



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 6
OF 20TH DECEMBER 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. New EU Cybersecurity Strategy

The Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy are presenting a new EU Cybersecurity Strategy.

As a key component of Shaping Europe's Digital Future, the Recovery Plan for Europe and the EU Security Union Strategy, the Strategy will bolster Europe's collective resilience against



cyber threats and help to ensure that all citizens and businesses can fully benefit from trustworthy and reliable services and digital tools. Whether it is the connected devices, the electricity grid, or the banks, planes, public administrations and hospitals Europeans use or frequent, they deserve to do so with the assurance that they will be shielded from cyber threats. The new Cybersecurity Strategy also allows the EU to step up leadership on international norms and standards in cyberspace, and to strengthen cooperation with partners around the world to promote a global, open, stable and secure cyberspace, grounded in the rule

of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms and democratic values. Furthermore, the Commission is making proposals to address both cyber and physical resilience of critical entities and networks: a Directive on measures for high common level of cybersecurity across the Union (revised NIS Directive or 'NIS 2'), and a new Directive on the resilience of critical entities. They cover a wide range of sectors and aim to address current and future online and offline risks, from cyberattacks to crime or natural disasters, in a coherent and complementary way.

Trust and security at the heart of the EU Digital Decade

The new Cybersecurity Strategy aims to safeguard a global and open Internet, while at the same time offering safeguards, not only to ensure security but also to protect European values and the fundamental rights of everyone. Building upon the achievements of the past months and years, it contains concrete proposals for regulatory, investment and policy initiatives, in three areas of EU action:

Resilience, technological sovereignty and leadership

Under this strand of action the Commission proposes to reform the rules on the security of network and information systems, under a Directive on measures for high common level of cybersecurity across the Union (revised NIS Directive or 'NIS 2'), in order to increase the level of cyber resilience of critical public and private sectors: hospitals, energy grids, railways, but also data centres, public administrations, research labs and manufacturing of critical medical devices and medicines, as well as other critical infrastructure and services, must remain impermeable, in an increasingly fast-moving and complex threat environment. The Commission also proposes to launch a network of Security Operations Centres across the EU, powered by artificial intelligence (AI), which will constitute a real 'cybersecurity shield' for the EU, able to detect signs of a cyberattack early enough and to enable proactive action, before damage occurs. Additional measures will include dedicated support to small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), under the Digital Innovation Hubs, as well as increased efforts to upskill the workforce, attract and retain the best cybersecurity talent and invest in research and innovation that is open, competitive and based on excellence.

Building operational capacity to prevent, deter and respond

The Commission is preparing, through a progressive and inclusive process with the Member States, a new Joint Cyber Unit, to strengthen cooperation between EU bodies and Member State authorities responsible for preventing, deterring and responding to cyber-attacks, including civilian, law enforcement, diplomatic and cyber defence communities. The High Representative puts forward proposals to strengthen the EU Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox to prevent, discourage, deter and respond effectively against malicious cyber activities, notably those affecting our critical infrastructure, supply chains, democratic institutions and processes. The EU will also aim to further enhance cyber defence cooperation and develop state-of-the-art cyber defence capabilities, building on the work of the European Defence Agency and encouraging Member States to make full use of the Permanent Structured Cooperation and the European Defence Fund.

Advancing a global and open cyberspace through increased cooperation

The EU will step up work with international partners to strengthen the rules-based global order, promote international security and stability in cyberspace, and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms online. It will advance international norms and standards that reflect these EU core values, by working with its international partners in the United Nations and other relevant fora. The EU will further strengthen its EU Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox, and increase cyber capacity-building efforts to third countries by developing an EU External Cyber Capacity Building Agenda. Cyber dialogues with third countries, regional and international organisations as well as the multi-stakeholder community will be intensified. The EU will also form an EU Cyber Diplomacy Network around the world to promote its vision of cyberspace. The EU is committed to supporting the new Cybersecurity Strategy with an unprecedented level of investment in the EU's digital transition over the next seven years, through the next long-term EU budget, notably the Digital Europe Programme and Horizon Europe, as well as the Recovery Plan for Europe. Member States are thus encouraged to make full use of the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility to boost cybersecurity and match EU-level investment. The objective is to reach up to €4.5 billion of combined investment from the EU, the Member States and the industry, notably under the Cybersecurity Competence Centre and Network of Coordination Centres, and to ensure that a major portion gets to SMEs. The Commission also aims at reinforcing the EU's industrial and technological capacities in cybersecurity, including through projects supported jointly by EU and national budgets. The EU has the unique opportunity to pool its assets to enhance its strategic autonomy and propel its leadership in cybersecurity across the digital supply chain (including data and cloud, next generation processor technologies, ultra-secure connectivity and 6G networks), in line with its values and priorities.

Cyber and physical resilience of network, information systems and critical entities

Existing EU-level measures aimed at protecting key services and infrastructures from both cyber and physical risks need to be updated. Cybersecurity risks continue to evolve with growing digitalisation and interconnectedness. Physical risks have also become more complex since the adoption of the 2008 EU rules on critical infrastructure, which currently only cover the energy and transport sectors. The revisions aim at updating the rules following the logic of the EU's Security Union strategy, overcoming the false dichotomy between online and offline and breaking down the silo approach. To respond to the growing threats due to digitalisation and interconnectedness, the proposed **Directive on measures for high common level of cybersecurity across the Union (revised NIS Directive or 'NIS 2')** will cover medium and large entities from more sectors based on their criticality for the economy and society. NIS 2 strengthens security requirements imposed on the companies, addresses security of supply chains and supplier relationships, streamlines reporting obligations, introduces more stringent supervisory measures for national authorities, stricter enforcement requirements and aims at harmonising sanctions regimes across Member States. The NIS 2 proposal will help increase information sharing and cooperation on cyber crisis management at national and EU level. The proposed **Critical Entities Resilience (CER) Directive** expands both the scope and depth of the 2008 European Critical Infrastructure directive. Ten sectors are now covered: energy, transport, banking, financial market infrastructures, health, drinking water, waste water, digital infrastructure, public administration and space. Under the proposed directive, Member States would each adopt a national strategy for ensuring the resilience of critical entities and carry out regular risk assessments. These assessments would also help identify a smaller subset of critical entities that would be subject to obligations intended to enhance their resilience in the face of non-cyber risks, including entity-level risk assessments, taking technical and organisational measures, and incident notification. The Commission, in turn, would provide complementary support to Member States and critical entities, for instance by developing a Union-level overview of cross-border and cross-sectoral risks, best practice, methodologies, cross-border training activities and exercises to test the resilience of critical entities.



Securing the next generation of networks: 5G and beyond

Under the new Cybersecurity Strategy, Member States, with the support of the Commission and ENISA - the European Cybersecurity Agency, are encouraged to complete the implementation of the EU 5G Toolbox, a comprehensive and objective risk-based approach for the security of 5G

and future generations of networks. According to a report, on the impact of the Commission Recommendation on the Cybersecurity of 5G networks and the progress in implementing the EU toolbox of mitigating measures, since the progress report of July 2020, most Member States are already well on track of implementing the recommended measures. They should now aim to complete their implementation by the second quarter of 2021 and ensure that identified risks are adequately mitigated, in a coordinated way, particularly with a view to minimising the exposure to high-risk suppliers and avoiding dependency on these suppliers. The Commission also sets out key objectives and actions aimed at continuing the coordinated work at EU-level.

Members of the College said:

Margrethe **Vestager**, Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, said: *"Europe is committed to the digital transformation of our society and economy. So we need to support it with unprecedented levels of investment. The digital transformation is accelerating, but can only succeed if people and businesses can trust that the connected products and services - on which they rely - are secure."* Josep **Borrell**, High Representative, said: *"International security and stability depends more than ever on a global, open, stable and secure cyberspace where the*



rule of law, human rights, freedoms and democracy are respected. With strategy the EU is stepping up to protect its governments, citizens and businesses from global cyber threats, and to provide leadership in cyberspace, making sure everybody can reap the benefits of the Internet and the use of technologies." Margaritis **Schinus**, Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, said: *"Cybersecurity is a central part of the Security Union. There is no longer a distinction between online and offline*

threats. Digital and physical are now inextricably intertwined. This set of measures show that the EU is ready to use all of its resources and expertise to prepare for and respond to physical and cyber threats with the same level of determination." Thierry **Breton**, Commissioner for the Internal Market said: *"Cyber threats evolve fast, they are increasingly complex and adaptable. To make sure our citizens and infrastructures are protected, we need to think several steps ahead, Europe's resilient and autonomous Cybersecurity Shield will mean we can utilise our expertise and knowledge to detect and react faster, limit potential damages and increase our resilience. Investing in cybersecurity means investing in the healthy future of our online environments and in our strategic autonomy."* Ylva **Johansson**, Commissioner for Home Affairs, said: *"Our hospitals, waste water systems or transport infrastructure are only as strong as their weakest links; disruptions in one part of the Union risk affecting the provision of essential services elsewhere. To ensure the smooth functioning of the internal market and the livelihoods of those living in Europe, our key infrastructure must be resilient against risks such as natural disasters, terrorist attacks, accidents and pandemics like the one we are experiencing today. My proposal on critical infrastructure does just that."*

Next Steps

The European Commission and the High Representative are committed to implementing the new Cybersecurity Strategy in the coming months. They will regularly report on the progress made and keep the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, and stakeholders fully informed and engaged in all relevant actions. It is now for the European Parliament and the Council to examine and adopt the proposed NIS 2 Directive and the Critical Entities Resilience Directive. Once the proposals are agreed and consequently adopted, Member States would then have to transpose them within 18 months of their entry into force. The Commission will periodically review the NIS 2 Directive and the Critical Entities Resilience Directive and report on their functioning.

Background

Cybersecurity is one of the Commission's top priorities and a cornerstone of the digital and connected Europe. An increase of cyber-attacks during the coronavirus crisis have shown how important it is to protect hospitals, research centres and other infrastructure. Strong action in the area is needed to future-proof the EU's economy and society. The new Cybersecurity Strategy proposes to integrate cybersecurity into every element of the supply chain and bring further together EU's activities and resources across the four communities of cybersecurity – internal market, law enforcement, diplomacy and defence. It builds on the EU' Shaping Europe's Digital

Future and the EU Security Union Strategy, and leans on a number of legislative acts, actions and initiatives the EU has implemented to strengthen cybersecurity capacities and ensure a more cyber-resilient Europe. This includes the Cybersecurity strategy of 2013, reviewed in 2017, and the Commission's European Agenda on Security 2015-2020. It also recognises the increasing inter-connection between internal and external security, in particular through the Common Foreign and Security Policy. The first EU-wide law on cybersecurity, the NIS Directive, that came into force in 2016 helped to achieve a common high level of security of network and information systems across the EU. As part of its key policy objective to make Europe fit for the digital age, the Commission announced the revision of the NIS Directive in February this year. The EU Cybersecurity Act that is in force since 2019 equipped Europe with a framework of cybersecurity certification of products, services and processes and reinforced the mandate of the EU Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA). As regards Cybersecurity of 5G networks, Member

States, with the support of the Commission and ENISA have established, with the EU 5G Toolbox adopted in January 2020, a comprehensive and objective risk-based approach. The Commission review of its Recommendation of March 2019 on the cybersecurity of 5G networks found that most Member States have made progress in implementing the Toolbox. Starting from the 2013 EU Cybersecurity



strategy, the EU has developed a coherent and holistic international cyber policy. Working with its partners at bilateral, regional and international level, the EU has promoted a global, open, stable and secure cyberspace guided by EU's core values and grounded in the rule of law. The EU has supported third countries in increasing their cyber resilience and ability to tackle cybercrime, and has used its 2017 EU cyber diplomacy toolbox to further contribute to international security and stability in cyberspace, including by applying for the first time its 2019 cyber sanctions regime and listing 8 individuals and 4 entities and bodies. The EU has made significant progress also on cyber defence cooperation, including as regards cyber defence capabilities, notably in the framework of its Cyber Defence Policy Framework (CDPF), as well as in the context of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the work of the European Defence Agency. Cybersecurity is a priority also reflected in the EU's next long-term budget (2021-2027). Under the Digital Europe Programme the EU will support cybersecurity research, innovation and infrastructure, cyber defence, and the EU's cybersecurity industry. In addition, in its response to the Coronavirus crisis, which saw increased cyberattacks during the lockdown, additional investments in cybersecurity are ensured under the Recovery Plan for Europe. The EU has long recognised the need to ensure the resilience of critical infrastructures providing services which are essential for the smooth running of the internal market and the lives and livelihoods of European citizens. For this reason, the EU established the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP) in 2006 and adopted the European Critical Infrastructure (ECI) Directive in 2008, which applies to the energy and transport sectors. These measures were complemented in later years by various sectoral and cross-sectoral measures on specific aspects such as climate proofing, civil protection, or foreign direct investment.

2. Coronavirus response: Tackling non-performing loans (NPLs)

The European Commission has presented a strategy to prevent a future build-up of non-performing loans (NPLs) across the European Union, as a result of the coronavirus crisis. The strategy aims to ensure that EU households and businesses continue to have access to the funding they need throughout the crisis.

