



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 16 - NUMBER 6
OF 20TH DECEMBER 2021
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. Erasmus+: A success in 2020 in spite of restrictions

The 2020 Erasmus+ annual report published shows that the programme supported almost 640,000 learning experiences abroad last year and provided funding to 20,400 projects and 126,900 organisations in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The sudden switch to online learning demonstrated the importance of digital remote solutions for teaching and learning. Erasmus+ continues to play a vital part in preparing people and organisations with €200 million made available last year specifically for the digital transition. In 2020, the total budget of Erasmus+ amounted to €3.78 billion - €506 million more than 2019, an increase of 15%. After 33 years of implementation, Erasmus+ remains resilient, even in the challenging context of 2020, supporting a cumulative 11.7 million participants since its launch in



1987. Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinas**, said: *"This report shows the resilience and the quality of EU's flagship exchange programme, Erasmus+. Despite the mobility reduction due to the pandemic, Erasmus+ remained one of the EU's most successful and iconic programmes. In 2020, Erasmus+ was more inclusive than ever and fostered increased participation of people from disadvantaged backgrounds. With funding of €22 million we linked our words with concrete actions."* Commissioner for Innovation, Research,

Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya **Gabriel**, said: *"Following the successful implementation of the Erasmus+ programme in 2020, the new generation of the Erasmus+ programme in 2021 built on the success, the established networks and the popularity of previous years. Erasmus+ is European cooperation at its best. From primary school to lifelong learning for adults, and sport, everyone can benefit from the many opportunities that the Erasmus+ programme has to offer."*

We are presenting the most noticeable elements of the report. Once again, in 2020, the Erasmus+ programme reached out to a **high number of participants** and beneficiaries: in the field of higher education, more than 323,000 students and student trainees as well as 44,000 staff spent a learning, training or teaching period abroad; more than 185,600 mobility activities for learners and staff in the vocational education and training sector were co-funded; almost 180,000 young people and youth workers benefited from Erasmus+ funding, either in the form of youth exchanges or opportunities for youth workers; the European Week of Sport reached a new record with over 15.6 million European participants in 32,600 events. In 2020, the European Universities alliances grew further, now comprising 280 higher education institutions across Europe. European Universities are transnational alliances that increase the quality and attractiveness of European higher education and boost deep, strategic long-term cooperation between institutions, benefitting their students, professors and other staff. Erasmus+ is a widely spread programme in terms of **geographic participation**. In 2020, 34 countries participated in the programme in 2020: all 27 EU Member States, plus the United Kingdom, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. The programme is also open to partner countries across the world. Erasmus+ international activities continued to contribute to the Commission's overall geopolitical priorities with a focus on the Western Balkans, Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods, and Africa with over half of the international budget allocated to the European neighbourhood (South Mediterranean, Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership).

Background

Since 2014, Erasmus+ has become broader and more innovative, providing opportunities for study periods abroad, traineeships, and apprenticeships for both higher education and vocational education and training students. It offers youth exchanges and staff exchanges in all fields of education, training and youth, as well as projects in the field of sport. The statistical annex to the 2020 Erasmus+ report offers comprehensive information about the different actions and their budget, along with detailed information on the number of projects, participants and organisations. Data per country is also available for selected actions. Qualitative information on the Erasmus+ projects is available through the Erasmus+ Project Results platform, a database giving free access to descriptions, results and contact information for all projects funded under the Erasmus+ programme in education, training, youth, and sport.



2. NextGenerationEU: Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard

The European Commission has launched the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard, a public online platform to show progress made in the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) as a whole, and of the individual national recovery and resilience plans.

The Scoreboard is first and foremost a tool to transparently display information to EU citizens on the RRF's implementation. It will also serve as a basis to prepare the Commission's annual reports on the implementation of the RRF and the review report to the European Parliament and the Council, as well as the Recovery and Resilience Dialogue between the Parliament and the Commission. The Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard website contains dedicated sections on the fulfilment of milestones and targets and on RRF disbursements. It also has specific data compiled by the Commission, such as the expenditure per policy area and a breakdown of green, digital and social expenditure under the Facility. The scoreboard also provides qualitative information through thematic analyses of the implementation of the plans in specific policy areas.



The Scoreboard contains two types of information: **data collected by the Commission** while monitoring the implementation of the recovery and resilience plans. This includes information on the fulfilment of milestones and targets as reported by Member States and assessed by the Commission. Information on disbursements is also included, as well as data developed by the Commission such as the expenditure in each of the six RRF policy areas and social expenditure under the facility as defined in the RRF Delegated Act of 2 December 2021; **data collected by Member States** on 14 common reporting indicators as defined in the RRF Delegated Act of 2 December 2021. This data allows the monitoring of progress of

the implementation of RRFs towards RRF common goals, also showing the overall performance of the RRF. Most reporting indicators measure the contribution of the RRF to more than one policy pillar. For example, the indicator "Classroom capacity of new or modernised childcare and education facilities" contributes both to pillar 4 (social and territorial cohesion) and pillar 6 (policies for the next generation, such as education and skills) of the RRF. Member States will report on the common indicators twice a year, by 28 February and 31 August. The Commission will then update the data in Scoreboard website by April and October. The first reporting on the common indicators will take place in February 2022. This first version of the Scoreboard, contains data on the plans submitted so far by Member States, approved by the Commission and endorsed by the Council (22 plans to date). Figures will be updated as more plans are endorsed. Milestones and targets will be shown as fulfilled once a Member State has provided the evidence to the Commission that it has completed the milestone or target and the Commission has assessed it positively in an implementing decision (a stage not yet reached for any Member State).

Members of the College said

Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People said: *"This valuable tool will show exactly how EU countries are advancing with putting their planned investments and reforms into effect for the recovery. The online scoreboard is accessible to everyone, because our aim is for everyone in Europe to benefit from these reforms and investments as we move out of the immediate crisis and into longer-term growth."*

Paolo Gentiloni, Commissioner for Economy, said: *"We are approaching the end of the year in which the Recovery and Resilience Facility became a reality and started helping our economies to emerge stronger from the pandemic. We deliver on a key commitment to the European Parliament: this new online platform will be a powerful tool for transparency and accountability. It will enable our citizens to keep track of how the RRF is supporting transformative investments and reforms for sustainable growth - both in their own country and across Europe."*

Next steps

The first reporting of Member States on the common indicators will take place in spring 2022. The Commission will subsequently update the Scoreboard website by April 2022.

Background

RRF Delegated Acts

On 28 September 2021, the Commission adopted two delegated acts in the context of the RRF, building on the input from Member States, the European Parliament, and stakeholders: a first delegated act sets out how Member States shall report on the overall performance of the RRF

and the state of progress towards the achievement of its objectives. This includes the definition of common reporting indicators; a second delegated act lays down the methodology for reporting on social expenditure in Member States' recovery and resilience plans. These delegated acts entered into force on 2 December, which allowed the Commission to finalise and launch the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard and the data it contains, including the common indicators and reporting on social expenditure.

3. Digital Finance: new Commission strategy paves the way

The European Commission has presented a new strategy to improve and modernise financial supervisory reporting in the EU.

The strategy's main objective is to put in place a system that delivers accurate, consistent, and timely data to supervisory authorities at EU and national level, while minimising the overall reporting burden on financial institutions. This will ultimately benefit citizens, through more efficient and agile supervision that ensures the stability of the financial system, market integrity, and investor protection. It will also help companies by reducing the reporting burden where possible. This strategy will contribute directly to the objectives of the European Data Strategy and the Digital Finance package to promote digital innovation in Europe. Moreover, this strategy contributes to the objectives of a Capital Markets Union and helps to achieve a single market in financial services. There are four main building blocks in this strategy: **ensuring consistent and standardised data** that relies on clear and common terminology, as well as on common standards, formats and rules; **facilitating the sharing and re-use of reported data** amongst supervisory authorities by removing undue legal and technological obstacles to avoid duplicative data requests; **improving the design of reporting requirements** by developing guidelines based on best practices in applying better regulation principles in supervisory reporting; **putting in place joint governance arrangements** in order to improve coordination and foster greater cooperation between different supervisory authorities and other relevant stakeholders, allowing them to share their expertise and to exchange information.



Members of the College said:

Valdis **Dombrovskis**, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People said “Our aim is to make financial reporting in the EU more effective and to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the digital transition. This strategy paves the way for a solid approach to monitor risks, ensuring financial stability and market integrity, and protecting the EU's investors and users of financial services. It is also part of our work to make Europe's financial sector more digital-friendly and to stimulate responsible innovation and competition. We are also taking a leading role in international discussions to promote global data alignment for digital economy to be effective, secure and accessible to all.” Mairead **McGuinness**, Commissioner responsible for financial services, financial stability and Capital Markets Union said, “Supervisory reporting underpins a sound financial sector, and we want the EU's reporting system to be fit for the future. This Strategy will make our current system more efficient and ease the administrative burden on financial companies. This will ensure that the EU's financial services sector remains a global leader, supporting supervisory authorities in maintaining financial stability and protecting consumers.”

