.

Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria are used to determine eligibility for the Internship Programme:

Applicants should:

- have completed at least three years of university studies;
- normally be engaged in a degree-granting or postgraduate programme at the time of application and also during the internship;
- normally not be more than 35 years of age;
- have a good command of English and/or French;
- and have an interest in international law, in particular international law of the sea, international affairs or international institutions and organizations. In the selection of candidates due consideration will be given to geographical diversity and gender balance.

Application Procedure

Persons who are interested in participating in the internship programme at the Tribunal in Hamburg should submit a duly completed [application form](#). A résumé, with grade transcript or list of courses taken and, if available, a brief sample of research work in English or French, should accompany the application form. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications should be sent to the Tribunal to meet the deadlines below:

Internship period

- January to March: application to be submitted by 30 September of previous year
- **April to June: application to be submitted by 31 December of previous year**
- July to September: application to be submitted by 31 March
- October to December: application to be submitted by 30 June

Trust Fund for the Law of the Sea

A "Trust Fund for the Law of the Sea" was established in 2010 and contributions have been made to it by Korwind, a Hamburg-based Korean company, the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. The trust fund is aimed at providing financial assistance to aspiring internship programme participants from developing countries. In addition to the standard requirements for participation in the programme, the following criteria apply in determining eligibility for internship funding:

- applicants must be nationals of a developing country included in the [OECD list](#) and should normally be resident in that country;
- and applicants should be in need of financial assistance to help cover the travel and living costs associated with an internship in Hamburg.

Persons interested in applying for funding for participation in the Tribunal's internship programme should submit the [online application form](#) and a covering letter of no more than one page explaining why an internship at the Tribunal is important to the applicant, how it would fit in with the applicant's academic and career goals and what benefits the applicant expects to derive from the programme. Candidates should indicate their intention to apply for funding when they submit their internship application form. Late applications for funding will not be considered.

Conditions of Internship

Interns are not paid. The cost of travel and accommodation, as well as living expenses, are the responsibility of interns or their sponsoring institutions, unless funding is awarded from the Trust Fund. Interns are responsible for obtaining the necessary visas and arranging their travel to and accommodation in Hamburg. An information sheet on temporary accommodation may be obtained from the Internship Coordinator. The Tribunal accepts no responsibility for costs arising from accidents and/or illness during an internship. Interns must therefore show proof of valid regular as well as major medical insurance and provide a medical certificate stating that they are in good health. Interns must keep confidential any and all unpublished information obtained during the course of the internship and may not publish any reports or papers based on such information even after the completion of the internship, except with the explicit authorization of the Tribunal.

Certificate

Upon successful completion of the internship, interns receive a certificate. The certificate will, inter alia, state the period of internship, give examples of the allocated tasks and evaluate the intern's performance. **More information are available at the following [link](#).**

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

In date 9 September 2020, our association, together with all the project partners, realised an online meeting (to replace the meeting in Greece which was not feasible due to the pandemic still in progress) of 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

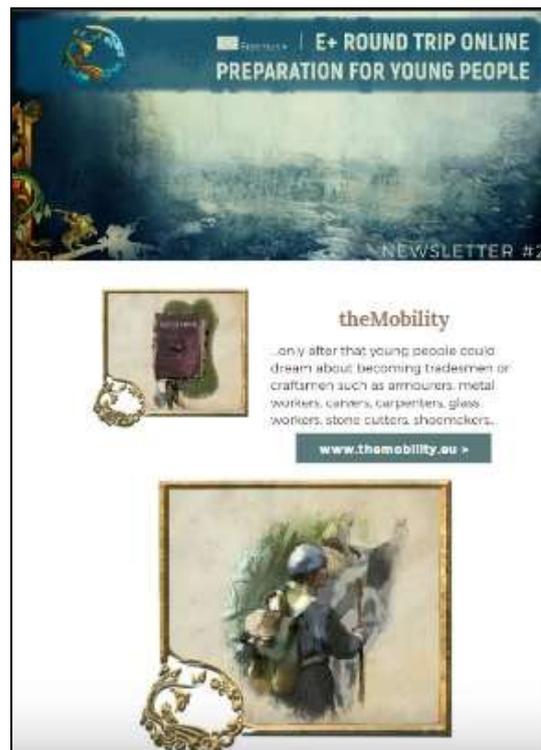


and obstacles to discrimination through the provision of education and training. During the meeting the partners discussed the problems created by the pandemic and the development of the project activities at the current date, finally they defined the new deadlines and further steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. 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 in the framework of the

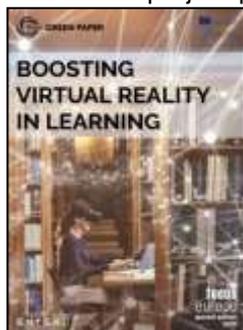
Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark. The project' partners are: AALBORG UNIVERSITET (Denmark); MARKEUT SKILLS SOCIEDAD LIMITADA (Spain); KAINOTOMIA & SIA EE (Greece); DANMAR COMPUTERS SP ZOO (Poland); EURO-NET (Italy); CROSSING BORDERS (Denmark). More information on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FAMET-117061303388382/>.