Banks have a crucial role to play in mitigating the effects of the coronavirus crisis, by maintaining the financing of the economy. This is key in order to support the EU's economic recovery. Given the impact coronavirus has had on the EU's economy, the volume of NPLs is expected to rise across the EU, although the timing and magnitude of this increase is still uncertain. Depending on how quickly the EU's economy recovers from the coronavirus crisis, banks' asset quality – and in turn, their lending capacity – could deteriorate. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-

President for an Economy that Works for People, said: *"History shows us that it is best to tackle non-performing loans early and decisively, especially if we want banks to continue supporting businesses and households. We are taking preventive and coordinated action now. This strategy will help contribute to Europe's swift and sustainable recovery by helping banks to offload these loans from their balance sheets and keep credit flowing."* Mairead **McGuinness**, Commissioner



responsible for financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union, said: *"Many firms and households have come under significant financial pressure due to the pandemic. Making sure that European citizens and businesses continue to receive support from their banks is a top priority for the Commission. We put forward a set of measures that, while ensuring borrower protection, can help prevent a rise in NPLs similar to the one after the last financial crisis."* In order to give Member States and the financial sector the necessary

tools to address a rise of NPLs in the EU's banking sector early on, the Commission is proposing a series of actions with **four main goals**:

1. Further developing secondary markets for distressed assets: This will allow banks to move NPLs off their balance sheets, while ensuring further strengthened protection for debtors. A key step in this process would be the adoption of the Commission's proposal on credit servicers and credit purchasers which is currently being discussed by the European Parliament and the Council. These rules would reinforce debtor protection on secondary markets. The Commission sees merit in the establishment of a central electronic data hub at EU level in order to enhance market transparency. Such a hub would act as a data repository underpinning the NPL market in order to allow a better exchange of information between all actors involved (credit sellers, credit purchasers, credit servicers, asset management companies (AMCs) and private NPL platforms) so that NPLs are dealt with in an effective manner. On the basis of a public consultation, the Commission would explore several alternatives for establishing a data hub at European level and determine the best way forward. One of the options could be to establish the data hub by extending the remit of the existing European DataWarehouse (ED).

2. Reform the EU's corporate insolvency and debt recovery legislation: This will help converge the various insolvency frameworks across the EU, while maintaining high standards of consumer protection. More convergent insolvency procedures would increase legal certainty and speed up the recovery of value for the benefit of both creditor and the debtor. The Commission urges the Parliament and Council to reach an agreement swiftly on the legislative proposal for minimum harmonisation rules on accelerated extrajudicial collateral enforcement, which the Commission proposed in 2018.

3. Support the establishment and cooperation of national asset management companies (AMCs) at EU level: Asset management companies are vehicles that provide relief to banks that are struggling by enabling them to remove NPLs from their balance sheets. This helps banks re-focus on lending to viable firms and households instead of managing NPLs. The Commission stands ready to support Member States in setting up national AMCs – if they wish to do so – and would explore how cooperation could be fostered by establishing an EU network of national AMCs. While national AMCs are valuable because they benefit from domestic expertise, an EU network of national AMCs could enable national entities to exchange best practices, enforce data and transparency standards and better coordinate actions. The network of AMCs could furthermore use the data hub to coordinate and cooperate with each other in order to share information on investors, debtors and servicers. Accessing information on NPL markets will require that all relevant data protection rules regarding debtors are respected.

4. Precautionary measures: While the EU's banking sector is overall in a much sounder position than after the financial crisis, Member States continue to have varying economic policy responses. Given the special circumstances of the current health crisis, authorities have the possibility to implement precautionary public support measures, where needed, to ensure the continued funding of the real economy under the EU's Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and State aid frameworks

Background

The Commission's NPL strategy proposed builds upon a consistent set of previously implemented measures. In July 2017, finance ministers in the ECOFIN agreed on a first Action Plan to tackle NPLs. In line with the ECOFIN Action Plan, the Commission announced in its Communication on completing the Banking Union of October 2017 a comprehensive package of measures to reduce the level of NPLs in the EU. In March 2018, the Commission presented its package of measures to tackle high NPL ratios. The proposed measures included the NPL backstop, which required banks to build minimum loss coverage levels for newly originated loans, a proposal for a Directive on credit servicers, credit purchasers and for the recovery of collateral and the blueprint for the set-up of national asset management companies. To mitigate the impact of the coronavirus crisis, the Commission's Banking Package from April 2020 has implemented targeted "quick fix" amendments to the EU's banking prudential rules. In addition, the Capital Markets Recovery Package, adopted in July 2020, proposed targeted changes to capital market rules to encourage greater investments in the economy, allow for the rapid re-capitalisation of companies and increase banks' capacity to finance the recovery. The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) will also provide substantial support to reforms aimed at improving insolvency, judicial and administrative frameworks and underpinning efficient NPL resolution.

3. Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps

The Commission has published the 2019 annual report of Erasmus+, showing that the programme has fully delivered on its objectives for the year, with excellent implementation levels and an efficient use of funds.

The total budget for the Erasmus+ programme increases year on year. In 2019, it amounted to €3.37 billion - €547 million more than 2018, representing an increase of 20%. With this budget, Erasmus+ supported almost 940,000 learning experiences abroad and provided funding to around 25,000 projects and 111,000 organisations. Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya **Gabriel**, said: *"Erasmus is a European success story that has proven its added value for more than three decades. The programme is an effective way of addressing many of the societal challenges facing Europe. In the future, we will have a bigger, stronger, better Erasmus+ programme, which will also underpin our efforts to make the European Education Area a reality by 2025."* In 2019, the programme funded the mobility of close to 505,000 higher education students and staff. It also continued to support vocational education and training learners and staff - more than 192,000 spent a learning period abroad in 2019. The first 17 European University Alliances started in June 2019 with a budget of almost €85 million. With a budget of €49.3 million, the sport strand of the programme funded 260 projects. The Commission also published the first report on the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps, which started in October 2018. It is the first EU programme fully dedicated to supporting young people's engagement in solidarity activities. In the first 15 months of its existence, the Corps provided support to 3,750 projects, offering more than 27,000 young people the chance to take part in individual or team volunteering, traineeships or jobs.



Background

Erasmus+ and its predecessor programmes are among the most tangible EU achievements. For more than 30 years, they have been offering young people opportunities to discover other realities in Europe while, at the same time, pursuing their studies. The programme keeps expanding, reaching new regions and new audiences. The programme is also open to partner countries across the world. On 11 December, Member States and the European Parliament reached political agreement on the Erasmus+ programme for the new programming period from 2021-2027. The new programme will not only be more inclusive and innovative but also more digital and greener. It will be key to achieving the European Education Area by 2025 and will

mobilise the education, training, youth and sport sectors for swift recovery and future growth. It will provide many new opportunities for Europe's learners. With increased accessibility and more flexible mobility formats, it will provide opportunities to a more diverse group of learners, including those with fewer opportunities and school pupils, who are now included in the mobility action. It will offer new opportunities for cooperation, fostering innovation in curriculum design, learning and teaching practices, and will promote both green and digital skills. It will also support new flagship initiatives, such as European Universities, Erasmus Teacher Academies, Centres of Vocational Excellence and DiscoverEU. Following a preparatory phase in 2017 and early 2018, the European Solidarity Corps exists as an EU-funded programme since October 2018, with an operating budget of €375.6 million for the years 2018-2020. It builds upon previous EU initiatives in the area of solidarity, aiming to offer a unique gateway for organisations active in the solidarity sector and young people wishing to contribute to society in areas that matter most to them. Based on the success of the initiative, the European Commission proposed that in the period 2021-2027 that the European Solidarity Corps continues its activities and extends them to EU humanitarian aid with the overall budget of €1.009 billion for the period 2021-27. This was confirmed in the political agreement on the new programme reached by the European Parliament and the Member States on 11 December.

4. Europe fit for the Digital Age: proposes new rules for digital platforms

The Commission has proposed an ambitious reform of the digital space, a comprehensive set of new rules for all digital services, including social media, online market places, and other online platforms that operate in the European Union: the Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act.

European values are at the heart of both proposals. The new rules will better protect consumers and their fundamental rights online, and will lead to fairer and more open digital markets for



everyone. A modern rulebook across the single market will foster innovation, growth and competitiveness and will provide users with new, better and reliable online services. It will also support the scaling up of smaller platforms, small and medium-sized enterprises, and start-ups, providing them with easy access to customers across the whole single market while lowering compliance costs. Furthermore, the new rules will prohibit unfair conditions imposed by online platforms that have become or are expected to become gatekeepers to the single market. The two proposals are at the

core of the Commission's ambition to make this Europe's Digital Decade. Margrethe **Vestager**, Executive Vice-President for a Europe fit for the Digital Age, said: *"The two proposals serve one purpose: to make sure that we, as users, have access to a wide choice of safe products and services online. And that businesses operating in Europe can freely and fairly compete online just as they do offline. This is one world. We should be able to do our shopping in a safe manner and trust the news we read. Because what is illegal offline is equally illegal online."* Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry **Breton** said: *"Many online platforms have come to play a central role in the lives of our citizens and businesses, and even our society and democracy at large. With this proposals, we are organising our digital space for the next decades. With harmonised rules, ex ante obligations, better oversight, speedy enforcement, and deterrent sanctions, we will ensure that anyone offering and using digital services in Europe benefits from security, trust, innovation and business opportunities."*

Digital Services Act

The landscape of digital services is significantly different today from 20 years ago, when the eCommerce Directive was adopted. Online intermediaries have become vital players in the digital transformation. Online platforms in particular have created significant benefits for consumers and innovation, have facilitated cross-border trading within and outside the Union, as well as opened up new opportunities to a variety of European businesses and traders. At the same time, they can be used as a vehicle for disseminating illegal content, or selling illegal goods or services online.

Some very large players have emerged as quasi-public spaces for information sharing and online trade. They have become systemic in nature and pose particular risks for users' rights, information flows and public participation. Under the Digital Services Act, binding EU-wide obligations will apply to all digital services that connect consumers to goods, services, or content, including new procedures for faster removal of illegal content as well as comprehensive protection for users' fundamental rights online. The new framework will rebalance the rights and responsibilities of users, intermediary platforms, and public authorities and is based on European values - including the respect of human rights, freedom, democracy, equality and the rule of law. The proposal complements the European Democracy Action Plan aiming at making democracies more resilient. Concretely, the Digital Services Act will introduce a series of new, harmonised EU-wide obligations for digital services, carefully graduated on the basis of those services' size and impact, such as: rules for the removal of illegal goods, services or content online; safeguards for users whose content has been erroneously deleted by platforms; new obligations for very large platforms to take risk-based action to prevent abuse of their systems; wide-ranging transparency measures, including on online advertising and on the algorithms used to recommend content to users; new powers to scrutinize how platforms work, including by facilitating access by researchers to key platform data; new rules on traceability of business users in online market places, to help track down sellers of illegal goods or services; an innovative cooperation process among public authorities to ensure effective enforcement across the single market. Platforms that reach more than 10% of the EU's population (45 million users) are considered systemic in nature, and are subject not only to specific obligations to control their own risks, but also to a new oversight structure. This new accountability framework will be comprised of a board of national Digital Services Coordinators, with special powers for the Commission in supervising very large platforms including the ability to sanction them directly.

Digital Markets Act

The Digital Markets Act addresses the negative consequences arising from certain behaviours by platforms acting as digital “gatekeepers” to the single market. These are platforms that have a significant impact on the internal market, serve as an important gateway for business users to reach their customers, and which enjoy, or will foreseeably enjoy, an entrenched and durable position. This can grant them the power to act as private rule-makers and to function as bottlenecks between businesses and consumers. Sometimes, such companies have control over entire platform ecosystems. When a gatekeeper engages in unfair business practices, it can prevent or slow down valuable and innovative services of its business users and competitors from reaching the consumer. Examples of these practices include the unfair use of data from businesses operating on these platforms, or situations where users are locked in to a particular service and have limited options for switching to another one. The Digital Markets Act builds on the horizontal Platform to Business Regulation, on the findings of the EU Observatory on the Online Platform Economy, and on the Commission's extensive experience in dealing with online markets through competition law enforcement. In particular, it sets out harmonised rules defining and prohibiting those unfair practices by gatekeepers and providing an enforcement mechanism based on market investigations. The same mechanism will ensure that the obligations set out in the regulation are kept up-to-date in the constantly evolving digital reality. Concretely, the Digital Markets Act will: apply only to major providers of the core platform services most prone to unfair practices, such as search engines, social networks or online intermediation services, which meet the objective legislative criteria to be designated as gatekeepers; define quantitative thresholds as a basis to identify presumed gatekeepers. The Commission will also have powers to designate companies as gatekeepers following a market investigation; prohibit a number of practices which are clearly unfair, such as blocking users from un-installing any pre-installed software or apps; require gatekeepers to proactively put in place certain measures, such as targeted measures allowing the software of third parties to properly function and interoperate with their own services; impose sanctions for non-compliance, which could include fines of up to 10% of the gatekeeper's worldwide turnover, to ensure the effectiveness of the new rules. For recurrent infringers, these sanctions may also involve the obligation to take structural measures, potentially extending to divestiture of certain businesses, where no other equally effective alternative measure is available to ensure compliance; allow the Commission to carry out targeted market investigations to assess



whether new gatekeeper practices and services need to be added to these rules, in order to ensure that the new gatekeeper rules keep up with the fast pace of digital markets. The European Parliament and the Member States will discuss the Commission's proposals in the ordinary legislative procedure. If adopted, the final text will be directly applicable across the European Union.