Background

Supervisory bodies, like the European Banking Authority (EBA), require financial companies, banks, and investment firms to report certain information. This is known as supervisory reporting. The supervision of the EU's financial system relies on data that is timely, relevant and of high quality. EU supervisory reporting rules and the way authorities collect and use data needs to keep pace with the latest developments, namely the rapid evolution of digital technologies to collect and analyse such data. This strategy aims at tackling the challenges arising from the increased volume and complexity of the data required to oversee the financial system. It builds upon the conclusions of a comprehensive fitness check of EU supervisory reporting requirements in the EU's financial sector legislation. In this fitness check, the Commission concluded that the current reporting requirements in EU law are necessary and appear effective in providing supervisors with relevant data. However, there are inefficiencies in definitions

concerning several reporting requirements, and in the way that data is collected. The Commission, together with the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs), has already delivered targeted improvements to supervisory reporting in different sectoral rules, and further work on this is ongoing. However, some of the identified issues apply across financial services sectors and therefore, they are being addressed as part of this broader, cross-sectoral approach to supervisory data.

4. The EC has issued the first bond for green and sustainable investments

At the Porto Social Summit in May, EU Leaders welcomed the EU-level target of 60% of all adults taking part in training every year by 2030.

The Commission has taken an important step in helping Member States meet this target by presenting proposals for Council Recommendations on individual learning accounts and on micro-credentials, as announced in the Skills Agenda and in the European Education Area Communication of 2020. A strong skill set opens up opportunities to individuals, provides a safety net in uncertain times, promotes inclusion and social advancement and provides the economy with the skilled labour force needed to grow and innovate. The success of both the digital and green transitions depends on workers with the right skills. The COVID-19 pandemic further accelerated the need for reskilling and upskilling of workforce to adapt to the changing labour market and meet demand in different sectors. However, too few people participate in regular learning activities after their initial education and training, as they often lack financial resources or time to improve and learn new skills or are not aware of learning opportunities and their benefits. For example, a certain level of digital skills is required in over 90% of current jobs and in nearly all sectors, yet only 56% of adults had basic digital skills in



2019. The two new proposals on individual learning accounts and on micro-credentials will help tackle these challenges by opening up more opportunities for people to find learning offers, and employment opportunities.

Individual Learning Accounts

The Commission proposal aims to ensure that everyone has access to relevant training opportunities that are tailored to their needs, throughout life and independently of whether currently employed or not. To that end, the proposed Council Recommendation is addressing the main bottlenecks for people to embark on training - motivation, time and funding - by asking Member States together with social partners to: set up individual learning accounts and provide training entitlements for all adults of working age; define a list of labour-market relevant and quality-assured training that is eligible for funding from the individual learning accounts and make it accessible through a digital registry, for example from a mobile device; offer opportunities of career guidance and validation of previously acquired skills, as well as paid training leave. The innovative aspect of this proposal is that it puts the individual directly at the centre of skills development. It also calls on Member States to modulate funding according to individuals' needs for training.

Micro-credentials

Micro-credentials certify the learning outcomes following a small learning experience (e.g. a short course or training). They offer a flexible, targeted way to help people develop the knowledge, skills and competences they need for their personal and professional development. The Commission proposal seeks to make micro-credentials work across institutions, businesses, sectors and borders. To that end, Member States should agree on:

- a common definition of micro-credentials;
- standard elements for their description;
- and key principles for their design and issuance.

The aim is to ensure that micro-credentials are of high quality and issued in a transparent way to build trust in what they certify. This should support the use of micro-credentials by learners,

workers and job seekers who can benefit from them. The proposal also introduces recommendations on micro-credentials in education and training and in labour markets policies. This should enable people to learn new or additional skills in a tailored way, inclusive for all. The European approach to micro-credentials is a key flagship to achieve a European Education Area by 2025. They can be part of the learning offer included in individual learning accounts.

Members of the College said:

Margaritis **Schinas**, Vice-President for Promoting the European Way of Life, said: “Skills and competence development are key to a successful career, inclusion and integration. They help people to adapt to change, thrive and contribute. Skills are also crucial for growth. This proposals



ensure that education can take place at any time in life, and that it is flexible and accessible for all. This is a great step to include more people in learning and training opportunities, leaving no one behind.” Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya **Gabriel**, said: “To ensure a fair transition, it is vital that everyone has access to flexible, modular and accessible learning and training opportunities, regardless of their personal circumstances. The European approach to micro-credentials will facilitate the recognition and validation of these learning experiences. It will

strengthen the role of higher education, vocational education and training institutions in making lifelong learning a reality across the EU, and foster their accessibility to a more diverse group of learners.” Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas **Schmit**, said: “Education and training should not stop when you leave the school gates. Now more than ever, people need to develop their skillsets throughout their professional lives to meet the demands of a fast changing labour market. The Commission’s proposals on individual learning accounts and micro-credentials will help us meet the target set in the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan of 60% of all adults taking part in training every year by 2030. We must get serious about lifelong learning in Europe. It is the best investment and is positive for workers, employers and the economy as a whole.”

Next Steps

The proposals will be negotiated with Member States. Once adopted by the Council, the Commission will support Member States, social partners and relevant partners in implementing these Council Recommendations. The reporting and monitoring for individual learning accounts will be done as part of the European Semester cycle.

Background

The right to education, training and lifelong learning is enshrined in the European Pillar of Social Rights (principle 1). All people should have continuous access to quality education and training and a selection of opportunities for skills development reflecting their needs at all times. Skills are the building blocks of individuals' success in an ever-changing labour market and society. At the Porto Social Summit and the June European Council, leaders welcomed the 2030 EU headline targets set by the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. This includes the target of 60% of all adults taking part in training every year by 2030. This is part of the headline targets of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. However, as of 2016, only 37% are engaged in yearly training every year with small growth rates registered before. If those trends continue, the set ambitions will not be achieved, which is why these initiatives proposals on as the individual learning accounts and micro-credentials are important. The proposals put forward invite Member States to work in partnership with social partners and the interested parties concerned to make upskilling and reskilling a reality for all. The proposals for a Council Recommendation on individual learning accounts and for a Council Recommendation on Micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability are the last of the twelve flagship actions announced in the European Skills Agenda and the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. The European approach to micro-credentials is also a key flagship to achieve a European Education Area by 2025.



5. The Commission proposes to extend the list of “EU crimes”

The European Commission is presenting an initiative to extend the list of ‘EU crimes’ to hate speech and hate crime, as announced by President von der Leyen in her 2020 State of the Union speech.

Hate speech and hate crime have seen a sharp rise across Europe and have become a particularly serious and worrying phenomenon – offline and online. Common EU action is needed to tackle this EU-wide challenge. However, currently there is no legal basis to criminalise hate



speech and hate crime at EU level. The existing list of EU crimes in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) needs to be extended to ensure minimum common rules on how to define criminal offences and sanctions applicable in all EU Member States. This initiative is the first step in the process of extending the list of EU crimes. The next step would be for Member States to approve the initiative, before the Commission can present a legislative proposal. Vice-President for Values and

Transparency, Věra Jourová, said: *“Hate has no place in Europe. It goes against our fundamental values and principles. We need EU action to make sure that hate is criminalised the same way everywhere in Europe.”* Commissioner for Justice, Didier **Reynders**, said: *“We need a strong response to the challenges posed by hate speech and hate crime across the EU: now and in the future. This initiative is an important step towards a more effective European response to such threats against pluralism and inclusiveness. We won’t allow such phenomenon to weaken our democracies.”*

Key elements of the Communication:

This initiative sets out evidence for extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crime in the light of the criteria laid down in Article 83(1) TFEU:

- **The cross-border dimension of hate speech and hate crime:** Online hate speech spreads fast and is accessible to everybody anywhere. The ideologies behind hate speech and hate crime can be developed internationally and can be rapidly shared online. Hate crimes can be committed by networks with members from several countries.
- **Hate speech and hate crime as an area of crime:** The Commission considers that hate speech and hate crime are an area of crime as they share an intrinsic special feature, i.e. ‘hatred’ targeting persons or groups of persons sharing (or perceived as sharing) the same protected characteristics.
- **Hate speech and hate crime as an area of particularly serious crime:** Hate speech and hate crime are particularly serious crimes as they undermine the EU common values and fundamental rights, as enshrined in Articles 2 and 6 Treaty on European Union, as well as in the Charter. They have harmful impacts on the individuals, their communities and on society at large.
- **Developments in crime:** There has been a steady increase in the two phenomena due to various economic, social and technological changes and developments. The COVID-19 pandemic has been one of the factors contributing to this increase.
- **No alternatives to extending the list of EU crimes:** Hate speech and hate crime are criminalised to a varying degree in the EU Member States. Only the extension of the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crime can enable an effective and comprehensive criminal law approach to these phenomena at EU level, along with a consistent protection of the victims of such acts.