17. E+ Round Trip: realize two newsletters

The two newsletters planned within the project E+ Round Trip Online Preparation for Young People" have been published. The project is an initiative approved by the Romanian National Agency Erasmus Plus in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. The partnership is composed of: S.C. Predict Csd Consulting S.R.L. (Romania) project coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Dacorom Council For Voluntary Service Ltd (UK); Asociatia Millennium Center Arad (Romania); Grobes Schiff (Austria). The project wants to create a more modern, dynamic, committed and professional environment for young people. The main objectives are: to create an online pre-departure course tested by 150 young people and created for future European volunteers; improve the preparation of 150 young people for potential future youth exchanges; to increase the valorisation skills of 150 people - participants in the online form and potential participants in experiences abroad. The "E+ ROUND TRIP" platform, hosting innovative and practical online tools for orientation and preparation, useful in all kinds of projects devoted to working with youth (youth exchanges, European volunteering) will also function as database for future actions. This online platform will use participatory approaches and ICT-based methodologies to create or improve processes of recognition and validation of competences of young people. You can already follow the development of the activities on the official Facebook page of the project at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/eplusroundtrip/>.



18. The DESK project: mentioned in Green Paper magazine



The DESK project partners (including, of course, EURO-NET, Europe Direct Basilicata Centre) are excited and honored to be present in Green Paper magazine which presents the most important current EU projects working on the challenges and opportunities of VR (virtual reality), AR (augmented reality) and XR (extended reality) in the economy, society, research and education. The project "An Adult Digital education Skills Kit to Foster Employability" (acronym DESK) 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/>.

19. Fourth meeting of the Europe City Teller project

It took place in Berlin last 15-16 September the fourth meeting of the European project "EU-ACT" (action n° 2018-1-IT02-KA204-048011), approved by Italian National Agency Indire in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the meeting the partners not only took stock of the activities to be developed and defined the steps of the project to be carried out in the coming months, but also took a guided and interactive tour of the city of Berlin created within the project. The European initiative, coordinated by EURO-NET as leader of the activities, sees engaged from 01 October 2018 to 31 December 2020 a partnership composed not only by the our association, but also by 4 other organizations: Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Euro-Idea Fundacja Spoleczno-Kulturalna (Poland), Integralt Kifejezes- es Tancterapias Egyesulet (Hungary) and Interacting UK Limited (England). The aim of this project is to develop a new kind of tourism, to promote local traditions, to pay attention on sustainability, to protect and valorise the cultural heritage, natural beauty and local culture in line with the new tourism market and tourists need. The main objective of the project is to give value to the European Year of Cultural Heritage, enhancing the potential of cultural tourism in particular cities: Matera, Berlin, Krakow, Budapest and Billingham/Stockton-on-Tees. In fact, through local culture and traditions, with a mix of theatre and new digital technologies, it will be possible to promote a new, modern and innovative tourist offer with a certain and positive impact on the jobs connected to it. In fact, the project aims to create various tourist routes in the indicated cities, enhancing the cultural and natural heritage, as well as the legends of the territories concerned. The project also wants to offer, in each of the countries involved, at least 15 young NEETs (young people without perspectives and in situations of unease of various kinds) the opportunity to become European Story-Tellers who, combining history and traditions with augmented reality and 2D animations, can create a real job in the tourism sector. Specifically, EU-ACT will develop 3 different intellectual products: a path of theatrical tours with young "drivers", who, in historical dress, will tell the legends of their cities; an online platform containing insights and news about these stories and locations; an augmented reality APP, for mobile devices, connected to a paper/game guide, to make use of the contents created in real time and to lead the tourist to discover the planned historical paths with interactive video-animations. More information on the project can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Europe-City-Teller1552751178163969/> and on the internet website <http://www.europecitytellers.eu>.



20. First meeting of the "Green Routes" project

In date 16-17 September took place in Berlin the first meeting of the "Green Routes" project approved as Action No. 2020-1-DE02-KA204-007652 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education programme. During the project meeting the partners examined the activities to be developed and defined the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. The main objective of Green Routes is to create a toolkit to promote sustainable solutions and trends in urban areas. The toolkit will be created through the three intellectual outputs and a training methodology. The Promenade Theatre and storytelling Input Training will produce scenarios for educational tours in augmented reality both live and virtual on sustainability issues. The scenarios can be used by educators to create the tours while the training plans will be documented in a paper guide. The virtual tours can be followed through an Augmented Reality App, which will also interact with the guide. All educational products and guidelines, as well as the practices and experiences gathered during the training, will be stored in the Green Routes Online Tour and Learning Hub, a one-stop-shop for any educator, individual or entrepreneur interested in green education in the chosen cities. The following intellectual products are foreseen in the project: Green Routes Educational Tour and Guidebook; Green Routes Online Tour and Learning Hub; Green Routes augmented reality app. The partnership is composed of: CRN (Germany); EURO-NET (Italy); Interacting UK Limited (England); PANEPISTIMIO THESSALIAS (Greece); Euro-Idea Fundacja Społeczno-Kulturalna (Poland); IZMIR KATIP CELEBI UNIVERSITESI (Turkey). More information about the project can be found on the project's Facebook page at the web address: <https://www.facebook.com/Green-Routes-108204151034392/>.