Background

The Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act are the European answer to the deep reflection process in which the Commission, EU Member States and many other jurisdictions have engaged in recent years to understand the effects that digitalisation – and more specifically online platforms – have on fundamental rights, competition, and, more generally, on our societies and economies. The Commission consulted a wide range of stakeholders in preparation of this legislative package. During the summer of 2020, the Commission consulted stakeholders to further support the work in analysing and collecting evidence for scoping the specific issues that that may require an EU-level intervention in the context of the Digital Services Act and the New Competition Tool, which served as basis for the proposal on the Digital Markets Act. The open public consultations in preparation of this package, which ran from June 2020 to September 2020, received more than 3000 replies from the whole spectrum of the digital economy and from all over the world.

5. The European Climate Pact: empowering citizens

The European Commission launched the European Climate Pact, an EU-wide initiative inviting people, communities and organisations to participate in climate action and build a greener Europe.

As part of the European Green Deal, the Climate Pact offers a space for everyone to share information, debate and act on the climate crisis, and to be part of an ever-growing European climate movement. European Commission Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal Frans Timmermans said: “*The European Climate Pact will bring together everyone who*



wants to take action for our planet. With the Pact, we want to help everyone in Europe take action in their everyday lives, and give everyone the opportunity to get involved in the green transition and inspire each other. When it comes to tackling climate change, anyone can take action, and everyone can contribute.” The Commission launched the European Green Deal a year ago as a plan to transform the EU into a fair, healthy, sustainable and prosperous society and to repair the way we interact with nature. The Commission is putting in place the policy and

legislation needed for systemic changes, but the solutions outlined in the Green Deal can only succeed if everyone is involved and contributes actively.

Spreading awareness and supporting action

The European Climate Pact **provides a space for people across all walks of life to connect** and collectively develop and implement climate solutions, big and small. By sharing ideas and inspiring each other, we can multiply our collective impact. The Pact is an **open, inclusive and evolving initiative for climate action**. It invites regions, local communities, industry, schools and civil society to share information about climate change and environmental degradation, and how they tackle these existential threats. Through an online platform and citizen dialogues and exchanges, it will foster the link between the digital and green transition. The Commission is **launching an open call** inviting people and organisations to become **Climate Pact Ambassadors**. Climate Pact Ambassadors will lead by example and engage their communities in climate action. The Climate Pact aims to help spread scientifically sound information about climate action and provide practical advice for everyday life choices. It will support local initiatives and **encourage climate action pledges by individuals or collectives**, helping to mobilise support and participation. In the starting phase, the Pact will prioritise actions focused on four areas that offer immediate benefits not only for the climate and the environment, but also for the health and wellbeing of citizens: green areas, green mobility,

efficient buildings and green skills. The Pact has an open mandate and its scope will evolve based on the ideas and contributions of the people and organisations that become part of it. **An Annual Climate Pact event** will bring together participants to share their experiences and knowledge. An online launch event with Executive Vice-President Frans **Timmermans** for the European Climate Pact took place on 16 December. Reflecting the wealth and diversity of climate action in Europe, the Commission is inviting individuals, businesses or civil society organisations to organise Climate Pact satellite events. These events will allow for discussions in various languages in order to reach out to local communities, focus on specific topics or highlight the role of particular groups or sectors in the Climate Pact.

Background

The European Commission first announced the European Climate Pact as part of President **von der Leyen's** Political Guidelines, published in July 2019. In December 2019 the Communication on the European Green Deal further elaborated on the goals of the Climate Pact. The results of an open public consultation in March–June 2020 contributed to the development of the Communication published.

6. Security Union: A Counter-Terrorism Agenda

The Commission is presenting a new Counter-Terrorism Agenda for the EU to step up the fight against terrorism and violent extremism and boost the EU's resilience to terrorist threats.

Building on the work done in recent years, the Agenda seeks to support Member States in better anticipating, preventing, protecting and responding to the terrorist threat. Europol, the EU Agency for law enforcement cooperation, will deliver better operational support to Member States' investigations under the revised mandate proposed. Vice-President for promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinias**, said: *"The inclusive and rights-based foundations of our Union are our strongest protection against the threat of terrorism. By building inclusive societies where everyone can find their place, we reduce the appeal of extremist narratives. At the same time, the European way of life is not optional and we must do all in our power to prevent those that seek to undo it. With this Counter-Terrorism Agenda we are putting the focus on investing in the resilience of our societies with measures to better counter radicalisation and to protect our public spaces from attacks through targeted measures."*

Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva **Johansson**, said: *"With this Counter-Terrorism Agenda, we are boosting experts' ability to anticipate new threats, we are helping local communities to prevent radicalisation, we are giving cities the means to protect open public spaces through good design and we are ensuring that we can respond quickly and more efficiently to attacks and attempted attacks. We are also proposing to give Europol the modern means to support EU countries in their investigations."*



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Measures to anticipate, prevent, protect and respond

The recent spate of attacks on European soil have served as a sharp reminder that terrorism remains a real and present danger. As this threat evolves, so too must our cooperation to counter it. The Counter-Terrorism Agenda aims at:

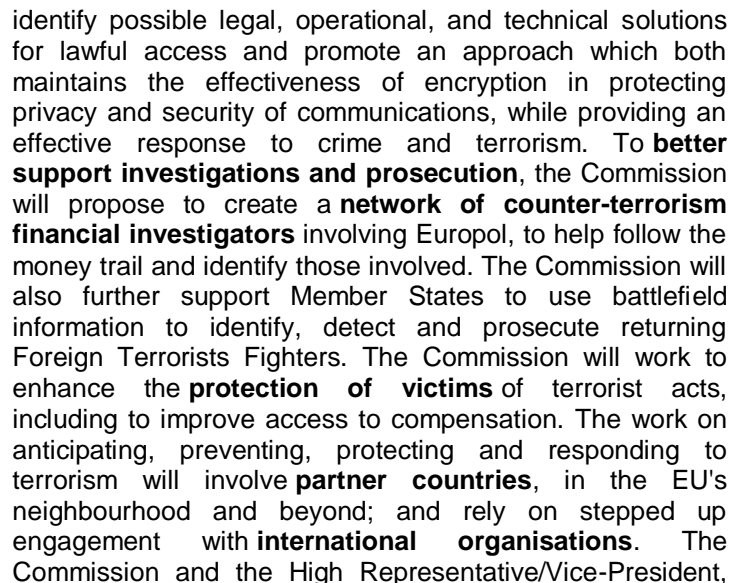
Identifying vulnerabilities and building capacity to anticipate threats

To better anticipate threats as well as potential blind spots, Member States should make sure that the Intelligence and Situation Centre (EU INT-CEN) can rely on high quality input to increase our situational awareness. As part of its upcoming proposal on the resilience of critical infrastructure, the Commission will set up advisory missions to support Member States in carrying out risk assessments, building on the experience of a pool of EU Protective Security Advisors. **Security research** will help enhance early detection of new threats, whilst investing in new technologies will help Europe's counter terrorism response stay ahead of the curve.

To counter the spread of extremist ideologies online, it is important that the European Parliament and the Council adopt the rules on **removing terrorist content online** as a matter of urgency. The Commission will then support their application. The EU Internet Forum will develop **guidance on moderation for publicly available content for extremist material online**. Promoting **inclusion** and providing opportunities through education, culture, youth and sports can contribute to making societies more cohesive and preventing radicalisation. The Action Plan on integration and inclusion will help build community resilience. The Agenda also focuses on strengthening preventive action in **prisons**, paying specific attention to the **rehabilitation and reintegration** of radical inmates, including after their release. To disseminate knowledge and expertise on the **prevention of radicalisation**, the Commission will propose setting up an **EU Knowledge Hub** gathering policy makers, practitioners and researchers. Recognising the specific challenges raised by **foreign terrorist fighters** and their family members, the Commission will support training and knowledge sharing to help Member States manage their return.

Many of the recent attacks that took place in the EU targeted densely crowded or highly symbolic spaces. The EU will step up efforts to ensure physical **protection of public spaces** including places of worship through **security by design**. The Commission will propose to gather cities around an **EU Pledge on Urban Security and Resilience** and will make funding available to support them in reducing the vulnerabilities of public spaces. The Commission will also propose measures to make **critical infrastructure** - such as transport hubs, power stations or hospitals - more resilient. To step up aviation security, the Commission will explore options for a European legal framework to deploy security officers on flights. All those entering the EU, citizens or not, must be checked against the relevant databases. The Commission will support Member States in ensuring such **systematic checks at borders**. The Commission will also propose a system ensuring that a person who has been denied a firearm on security grounds in one Member State cannot lodge a similar request in another Member State, closing an existing loophole.

Police cooperation and information exchange across the EU are key to respond effectively in case of attacks and bring perpetrators to justice. The Commission will propose an **EU police cooperation code** in 2021 to enhance cooperation between law enforcement authorities, including in the fight against terrorism. A substantial part of investigations against crime and terrorism involve **encrypted information**. The Commission will work with Member States to



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Stronger mandate for Europol

The Commission is proposing to **strengthen the mandate of Europol**, the EU Agency for law enforcement cooperation. Given that terrorists often abuse services offered by private companies to recruit followers, plan attacks, and disseminate propaganda inciting further attacks, the revised mandate will help Europol cooperate effectively with private parties, and transmit relevant evidence to Member States. For example, Europol will be able to act as a focal point in case it is not clear which Member State has jurisdiction. The new mandate will also allow Europol to process large and complex datasets; to improve cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office as well as with non-EU partner countries; and to help develop new technologies that match law enforcement needs. It will strengthen Europol's data protection framework and parliamentary oversight.

Background

This Agenda follows from the EU Security Union Strategy for 2020 to 2025, in which the Commission committed to focus on priority areas where the EU can bring value to support Member States in fostering security for those living in Europe. The Counter-Terrorism Agenda builds on the measures already adopted to deny terrorists the means to carry out attacks and to strengthen resilience against the terrorist threat. That includes EU rules on combating terrorism, on addressing terrorist financing and access to firearms.

7. A fundamental transport transformation: EC presents its plan for green

The European Commission presented its “Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy” together with an Action Plan of 82 initiatives that will guide our work for the next four years.

This strategy lays the foundation for how the EU transport system can achieve its green and digital transformation and become more resilient to future crises. As outlined in the European Green Deal, the result will be a 90% cut in emissions by 2050, delivered by a smart, competitive, safe, accessible and affordable transport system. Frans **Timmermans**, Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal, said: *“To reach our climate targets, emissions from the transport sector must get on a clear downward trend. This strategy will shift the way people and goods move across Europe and make it easy to combine different modes of transport in a single journey. We’ve set ambitious targets for the entire transport system to ensure a sustainable, smart, and resilient return from the COVID-19 crisis.”* Commissioner for Transport Adina **Vălean** said: *“As the backbone that connects European citizens and business, transport matters to us all. Digital technologies have the potential to revolutionise the way we move, making our mobility smarter, more efficient, and also greener. We need to provide businesses a stable framework for the green investments they will need to make over the coming decades. Through the implementation of this strategy, we will create a more efficient and resilient transport system, which is on a firm pathway to reduce emissions in line with our European Green Deal goals.”*



Milestones for a smart and sustainable future

All transport modes need to become more sustainable, with green alternatives widely available and the right incentives put in place to drive the transition. Concrete milestones will keep the European transport system's journey towards a smart and sustainable future on track: **By 2030:** at least 30 million zero-emission cars will be in operation on European roads; 100 European cities will be climate neutral; high-speed rail traffic will double across Europe; scheduled collective travel for journeys under 500 km should be carbon neutral; automated mobility will be deployed at large scale; zero-emission marine vessels will be market-ready. **By 2035:** zero-emission large aircraft will be market-ready. **By 2050:** nearly all cars, vans, buses as well as new heavy-duty vehicles will be zero-emission; rail freight traffic will double; a fully operational, multimodal Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) for sustainable and smart transport with high speed connectivity. To make our goals a reality, the strategy identifies a total of 82 initiatives in 10 key areas for action (“flagships”), each with concrete measures.

Sustainable

For transport to become sustainable, in practice this means: boosting the uptake of **zero-emission vehicles, vessels and aeroplanes, renewable & low-carbon fuels** and related infrastructure – for instance by installing 3 million public charging points by 2030; creating **zero-emission airports and ports** – for instance through new initiatives to promote sustainable aviation and maritime fuels; making **interurban and urban mobility healthy and sustainable** – for instance by doubling high-speed rail traffic and developing extra cycling infrastructure over the next 10 years; **greening freight transport** – for instance by doubling rail freight traffic by 2050; **pricing carbon and providing better incentives for users** – for instance by pursuing a comprehensive set of measures to deliver fair and efficient pricing across all transport.