Next steps

The Council needs to unanimously adopt, after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament, a decision identifying hate speech and hate crime as another area of crime that meets the criteria set out in Article 83(1) of the TFEU. Following that, the Commission may propose the adoption of legislation establishing minimum rules on the definitions and sanctions of hate speech and hate crime to be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in line with the ordinary legislative procedure.

Background

The external study published confirms the scale and worrying trend of hate speech and hate crimes. The increase in the level of hatred manifested against for example of Roma, Jews, Muslims and persons of Asian origin, or those perceived to be of such origin, including racist

attacks and beatings, violent bullying, threats and racist abuse has increased during the pandemic. Sources found that 52% of young women and girls have experienced online violence, including threats and sexual harassment, while persons with disabilities are more at risk of being victims of violent crimes, including hate crimes, than other persons, and to face harassment. Hate crime and hate speech are going against the fundamental European values set out in Article 2 of Treaty on EU. Pursuant to Article 83(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU ('TFEU'), the European Parliament and the Council may establish minimum rules on the definition of criminal offences and sanctions in areas of **particularly serious crime** with a **cross-border dimension**. Such areas are, for example, terrorism, trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation of women and children. Based on **developments** in crime, the Council may adopt a decision identifying other areas, like these, enabling the Commission– in a second step – to propose a robust framework to address hate speech and hate crime at the EU level. At EU level, there is already in place a framework for a strong common response to racist and xenophobic hate speech and hate crime through the Council Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law. The Framework Decision aims to ensure that serious manifestations of racism and xenophobia are punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal sanctions across the EU. It requires Member States to criminalise hate speech, i.e. the public incitement to violence or hatred, on grounds of race, colour, religion, descent or national or ethnic origin. It also requires Member States to ensure, for offences other than hate speech, that such racist and xenophobic motivation is considered as an aggravating circumstance, or alternatively that such motivation may be taken into account in the determination of the penalties. The Commission supports Member States' efforts to effectively implement the Framework Decision through the work of the High Level Group on combating Racism and Xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. This initiative is part of a broader set of EU actions to counter illegal hate speech and violent extremist ideologies and terrorism online, such as the EU Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online, the proposed Digital Services Act, the Regulation on addressing terrorist content online and the EU Internet Forum. This initiative will support the EU Anti-racism Action Plan 2020-2025 and the Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life in the EU, as well as the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025.



6. Roaming: political agreement

The Commission welcomes the political agreement reached by the European Parliament and EU Member States on the new Roaming Regulation.

The new regulation will prolong until 2032 the existing system whereby citizens cannot be



subject to extra charges for calls or data used while travelling within the EU and it will also bring about new advantages. Citizens will be able to call, text and use mobile data while travelling within the EU at no extra costs and with the same quality they experience at home; they will have improved access to emergency communications regardless of where they are in Europe; and, they will have the right to clear information when a service they use while roaming might cause inadvertent extra

charges. The regulation will enter into force on 1 July 2022. Margrethe **Vestager**, Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, said: *"We have since 2017 enjoyed the end of roaming charges. And, we ensured that we can keep these benefits for another 10 years to stay connected and call, text and surf the internet at no extra costs, when we travel in the EU. At the same time, with this new regulation we also improve the quality of the roaming experience."* Thierry **Breton**, Commissioner for the Internal Market, said: *"Spending holidays in Greece, Austria or Bulgaria. Visiting customers or suppliers in Italy or Estonia... Travelling abroad without having to worry about phone bills is a tangible part of the EU Single Market experience for all*

Europeans. We are not only ensuring that this experience continues, but we are upgrading it: better quality, better services, even more transparency.”

The new Roaming Regulation

Following the Commission's proposal on the new Roaming Regulation in February 2021, the new rules will extend the benefits of 'Roam like at home' for travellers until 2032 and will introduce additional advantages and protections for consumers:

Higher quality for consumers

Consumers will benefit from access to roaming services, while travelling, at the same quality as they are used to when at home. Consumers that usually have 5G services at home will also be able to enjoy 5G roaming services wherever available. If specific factors could impact the quality of the roaming experience, operators will be required to promptly inform their customers.

Preventing unexpectedly high charges

While travelling abroad, citizens may need to call customer service numbers, helpdesks or insurance companies. While these services are generally free of charge or with limited charges when phoning from home, consumers are often faced with additional costs and bill shocks when dialling in from abroad. From now on, operators are obliged to adequately inform their customers about such extra charges when abroad, so that they can make informed choices about using such services. Travellers may face surprising high bills when their phone connects to non-terrestrial networks, for example if they are on a plane or on a boat. The new regulation guarantees better information and an automatic interruption of such services when the bill reaches a cost of €50, or another predefined limit. Operators may offer additional services, such as the possibility to opt out from roaming on planes and boats.



Better awareness and access to emergency communications

Emergency communication are crucial to save lives. The new regulation ensures that citizens have enhanced access to emergency communications including caller location, free of charge. Operators will ensure that citizens are informed of the possibility to access emergency services through '112', the single European emergency number and other alternative means of access, such as via real-time-text or available apps, for people with disabilities. By June 2023, operators will automatically inform customers via a text message of available alternative means of accessing emergency services.

Ensuring sustainability for operators: lower wholesale caps

The new roaming regulation sets lower wholesale charges. These are costs charged by hosting mobile operators, in exchange for access to their respective networks, ensuring that visiting mobile operators and their clients benefit from roaming services abroad. The wholesale caps are set at levels that ensure that operators can sustain and recover the cost of providing roaming services to consumers at domestic prices. For data services, the new regulation sets the following wholesale caps: 2 €/GB in 2022, 1.8 €/GB in 2023, 1.55 €/GB in 2024, 1.3 €/GB in 2025, 1.1 €/GB in 2026 and 1 EUR/GB from 2027 onwards. For voice: 0.022 €/min in 2022-2024 and 0.019 €/min from 2025 onwards. For SMS: 0.004 €/SMS in 2022-2024 and 0.003 €/SMS from 2025 onwards. Lower wholesale charges benefit consumers, as they should ensure that all operators are able to offer competitive roaming subscriptions in line with the 'Roam like at home' principle.

Next Steps

The rules are set to enter into force on 1 July 2022, in time to ensure continued 'Roam like at home' benefits for citizens. The Commission should also evaluate the measures on intra-EU communications (calls and SMS from the home country to another Member State) and verify



whether and to what extent there is an ongoing need to reduce caps to protect consumers.

Background

Free of charge roaming in the EU was introduced in 2017. Since then Europeans have been phoning, texting and surfing abroad in the EU more. However, there was room for improvement. In the latest Eurobarometer from February 2021,

33% of respondents who travelled abroad had lower mobile internet speed than they usually get at home, and 28% had a lower network standard abroad (i.e. a 3G network instead of 4G). Furthermore, a study conducted by the Joint Research Centre found that 25% of customers had, at least once, experienced worse quality of service in roaming compared to at home, even when network conditions could have provided better quality.

7. Improving working conditions in platform work

The European Commission proposes a set of measures to improve the working conditions in platform work and to support the sustainable growth of digital labour platforms in the EU.

The new rules will ensure that people working through digital labour platforms can enjoy the labour rights and social benefits they are entitled to. They will also receive additional protection as regards the use of algorithmic management (i.e. automated systems that support or replace managerial functions at work). A common set of EU rules will provide increased legal certainty, therefore enabling digital labour platforms to benefit fully from the economic potential of the Single Market and a level playing field. As part of this package, the Commission is putting forward: a **Communication** setting out the EU approach and measures on platform work. These are complemented by actions that national authorities, social partners and other relevant actors should take at their level. It also aims to lay the foundations for work on future global standards for high-quality platform work;



a **proposal for a Directive** on improving working conditions in platform work. This includes measures to correctly determine the employment status of people working through digital labour platforms and new rights for both workers and self-employed people regarding algorithmic management; **draft Guidelines** clarifying the application of EU competition law to collective agreements of solo self-employed people seeking to improve their working conditions. This includes those working through digital labour platforms.

Directive on improving working conditions in platform work

Employment status

The proposed Directive seeks to ensure that people working through digital labour platforms are granted the legal employment status that corresponds to their actual work arrangements. It provides a list of control criteria to determine whether the platform is an “employer”. If the platform meets at least two of those criteria, it is legally presumed to be an employer. The people working through them would therefore enjoy the labour and social rights that come with the status of “worker”. For those being reclassified as workers, this means the right to a minimum wage (where it exists), collective bargaining, working time and health protection, the right to paid leave or improved access to protection against work accidents, unemployment and sickness benefits, as well as contributory old-age pensions. Platforms will have the right to contest or “rebut” this classification, with the burden of proving that there is no employment relationship resting on them. The clear criteria the Commission proposes will bring the platforms increased legal certainty, reduced litigation costs and it will facilitate business planning.