21. New project approved: "Queer Migrants"

We are pleased to inform you that the project "Queer Migrants: Addressing gaps in adult education and social cohesion" (Action n.2020-1-UK01-KA204-079101) has been approved in England by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in the UK. It is a KA2 initiative, a Strategic Partnership for Adult Education aimed at improving social cohesion and enabling the inclusion of LGBT migrants. An important signal in this moment in which Potenza has unfortunately been dragged into a national controversy on this issue by a short-sighted administrator. More information about the project will be available shortly in our next newsletters.



22. Virtual meeting of the "IntegrateME!" project

In date 24 September our association, together with all the project partners, held the second online meeting, of the European project "IntegrateME: The development of a VET Open Educational Resource on Cultural Literacy towards the integration of immigrants and refugees in the EU in the frames of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development focus of "leaving no one behind" (acronym "IntegrateME!"). The initiative was approved as 2019-1-UK01-KA202-062109 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET program. The project focuses on the role of VET trainers/teachers/Tutors in promoting the cultural literacy of immigrants and refugees towards their regular integration into



the diverse society of the European Union. The partnership is composed of 6 different organisations from 6 different States: SIRIUS TRAINING CIC (UK); EURO-NET (Italy); Balkanska Agenciya za Ustoychivo Razvitiye (Bulgaria); WYZSZA SZKOLA BIZNESU I NAUK O ZDROWIU (Poland); MPIRMPAKOS D. & SIA O.E. (Greece); STANDO LTD (Cyprus). During the project meeting the partners took stock of the activities to be developed and defined the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the development of the activities on the official Facebook page at the internet address: <https://www.facebook.com/Integrateme-110797257073942>.

23. EU-ACT: three newsletters produced and published

In these days, the three newsletters already produced within the project "Europe City-Teller: Cultural mediation & storytelling for tourism between theatre, multimedia and storytelling" (acronym "EU-ACT")



have also been published on issuu.com in order to facilitate their further dissemination. EU-ACT is a project approved by the Italian National Agency Erasmus Plus INDIRE in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education Programme. The project aims to operate within the renewed context of policies in the European cultural tourism sector, to adapt to new trends of tourists in search of authentic cultural experiences, with the aim of developing a quality offer, promoting local customs and traditions, paying attention to sustainability, protecting and enhancing local heritage, landscapes and culture. The EU-ACT project intends to be part of the transnational strategy on cultural tourism promoted by the European Commission, which aims at carrying out a series of activities to promote transnational tourism skills and products in relation to specific themes with a significant growth potential and to respond to

social concerns, territorial cohesion and protection/valorisation of natural and cultural heritage. Specifically, EU-ACT's main objective is to transfer to operators, educators and mediators new knowledge and skills in the field of cultural mediation and theatrical and digital storytelling, with the aim of co-creating new cultural tourism products that can be spent on the market. EU-ACT intends to accompany the realisation of these products, through international experiences, promoted by a strategic partnership, made up of organisations expert in the fields of theatre, design and digital programming, storytelling methodologies applied to cultural heritage, coming from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Germany and the UK. The partnership aims to develop and share the good practices developed by individual organisations to create a collective working methodology. The project will have a total duration of 27 months and will include: training activities; various project meetings; preparatory activities for the creation of three intellectual products that will be subsequently presented in the context of multiplier events that each partner will organise in the respective city chosen and that will be addressed to an audience of European/extra-European citizens and tourists. The project aims to: implement new training methodologies; increase knowledge of European cultural heritage; give accessibility to European cultural heritage through the web; increase accessibility to European cultural heritage through digital technologies; transfer educational methodologies. You can follow the development of the activities on the website <http://www.europacitytellers.eu/> or on the official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/916579528729710/>.



24. ANG inRadio #piùdiPrima Potenza Changemakers: podcast links

From 23 September to 19 October, thirteen radio podcasts were produced by our "ANG inRadio #piùdiPrima POTENZA CHANGEMAKERS", an initiative approved, as action n.ANG-2020-IR+-09, by the National Youth Agency to the EURO-NET association within the public call for financing youth initiatives for the creation of a Digital Radio Network "ANGinRadio #piùdiPrima"



aimed at the new generations. The project is carried out by 16 young people between the ages of 18 and 30 and aims to promote a Lucanian web radio, located in the city of Potenza, which 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 pass through than existing opportunities (on a European, national and local basis). Below there is the list of all the radio podcasts realized till now with links to listen to the broadcasts with the related topics:

- **23 September: Illustration project Anginradio - Rocco Monetta**
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=635089070530138&extid=agpRwnZ0EyyYlezi>
- **24 September: Working in the social world - Simone Amendola**
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=635089070530138&extid=3d9Mf3aUK6NHB9S>
- **25 September: A doctor from Lucania in the Covid emergency (interview) - Federico Liguori**
<https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/podcast-federico1?fbclid=IwAR2VWAqi2JO-UcSOa61ygO1nmGvorR2XAlxkaIRQLYWOiRoX-4cGAmr3uM>
- **28 September: The European Social Fund - Palma Bertani**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/3524763304254415>
- **29 Settembre: Green deal - Santain Italiano**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/347447356464649>
- **30 September: "Time To Care" Call for Proposals - Giulia Lo Sardo**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/641786740065375>
- **01 October: Network Europeans in Italy - Elena Franchomme**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/328698878203545>
- **07 October: How to defend yourself against fake news – Alessia Di Tolla**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/257713278926904/>
- **08 October: Next Generation EU – Santain Italiano**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/386514509048101>
- **09 October: Scenarios of the work, and attitudes to keep – Simone Amendola**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/639375146965584>
- **12 October: Which are the Skills to adopt with the advent of Smart Working?– Rocco Monetta**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/1035666516883028>
- **13 October: The circular economy and the "CircleVet" project– Giovanna Imbesi**
<https://www.facebook.com/584009225593455/videos/3425710857654864>
- **15 October: European Voluntary Service – Palma Bertani**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/384025119439787>

On 16 October, another meeting of the youth editorial staff of #ANGinRadioPotenzaCHANGEMAKERS was held in which they took stock of the podcasts produced and the interviews to be carried out with the role models. Other meetings in schools were also scheduled (Covid permitting). And on 17 October, the kick off meeting of the 100 radio stations of the Ang network, including ours, took place: news on European programmes and networking opportunities to expand the network of contacts and knowledge were the themes of the meeting. You can follow the initiative on the Facebook page at the internet address: <https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers>.

25. Online meeting of the project "Creativity training for Europe" project

In date 24 September took place an online meeting of the project "Creativity training for Europe", an initiative approved as Action n.2018-1- ES01-KA204-050065 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education programme by the Spanish National Agency. During the meeting the activities already developed were reviewed and have discussed the next steps that will be developed by the project partners, coming from five different countries, namely Spain (Academia Postal 3 Vigo S.L.), The Netherlands (Stichting Amsterdam European Mobility), UK (Lancaster and Morecambe College), Italy (EURO-NET), and Cyprus (A&A Emphasys Interactive Solutions Ltd). More project details are available on the web site <https://creativitytrainingproject.netsons.org/> or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CT-656366741444085>.



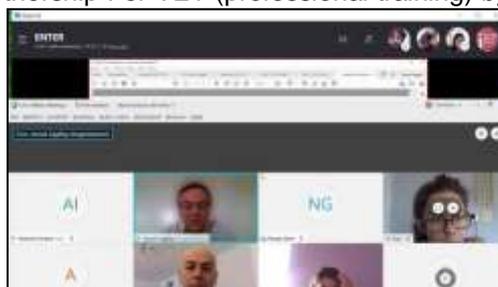
26. Virtual meeting of the "Dis-Act" project

In date 24 September took place a virtual meeting of the project "Dis-Act" (acronym DA). The project aims to increase the inclusive potential of the theatre as a tool to open up opportunities and dispel prejudices against people with disabilities by producing a quality educational offer for operators and disabled adults themselves in the so-called "Devised Theatre". The project was approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Germany. During the virtual meeting the partners examined the activities to be developed and defined the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. The partners of the project are: NGO Nest Berlin (Germany); Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany); Champions Factory (Bulgaria); EURO-NET (Italy); Sihtasutus Noored Teadused Ja Ettevotlused (Estonia); Centrul Pentru Educatie Consulting Structural Instrument (Romania). More information about the project can be found on the official Facebook page at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/KA2AdultProjectDisAct>.



27. The online meeting of the "m-Game" project concluded

In date 25 September took place a virtual meeting of the project "MOOCs for Mobile Game Development Programme" (acronym "m-Game") approved as action n. 2018-1-TR01-KA202-059731 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership For VET (professional training) by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in Turkey. The initiative aims to promote a training module on how to develop e-games online to allow the development of new skills in order to promote employability. The MOOC to be implemented, in fact, will provide the new learning outcomes for students with continuous, non-formal and informal training methods, also offering new solutions to teachers, trainers and tutors in the school and work environment. The project partners are: Middle East Technical University (Turkey), project coordinator; DamaSistem (Turkey); Milli Egitim Bakanligi (Turkey); Asociacion De Investigacion De La Industria Del Juguete, Conexas Y Afines (Spain); Instituto Anaptixis Epicheirimatikotitas Astiki Etaireia (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy). The project will promote open education and innovative practices in the digital age and will also support new teaching methods



and tools for both trainees and educators. It will contribute to job creation, economic growth and social cohesion in Europe. You can follow the development of the activities on the official Facebook page at the link: <https://www.facebook.com/M-Game872446363106303/>.

28. Online meeting of the "Youth Capacity"

Last 29th September took place a virtual meeting in the project "Enhancing Capacities of Youth Policy Makers Across Europe" (acronym "Youth Capacity"). It is an action approved in Italy by the National Youth Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership for Youth (action n.2018-2-IT03-KA205-014000). Partner of the project are the following organisations: Unione Montana Alta Langa (Italy), project coordinator; KEK TEHNIKES SHOLES EPIMELITIRIOU IRAKLEIOU (Greece); Federación de Municipios de la Región de Murcia (Spain); AK.T.A. (Cyprus); EURO-NET (Italy). The project aims to create a network of local and



regional authorities working with young people to: develop concrete strategic plans; promote the EU's youth policy agenda; plan youth activities allowing the participation and inclusion of young people in society. Policy makers and youth leaders of local and regional authorities involved in the project will be trained on: transversal skills to improve their collaboration with young people; potential sources of funding for youth projects; youth entrepreneurship; "No-Hate Speech" campaign; opportunities available for

youth volunteering. During the meeting the partners took stock of the activities already developed and planned the new project steps. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Youth-Capacity-791315631226768/>.