Smart

Innovation and digitalisation will shape how passengers and freight move around in the future if the right conditions are put in place. The strategy foresees: making **connected and automated**



multimodal mobility a reality – for instance by making it possible for passengers to buy tickets for multimodal journeys and freight to seamlessly switch between transport modes; boosting **innovation and the use of data and artificial intelligence (AI)** for smarter mobility – for instance by fully supporting the deployment of drones and unmanned aircraft and further actions to build a European Common Mobility Data Space.

Resilient

Transport has been one of the sectors hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic, and many businesses in the sector are seeing immense operational and financial difficulties. The Commission therefore commits to: **reinforce the Single Market** – for instance through reinforcing efforts and investments to complete the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) by 2030 and support the sector to build back better through increased investments, both public and private, in the modernisation of fleets in all modes; make **mobility fair and just for all** – for instance by making the new mobility affordable and accessible in all

regions and for all passengers including those with reduced mobility and making the sector more attractive for workers; step up **transport safety and security** across all modes – including by bringing the death toll close to zero by 2050.

Background

With transport contributing around 5% to EU GDP and employing more than 10 million people in Europe, the transport system is critical to European businesses and global supply chains. At the same time, transport is not without costs to our society: greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions, noise, road crashes and congestion. Today, transport emissions represent around one quarter of the EU's total GHG emissions. This push to transform transport comes at a time when the entire sector is still reeling from the impacts of the coronavirus. With increased public and private investment in the modernisation and greening of our fleets and infrastructure, and by reinforcing the single market, we now have a historic opportunity to make European transport not only more sustainable but more competitive globally and more resistant to any future shocks. However, this evolution should leave nobody behind: it is crucial that mobility is available and affordable for all, that rural and remote regions remain connected, and that the sector offers good social conditions and provides attractive jobs.

8. Relations with the UK: EC proposes targeted contingency measures

While the Commission will continue to do its utmost to reach a mutually beneficial agreement with the UK, there is now significant uncertainty whether a deal will be in place on 1 January 2021.

The European Commission has put forward a set of targeted contingency measures ensuring basic reciprocal air and road connectivity between the EU and the UK, as well as allowing for the possibility of reciprocal fishing access by EU and UK vessels to each other's waters. The aim of these contingency measures is to cater for the period during which there is no agreement in

place. If no agreement enters into application, they will end after a fixed period. President **von der Leyen** said: *“Negotiations are still ongoing. However, given that the end of the transition is very near, there is no guarantee that if and when an agreement is found, it can enter into force on time. Our responsibility is to be prepared for all eventualities, including not having a deal in place with the UK on 1 January 2021. That is why we are coming forward with these measures”*. The Commission has consistently called on all stakeholders in all sectors to prepare for all possible scenarios on 1 January 2021. While a “no-deal” scenario will cause disruptions in many areas, some sectors would be disproportionately affected due to a lack of appropriate fall-back solutions and because in some sectors, stakeholders cannot themselves take mitigating measures. The Commission is therefore putting forward four contingency measures to mitigate some of the significant disruptions that will occur on 1 January in case a deal with the UK is not yet in place:



- **Basic air connectivity:** A proposal for a Regulation to ensure the provision of certain air services between the UK and the EU for 6 months, provided the UK ensures the same.
- **Aviation safety:** A proposal for a Regulation ensuring that various safety certificates for products can continue to be used in EU aircraft without disruption, thereby avoiding the grounding of EU aircraft.
- **Basic road connectivity:** A proposal for a Regulation covering basic connectivity with regard to both road freight, and road passenger transport for 6 months, provided the UK assures the same to EU hauliers.
- **Fisheries:** A proposal for a Regulation to create the appropriate legal framework until 31 December 2021, or until a fisheries agreement with the UK has been concluded – whichever date is earlier – for continued reciprocal access by EU and UK vessels to each other's waters after 31 December 2020. In order to guarantee the sustainability of fisheries and in light of the importance of fisheries for the economic livelihood of many communities, it is necessary to facilitate the procedures of authorisation of fishing vessels.

The Commission will work closely with the European Parliament and Council with a view to facilitate entry into application on 1 January 2021 of all four proposed Regulations. Readiness and preparedness for 1 January 2021 is now more important than ever. Disruption will happen with or without an agreement between the EU and the UK on their future relationship. This is the natural consequence of the United Kingdom's decision to leave the Union and to no longer participate in the EU Single Market and Customs Union. The Commission has always been very clear about this.

Background

The United Kingdom left the European Union on 31 January 2020. At the time, both sides agreed on a transition period until 31 December 2020, during which EU law continues to apply to the UK. The EU and the UK are using this period to negotiate the terms of their future partnership. The outcome of these negotiations is uncertain. The Withdrawal Agreement remains



in force. It guarantees the rights of EU citizens in the UK, as well as our financial interests, and protects peace and stability on the island of Ireland, amongst many other things. Public administrations, businesses, citizens and stakeholders on both sides need to prepare for the end of the transition period. The Commission has worked closely with EU Member States to inform citizens and businesses about the consequences of Brexit. It published almost 100 sectoral guidance notices – in all official EU languages –

with detailed information on what administrations, businesses and citizens have to do to prepare for the changes at the end of the year. Since July, the Commission has been carrying out a virtual “tour des capitals” to discuss Member States' readiness plans. The Commission has also launched a number of awareness-raising campaigns and intensified its stakeholder outreach over recent months. It provided training and guidance to Member State administrations, and will continue to organise sectoral seminars with all Member States at technical level, to help fine-tune the implementation of readiness measures, in particular in the areas of border checks for persons and goods.

9. EU Citizenship Report: empowering citizens and protecting their rights

The Commission published the 2020 EU Citizenship Report, which takes stock of the progress made on EU citizenship since the last report in 2017.

The report also sets out new priorities and actions to empower EU citizens, such as an update of the EU guidelines on free movement, taking into account the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner for Justice, Didier **Reynders**, said: “*EU citizenship is at the core of the European project. And yet we have seen unprecedented challenges to some of the basic rights we tend to take for granted in Europe – from restrictions to free movement because of the pandemic to challenges to our democratic institutions. We are reaffirming our commitment to further empower citizens and protect their rights for a stronger and more resilient EU.*”

The 2020 EU Citizenship Report complements the European Democracy Action Plan setting the framework of actions to empower citizens and build more resilient democracies. It brings a number of concrete actions aiming at strengthening democratic participation, facilitating free movement, protecting and promoting EU citizenship, and protecting EU citizens in Europe and abroad. **Concrete actions and priorities for EU citizens: enhancing democratic participation, empowerment and inclusion.** Increasing citizens' involvement in all stages of the democratic process is key to European democracy. Next year, the Commission will update the rules on voting rights of mobile EU citizens. The Commission aims to facilitate the supply of information to citizens when voting in municipal and European elections, as well as the exchange of relevant information among Member States, for instance, to prevent double voting. The Commission will also fund projects on independent election observation and projects that support European citizens' engagement; **facilitating free movement and simplifying daily life.** The Commission wants to improve legal certainty for EU citizens when traveling, studying or working in another Member State. To achieve that, in 2022 the Commission will update the 2009 EU guidelines on free movement. The Commission will also come forward with an initiative next year to make the daily lives of EU citizens easier by simplifying their tax obligations. In line with the Withdrawal Agreement, the Commission will continue to support the protection of the rights of EU citizens resident in the UK; **protecting and promoting EU citizenship.** European citizenship is not for sale. The Commission will continue to address the risks posed by investor schemes for EU citizenship, where necessary by infringement procedures. The Commission will also continue to monitor the impact of restrictive measures put in place during the COVID-19 crisis, until such measures are lifted; **protecting EU citizens in Europe and abroad, including in times of crisis.** The Commission will continue building a strong European Health Union and implement the EU strategy for COVID-19 vaccines together with the Member States. In 2021, the Commission will also review the EU rules on consular protection in order to improve the EU's and Member States' capacity to protect and support European citizens abroad, especially in times of crisis.



Next steps

The Commission is committed to develop the necessary tools for citizens to fully benefit from their status as European citizens. This is a joint effort. To implement the priorities set out in the report, the Commission will work closely and in partnership with Member States, including local and regional authorities as well as with other EU institutions and stakeholders, civil society and, most importantly, citizens themselves.

Background

The Commission reports on the application of the EU citizenship provisions every 3 years and proposes new priorities for the next 3 years. Since the last EU Citizenship Report in 2017, there have been significant challenges in exercising EU citizenship rights, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The EU citizenship Report is based on dedicated consultations, including a public consultation on EU citizenship rights, a Flash Eurobarometer survey on EU citizenship and democracy and the work of the Network of Academics on EU Citizenship Rights. A joint hearing on EU citizenship, co-organized by the Commission and the Parliament, was held on 29 October 2020. The Citizenship Report is strongly linked to President **von der Leyen's** political priorities for Europe, particularly the new push for European democracy and bringing citizens closer to the EU. It complements other initiatives, such as the new strategy for the implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and, in particular, the European Democracy Action Plan.

10. Inclusion for all: EC presents action plan on Integration and Inclusion

The Commission is presenting the action plan on Integration and Inclusion for the period 2021-2027. The action plan promotes inclusion for all, recognising the important contribution of migrants to the EU and addressing the barriers that can hinder participation and inclusion of people with a migrant background, from newcomers to citizens, in European society.

It is built on the principle that inclusive integration requires efforts from both the person and the host community and sets out new actions that build on the achievements of the previous action plan from 2016. Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinas**, said: *"Inclusion is the embodiment of the European way of life. Integration and inclusion policies are vital for newcomers, for local communities, and contribute to cohesive societies and strong economies. Everyone who has the right to be in Europe should have access to the tools they need to realise their full potential and assume the rights and obligations governing our Union."* Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva **Johansson**, said: *"Migrants are 'us', not 'them'. Everyone has a role to play in making sure our societies are cohesive and prosperous. Integration and inclusion mean listening to migrant communities and ensuring that everyone can enjoy rights, regardless of background. Inclusive integration is giving the same tools and support needed to contribute to society, so that migrants can reach their full potential and our societies benefit from their strength and skills."*



A European approach to integration and inclusion

As emphasised in the **new Pact on Migration and Asylum**, successful integration and inclusion is an essential part of a well-managed and effective migration and asylum policy. It is also essential for social cohesion and for a dynamic economy that works for all. The action plan proposes **targeted and tailored support** that takes into account individual characteristics that may present specific challenges to people with a migrant background, such as gender or religious background. Successful integration and inclusion depends both on early action and on long-term commitment. Although national governments are primarily responsible for creating and implementing social policies, the EU plays a key role in supporting Member States through funding, developing guidance and fostering relevant partnerships. The main actions are:

- **Inclusive education and training** from early childhood to higher education, focusing on facilitating the recognition of qualifications and continued language learning, with support from EU funds.
- **Improving employment opportunities and skills recognition** to fully value the contribution of migrant communities, and women in particular, and ensure that they are supported to reach their full potential. The Commission will work with social and economic partners and employers to promote labour market integration, support entrepreneurship and make it easier for employers to recognise and assess skills.
- **Promoting access to health services**, including mental healthcare, for people with a migrant background. In addition to dedicated EU funding, the action plan seeks to ensure people are informed about their rights and recognises the specific challenges faced by women, in particular during and after pregnancy. The action plan also supports Member States to exchange best practice.
- Access to **adequate and affordable housing** funded through the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund Plus, Asylum and Migration Fund and Invest EU, as well as funding platforms to exchange of experience at local and regional level on fighting discrimination on the housing market and segregation.

The action plan will be implemented by mobilising **EU funding** and by creating **partnerships** with all those involved: migrants, host communities, social and economic partners, civil society, local and regional authorities as well as the private sector. It will empower host communities and support their role in the design and implementation of integration measures and programmes, while also emphasising the responsibility of the people concerned in participating in the host society. It will seek to **modernise** access to services by using digital tools. Finally, it will improve the **evidence base** to help further development of policies and to ensure good monitoring of results.

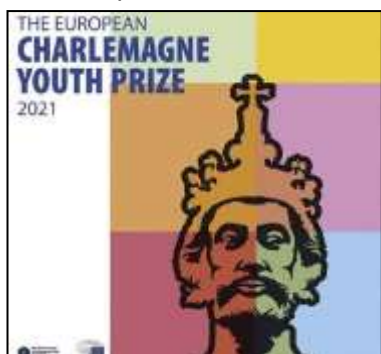
Background

Today, around 34 million EU inhabitants were born outside the EU (around 8% of the EU population), and 10% of young people (15–34 years) born in the EU have at least one foreign-born parent. Migrants and EU citizens with a migrant background play a key role in European society and in different sectors of our economy, including as essential workers. However, they continue to face challenges in terms of access to education, employment, healthcare and social inclusion. The action plan on Integration and Inclusion complements existing and upcoming EU strategies to foster equality and social cohesion to ensure everyone is fully included and able to participate in European societies. It will be implemented with the forthcoming action plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights and the EU's anti-racism action plan. It will also be closely linked with the EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation; the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025; the LGBTIQ equality strategy 2020-2025, the forthcoming strategy to combat antisemitism and the EU citizenship report.

11. Apply for the 2021 edition of the European Charlemagne Youth Prize

Aged 16-30 and working on a project with a European dimension? Apply for the 2021 Charlemagne Youth Prize and get rewarded for your project to further develop your initiative.