Algorithmic management

The Directive increases transparency in the use of algorithms by digital labour platforms, ensures human monitoring on their respect of working conditions and gives the right to contest automated decisions. These new rights will be granted to both workers and genuine self-employed.

Enforcement, transparency and traceability

National authorities often struggle to access data on platforms and the people working through them. This is even more difficult when platforms operate in several Member States, making it unclear where platform work is performed and by whom. The Commission's proposal will bring more transparency around platforms by clarifying existing obligations to declare work to national authorities and asking platforms to make key information about their activities and the people who work through them available to national authorities. In its Communication on Better Working Conditions for a Stronger Social Europe: harnessing the full benefits of digitalisation for the future of work, the Commission calls on Member States, social partners and all relevant actors to put forward concrete measures to improve working conditions in platform work. Its aim is to harness the benefits of the digital transformation and protect the European social market economy. The EU also wants to lead by example and contribute to future global standards for high-quality platform work. Platforms operate in a cross-border way and warrant a cross-border regulatory approach.

Draft Guidelines on the application of EU competition law

The Commission is also launching a public consultation on draft guidelines on the application of EU competition law to collective agreements of solo self-employed people, i.e. people who work completely on their own and do not employ others. These draft Guidelines aim to bring legal

certainty and make sure that EU competition law does not stand in the way of certain solo self-employed people's efforts to improve collectively their working conditions, including remuneration, in cases where they are in a relatively weak position, for example where they face a significant imbalance in bargaining power. The draft Guidelines cover both online and offline situations.

Members of the College said

Executive Vice-President for A Europe Fit for the Digital Age, Margrethe **Vestager**, said: *"With more and more jobs created by digital labour platforms, we need to ensure decent working conditions for all those deriving their income from such work. Our proposal for a Directive will help false self-employed working for platforms to correctly determine their employment status and enjoy all the social rights that come with that. Genuine self-employed on platforms will be*



protected through enhanced legal certainty on their status and there will be new safeguards against the pitfalls of algorithmic management. This is an important step towards a more social digital economy." Executive Vice President for an Economy that Works for People, Valdis **Dombrovskis**, said: *"Digital labour platforms play an important role in our economy as they bring innovation, provide jobs and help meet consumer demand. People are at the heart of this business model and they are entitled to decent working conditions and social protection. This is why we are proposing new rules, to increase certainty for*

digital labour platforms to grow and to protect the rights of people working in the platform economy, so that everyone can make the most of this opportunity." Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas **Schmit**, said: *"We must make the most of the job-creating potential of digital platforms. But we should also make sure that they are quality jobs, that don't promote precariousness, so people working through them have security and can plan for their future. The Commission's proposal sets clear criteria to establish whether a platform is an employer, and if so, their workers are entitled to certain social protection and labour rights. Technological progress must be fair and inclusive, which is why the proposal also addresses transparency and oversight of platforms' algorithms."*

The Commission's proposal for a Directive on improving working conditions in platform work will now be discussed by the European Parliament and the Council. Once adopted, Member States will have two years to transpose the Directive into national law. The draft guidelines on the application of EU competition law will undergo an eight-week public consultation to gather feedback from stakeholders, after which they will be adopted by the Commission. The guidelines bind the Commission in its subsequent interpretation and enforcement of EU competition rules.

Background

The digital platform economy is growing quickly. Today, over 28 million people in the EU work through digital labour platforms. In 2025, their number is expected to reach 43 million people. The vast majority of these people are genuinely self-employed. 5.5 million are however estimated to be incorrectly classified as self-employed. Between 2016 and 2020, the revenues in the platform economy grew almost fivefold from an estimated €3 billion to around €14 billion. Digital labour platforms create opportunities for businesses, workers and self-employed, as well as improved access to services for consumers. However, new ways of work also come with new challenges. It becomes increasingly difficult to correctly classify the employment status of people, leading in some cases to inadequate labour rights and social protection. In addition, the use of algorithms in platform work can raise questions of accountability and transparency. In her Political Guidelines, President **von der Leyen** stressed that "digital transformation brings fast change that affects our labour markets". She took the commitment to "look at ways of improving the labour conditions of platform workers". The Commission Work Programme 2021 announced a legislative initiative on improving the working conditions in platform work for the end of 2021, following a two-stage consultation of social partners. The proposal is one of the key initiatives of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. In accordance with Article 154(2) TFEU, the Commission carried out a two-stage consultation of European social partners. The first-stage consultation ran from 24 February to 7 April 2021. The second-stage consultation was launched on 15 June and ended on 15 September 2021. In addition, the Commission held exchanges with many relevant parties to inform this initiative, including dedicated meetings with platform companies, platform workers' associations, trade unions, Member States' representatives, experts from academia and international organisations and representatives of civil society. The results of the consultation process are available in the annex to the Impact Assessment accompanying the proposal for a Directive.

8. Software to benefit businesses, innovators, public interest

The Commission has adopted new rules on Open Source Software that will enable its software solutions to be publicly accessible whenever there are potential benefits for citizens, companies or other public services.

The recent Commission study on the impact of Open Source Software and Hardware on technological independence, competitiveness and innovation in the EU economy showed that investment in open source leads on average to four times higher returns. The Commission services will be able to publish the software source code they own in much shorter time and with less paperwork. Commissioner for Budget and Administration, Johannes **Hahn**, said: *“Open source offers great advantages in a domain where the EU can have a leading role. The new rules will increase transparency and help the Commission, as well as citizens, companies and public services across Europe, benefit from open source software development. Pooling of efforts to improve the software and the co-creation of new features lowers costs for the society, as we also benefit from the improvements made by other developers. This can also enhance security as external and independent specialists check software for bugs and security flaws.”*



Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya **Gabriel**, said: *“The Commission aims to lead Europe's digital transition by example. With the new rules, the Commission will bring significant value to companies, start-ups, innovators, citizens and public administrations by open sourcing its software solutions. This decision will also spur innovation, building thanks to publicly available Commission code.”* An example of the benefits of open sourcing is eSignature, a set of free standards, tools and services that help public administrations and businesses accelerate the creation and verification of electronic signatures that are legally valid in all EU Member States. A second example is LEOS, (Legislation Editing Open Software), the software used across the Commission to draft legal texts. Originally written for the Commission, LEOS is now being developed in close collaboration with Germany, Spain and Greece.

All Commission open source software available in one place

The Commission will make its software available as open source in one single repository to facilitate access and reuse. Before its release, each software will be checked to avoid security or confidentiality-related risks, data protection issues or infringement to intellectual property rights of third parties.

With this decision, many actions will be facilitated and improved:

- The dissemination of software under an open source licence will no longer require a Commission Decision.
- Where possible, Commission services will progressively review all software developed prior to the adoption of these new rules and identify the ones that have the potential to bring value outside the Commission.
- The Commission now allows its software developers to contribute to open source projects with improvements that they developed as part of their work.

The Commission already shares hundreds of software projects as open source, including software developed for the Connecting Europe Facility, Eurostat, the Interoperable Europe Programme (Interoperability solutions for public administrations, businesses and citizens programme, the former ISA programme), and for the Joint Research Centre.

Background

The EU's digital strategy aims to make digital transformation work for people and businesses, while helping to achieve its target of a climate-neutral Europe by 2050. President Ursula **von der Leyen** has made the digitalisation of the Commission a priority, to help stimulate the digital transition and to ensure that the Commission leads by example. These rules follow the Commission's Open Source Software Strategy 2020-2023, which under the theme 'Think Open', has set out a vision for encouraging and leveraging the transformative, innovative and collaborative power of open source, its principles and development practices. The Strategy contributes to the goals of the overarching Digital Strategy of the Commission and the Digital Europe programme.

9. Commission welcomes the agreement on European Year of Youth

The Commission welcomes the political agreement reached by the European Parliament and the Council to make 2022 the European Year of Youth.