29. The project approved "CARES"

We are pleased to inform you that the project "Career Accessibility for Resilient Employment in STEMM" (acronym "CARES") has been approved in England by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in the UK. It is an Erasmus Plus KA2 School Education initiative and the aim of the project is to create resilient forms of employment in the specific sector. More information about the project will be available shortly in our next newsletter.



30. Virtual meeting of "REUERHC" project



In the date 1 October took place a virtual meeting of the project "Reinforce EU economies, reinforcing human capital" (acronym "REUERHC"). The Meeting was to be held in Potenza, which for reasons of the new evolution of the covid-19 pandemic could not be organised face to face. The project, approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 VET programme by the Erasmus Plus National Agency INAPP as Action 2018-1-EN01-KA202-006739, aims to help the integration of the target group but also to support the national economies of countries hosting migrants. For

more information you can consult the official the website <https://reuerhc.eu/>.

31. EASYNEWS: first project meeting

In the date 1st October took place a virtual meeting of the project "Periodismo Digital Accesible y Educación Mediática para Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual" (in English "Accessible Digital Journalism and Media Education for People with Intellectual Disabilities") - acronym EASYNEWS. The project was approved at our association EURO-NET in Spain in the framework of Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education as Action 2020-1-ES01-KA204-082417. The project aims to encourage the interest of people with intellectual disabilities (DI) for journalism and reading media and communication; through the creation of a methodology supported by an ICT tool to adapt and read newspaper articles, magazines and other digital information for easy reading, trying, therefore, to give concrete help to those in need because community programmes, if used well, also do this. During the meeting the partners could introduce themselves, discuss the whole project development and plan the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. You can follow the development of this interesting initiative on the official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Easynews-108569271011998>.



32. Online meeting of the "AKTIF" project

On the 2nd October took place the online meeting of the project "Aktif yaslanma kapsaminda mültecilerin yasam kalitesinin arttirilmesi" (in English "Increasing the quality of life of refugees under active aging"). This project was approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices from the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Turkey. The project wants to improve the living conditions of the refugees in the partners' countries. The partners of the project are: Kirsehir Aile Calisma Ve Sosyal Hizmetler Il Mudurlugu (Turkey); Kirsehir Il Milli Egitim Mudurlugu (Turkey); Kirsehir Ahi Evran Universitesi (Turkey); EURO-NET (Italy); Aristotelio Pane-pistimio Thessalonikis (Greece); Municipio De Lousada (Portugal) and Genista Research Foundation (Malta). During the meeting the partners, including EURO-NET, discussed how the explosion of the pandemic affected the normal development of the planned activities and defined a recovery plan for the undeveloped mobility due to the covid-19 relying on the approval by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Turkey of the extension of the project for 12 months already promptly requested. More information about the project is available on the Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/355169485536278/?notif_id=1601669146105850¬if_t=group_admin&ref=notif.



33. New online meeting of the "Ruralities" project

In the period 5-6 October took place the virtual meeting of the project "Ruralities" that is developed in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships program for Adult Education. During the meeting the development of the activities already carried out was discussed and the new activities for the year 2020 were planned. The "Ruralities" project is developed as action n.2019-1- FR01-KA204-063000, in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 programme Strategic Partnerships for



Adult Education and provides a partnership composed of Ipso Facto (France), EURO-NET (Italy), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Panepistimio Thessalias (Greece), Arbeit Und Beben Lag Mv (Germany) and Krajowy Instytut Polityki Przestrzennej I Mieszkalnictwa (Poland). More information on the project can be found on the initiative's website www.ruralities.eu or on the project's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ruralitieserasmusplus/>.

34. New online meeting of the EURBANITIES 2.0 project

In date 8-9 October took place a new virtual meeting in the project "Eurbanities 2.0", during which



the project partners planned the next actions to be taken until the next meeting. This initiative was 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 partners are: Comparative Research Network EV (Germany); EURO-NET (Italy); Stadtlabor Innovationen Fur Urbanelebensqualität GMBH (Austria); Uniwersytet Jagiellonski (Poland); Mine Vaganti NGO (Italy); Asociatia Pentru Tranzitia Urbana (Romania) and Changemaker AB (Sweden). More information on the project's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/eurbanities/>.