The European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation of Aachen award



the Charlemagne Youth Prize every year to projects run by young people with a strong EU dimension. Applications for 2021 open on 9 November 2020 and run until 1 February 2021. The three winning projects will be chosen from 27 projects nominated by national juries in all EU countries. The first prize is €7,500, second prize €5,000 and third prize €2,500. Representatives of all 27 national winning projects will be invited to the Charlemagne Youth Prize award ceremony in Aachen in May 2020. Projects must: meet the following criteria in order to qualify: promote European and international understanding; foster the development of a shared sense of European identity and integration; serve as a role model for

young people living in Europe; offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community; If you have any questions, email ECYP2021@ep.europa.eu. Join the discussion on social media using the hashtag #ECYP2021. **Deadline for submitting projects: 1 February 2021.** For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).

12. Passepartout Photography Prize – 2nd edition

Passepartout Photography Prize (“Passepartout”) was initiated by Il Varco srls in 2020 as a photography contest to promote and widen the exposure of emerging photographers. Passepartout aims to support the development of talented photographers from all over the world by providing 500 euros in a monetary award to a winner of each edition, sponsored awards, and exhibition opportunities in a fine art gallery in Rome (Italy) for selected finalist photographers. Passepartout is open to both professional and amateur photographers from all nationality, gender and age. Photographic works of any kind of artistic style, size and technique (digital, film and experimental processes) are accepted. **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES** All photographers must submit their work from the submission form on Passepartout [website](#) by **January 10th, 2021** with digital files. Prints are not accepted as part of Passepartout. Digital images submitted should be saved as .jpg, compression HIGH, in RGB format max 4 MB per file, max



long side length 2000px. Files must be named as followed: sequential number, name and surname of the photographer, title of the work (if present) separated by underscores. (e.g. 01_Bill Williams_The Rain.jpeg) No signature, stamp or any other identifying mark is allowed anywhere on the entry. All the images that have a watermark will be automatically excluded from the contest. The submission fee is 18 Euros and allows the submission up to 3 images. Additional images up to 7 in total may be submitted with an additional fee of 3 Euros per image. You may enter your work of single images and/or multiple images from one project. When submitting a multiple-image project, please describe the project details in the entry form. Once the submission of images and the payment of the fee are completed, you will receive a confirmation email. Copyright and all other rights remain that of the photographer. Any photograph used by Passepartout shall carry the photographer's credit line. Use may include publication in any Passepartout media sponsor publication. All entrants understand that any image submitted to Passepartout may be used by Passepartout for marketing and promotional purposes including in any media such as exhibitions, print and digital media directly related to the Contest. Passepartout declines any responsibility in copyright infringement and/or unauthorized references to photographed subjects including people, objects, and organizations portrayed within. **Deadline: 10 January 2021.** For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).

13. Ambassador School Programme 2020-2021

The European Parliament Ambassador School Programme is a network of schools across the EU raising awareness of European parliamentary democracy and European citizenship values. The programme is suitable for Transition Year students. The aim of the programme is to increase



awareness of Europe, democracy and political choice among young people across the EU. Ambassador schools do this by organising a Europe Day event, setting up an info point, linking up with schools in other EU countries and completing the EPAS Workbook. Training is provided for teachers and the programme is suitable for Transition Year students. Schools completing the

programme are awarded a European Parliament Ambassador School plaque and each student receives an EPAS Certificate. 65 schools across Ireland are taking part this year.

What's involved?

The criteria to be fulfilled to achieve Ambassador School status include:

Designation of Senior Ambassadors (teachers) and Junior Ambassadors

Junior Ambassadors are selected by their teacher (Senior Ambassador) for showing enthusiasm and involvement in the programme throughout the year and will receive a special Junior Ambassador Certificate. All other students completing the programme will receive a Certificate of participation.

Teaching material

Senior Ambassadors (teachers) take students through the Ambassador School workbook provided by the European Parliament. There are 6 learning modules in the workbook, covering the History of the EU, How the EU affects your life, Decision-making, Europe without borders, European values and Your voice in Europe. Senior Ambassadors will receive additional material to help in the delivery of the programme and can follow an introductory training organised by the European Parliament. The training day is an opportunity to network with other teachers in the programme.

EU Info Point

Students set up and maintain an EU Info Point - an information and activity area dedicated to Europe and the European institutions, displaying brochures and information about the EU, the work of the Parliament and the MEPs etc. The EU info-point can also be web-based, for example a dedicated page on a school website.

Europe Day event

Schools organise a Europe Day event on or around 9 May, for example: European music festival; European food tasting day; Debate on a European issue; Meet your MEP; EU Quiz; Mock European election. Schools are encouraged to E-Twin with other schools in the programme across the EU. Schools are also encouraged to share their EPAS activities on a dedicated or school social media account or blog and can follow the European Parliament social media accounts (Facebook/Twitter/Instagram).

Evaluations

School evaluations will be carried out and if all the conditions are met, the school may be officially designated a “European Parliament Ambassador School” (EPAS) and certified as such. This includes the award of a plaque that can be displayed in a prominent place on the school premises. The award of the plaque and the designation are reviewed annually. Plaques are presented to successful schools at an annual Awards Ceremony. Schools unable to attend the ceremony are encouraged to invite a MEP to their school to make the presentation on behalf of the European Parliament (e.g. on TY Graduation Day). If you wish to participate in the programme for the 2020-2021 academic year please email youth-epdublin@europarl.europa.eu. For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).

14. Traineeships at the European Court of Auditors



The European Court of Auditors organises three traineeship sessions per year in areas of interest to its work. They may be paid (1 350 euros/month) or unpaid, depending on the budgetary appropriations available.

As from 1 October 2020, the three sessions will cover the following periods: from 1 March to 31 July of the same calendar year; from 1 May to 30 September of the same calendar year; from 1 October of one calendar year until 28 (29) February of the next. During these three sessions, each traineeship may last from three to five months.

In order to be eligible for a traineeship, applicants must:

- be a national of one of the Member States of the European Union, except where an exception has been granted by the appointing authority;
- either hold a recognised university-level diploma giving access to the AD function group (a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three years, as attested by a diploma) as defined in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union, or have completed at least four semesters of university study in an area of interest to the Court;
- wish to obtain practical training related to one of the Court's areas of activity;
- not already have benefited from a traineeship (paid or unpaid) at any EU institution, body or agency, including the European Central Bank and the European Investment Bank;
- state that they have a thorough knowledge of one official EU language and a satisfactory knowledge of at least one other official EU language;
- not previously have been or are not, at the time of application, employed in an EU institution, body or agency as a member of the temporary staff, contract staff, auxiliary contract staff, employment agency staff, as a national expert on secondment to an EU institution, body or agency, or as an assistant to a Member of the European Parliament.

Applicants who are selected must provide a recent certificate, as drawn up for civil-service employment purposes by their national authorities, stating that they have never been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offence, and a medical certificate stating that they are physically fit to perform their duties. Applicants with a disability are not required to produce such a certificate, which is replaced in their case by a certificate from their family doctor stating that they are able to function effectively in the workplace if appropriate arrangements are made.

Before applying, please note the following important information:

- Due to the high volume of applications, we do not respond to each individual applicant.
- Only online applications will be processed. Unsolicited applications or CVs sent by post, fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
- Only successful applicants will be contacted by the Court's Human Resources department.
- No traineeships can be granted outside the sessions listed below.

Deadline: January 31, 2021. For more information please consult the following [link](#).

15. The World Bank (WB) Internship Program

The Bank Internship Program is now accepting applications through January 31st for its Summer Term (May 2021 – September 2021).

The Bank Internship Program (BIP) 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 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. Application Form: Take time to prepare your application and enter your personal information accurately. You will be asked to upload the following documents: Curriculum Vitae (CV); Statement of Interest; Proof of Enrollment in a graduate degree. All applications are stored in a database which is consulted by hiring Managers based on business needs. Please note that candidates will not hear from us unless they are shortlisted by a hiring Manager that is looking to hire an intern. Managers have access to the Internship database from February – July (Summer Internship) and from November – January (Winter Internship). We do not have a pre-identified number of positions for interns per season. For each season, hiring is solely based on business needs.

Application Process

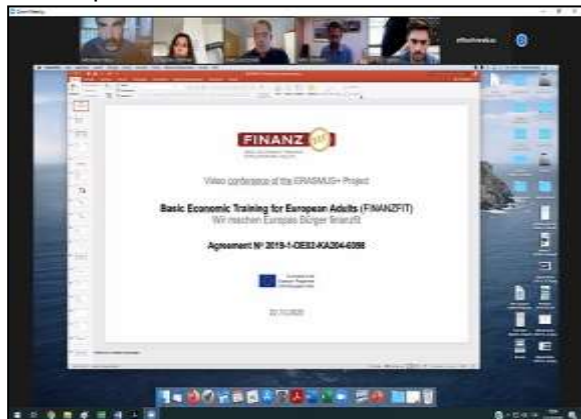
Application Form: Take time to prepare your application and enter your personal information accurately. You will be asked to upload the following documents:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- Statement of Interest;
- Proof of Enrollment in a graduate degree.

Application Checklist: the following application checklist is meant to facilitate your application experience. **Deadline: January 31, 2021. For more information please consult the following [link](#).**

16. Online meeting “Wir machen Europas Bürger finanzfit” project

In date 22/10/2020 our association participated, with our manager Antonino Imbesi, at an online meeting to verify the activities already developed and to define further steps of the project "Wir machen Europas Bürger Finanzfit" (title in English "BASIC ECONOMIC TRAINING FOR EUROPEAN ADULTS") that wants to develop a series of contents that are essential also for people with low qualifications to be able to act "sensibly" in the economic sector in everyday life. The project was approved as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006098 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Germany. A mini project in North Rhine Westphalia, conducted by Europe Unlimited in November 2018, has shown that even simple, free training courses for migrants and former prisoners can be used to achieve successes with the topic of "Basic economic training for European adults".



According to this transnational project, the lack of knowledge on economic and financial matters should be counteracted. Interviews with teachers, career counsellors, migrants' caregivers and prison officials prior to submitting the project application have shown that a need for targeted training and documents on economic and financial matters exists, as there are hardly any independent free offers for the target group in this respect. The FINANZFIT collaboration of eight project partners has set the goal of developing innovative methods and tools to assist people with low qualifications in

acquiring knowledge on economic and financial matters as well as key competences to strengthen basic skills in the fields of: financial assets; financing; insurances; liquidity; current account; retirement planning. The objective of the project partners is to work on these topics to make them understandable for the target group, low qualified persons, in the project partner countries. Experience has shown that people with lower qualifications in particular have lower incomes (compared to those with good professional training), so it is even more important to have the knowledge in order to make the right financial decisions. People who have experienced lower education often are difficult to motivate themselves for further education. In order to reach the uneducated clientele in the project regions, the project also addresses stakeholders such as career counsellors, migrants' advisors, social workers, media and volunteer education initiatives. The projects started on 1st September 2019, the duration is 30 months. The planned project activities include the development of four intellectual outputs:

1. E-learning platform (web-based learning/ blended learning)

The e-learning platform and related content will allow users to acquire and strengthen their specific skills in the seven areas outlined above. The e-learning platform is based on a dedicated website that provides interactive tools and media to help users build their financial self-government skills. The platform will be used both as a training tool by the individual project partners and by their stakeholders. In addition, this tool should be used in particular by persons with low qualifications who do not participate in formal education and training programs and do not want to or cannot inform financial service providers or banks in order to be able to operate more economically in their daily lives. A free online access at any time is used to strengthen this project.

2. Training program for low-skilled or low-qualified persons (to increase the professional qualification)

The target group-specific development of workshops on the topics financial assets, financing, insurances, liquidity, current account and retirement planning are at the center of this output. These workshops are designed especially for people with low qualifications who have little or no access to formal education based on their background or social affiliation.

3. Training program for their supervisors (to increase pedagogical competence)

The main purpose of this output is to develop innovative tools, materials and seminar guidelines for teachers. The target group is in particular those consultants, trainers and coaches who work as workshop leaders for or with persons with low qualifications in the acquisition and development of basic skills and key competences for "Basic Economic Knowledge". Although there are "train-the-trainer" offers online in all project partner regions or seminars offered by

different educational providers, none of these offers focuses on working with people with low qualifications.

4. Development of a professional journal (target group specific journal)

The creation of the trade magazine "Basic economic training for European adults" is another way of supporting individuals in the acquisition of basic skills or the learning needs of people with low qualifications. The trade magazine will be available on paper as well as in PDF format and will be distributed at various events.

The partners of the project are: Westdeutscher Handwerkskammertag (Germany) – coordinator; Mobilizing Expertise AB (Sweden); EURO-NET (Italy); Datca Ilce Milli Egitim Mudurlugu (Turkey); Europe Unlimited E.V. (Germany); Eyropaiko Institutoyto Topikhs Anaptykshs (Greece); A. Palladio Building Center (Italy); Vondiconsulting Unternehmensberatung Vondrak KG (Austria). More details on the project are available on the website www.whkt.de/finanzfit or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/finanzfit>.