Following the announcement by President **von der Leyen** in her 2021 State of the Union address that 2022 should be a year dedicated to those who have dedicated so much to others, the Commission submitted in October its formal proposal to designate 2022 the European Year of Youth to the co-legislators. The Commission will coordinate throughout 2022 a range of activities in close contact with the European Parliament, the Member States, regional and local authorities, youth organisations and young people themselves. The initiatives being developed under the European Year of Youth will be supported by €8 million from Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps, the European Year of Youth dedicated top-up decided by the budgetary authority for 2022. Other Union programmes and instruments will also significantly contribute to the objectives and activities of the Year. Young Europeans will benefit from many opportunities to gain knowledge, skills, and competences for their professional development, and to strengthen



their civic engagement to shape Europe's future. Vice-President for promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinias** said: *"This agreement is a key building block in our policy for the youth. The budget dedicated to this European Year will support our flagship actions. With 2022 European Year of Youth, we are supporting young Europeans to defend and promote freedom, values, opportunities and solidarity. We owe it to the generations who suffered most in the pandemic and now need to take back their lives."* Commissioner for

Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya **Gabriel** said: *"I thank the co-legislators for having found an agreement on the European Year of Youth in a record time. We all understand the importance of putting young people in the spotlight and celebrate their resilience after two very challenging years. I invite all young Europeans to participate in the numerous engagements, initiatives and actions that we will launch as from January 2022. We want to make their voice heard and to inform the decisions we will take for their future. We want this Year to lead into concrete actions that will last well beyond 2022. Together, we will make this Year a success."* To honour, support and engage with young people at all levels, the European Year of Youth will pursue **four objectives**:

- Renewing the positive perspectives for young people, with a particular focus on the negative effects the COVID-19 pandemic had on them, while highlighting how the **green and digital transitions** and other Union policies offer opportunities for young people and for the society at large;
- Supporting young people, including through youth work, especially young people with fewer opportunities, from disadvantaged and diverse backgrounds or belonging to vulnerable and marginalised groups, to acquire relevant knowledge and competences and thus become **active and engaged citizens**, inspired by a European sense of belonging;
- Supporting young people to acquire a **better understanding of, and actively promoting the various opportunities available to them**, be it from the EU, national, regional or local level, to support their personal, social, economic and professional development.
- **Mainstreaming youth policy across all relevant Union policy fields** in line with the EU Youth Strategy 2019 – 2027 to encourage that a youth perspective is brought into policy-making at all levels.

The impact and legacy of all activities and engagement opportunities should be long-lasting, beyond 2022. While existing EU programmes dedicated to youth, like Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps, will obviously play a central role in the implementation and funding of the activities, the European Year of Youth aims at being cross-sectoral and building on all EU policies. Several flagship initiatives from across several policy areas are expected to be launched during the European Year. This includes for example **ALMA**, a new initiative to help young people who are not in employment, education or training to find their way to the job market by combining support for education, vocational training or employment in their home country with a work placement in another EU country. The European Year of Youth will also go hand in hand with NextGenerationEU, which reopens perspectives for young people, including quality jobs and education and training opportunities for the Europe of the future, and supports young people's participation in society. When launching its proposal, the Commission had invited Member States

to appoint a **national coordinator** responsible for organising the national participation in the European Year of Youth. The Commission held a first meeting on 16 November to exchange information regarding its implementation. For the Year of Youth to be a success, it is important to shape it together with the people who will benefit the most from it. Young people and youth organisations are also closely involved in the organisation of the Year. An **online survey** was opened from 22 October to 21 November to gather expectations and suggestions. A report on the survey shows that close to 5,000 replies were received from all Member States. A majority of respondents (58.8%) said that they would like to actively contribute to the European Year of Youth. The Year will also be linked Conference on the future of Europe, where young people play a pivotal role. One-third of each of the European Citizens' Panels is made up of young people, from 16-25 years, and an equal proportion of young people are among the Panel ambassadors', who relay recommendations to Conference Plenaries and discuss with MEPs, national politicians, Commissioners, and other plenary members from EU bodies and civil society. The President of the European Youth Forum is also a member of the Conference Plenary.

Next Steps

The political agreement reached by the European Parliament, Council and Commission is now subject to formal approval by the European Parliament and the Council. The European year of Youth is planned to be launched in January under the French Presidency. The full programme of activities and further information will be available on the Youth Portal. By the end of 2023, the Commission will submit a report on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the initiatives, which shall also include ideas for further common endeavours in the field of youth to cement the legacy of the Year.

10. Green Deal: Protection of the environment through criminal law

The Commission has adopted a proposal for a new EU Directive to crack down on environmental crime, fulfilling a key commitment of the European Green Deal.

The proposal intends to make protection of the environment more effective by obliging Member States to take criminal law measures. It defines new environmental crimes, sets a minimum level for sanctions and strengthens the effectiveness of law enforcement cooperation. It also obliges the Member States to support and assist people who report environmental offences and cooperate with the enforcement. This proposal will help to protect nature and natural resources, as well as public health and well-being.

Main objectives of the proposal

The proposal **sets new EU environmental criminal offences**, including illegal timber trade, illegal ship recycling or illegal abstraction of water. In addition, the proposal **clarifies existing definitions** of environmental criminal offences, providing for an increased legal certainty. The Commission proposes to set a common minimum denominator for **sanctions for environmental crimes**. Where offence cause or are likely to cause death or serious injury to any person, Member States have to provide at least for imprisonment of up to ten years. The draft directive also proposes **additional sanctions**, including the restoration of nature, exclusion from access to public funding and procurement procedures or the withdrawal of administrative permits. The proposal also aims at **making relevant investigations and criminal proceedings more effective**. It provides for support of inspectors, police, prosecutors and judges through training, investigative tools, coordination and cooperation, as well as better data collection and statistics. The Commission proposes that each Member State develops national strategies that ensure a coherent approach at all levels of enforcement and the availability of the necessary resources. The proposal will help **cross-border investigation and prosecution**. Environmental crimes often impact several countries (for example the illicit trafficking of wildlife) or have cross-border effects (for example in the case of cross-border pollution of air, water and soil). Law enforcement and judicial authorities can only tackle these crimes when they work together across borders. The Commission will continue to support Member States by offering law enforcement practitioners and their



professional networks a platform for strategic discussions and providing them with financial assistance. Finally, as environmental crime is a global phenomenon, the Commission will continue to promote international cooperation in this area.

Members of the College said:

Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal, Frans **Timmermans**, said: *“The willful destruction of our natural environment threatens our very survival as humanity. Letting law-breakers act with impunity undermines our collective efforts to protect nature and biodiversity, fight the climate crisis, reduce pollution, and eliminate waste. Serious abuses must be met with a serious response, and this proposal lays the groundwork for that.”* Vice-President for Values and Transparency, Vera **Jourová**, said: *“The environment knows no borders and crimes against it display their negative effects across Member States. We must use all possible means to protect the environment at Union level. Criminal law is one of them, and this proposal will give law enforcement authorities and the judiciary the tools to act more effectively against environmental crimes across the Union.”* Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus **Sinkevičius**, said: *“Environmental crimes cause irreversible and long-term damage to people’s health and the environment. Yet, they are hard to investigate and bring before the Court, while sanctions tend to be weak. That is why we need to strengthen our environmental criminal law. At a time where the international community discusses the crime of ecocide, a high level of environmental protection is not only important for present but also future generations as we redouble our efforts to fight environmental degradation.”* Commissioner for Justice, Didier **Reynders**, said: *“There is no time to lose. We must make sure that our rules on fighting environmental crime are targeted and ambitious enough to create a real change. With this new directive, we have another strong tool to protect the environment and ultimately our planet. The proposal builds on lessons learned and experience gained over the past years and will directly address root-causes that have prevented the protection of the environment from being as effective as it should be.”*

Next steps

The legislative proposal will now be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council.

Background

The impact of environmental crime on the natural environment in Europe and the world manifests itself in increasing levels of pollution, a degradation of wildlife, a reduction in biodiversity and the disturbance of ecological balance. Environmental crime is highly lucrative – it can be as profitable as illegal drug trafficking – but the sanctions are much lower, and it is less often prosecuted. These factors make it highly attractive for organised crime groups. The proposal contributes to the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the Circular Economy Action Plan and the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and promotes environmental rule of law. This proposal follows the publication in 2020 of the Commission’s evaluation of the 2008 Environmental Crime Directive (Directive 2008/99/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law). The results indicate that the number of successfully prosecuted environmental cases was low, sanctions were too insufficient to be a deterrent and cross-border cooperation was weak.

11. Film4Energy Challenge

The European Commission is launching the “Film4Energy Challenge” competition in October 2021, inviting schools across the European Union (EU) to create short videos about the importance of energy efficiency and the benefits of saving energy for their school, commune or city. Young students already know a lot about energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources. They have the power to inspire others to reduce energy consumption, and can successfully promote the environmental and economic benefits of saving energy across the EU. Students aged 12 to 15 from all EU countries are invited to create a video about how they can save energy in their daily lives, teaching their relatives, friends, neighbours and the whole world about the benefits of energy



efficiency and encouraging the use of energy-efficient alternatives for heating, cooling, transport, and other daily activities. The videos will have a positive, educational impact on students, as well as their teachers, families and local communities. The competition will run from 1 October 2021 to **15 February 2022**. The [application form](#), [rules](#) and the [terms and conditions](#) are available in all

EU languages except Maltese and Gaelic. Do you work in a school or in the educational sector? Perhaps you work with young people, or you are involved in a local community? Help us spread the word and get your local school(s) to participate in the competition “Film4Energy Challenge”. Teasers ([students/schools](#)) for social media, use the hashtag #Film4Energy. The winning schools will see their videos disseminated across Europe on the European Commission’s official social media channels, and the best entry will be awarded an “energy day” organised at their school.