35. "HOPE": the online course ended

In the period 5-9 October took place the online training of the project "Supply of High Quality Learning Opportunities for Migrant People and Enhance Social Inclusion" (acronym HOPE). The project is approved project as action n. 2019-1-DE02-KA204- 006479 within the Erasmus Plus



KA2 program Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices by the National Agency Erasmus Plus in Germany. The project aims to provide new and better learning opportunities for migrants and organisations working with them. The exchange of good practices between migration and social inclusion providers will offer professionals and decision makers the opportunity to explore innovative ideas. HOPE will open the stakeholder discussion to exchange views, concerns and questions in order

to develop innovative practices, procedures and skills in the area of welcoming migrants. The partners of the project are: Centrum Fur Innovation Und Technologie GMBH (Germany); IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus); Mitropolitiko College Anoymi Ekpaideytiki Etairia (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Foundation For Shelter And Support To Migrants (Malta); BSC, Poslovno Podporni Center, Doo (Slovenia). More information about the project is available on the Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/erasmusplusHOPE>.

36. The youth course of the "BreakYourChains" project has been extended

The conclusion of the EURO-NET project entitled "Break Your Chains" ErasmusPlus KA1 which foresees the realisation of a youth course in Potenza has just been extended by the National Youth Agency to 31/01/2022 for issues related to the covid pandemic. We remind you that the project Break Your Chains (acronym BYC) has been approved in the Erasmus+ programme as

action n.2019-3-IT03-KA105-017544: it will bring together 28 youth workers, NGO activists and young people (many of them with fewer opportunities) from 7 different countries. The main idea of the project is to use the "escape rooms" as a tool to spread the knowledge of human rights and raise issues in this field for young people. The project partners are EURO-NET (Italy), Amitie Franco Russe Languedoc "AFR" (France), NGO Logos Latvja (Latvia), Asociación Xuvenil Arousa Moza (Spain), Euro-Idea (Poland), Kirsehir Kültür Sanat Çevre Koruma Ve Tanıtma Dernegi (Turkey) and Asociatia Clubul Sports Experientamultisport (Romania).



37. "Lets save the earth together" project approved in UK



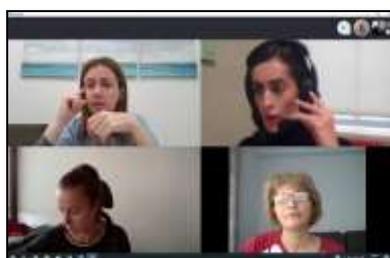
Approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in the UK the KA1 project entitled "Lets save the earth together". We do not yet know when it will be possible to implement it given the pandemic but we are happy to be able to offer (as soon as possible...) another new opportunity to young people in our region. More information about the project will be available in the next newsletter.

38. Realised the first virtual meeting of the project "The A Class"

In date 5-9 October took place the first online meeting (continuing on 16 October) of the project "The "A" class: integrating and supporting students with autism in the mainstream classroom" (acronym "The A Class") approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark under the Erasmus Plus Programme as Action 2020-1-DK01-KA201-075054. The project will develop a strategic partnership in the field of school education. Partners of the project, besides the EURO-NET association, are the following organisations: Sosu Ostjylland (Denmark), Inercia Digital SI (Spain), Masaryk University (Czech Republic), Centar za autizam (Croatia), Stando Ltd (Cyprus) and Zdruzenie za unapreduvanje na kvalitetot na zhivot na licata so autistischen spektar na narushuvanje "Sina Svetulka" (Macedonia). At the meeting scheduled online for reasons related to the worldwide return of the covid pandemic, the partners got to know each other and discussed all the steps of the European project to be implemented in the coming months. "The A Class" is aimed at combating the problems that autism creates for students at schoolness that each child with ASD is unique, which means that they have different learning styles. The project will therefore seek to develop products to help schools, teachers and children with autism. You can follow the development of this initiative on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TheAclass-102338701663883>.



39. Concluded the fourth meeting of the DESK project



The DESK project partners met again virtually on 13 October to plan the last steps of the European initiative. The project "An Adult Digital education Skills Kit to Foster Employability" (acronym DESK) 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 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DESK362474434309114/>.

40. Realised the first Skype call of the "LearnEU" project

In date 14 October took place the first online meeting of the project "LearnEU", an initiative approved as action n.2020-1-IT02-KA201-079054 by the National Agency Erasmus Plus Indire within the Erasmus Plus Strategic Partnerships for School Education programme. During the meeting the partners got to know each other and discussed in detail all the actions to be carried out, defining as far as possible a detailed and shared action plan in the light of the return of the pandemic. The project aims to create a "space on the European Union" suitable for the new generations with a series of inter-active tools and activities of a recreational-cultural-educational nature in Europe with the direct active involvement of school students and aimed at encouraging intergenerational dialogue and the 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 the its values" through "serious games" capable of involving students and making them learn by actively participating and having fun. In addition to EURO-NET as lead partner, are also part of the technical partnership Damasistem (Turkey), Mpirmpakos D. & Sia O.E. (Greece), CCS Digital Education Limited (Ireland) and AIJU (Spain), which represent the best of the European market in the production of educational games and export their products worldwide. The educational partnership includes 4 high schools, Ipias Giorgi (Italy), Sredno opstinsko uciliste Pero Nakov (Macedonia), Colegiul Economic "Ion Ghica" Braila (Romania) and Agrupamento de Escolas de Penalva do Castelo (Portugal), which will experience the learning paths in real didactics with students more than the others. More details on the European initiative in question can already be found on the Facebook page at the following address <https://www.facebook.com/Learneu-117725843430250/> or on the website <https://project-learn.eu/>.