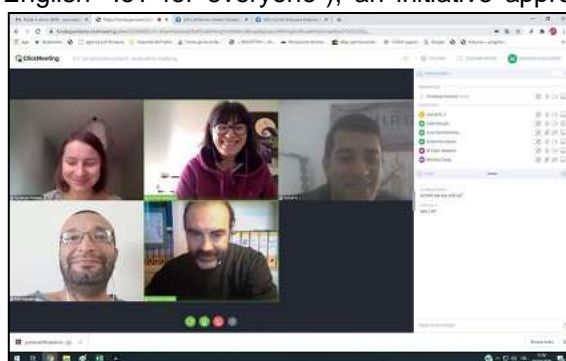
17. First online meeting of the "Digi4Equality" project

In date 22/10/2020 took place the first virtual meeting of the project DIGI4EQUALITY (A DIGITAL toolkit for promotion gender EQUALITY in science and technology - action n.2020-1-PL01-KA201-081630). The aim of project is concerned with developing a novel toolbox by which professionals can attract, reach out and assist students to raise awareness and tackle gender stereotypes in society and in occupational choices in a digitalised world. To achieve this aim, the DIGI4EQUALITY project will have these objectives: to highlight the important role of women in science and technology; to ensure a gender-transformative environment for girls and boys to overcome gender stereotypes with regard to roles of women and men at work and in society; to encourage both girls and boys to make career choices in a digitalised world; to raise awareness of teachers on gender equality which affect their interactions with boys and girls; to strengthen educational skills in coping with gender equality. The partnership is composed of: Szkoła Podstawowa nr 2 w Proszowicach (Poland) coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); MPIRMPAKOS D. & SIA O.E. (Greece); CHALLEDU (Greece); AYDIN IL MILLI EGITIM MUDURLUGU (Turkey); ADAZU VIDUSSKOLA (Latvia). In the meeting planned online due 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. More details on the project are available on the website <https://digi4equality.eu/>.



18. IOT for Everyone: concluded the last meeting of the project

In date 30/10/2020 took place the last meeting of the project "Internet Rzeczy dla każdego" (in English "IoT for everyone"), an initiative approved in Poland as action n.2018-1-PL01-KA204-

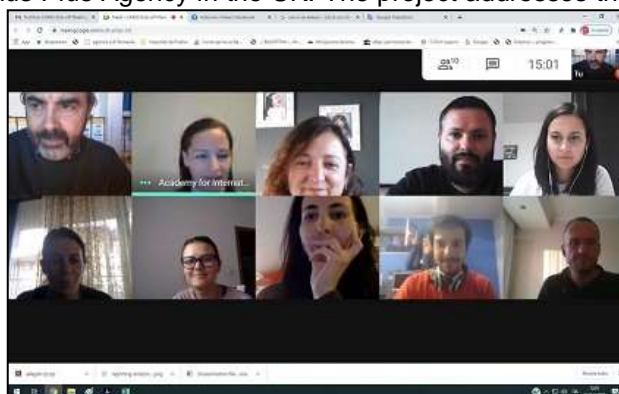


051035 in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. The project partners are: Antares Foundation (Poland), project coordinator; HIRD (Tunisia); Fundación Cibervoluntarios (Spain); EURO-NET (Italy). During the last project meeting, the partners took stock of the developed activities and defined the last steps of the project, including the preparation of the final report. The project partners hope to continue this splendid activity in the future, as they have proposed a

second step in the innovation branch. More information can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lot-for-Everyone-Erasmus-project426230398158902/>.

19. Kick off meeting of the "CARES" project

In date 02/11/2020 took place the kick off meeting of the project "Career Accessibility for Resilient Employment in STEMM" (acronym "CARES") an initiative approved in England action n.2020-1-UK01-KA201-078909 by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in the UK. The project addresses the urgent need to address the STEMM skills gap and also to support the improvement of English language skills for English as a Second Language (ESL) learners through the use of the AR app as a digital tool in education. The partnership consists of: Academy for International Science and Research (UK) coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Hilal Dogu Akademi Egitim Hizmetleri Ve Uluslararası Proje Yönetim Danismanlığı Ticaret Ve Sanayi Limited Şirketi (Turkey); Fablab Messina (Italy); Liceul Tehnologic "Valeriu Brăniște" (Romania); "Horizont ProConsult" EOOD (Bulgaria); Samsun İl Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü (Turkey). During the meeting, the partners got to know each other and knew 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.



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

In date 02/11/2020 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 very last activities still to be developed were discussed and the need to ask for an extension in order to be able to realise both the new planned cards and the Multiplier Events foreseen in the project. The partnership consists of 5 different countries: 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>.



21. Kick off meeting of the "EASYNEWS" project

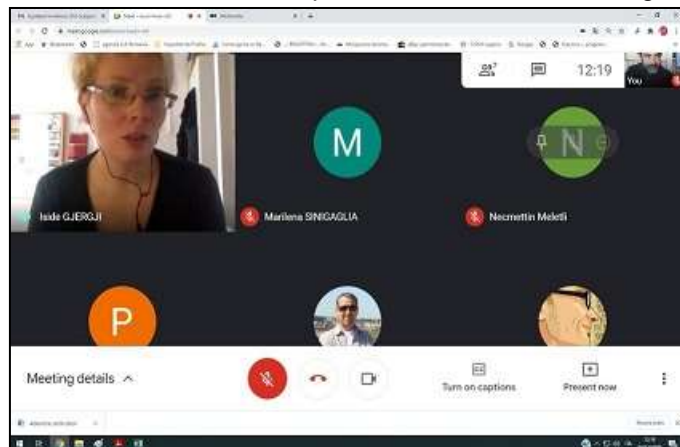
In date 03/11/2020 took place a kick-off meeting of the project "Periodismo Digital Accesible y Educación Mediática para Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual" (in English "Accessible Digital Journalism and Media Education for People with Intellectual Disabilities") - acronym EASYNEWS. The project was 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 introduced themselves, discussed the whole project development and planned the project steps to be realised in the next months. You can follow the development of this interesting initiative on the official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Easynews-108569271011998>.

22. Short zoom meeting of “REUERHC” project

In date 04/11/2020 took place a short zoom meeting of the project “Reinforce EU economies,



reinforcing human capital” (acronym “REUERHC”). 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. During the meeting the partners discussed how to complete the last steps of IO4 and the need to ask for an extension to develop the Multiplier Events in presence. The project partnership is

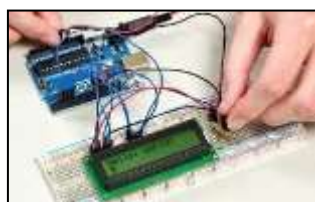
composed of: Ca' Foscari University Venice (Italy) EURO-NET (Italy), S.C. Predict CSD Consulting S.R.L. (Romania), Pro Ifall AB (Sweden), Crossing Borders (Denmark) and Kirsehir Valligi (Turkey). For more information you can consult the official the website <https://reuerhc.eu/> or the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/reuerhc.unive.1>.

23. “TeaM”: project logo chosen

In these days the logo realised in the framework of the project “TeaM” (Teaching to Marginalized Groups), an initiative approved as action n.2020-1-EL01-KA204-078944 in Greece within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices programme, has been chosen. The project is aimed at exchanging good practices between organizations that work with disadvantaged groups to try to provide these people with more training opportunities. The project partners are the following organisations: MPIRMPAKOS D. & SIA O.E. (Greece) coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); Aydin Egitim, Kultur ve Sanat Dernegi (Turkey); Web for all (Italy); STANDO LTD (Cyprus); Initiative for Sustainable Education and Development (Germany). More information about the project will be available in the next newsletters.



24. Approved the project “ARDUinVET”



We are pleased to announce that a school from Potenza, supported by us during the application process, has won yet another KA2 Erasmus Plus VET project. It is the project “Teaching And Learning Arduinos In Vocational Training” (acronym “ARDUinVET” - action n.2020-1-TR01-KA202-093762 - in which an exchange of good VET practices in Arduino training applications will take place. More information about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

25. Approved the project “Cultural Heritage from Past to Present”



We are pleased to announce that we have been approved for a youth training course in Turkey (scheduled for May 2021...) under the Erasmus PLus programme. It is the project "Geçmişten Günümüze Kültürel Miras" (in English "Cultural Heritage from Past to Present") - action n.2020-2-TR01-KA105-095951 - dedicated to young people with fewer opportunities. More information about the project will be available in the next newsletters.

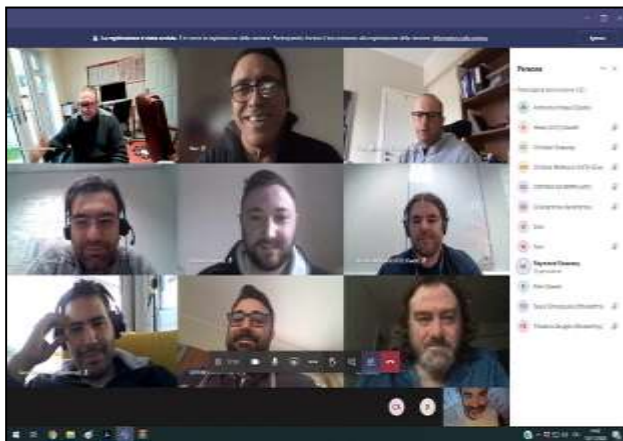
26. “The A Class” project already has its logo and website

Since 14 November, the website of the project "The A Class" is online at the following link: <https://theaclass.eu>; and the logo was chosen in a contest with about ten different options. The partners voted and expressed their preferences and in the end the chosen logo is the one you can see in the image. "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 Združenje za unapređivanje na kvalitetu na životu na licata sa autističnim spektrom na narušavanje "Sina Svetulka" (Macedonia). "The A Class" is aimed at combating the problems that autism creates for students at school 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>.



27. Virtual meeting of “PRIMAE ” project

In the date 18/11/2020 took place the second online meeting of the project "Participation and Recreation through Inclusive Martial Arts Education and E-Learning" (acronym PRIMAE). We from EURO-NET were supposed to host it in Potenza but due to covid, at the moment, it was unfortunately not possible. It was therefore necessary to decide to organise it online because we



had to discuss several topics and take important decisions for the continuation of the activities and for the definition of the interim report. The project aims to develop an international recognition of certification and promote martial arts education through the industry's first online platform to also promote inclusion of people with disabilities. 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 the UK. The partners of the project are: Ikkaido LTD (England); Areadne OE (Greece); Digital Future

(Italy); EURO-NET (Italy); Ikkaido Inclusive Martial Arts (Ireland); Stockholm Vasträ Idrottsförening För Funktionsnedsatta (Sweden); University Of Cyprus (Cyprus); Aux Couleurs Du Deba (France). More information about the initiative can be found on the project's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/IkkaidoPrimaef/>.

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

In date 23/11/2020, our association, together with all the project partners, realised an online meeting of the project "Fostering Adult Migrant Entrepreneurial Training and Qualification" (acronym F.A.M.E.T. - action n.2019-1-DK01-KA204-060186) 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 development of the project activities at the current date and 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's 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/> or on the web site <https://famet.erasmus.site/>.



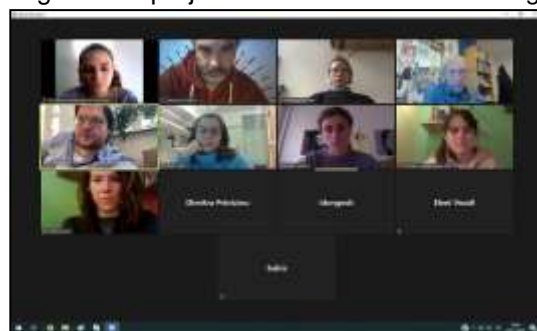
29. Online meeting and brochure of the "Youth Life styles" project

In date 23/11/2020 took place a virtual meeting of the project "Life Styles, Deviance and Prevention: Non Formal Education and Interdisciplinary Resources for Vulnerable Youth" that is an initiative approved by the Slovak Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth. This meeting was necessary to discuss different topics and for the definition of the final report. In the last few days of activities, the project brochure was also produced and published. More information on the project can be found on the official Facebook project page at the following internet link: <https://www.facebook.com/YouthLifestyles-deviance-and-prevention-330204640941364/>.



30. A new meeting of the "PISH" project

In date 24/11/2020 took place a new 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 Aalborg Universitet (Denmark), EURO-NET (Italy), 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 first intellectual product 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>.

31. New online meeting of the "Ruralities" project

In date 24/11/2020 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 two project partners showed the results of the hackathon events they had created in the last few days. The two events were as different as their results, but both really interesting. The "Ruralities" project is developed as action n.2019-1- FR01-KA204-063000 and provides a partnership composed of Ipso Facto (France) - coordinator, EURO-NET (Italy), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Panepestimio Thessalias (Greece), Arbeit Und Beben Lag Mv (Germany) and Krajowy Instytut Polityki Przestrzennej I Mieszkalnictwa (Poland). The main objective of the project is to enable citizens of rural and remote areas to become real actors for the improvement of social and physical living conditions in their localities. In order to guarantee these conditions of well-being, the project, in which educational institutions, associations and public bodies participate, includes transnational meetings in 5 different countries in order to raise public awareness of the project issues. More information on the project can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ruralitieserasmusplus/> or the project website www.ruralities.eu.