12. Aqua Film Festival

Aqua Film Festival – International Film Festival organized by UNIVERSI ACQUA, Association with environmental, social, and territory enhancement purposes – selects short films, of any category and nationality, focused on the theme of WATER, and able to use the language of cinema to illustrate and interpret the social, ecological, cultural, naturalistic, and artistic aspects of this extraordinary and vital element. The Sixth edition of Aqua Film Festival will take place from April 7th to 10th, 2022. The films will be screened on Mymovies (April 7-10). The award ceremony will take place at the House of Cinema, in Rome, on April 10th, in live streaming. The INVITATION to participate to the selections of the sixth edition of Aqua Film Festival is open from May 1st, 2021; deadline to send works is **February 20th, 2022**.



AQUA FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

The Regulations of the **OFFICIAL COMPETITION**, available below, include instructions for the participation to the selections:

- **Short films**, up to 25 minutes
- **Mini short films**, up to 3 minutes (film credits excluded)

Participation to Aqua Film Festival OFFICIAL COMPETITION is both easy and free. Please read the regulations carefully, fill in the entry form, available by [clicking here](#), and send us a link to preview your film. You have furthermore the opportunity to become **Aqua Supporter**, thus contributing to the important activities for the protection of the environment, carried out by our **Association** UNIVERSI AQUA. The Association organizes the Festival to pursue statutory aims and other volunteer initiatives: with a contribution of only 35 Euros, you will have the opportunity to participate to the workshop on the right use of the smartphone for video shots. At the same time, you will help us to spread public awareness on environmental issues, and to prevent the serious damages caused by pollution to our planet. To become **Aqua Supporter** [click here](#) and follow the instructions.

AQUA & STUDENTS COMPETITION – National / International

Thanks to the collaboration with schools and universities, this year’s edition includes the AQUA & STUDENTS competition, that will feature mini short films (up to 3 minutes’ running time) made by students from schools and universities worldwide. Mini short films may be shot with smartphones, and will have WATER, in all its forms and functions, as the main player. To subscribe to **AQUA & STUDENTS** Competition, fill in the entry form, by [clicking here](#)

13. Bank Internship Program (BIP)

The Bank Internship Program is now accepting applications through January 31st for its Summer Term (May – September 2022). 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 access the application, please click the apply button, noting that only selected candidates will be contacted.** To be eligible for an Internship, candidates must have an undergraduate degree and

be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program (pursuing a master's degree or PhD with plans to return to school full-time). There is no age limit. Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of



languages such as: French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Portuguese, and Chinese is desirable. Other skills such as computing skills are advantageous. We value diversity in our workplace, and encourage all qualified individuals, particularly women, with diverse professional and academic backgrounds to apply. Our aim is to attract and recruit the best talent in the world. The WB Internship Program typically seeks candidates for: Operations (Front Line) in

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

14. OECD Internship Programme 2022 - winter

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ([OECD](#)) is an international organisation comprised of 38 member countries that works to build better policies for better lives. Our mission is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. Together with governments, policy makers and citizens, we work on establishing evidence-based international standards, and finding solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges. From improving economic performance and creating jobs to fostering strong education and fighting international tax evasion, we provide a unique forum and knowledge hub for data and analysis, exchange of experiences, best-practice sharing, and advice on public policies and international standard-setting. The OECD Internship Programme is designed to bring highly qualified and motivated students with diverse backgrounds into the Organisation to work on projects linked to the Strategic Orientations of the Secretary-General and to support the corporate functions of the Organisation. Its main goal is to give successful candidates the opportunity to improve their analytical and technical skills in an international environment. Successful candidates will carry out research and provide support to Policy Analysts in one of the following areas. Please note that the list is non-exhaustive. Agriculture and Fisheries; Artificial Intelligence; Bribery and corruption; Competition; Corporate Governance; Development; Digitalisation; Economy; Education and Skills; Employment; Energy; Environment; Finance; Gender and Diversity; Health; Industry, Innovation and Entrepreneurship; Insurance and Pensions; International Migration; Investment; Nuclear Energy; Public Governance; Regional Development; Regulatory Reform; Science and Technology; Statistics; Tax; Tourism; Trade and Agriculture; Transport For internships in the Corporate functions, successful candidates will be involved in one of the following areas: Communications, Media & Public Relations; Event Management; Finance, Budget and Accounting; Human Resources; Information Technology; Legal services; Office Administration; Translation.



Main Responsibilities

Research, data analysis and drafting: participate in the preparation of studies and documents; carry out research and review of existing material; collect, organise and evaluate data; contribute

to the production of documents, working papers and publications resulting from the above activities, including drafting notes and preparing technical annexes.

Liaison and outreach: participate in meetings and seminars; establish and maintain professional contacts and build networks with officials in national administrations, researchers, other international organisations and member country delegations; undertake other tasks as required.

Interns in support of the Corporate Functions will be involved in: event organisation, communication, planning and evaluation; ensure relevant social media presence and online activity on different channels; prepare background briefings, presentations and meeting documentation; establish and maintain relationships with key contacts; advise on legal frameworks, human resource management, finance and budgeting, IT; support with office administration, archive and filing, drafting minutes, organise meetings, missions, etc. undertake other tasks as required.

Candidate profile

Academic Background: full time student in a discipline related to the work of the OECD.

Professional Background: international experience through studies, internships or professional activities would be an asset.

Tools: solid quantitative and computer skills. Knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Languages: an excellent command of one of the two official languages of the OECD (English and French) and working knowledge of, or willingness to learn the other. Knowledge of other languages would be an asset.

Key Competencies: strong analytical skills demonstrated by academic success and professional achievements; strong interest in the work of OECD in promoting international co-operation; ability to plan and conduct research independently; good organisational skills, ability to work effectively on the basis of general instructions, with the capacity to prioritise tasks, often according to tight deadlines; proven ability to work in a multicultural and team oriented environment and to adapt to changing working methods and technologies; very good drafting and communication skills.

Contract Duration

The duration of the internship is for a period between one and six months (renewable for another six months up to a total of twelve months), on a full-time basis. Please indicate your availability clearly in your application form.

For more information on the OECD Internship Programme please visit our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage. **Disclaimer:** Due to the high volume of applications expected, the OECD Internship Office is not in a position to provide individual feedback. Therefore, **only shortlisted candidates will be contacted by Directorates for an interview**. If you are not contacted by Directorate hiring teams within three months following your application's submission, you can assume your application has not been retained on this occasion and you can apply again according to the calendar on our website. Please remember you will still need to be enrolled as a student during the internship period. **Deadline: 28 February 2022.** For more information and applications please consult the followig [link](#).

15. Traineeship at ACER

ACER traineeship programme aims to attract **young university graduates** who are interested in developing professionally by embarking on an exciting learning opportunity. The programme



creates a **pool of talents** with first-hand experience in the European Union and on the Agency's specific procedures. In exchange, trainees acquire technical and operational experience through their everyday work in the Agency and are able to practice the technical knowledge acquired in their studies or professional careers. A traineeship at ACER is a great opportunity to **develop professionally** in a multinational and intellectually stimulating environment, while contributing to the Agency's mission. Can apply young university graduates, nationals of a Member State of the European Union, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein who have completed their university studies (3 years or more), attested by a diploma. Traineeship candidates are also required to have a very good knowledge of at least two EU languages, one of them should be English (C1 level). Traineeships last a minimum of 3 months to a maximum of 6 and can be extended once for up to 6 other months (1 year in total). Applications are not accepted from applicants who, for more than 6 weeks: have already benefited or benefit from any

kind of traineeship within any of the European institutions or bodies, or have had or have any kind of employment within a European institution or body. Trainees not receiving a salary, scholarship or other form of financial support are provided with a monthly grant. As of 1st January 2021, the Traineeship grant amounts to **1,058.45 €**. Trainees can also be awarded some extra contributions: **Travel expenses** (beginning and end of traineeship): Trainees who have completed at least a 3-month traineeship period might be entitled to the reimbursement of their travel expenses. **Public transportation**: All trainees are granted a monthly pass for public transport within Ljubljana. For more information about the eligibility criteria, rights and duties of trainees, have a look at our [FAQs](#). Have a look at the ACER traineeship [open call](#). If interested in applying, fill in the Traineeship [Application Form](#), attach a copy of your diploma and send it to **Traineeship(at)acer.europa.eu**. Read carefully the [Rules](#) before submitting the application! The Agency draws a list of eligible and suitable applicants according to the current needs and available places. Before the final selection decision, applicants can be contacted by the Human Resources Team to verify their availability, suitability, language skills, and to discuss reciprocal expectations. The final decision is then taken by the ACER Director. All candidates are informed about the outcomes of the selection procedure. For more information consult the following [link](#).