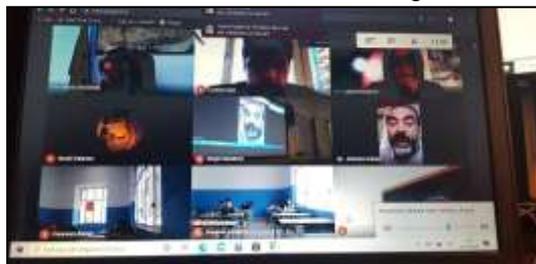
41. Virtual meeting in "TheArThee" project

In date 16 October took place the virtual meeting of the project "TheArThee" (acronym "TAT"). The project is exploring the inclusive potential of theatre and the performing arts as a methodology to create opportunities, acquire new skills, improve communication and dispel prejudices towards young people who face social exclusion. This has to be achieved through the sharing of best practices and the exchange of skills among intersectoral organizations working in the field of youth empowerment and alternative learning. The project is exploring how theatre can be used as a tool to bring together elements of society to empower young people regardless of perceived class, race, gender and disability and ability. The project complements the attention on the exclusion of young people with an additional attention to physical and cognitive disorders. TAT implements an intervention on the emotional and skills-related dimension of the condition of excluded young people through the exploration of the educational, integrative and creative dimension of the so-called "Devised Theater". The project was approved under the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in the UK. The partners of the project are: CHICKEN SHED THEATER TRUST LTD (England); MV INTERNATIONAL (Italy); CHAMPIONS FACTORY (Bulgaria); EURO-NET (Italy); YDA E.V. (Germany); PRO IFALL AB (Sweden); COUNTY LIMERICK YOUTH THEATER (England). During the project meeting, in which the trainer Raffaele Messina participated for EURO-NET, the partners also took stock of the activities already developed and of the further steps to be realized in the coming weeks. For more information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project: https://www.facebook.com/Thearthee114642043269776/?modal=admin_todo_tour.



42. EDIC Basilicata: Erasmus days 2020

On 16 October, an Erasmus days event for 2020 entitled "The tools for school governance opportunities of Erasmus+ for schools" was held on line. The technical and exciting meeting was attended by Europe Direct Trapani; Europe Direct Basilicata and Europe Direct Calabria Europa together with many bodies and schools. At the Erasmus Days virtual meeting our Europe Direct centre participated with our representative Antonino Imbesi that showed the next opportunities for schools in the Erasmus Plus programme and all the initiatives that Europe provides for young people.



43. EURO-NET awarded by the Chamber of Commerce of Basilicata



We are very glad to announce that our association EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata Centre) has been awarded by the Chamber of Commerce of Basilicata for its internationalisation activities! We would like to thank the whole Chamber Council! For all of us it is a great result that rewards the constant work and continuous commitment of all our staff who work hard every day to give information about Europe and its opportunities and to try to offer job, education and career opportunities to all the people of Basilicata.

44. Concluded the first meeting of the PISH project

In date 19 October took place the first virtual meeting of the project "Problem-Based Learning, Intercultural Communications and STEM in Higher Education" (acronym PISH) – action. 2020-1-DK01-KA203-075109 approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark as part of the Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education. The project aims at improving coaching and intercultural communication skills and competences of university teachers in a "Problem-Based Learning" environment. Partners of the project are EURO-NET (Italy), Aalborg Universitet (Denmark), Panepistimio Thessalias (Greece), Crossing Borders (Denmark), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Center For Education And Innovation (Greece) and Ita-Suomen Yliopisto (Finland). During the meeting the project partners discussed the actions to be developed in the project. You can follow the project on the official Facebook page of the project: <https://www.facebook.com/PISH-106053687956829>.



45. The EC has given the green light to our Erasmus+ Sport project



European sport continues, with the necessary precautions, even in times of pandemic. And so we are very pleased that the European Commission today us gave the green light to our Erasmus+ Sport project entitled "Encouraging Participation in Sports and Health Enhancing Physical Activities with an Inclusive Approach" (acronym HEPA4AL) - Action No. 622480-EPP-1-2020-1-UK-SPO-SCP- in which we will promote through sport the inclusion of disabled and disadvantaged people in the long term. More information about the project will be available shortly in our next newsletter.

46. “Digital voyage around Europe” approved in Spain

The project "Digital voyage around Europe" of which GODESK is a partner has been approved in Spain by the National Agency Erasmus Plus as Action 2020-1-ES01-KA204-082259. It is a KA2 initiative, a Strategic Partnership for Adult Education aimed at making Europe known through the use of new generation digital tools. More details about the project will be available in the next newsletters.