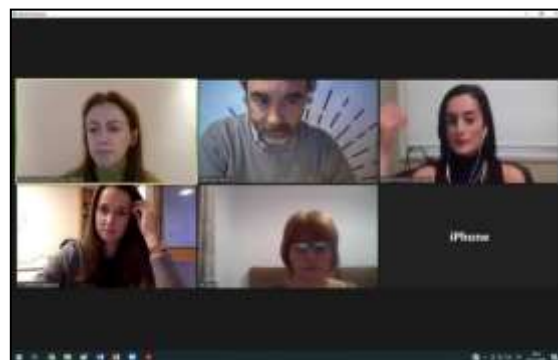
32. New project approved in Luxembourg



We are pleased to inform you that the project of EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata centre) entitled "iCircEU: Cross Border Circular Economy towards Sustainable Development in the EU" - action n.2020-1-LU01-KA204-063241 - has just been approved in Luxembourg by the competent National Agency Erasmus Plus! This is an exchange of good practices in the field of circular economy in which we will emphasize the European Green Deal. More information about the project will be available shortly in our next newsletters.

33. Concluded the online meeting of the "DESK" project

Over the past months, the fourth DESK newsletter was produced and published. Also in date 27/11/2020 the partners met virtually to discuss the last activities to be developed before the final report. 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 razvojova 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/>.



34. Two our animations realised for the University of Krems



We are pleased to inform you that two animations have been realised for the University of Krems in Austria for their LATFURE project: once again we succeed in exporting professionalism and products from Basilicata abroad in the field of education, creativity and innovation! A huge thank you to the entire team of EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata centre) that, as always, has done a superb job!

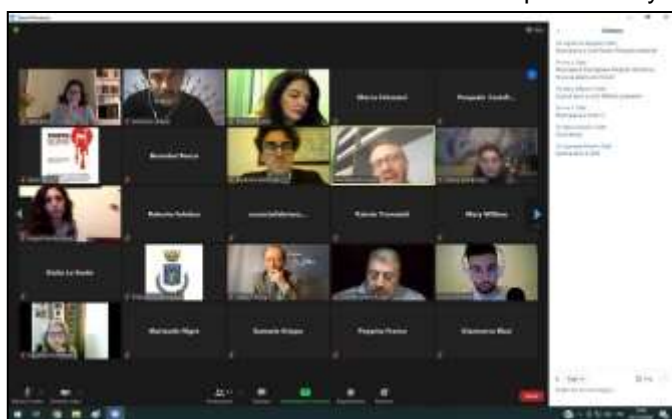
35. Online training for Salesian trainers on European programmes

In date 01/12/2020 took place an online training was held for Salesian trainers on European programmes and the opportunities offered by the EU for young people ... all strictly online on Google Meet. The online training was held thanks to Don Carmine Lamonea, who strongly wanted and promoted this initiative, and was directed to all the young Salesians of the Policoro project (a project that tries to give a concrete answer to the problem of unemployment in Italy). Policoro, a town in the province of Matera, is the place where the entire story of Policoro project started. Through the project, the aim is to tackle the problem of youth unemployment, activating training initiatives for a new culture of work, promoting and supporting youth entrepreneurship with a view to subsidiarity, solidarity and legality, according to the principles of the Social Doctrine of the Church.



36. "A coffee with the Ambassador"

In date 02/12/2020 at 17:00 we hosted a very exclusive event: we had as guest Dr. Viktor Elbling, Ambassador of Germany in Italy, who answered questions done by administrators of the city of Potenza and all citizens. The initiative was part of a cycle of 20 meetings held in 20 Italian cities

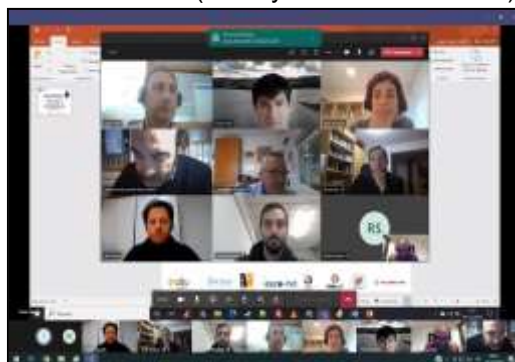


in cooperation with the European Commission's Representation in Italy and the network of Europe Direct Centres throughout the country. The meeting, which was given the symbolic title of "A coffee with the Ambassador" in order to underline the willingness of the parties to openly dialogue on the activities implemented by Europe in favour of citizens, also in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, saw the Ambassador's presentation of all the policy lines "drawn up by Europe" in support of

citizens, SMEs and public administrations, also through the EU Next Generation RECOVERY FUND. The public meeting, organised thanks to the active collaboration of the Europe Direct Basilicata centre, the information centre in our region for the European Commission (which through its director, Antonino Imbesi, has kindly acted as an intermediary between the parties), has also seen the proactive participation of the University of Basilicata, with the presence of Prof. Greco, as delegate for international relations. The meeting was also attended, the Mayor of the City of Potenza, Mario Guarente, as well as the President of the City Council of Potenza, Francesco Cannizzaro, whose presence made the debate even stronger and more institutional.

37. Concluded of the second online meeting of the “ROBOTS” project

In date 03/12/2020 took place the second virtual meeting of the project "NEW TRAINING RESOURCES FOR THE CHANGE OF THE INDUSTRIAL PARADIGM" (acronym "ROBOT@3DP"), approved, as action n. 2019-1-ES01-KA202-065905, in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project aims to integrate additive manufacturing and 3D printers with mechatronics as the perfect complement for students to acquire knowledge that places them in the emerging concepts of Industry 4.0. The project partnership is made up of: AIJU (Spain); Start Smart Srl (Italy); Berzosa Injection Molds, S.L (Spain); Talleres Tibi S.L. (Spain); Spot Design Srl (Romania); Solski Center Krsko Sevnica (Slovenia); EURO-NET (Italy); CIPF Don Bosco Lhii (Spain). During the project meeting the partners discussed the activities to be developed and defined the project steps to be implemented in the coming months. More information on the project can be found on the project web site (www.robot3dp.eu) or on the official Facebook page: (https://www.facebook.com/robot3dp/?modal=admin_todo_tour).



38. Europe City Teller: new steps in the project

The Europe City Tellers project is well underway. Soon all the intellectual products will be completed and the training phase will begin, leading to new job opportunities in tourism and promotion of the cities where the project is developed, pandemic permitting of course. In any case, the European team is doing an excellent job and all the outcomes developed are of absolute value. The 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, is coordinated by EURO-NET as leader of the activities. The project 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 Społeczno-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. The European initiative can already be followed on the initiative's website at www.europecitytellers.eu (produced in all languages of the partnership) or on the official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Europe-City-Teller-1552751178163969/>.



39. ANG inRadio #piùdiPrima Potenza Changemakers: podcast links

Till 17/12/2020, 40 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. 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 Angingradio - 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-UCcSOa61ygO1nmGvorR2XAlxkalRQLYWOiRoX-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 Europeers 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>
- **21 October: "Rising and falling professions" – Simone Amendola**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/774454219781355>
- **22 October: Europass and European CV – Elena Franchomme**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/827391221330868>
- **23 October: New Erasmus Plus Anti-Covid call for proposals – Mariasole Nigro**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/277571606787247>
- **24 October: Are young people really aware of the consequences of their actions with regard to the Coronavirus? – Giulia Lo Sardo**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/348529709747498>

- **26 October: European Week of Regions and Cities – Santain Italiano**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/697311640881059>
- **28 October: Workers' priorities in the new post-Covid normality – Antonio Verrastro**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/345454943221383>
- **31 October: Collective interview with Potentine director Rocco Tolve (role model)**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/364486434797571>
- **04 November: “Startup, and three young Italians selected from Silicon Valley” – Simone Amendola**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/642041089800387>
- **05 November: “JobMeToo” online agency for people with disabilities – Alessia Di Tolla**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/363164075103299>
- **12 November: “Return of young people to agriculture” – Santain Italiano**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/947687962426853>
- **14 November: Interview with Egidio Lacanna on "Generazione lucana" – Palma Bertani**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/1105331816591743>
- **20 November: European Solidarity Corps – Rocco Monetta**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/395483261903352>
- **23 November: Interview with role model Domenico Mele – Santain Italiano**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/220920419386822>
- **24 November: Gender equality in Europe: a goal to be achieved - Federico Liguori**
<https://www.spreaker.com/episode/42136220>
- **25 November: Interview with role model Giusi Giovinazzo on the "HumanLab" project**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/217527443063500>
- **28 November: Italian tech companies beat Microsoft - Federico Liguori**
<https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/aziende-tech-italiane-battono-microsoft>
- **29 November: Youth Guarantee: proposed reinforcement - Pegah Moshir Pour**
<https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/garanzia-giovani-proposto-il-rafforzamen>
- **30 November: Interview with role model Antonio Candela founder of Comincer**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/1554541881409568>
- **02 December: Interview with Federica Arena role model on social networks - Palma Bertani**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/379115036533008>
- **03 December: Smart working in the new post-Covid normality - Pegah Moshir Pour**
<https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/lo-smart-working-nella-nuova-normalita-p>
- **03 December: "Youthpass" - Elena Franchomme**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/127854868941570>
- **03 December: "Your Eures First Job 6.0" - Palma Bertani**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/409144386876048>
- **08 December: "Youthwork" - Antonio Verrastro**
<https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/youthwork-erasmus-sostiene-lo-sviluppo-p?>
- **12 December: "Magazzini Sociali" - Alessia Di Tolla e Giulia Lo Sardo**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/205464221174774>
- **14 December: Interview with Andreina Serena Romano - Pegah Moshir Pour**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers/videos/414749049665143>
- **15 December: Collective interview with Nathalie Hazel in arte Nahaze (role model)**
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradi.../videos/724330311816537>
- **17 December: EU-ACT – Giovanna Imbesi**
https://www.spreaker.com/user/13147256/con-eu-act-il-turismo-culturale-diventa-?fbclid=IwAR1IdATfa6N9FU0u0tOYr7x1FVWZ2P_3jixlP_KJjVKybM8xGjlhaBdkFg

You can follow the initiative on the Facebook page at the internet address:
<https://www.facebook.com/anginradiopotenzachangemakers> o sul sito web
<http://www.anginradiopotenzachangemakers.eu/>

40. E+ Round Trip: 50 young people wanted to take part in online courses

Our association is looking for 50 young people who would like to participate for free in the online courses offered by our project “E+ Round Trip” (action n.2018-1-RO01-KA205-049043). Anyone interested can go to www.themobility.eu and sign up for a definitely worthwhile activity to

professionalise themselves! 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); Dacorum Council For Voluntary Service Ltd (UK); Asociatia Millennium Center Arad (Romania); Grobes Schiff (Austria). The project wants to create a more modern, dynamic, committed and professional environment for young people. The main objectives are: 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 previously indicated web site or on the official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/eplusrundtrip/>.



41. The egame of the project "The spirit of Europe - Origins" is coming...

We are pleased to inform you that the egame of the project "The spirit of Europe - Origins" (acronym SEO) will soon be online to be played. The project intends to develop an immersive simulated environment commonly known as video/digital game, in which the student could travel



through the history of Europe, from its mythological origins to the present day, participating actively at key events through the history and mythology that shaped Europe today. The project was approved as action n.2019-1-RO01-KA204-063864 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Romania. The partners of the project are: S.C. Predict CSD Consulting

S.R.L. (Romania) - coordinator; Asociatia Millennium Center Arad (Romania); EURO-NET (Italy); IDEC (Greece); Inercia Digital SL (Spain). You can follow the development of the 3D egame on the following Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TheSpiritofEurope.Origins>.

42. A virtual meeting of the "CDTMOOC" project

In date 08/12/2020 took place a virtual meeting of the project "CDTMOOC", an initiative approved by the Finnish National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships. The partnership, which for Italy involves the association EURO-NET, is also made up of the University of Turku (Finland), Succubus Interactive (a company active in the creation of interactive educational games in France), Art Square Lab (a Luxembourg-based creative and technological innovation and consulting agency), MSS (an Icelandic training centre operating in the field of continuous and entrepreneurial training). The project aims to provide new tools and methodologies in line with the modernization and complexity of the current world of work, starting from the creativity of ideas as a new competence to be developed and cultivated by students. More information on the project on the official Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/cdtmooc>.



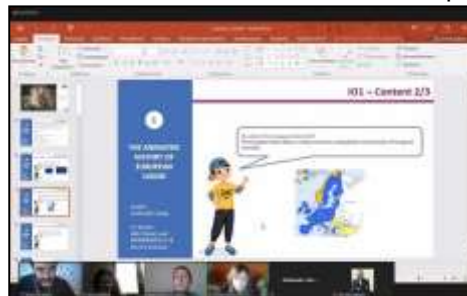
43. Kick-off meeting of the “Future Friendly Africa” project

In date 10/12/2020 took place the kick-off meeting of the project "FUTURE FRIENDLY AFRICA - Capacity transfer for programme for youth development and environmental entrepreneurship in Senegal and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)" - action 619137-EPP-1-2020-1-BG-EPPKA2-CBY-ACPALA. This is an Erasmus Plus Capacity Building for Youth initiative in which various activities are foreseen to support the development and empowerment of young people in Senegal. The international partnership is composed of: NC FUTURE NOW (Bulgaria) coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); CASCUP (Senegal). During the meeting, the partners introduced them-selves, discussed the whole project development and planned the project steps to be carried out in the next months.