16. Meeting in Spain of the “IP4J” project

In the period 25-26/10/2021 took place in Spain a meeting in presence of the project "Innovative and Practical training for low-skilled and migrants Jobs" (acronym "IP4J") – action n.2020-1-DE02-KA202-007465. The project aims to develop, test and introduce a new approach to work-based learning for low skilled and migrant people starting from career orientation / professional guidance and providing practical visual training tools (brochure, video, APP) to respond to market demand. During the meeting, the partners discussed the development of the initiative and the activities to be carried out in the coming months. The partnership consists of: FA-Magdeburg GmbH (Germany) coordinator; EURO-NET (Italy); SC Rogepa SRL (Romania); Inercia Digital SL (Spain); Midstod Simenntunar in Sudurnesjum (Iceland). You can also find out more about the European initiative by consulting the project's official Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ip4j.eu> or on the website at the following link: www.ip4j.eu/.



17. JSTE in Turkey of the “TeaM” project

In the period 25-29/10/2021 took place in Efeler, Aydin (Turkey) the first training course of the project "Teaching to Marginalized Groups" (acronym "TeaM") approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme in Greece as action n.2020-1-EL01-KA204-078944. The project partners met face-to-face in Turkey to conduct the first training activity in which they gained an in-depth understanding of the various complexities involved in teaching refugees, migrants and minorities in the Turkish context. The training activities were followed by lengthy discussions in which partners exchanged views, deliberated on challenges and good practices identified in their national contexts and made suggestions for improving the current situation. Some partners participated online due to Covid restrictions in their own country. 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). More information on the project is available on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TeaM-Project-110817037508230> and on the website <https://team-euproject.eu/>.



18. Last meeting of the “ACTE” project

In date 28/10/2021 took place in Caserta (Italy), a last meeting of the project "Active Citizenship Through Education" (acronym ACTE). The project was approved and funded, as action n.2019-1-IT02-KA204-063152, by the Italian National Agency Erasmus Plus INDIRE in the framework of the homonymous programme within the Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. During the project meeting, the partners took stock of the activities already developed and planned the mobilities still to be developed by the end of the initiative. The main aim of the project is to exchange good practice methods in the field of Active Citizenship Education. By using innovative methodologies and digital tools, active citizenship can, in fact, be included in various training programmes and is useful to foster active participation in public life, as well as inclusion, since it is a transversal competence, necessary to become active and aware citizens, able to share common values. The results of the intense work of exchange of good practices, which is being carried out in the ACTE project, will flow into the construction of a Handbook, which will be published in the form of an E-Book and will be the main product of the strategic partnership initiative, summarising all the good practices, researches, inputs and methodologies analysed both in English and in the language of each partner. The aim is to produce a useful tool that can be used (by downloading it from the website) by teachers, training centres and people involved in adult education. The project is a very cross-sectoral initiative as its results can be reused in different educational contexts (both formal and non-formal) and even in different cultural and socio-political scenarios as well as for different levels of education and training, because "learning to participate" includes competences such as digital literacy, self-entrepreneurship or social and intercultural awareness which are often lacking especially in that part of the so-called "low skilled" adult population, the first target group of the European project. The partnership that is developing this initiative is composed of the following organisations: Informamentis Europa (Italy); EURO-NET (Italy); Geo-clube (Portugal); Biedriba "Logos Latvija" (Latvia); Interacting S.L. (Spain); Namoi (Russia) and IYDA (Germany). More information on the official Facebook page at the link https://www.facebook.com/projectacte/?modal=admin_todo_tour or on the project is available on the website <https://www.acteproject.eu/>.



19. Second training course in Nicosia of the “yEURSTAGE” project

In the period 27/10-02/11/2021 took place in Nicosia (Cyprus) the second training course of the European project "The stage is yEURs: Learning the language of the 'host' country through contemporary theatre approaches for adult educators towards the social inclusion of minority groups in Europe of leaving no one behind" – acronym “yEURSTAGE” – approved, as action n.2020-1-PT01-KA204-078361, by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Portugal in the framework of the Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The yEURSTAGE project is aimed at developing an international synergy between 5 European organisations, each with specific competences in the field of theatre, language teaching or reception of migrants and refugees, in order to exchange good practices using contemporary theatrical approaches for the social inclusion of minorities, a very sensitive issue which always gives rise to many ideological and political debates. The following organizations are part of the partnership working on this project: Associação Cultural E De Solidariedade Social Raquel Lombardi (Portugal), EURO-NET (Italy), Echo Playback Theatre Koinsep (Greece), Iniciativas De Futuro Para Una Europa Social Coop V (Spain) and Stando LTD (Cyprus). The aim of the initiative is to work on the target group, composed of adult educators,



trainers, mentors and professionals working with immigrants and refugees, in order to increase their competences through the sharing of non-formal and intercultural learning practices based on modern and innovative theatrical approaches, strengthening, at the same time, local cooperation networks and, therefore, succeeding in providing better social inclusion services for the minority groups now present in each European country. More information on the project is available on the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/yeurstage>), which already has a lot of followers.

20. Multiplier event of the "Borders in the Mind" project

In date 30/10/2021 took place in Potenza (Italy), at the "Einstein-De Lorenzo" institute of higher education, a multiplier event of the project "Borders in the Mind" (acronym "BIM"), an initiative approved in Spain, as action n.2018-1-ES01-KA204-050833, in the framework of the program Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The project proposes modern and relevant reception services designed by residents of local communities to inform visitors about their place. The main objective of the project is to design and provide innovative, practical and relevant methodologies and tools to promote tolerance and celebrate difference and identity. The project is also exploring intangible cultural heritage, looking at how current cultural beliefs, traditions and lifestyles have been influenced and continue to be influenced by events in our past, even if many people are not aware of this. During the dissemination event the products, activities and results achieved in the implementation of the project were presented. More information on this interesting, useful and very nice initiative are available on the official project Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Borders-in-theMind2227951067468445/?modal=admin_todo_tour.



21. Second meeting of the "Green Routes" project

in the days 03 and 04/11/2021 took place in Potenza (Italy), in presence, the second meeting of the "Green Routes" project approved as action n.2020-1-DE02-KA204-007652 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Adult Education programme. During the meeting, the partners talked about their activities and defined the next steps of intellectual products and mobility to be developed in 2022. The main objective of Green Routes is to create a toolkit to promote sustainable solutions and trends in urban areas. The toolkit will be created through the three intellectual outputs and a training methodology. The Promenade Theatre and storytelling Input Training will produce scenarios for educational tours in augmented reality both live and virtual on sustainability issues. The scenarios can be used by educators to create the tours while the training plans will be documented in a paper guide. The virtual tours can be followed through an Augmented Reality App, which will also interact with the guide. All educational products and guidelines, as well as the practices and experiences gathered during the training, will be stored in the Green Routes Online Tour and Learning Hub, a one-stop-shop for any educator, individual or entrepreneur interested in green education in the



chosen cities. The following intellectual products are foreseen in the project: Green Routes Educational Tour and Guidebook; Green Routes Online Tour and Learning Hub; Green Routes augmented reality app. The partnership is composed of: CRN (Germany); EURO-NET (Italy); Interacting UK Limited (England); PANEPISTIMIO THESSALIAS (Greece); Euro-Idea Fundacja Społeczno-Kulturalna (Poland); IZMIR KATIP CELEBI UNIVERSITESI (Turkey). More information about the project can be found on the project's Facebook page at the web address: <https://www.facebook.com/Green-Routes-108204151034392/>.

22. Meeting of the “ECHO PLAY” project

In the days 05 and 06/11/2021 took place in Potenza (Italy) a new meeting of the project "European Career Help and Occupational Orientation Play" (acronym "ECHO PLAY"), an initiative approved as action n.2020-1-IS01-KA202-065802 by the Icelandic National Agency in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships in VET. The main objectives of the project are therefore to develop the following products: a report on the current needs for improved employability at a time when young people are faced with a rapidly changing and highly contracted labour market due to the COVID-19 pandemic; a toolkit and a methodological guide to facilitate the career approach through the use of Lego bricks; a board game for career guidance and, finally, a research on the methodological and pedagogical approach used in the European initiative. The partnership engaged in this hard task consists of the following 5 organisations from 4 European countries: Midstod Simenntunar a Sudurnesjum (Iceland), project coordinator; EURO-NET and Studiodomino SRL (Italy); Turun Yliopisto (Finland) and Kelje Production (France). During the meeting, the partners discussed the development of intellectual products and defining some guiding strategies for their development. You can find more information on the following Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Echoo-Play-project>.



23. Programmes and media relations



In the day 06/11/2021 took place an online seminar/training course on media relations and how to use these relations to develop European programmes and activities in various transnational programmes. Of course, the topic of the Conference on the Future of Europe and the opportunity for all European citizens to participate with their ideas in the construction of the "State of States" of the near future was also touched during the discussion.