47. Approved the project "INTERACT"

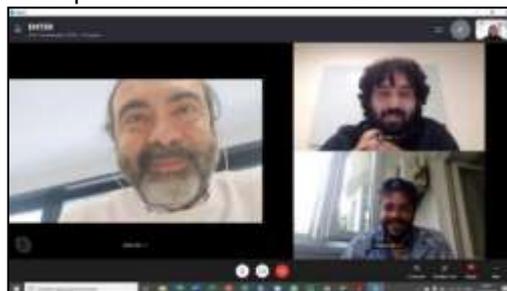
The National Erasmus Plus Agency in England has informed the Youth Europe Service Association in Potenza of the approval of the project "Innovative Cultural Heritage the Root of European Identity" (acronym INTERACT - action 2020-1-UK01-KA204-078950). The project aims at developing a truly innovative action to promote tourism, territories and local culture in the countries involved through the use of augmented reality. The project will have the task to promote real cities of art such as Venosa (in Basilicata), London (UK), Madrid (Spain), Poznan (Poland) and Arad (Romania).



More information about this truly innovative and futuristic project will be available shortly in our next newsletter.

48. ENTER project: the online meeting concluded

In date 24 September took place the virtual meeting of the project “ENTER – From problems to achievements in learning and development” (acronym ENTER), action n. n.2018-1-PT02-KA205-005148, approved to the association Potenza Youth Europe Service within the Erasmus Plus Youth programme. During the project meeting the partners examined the activities to be developed and defined the various steps of the project to be implemented in the coming months. In particular, the actions to be implemented in the last months are the game test to be carried out by the end of October with about ten youth workers, the translation in four languages of the developed materials, the final printing of the game and its distribution to youth organizations and associations and schools that can use it in their learning activities. Finally, several Multiplier Events are planned to promote the project and all the outputs produced in the project. More information on the project on the official Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ENTER-725346554497726/?modal=admin_todo_tour.



49. Last CircleVET project meeting in Berlin

In date 21-22 September took place in Berlin the last meeting of the project “CircleVET – Exploring the Educational Potential of Circular Economy” of which the Italian company GODESK is an 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 partnership is composed of the following countries: Germany (2 partners), Italy, Slovakia, Turkey, Finland and Spain. During the meeting the project partners took stock of the activities developed during the two-year project. You can follow the European initiative, on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Circlevet-308447786426005/>.

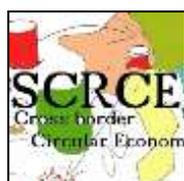


50. CircleVET: E-Book of good practices will be ready soon

The CircleVET project partners are completing the E-Book of good practices foreseen in the project. It should soon be completed also in its graphic form and ready to be distributed in the different countries of the partnership. Also Godesk, as Italian partner of the European initiative, has pointed out several good practices that will be part of this useful handbook, in which are listed and described cases of concrete circular economy actually implemented and that have given exceptional results in various sectors. The E-book once completed will also be published on the project website at <http://circlevet.eu/> as well as in issue format on the project's Facebook page, reported in the previous article.



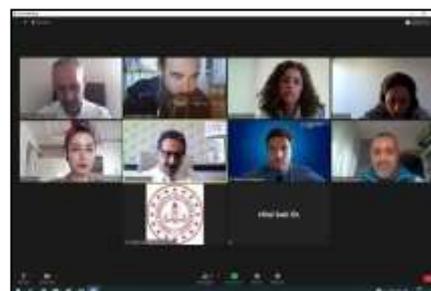
51. Online workshop of the "SCRCE" project



In date 5 October took place the online workshop of the project "Sustainability through Cross Border Circular Economy" (acronym "SCRCE"), approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Germany in the framework of the KA2 actions related to Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as Action n.2018-1-DE02-KA204-005230.. The Facebook page of the project, where you can follow the activities of the very interesting initiative focused on an exchange of good practices in the circular economy, is the following: <https://www.facebook.com/SCRCE-313493856103545>. Partners of the project are the following organisations: Dr. Ludwig Intelligent Projects GmbH (Germany), GODESK SRL (Italy), NGO Nest Berlin (Germany), Changemaker Ab (Sweden) and Entrepreneurship And Social Economy Group (Greece).

52. ACTIFE: online meeting of the project

Last 2nd October an online meeting took place in the project "Promoting computational thinking, coding and entrepreneurial skills in adult education based on experiential learning scenarios targeting iot processes in the food & agriculture industry" (acronym "ACTIFE") approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for adult education programme as action n. 2018-1-UK01-KA204-048177. During the meeting the partner,s University of Thessaly (Greece), FYG Consultores (Spain), GODESK SRL (Italy), Eduact (Greece) and the project coordinator Civic (UK), discussed the problems caused by the pandemic in all partner countries and the last activities still to be implemented were planned. The ACTIFE project, which is a truly innovative project in terms of basic idea, learning methodologies, training objectives, pedagogical design and technical implementation, can be followed on the official Facebook page of the initiative at: <https://www.facebook.com/Actife-1094673174035223/>.



53. ACTIFE: multiplier event took place on 10 October



In date 10 October took place the multiplier event foreseen in Italy within the project "Promoting computational thinking, coding and entrepreneurial skills in adult education based on experiential learning scenarios targeting iot processes in the food & agriculture industry" (Acronym "ACTIFE"). During the Multiplier Event, which took place in Potenza at the Einstein-De Lorenzo Institute, GODESK presented to the public, students and interested stakeholders the products developed during the many months of activity of the European partnership. More information on the project and on all the products developed are available not only on the Facebook page of the initiative whose web address is indicated in the previous article, but also on the official website at <https://actife.eu/>.