44. Realised a new zoom meeting of the "LearnEU" project

In date 11/12/2020 took place an other zoom meeting of the project "LearnEU", an initiative approved as action n.2020-1-IT02-KA201-079054 by the Italian National Agency Erasmus Plus Indire within the Erasmus Plus Strategic Partnerships for School Education programme. The project aims to create a "space on the European Union" suitable for the new generations with a series of interactive 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 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 can already be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Learneu-117725843430250/> or on the website <https://project-learn.eu/>.



45. Online hackathon of the “EURBANITIES 2.0” project

In the days 15 and 16/12/2020 the project “Eurbanities 2.0” organised a two-day online hackathon, where participants shared their ideas on participation and gaming, and contributed to the development of our game. This initiative was approved in Germany as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006159. The project aims to empower citizens to actively engage in the development of fair and sustainable European urban neighborhoods. The project partners are: Comparative Research Network EV (Germany); EURO-NET (Italy); Stadtlabor Innovationen Fur Urbanelebensqualitat 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/urbanities/>.



46. Virtual meeting of "Youth Capacity" project

In date 11/12/2020 took place a virtual meeting of the project "Enhancing Capacities of Youth Policy Makers Across Europe" (acronym "Youth Capacity"), 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) and 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/>.



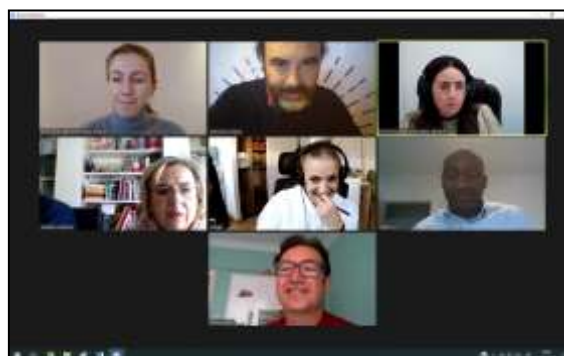
47. New Erasmus Plus project "CLanIMATE Youths" approved in France

We are pleased to inform you that our project on the Green Deal has just been approved in France under the Erasmus Plus KA2 programme. It is an exchange of good practices entitled "CLanIMATE youth: Empowering young people to tackle climate change through the use of animation tools" (acronym CLanIMATE Youths) – action n.2020-3-FR02-KA205-018477. The project intends to contribute to raising young people's awareness, giving them a voice and empowering them to tackle climate change through the production of short animations as an effective means of expression, encouraging them to study these problems, their causes and consequences and imagining solutions. More information on the project will be available soon in our next newsletters.



48. Kick-off meeting of the "TeaM" project

In date 10/12/2020 took place the kick-off meeting of the project "Teaching to Marginalized Groups" (acronym "TeaM") approved in Greece within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme as action n.2020-1-EL01-KA204-078944. During the meeting the Greek coordinator presented the activities to be developed while the partners showed their respective organisations and competences. The partnership is composed of Mpirmpakos D. & Sia O.E. (Greece) – coordinator, EURO-NET (Italy), Aydin Egitim,



Kultur ve Sanat Dernegi (Turkey), Web per tutti (Italy), STANDO LTD (Cyprus) and Initiative for Sustainable Education and Development (Germany). You can find more information on the project on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TeaM-Project-110817037508230> and on the official website <https://team-euproject.eu/>.

49. "Explore Europe" approved in Italy



Approved by the National Youth Agency in Italy the Erasmus Plus KA2 project entitled "Explore Europe" (action n. 2020-2-IT03-KA205-018664). A strategic partnership project of the association Youth Europe Service of Potenza that will surely facilitate a lot the young people to know, understand and love the European Union. More information on the project will be available in the next newsletters in which we will describe more carefully the activities planned and the short and long term objectives of this project that involves not only Youth Europe Service but also the Romanian company S.C. PREDICT CSD CONSULTING S.R.L. and Damasistem, a spin-off of the University of Ankara. More details about the project will be available soon in the next newsletters.

50. A virtual meeting of the PAESIC project

In date 22/10/2020 took place a virtual meeting of the project "Pedagogical Approaches for Enhanced Social Inclusion in the Classroom" (acronym "PAESIC") approved in Denmark under the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for school education as action n. 2018-1-DK01-KA201-047100. The project is aimed at creating tools aimed at teachers and trainers to facilitate the inclusion of migrant and refugee students in European schools and also to foster mutual understanding and respect among young people in the classroom and build a more cohesive and inclusive European society. The initiative, which started on 01/11/2018, has already been extended to 30/06/2021 to allow the partners to complete their activities as planned. The partnership consists of University College Of Northern Denmark (Denmark, project coordinator), Crossing Borders (Denmark), Youth Europe Service (Italy), University Of Thessaly (Greece) and Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany). For more information you can consult the official the website <https://paesic.eu> or the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/paesic/>.



51. GODESK is officially a member of the Cluster Basilicata Creativa



From 23/10/2020, GODESK is officially a member of the Cluster Basilicata Creativa: all the existing members voted unanimously for the entry of the company from Potenza into the consortium. The team is proud of this admission as associate and ready, as always, to give its best, to bring up the name of Basilicata region.

52. Final conference and last meeting of the "SCRCE" project

In date 03/11/2020 took place the online final conference 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 project's Italian partner is the

best-known startup in Potenza, GODESK SRL, which in recent years has developed an important coworking centre and innovation space in the city of Lucania, becoming the flagship of Lucanian innovative enterprises. During the final conference, attended online by more than 60 people from many countries, the results of the project were presented and some important experiences in the field of circular economy were heard and seen. In date 05/12/2020 took place also the last meeting of the project. During the final meeting the final results of the project were presented and the criteria for the final report will be defined. 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). 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>.



53. Meeting and JSTE of the “Think global, entrepreneur local project”

In date 17/11/2020 took place the online meeting of the project “Think global, entrepreneur local” approved, as action n. 2019-1-MK01-KA202-060468, in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET. During the virtual meeting the project management committee discussed the interim report and how to manage the new budget rules for virtual activities and especially of the training course on the development of social enterprises that GODESK was supposed to carry out in presence in Potenza in last April last, but that was necessary to realise online in 5 different days of activities. The aim of the training sessions was to talk about social enterprises as well as innovation and creativity, which are essential elements for their development. Antonino Imbesi led the course as trainer. The evaluation of the training showed that the activities outlined in the course were considered very relevant and interesting practically by all participants.



54. Short online meeting of the "MEM" project

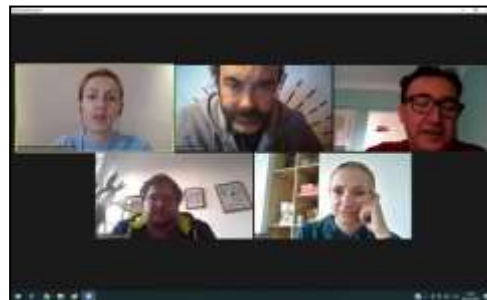
In date 08/12/2020 took place a short online meeting of the project "Modern Educational Methods" (acronym "MEM") in order to decide how to develop the mobility activities foreseen in the strategic partnership initiative. The project has been approved as action n.2019-1-EL01-KA204-062923 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices programme. These days the project partners are engaged in the realisation of the interim report. The international partnership that is developing the whole community action includes the following organisations: Mpirmpakos D. & SIA O.E. (Greece); Comparative Research Network EV (Germany); Youth Europe Service (Italy); Stando LTD (Cyprus) and Aydin Egitim, Kultur VE Sanat Dernegi (Turkey). The objective of the MEM project is to conduct a series of training activities, in which the organisations involved will be able to share methods and educational tools normally used and to



identify the differences and advantages of integrating each methodology/tool into their own processes. During the project 3 training activities (all 5-day activities) will be carried out on: game-based learning; critical thinking and information filtering; augmented reality in the classroom. More information on the official Facebook page of the project at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/Modern-Educational-Methods-102518281259840>.

55. Kick-off meeting of the "SPEAK" project

In date 09/12/2020 took place the kick-off meeting of the Erasmus Plus KA2 project "Speaking skill Performance Enhancement in entrepreneurial customs for social workers" (acronym SPEAK), approved in Sweden as an innovative strategic partnership for adult education (action n.2020-1-SE01-KA204-077885). During the months in which the project will be implemented, again with a high-level international partnership, the partners, in which there is also the Italian association Youth Europe Service, will experiment new ways and innovative skills to help and professionalise more and more social workers.



During the meeting the partners introduced themselves, discussed the whole project development, planned the project steps to be carried out in the next months and chose the project logo. For the moment, you can follow the development of this interesting initiative on the project's official Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/SPEAK-103210721662026/>.

56. Last meeting of the "YDMS" project

In date 10/12/2020 took place the last meeting of the project "Youth Drama, Media & Storytelling for developing cultural heritage and tourism" (acronym "YDMS"). Italian partner in this project is the association Youth Europe Service of Potenza. The project was approved by the Danish National Agency in KA2 Erasmus+ Programme in field of Strategic Partnership for Youth (action n. 2018-2-DK01-KA205-047148 - ID: KA205- 2018-007). The project's aim is to develop innovative touristic city-tours. Both theatrical activities and video story telling will be used in order to let the experience be more interesting and suggestive. These tours were developed for the following cities: Potenza (Italy), Copenhagen (Denmark),



Leipzig (Germany) and Alicante (Spain). During the final meeting the outputs realised in the project were presented and the criteria for the development of the Multiplier Events were defined. More information on the official website (www.ydms.eu/) and on the official Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/YDMS-281144935844296/>).

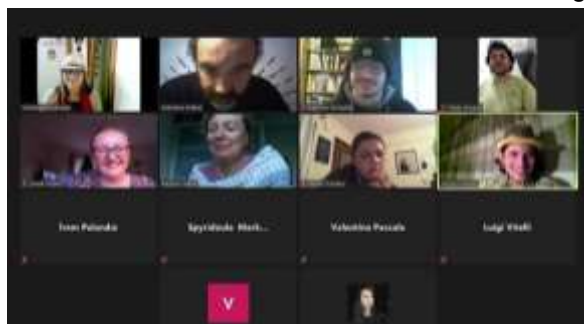
57. "Future Target": JSTE of the project

In the days 14 and 15/12/2020, were held the first two days of the first of 3 training courses of the European project "Future Target", (action n. 2019-1-DE02-KA204-006511) implemented in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The European initiative is focused on the exchange of good practices between 7 partner organisations, Youth Europe Service (Italy), IYDA e.V. (Germany), Sharing Europe (Italy), Geoclube - AssoCiacao Juvenil De Ciencia Natureza E Aventura (Portugal), Kainotomia & SIA EE (Greece). Academia Postal 3 Vigo SL. (Spain) and Mobilizing Europe (Sweden), to try to find solutions to the issue of refugees and migrants, which is currently one of the biggest problems facing the European Union. More information on the project is available on the project Facebook page at the following link <https://www.facebook.com/projectFutureTarget/>.



58. “LWRMI” project training course started

In date 14, 15, 17 and 18 December, were organised the first four days of the training course



provided in the project "Let's Work for a Real Migrants Inclusion" (acronym LWRMI), approved in Italy as action n. 2018-1-IT02-KA204-047938 within the project Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education, an initiative coordinated by the association Youth Europe Service of Potenza. The course that had to be carried out in Bulgaria, for reasons related to the still ongoing pandemic, is developed in 5 days of online meetings. The project focuses on the exchange

of good practice between 7 organisations from 5 different countries (Italy, Bulgaria, Turkey, England and Greece) and it is directed to find solutions to the problem of refugees and migrants. For more information you can consult the official the website <http://migrantinclusion.eu> and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Lets-work-for-a-real-migrants-inclusion-304869633653912>.

59. Online meeting of the “Sustainable Agripreneurship” project

In date 17/12/2020 took place online meeting of the project "Sustainable Agripreneurship" (acronym "SustainAgri"), an initiative approved in the Czech Republic within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 VET programme as action no. 2020-1-CZ01-KA202-078268. The project involves the following organisations: Ceska Zemedelska Univerzita V Praze (Czech Republic), Youth Europe Service, (Italy), Dekaplus Business Services LTD (Cyprus), Exponential Training & Assessment Limited (UK), Center For Education And Innovation (Greece), 8D Games BV (Netherlands) and Trebag (Hungary). During the meeting the partners discussed how to develop IO1 an intellectual product foreseen within the project and planned the next steps to be taken. More information on the official Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/sustainableagripreneurship>).



60. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

This is the last issue of our annual newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it: our aim was, is and will continue to arouse your interest and curiosity in Europe and its opportunities, as well as to promote the values of European citizenship. But because Christmas approaches, we do not want to bore you further and, therefore, we wish you peaceful holidays. We'll see on next February 2021. Merry Christmas... and Happy New Year!