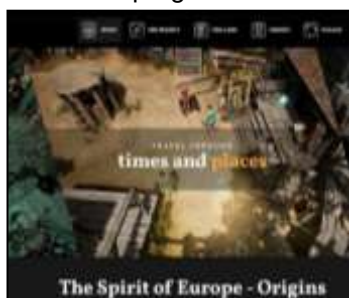
24. JSTE in Bonn of the “CASE” project

In the periodf 11-16/11/2021 took place in Bonn (Germany), the first international training course of the project “Civically Active for Social Engagement” (acronym “CASE”), initiative approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Luxembourg as action n. 2020-1-LU01-KA204-063247 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus programme KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The “CASE” project follows a cross-sectoral approach in order to collect, review and publish new and innovative approaches in active citizenship training as a way to break down boundaries between education sectors and to facilitate more open and innovative training and teaching. The partnership is composed of: Alliance for Global Development (Luxembourg); EURO-NET (Italy); Initiative for Sustainable Education and Development (Germany); Action Synergy SA (Greece); Swideas AB (Sweden); Asociacion Juvenil Intercambia (Spain). More information is available on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CASE-Civically-Active-for-Social-ngagement713964402758349/>.



25. Completed the 3D game of the “The spirit of Europe - Origins” project

It is finally ready for use and it is possible to download the 3D educational game "The Spirit of Europe - Origins", funded in Romania by the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme as action n.2019-1-RO01-KA204-063864. The game, which is completely



free, allows each individual to have a highly educational and philosophical experience: it allows the player to live in 3D a fragment of the mythical Europe and travel through the history of our continent from ancient times to the Renaissance, through the realm of thoughts and emotions, where spirits fight for supremacy over human consciousness. In the game the player experiences a humanistic metaphor of historical events as we know them, interacting with more than a hundred characters, guiding their actions and assisting them in relation to the consequences in crucial events of Europe's past. The game itself, can be

downloaded on one's own computer from the link <https://predictcsd.itch.io/spirit-of-europe-origins> or from this link https://store.steampowered.com/app/1689280/Spirit_of_Europe_Origins. More information on the project, which, in addition to the Italian association EURO-NET, also involves S.C. Predict CSD Consulting S.R.L. (Romania); Asociatia Millennium Center Arad (Romania), IDEC (Greece) and Inercia Digital SL (Spain), is available on the website of the European initiative at <https://thespiritofeurope.eu> or on the official Facebook page of the project at the link <https://www.facebook.com/TheSpiritofEurope.Origins>.

26. Second TPM of the “TELEGROW” project

In the days 18 and 19/11/2021 took place in Paris (France) the second meeting of the project «Telegrow: "Enhancing the Teleworking Digital Skills for the Middle aged employees» (acronym "Telegrow") approved, as action n.2020-1-ES01-KA204-082417, by the National Agency in Spain in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus within the special call of October 2020 dedicated to KA226 VET projects in the field of creativity and innovation. During the meeting, the project partners discussed the work of the activities developed so far and what still needs to be done in the coming months. The European initiative aims to provide trainers and vocational training providers with the necessary knowledge and tools to (re)train and improve the skills of employees aged over 50 and help them to work efficiently from home, using teleworking consciously and effectively. The European partnership is composed of: Florida Centre De Formació, COOP. V (Spain), project coordinator; Stowarzyszenie Centrum Wsparcia Edukacji I Przedsiębiorczości (Poland); Kainotomia & SIA EE (Greece); ESeniors Initiation Des Seniors Aux Ntic Association (France); Markeut Skills Sociedad Limitada (Spain) and EURO-NET (Italy).



27. Meeting of the “EASYNEWS” project

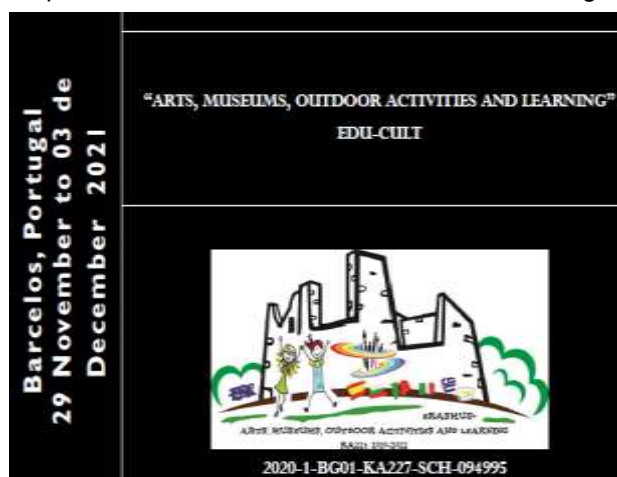


In the days 18 19/11/2021 took place a new online meeting of the project "Periodismo Digital Accesible y Educación Mediática para Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual" (in English "Accessible Digital Journalism and Media Education for People with Intellectual Disabilities" -acronym "EASYNEWS"), approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Spain as part of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as action n. 2020-1-ES01-KA204-082417. During the

meeting, in which EURO-NET could only participate online) the partners discussed the various intellectual products realised and those to be realised and defined the steps of the activities (in particular the next mobilities) of the project to be developed in the coming months. 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. The project fits perfectly into the strategy of the European Commission aimed at the inclusion of disabled people also through innovative and digital products, such as those that the strategic partnership in question is developing. In the first intellectual output, the partners, working as a team, developed a collaborative reading methodology, supported by a platform called "EASYNEWS Digital Portal." The European partnership, that is realizing the project under the coordination of APADIS, consists of Asociación para la atención de las personas con discapacidad intelectual de Villena y comarca (Spain), EURO-NET (Italy), Asociacion De Investigacion De La Industria Del Juguete Conexas Y Afines (Spain), Austrian Association Of Inclusive Society (Austria), Social Enterprise Puzzle (Greece) and FUB Stockholm (Sweden). More information on the project and its activities and products can be found on the official web site at the following web address: <https://easynewserasmusproject.es/> or on the Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/Easynews108569271011998>.

28. Training course of the “EDUCULT” project

In the period 28/11-04/12/2021 took place in Barcelos (Portugal) a training course of the project "Arts, museums, outdoor activities and learning" approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Bulgaria, as action n.2020-1-BG01-KA227-SCH-094995 within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme KA227 School Education - innovation. The EDU-CULT project has the ambition to bring together three types of institutions (kindergartens/schools, museums and NGOs) with the aim of creating an innovative regional and European model for outdoor and museum learning in times of pandemic, creating an opportunity to develop modern cultural tours and attracting new visitors, while supporting social inclusion through art and intercultural dialogue. The objectives of the project are multiple to foster dialogue between educational institutions, museums and communities in order to also attract volunteers interested in history and art in times of crisis; to encourage kindergartens and schools to work on developing children's creative thinking and European citizenship in order to contribute to the cultural awareness of the local community; to develop an innovative approach to participation and intercultural dialogue at regional and European level through cultural heritage and the arts in a difficult time for society due to the pandemic; to promote learning outdoors and in museums in order to strengthen the creative activity and potential of children, parents, teachers, cultural figures, etc.; to raise a kind of social challenge for children; to encourage children to take part in cultural activities in order to develop their own cultural heritage; to stimulate the development of creative thinking and European citizenship of children in order to contribute to the cultural awareness of the local community. Partners in the project are the following organisations Detska gradina "Bratya Grim" (Bulgaria), Detska gradina Svetulka (Bulgaria), Regional Museum of History - Shumen (Bulgaria), Politistiko Revma Pafou (Cyprus), Agrupamento De Escolas De Barcelos (Portugal), Associação Terras Lusas-Movimentos Europeus (Portugal), Stegi Filotechnon Florinas (Greece), Centro de Educación Infantil y Primaria Anselmo Pérez de Brito (Spain) and EURO-NET (Italy). During the training course in Barcelos, the partners had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the project's themes and to attend lectures with an expert in traditional and folkloric dances, to visit museums to test innovative techniques to interest and welcome visitors, and to work closely with groups of students.



29. Pilot activities and meeting in Athens of the “FINANZFIT” project

In date 04/11/2021 took place in Potenza (Italy) a pilot activity, conducted by Vito Verrastro, realised in the project "Wir machen Europas Bürger Finanzfit" (title in English "Basic Economic Training For European Adults") approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Germany as action n.2019-1-DE02-KA204-006098 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partner-ships for Adult Education. Furthermore In the date 25/11/2021 took place in Athens (Greece) a new meeting, to which participated Dr. Luigi Vitelli from EURO-NET, during which the project partners discussed the entire project development and planned the steps of the activities to be carried out in the coming months. 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. More details on the project are available on the website www.whkt.de/finanzfit or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/finanzfit>.



30. Second meeting of the “CDTMOOC” project

In the period 24-27/11/2021 took place in Nantes (France) the second meeting of the project "Creative and Design Thinking MOOC" (acronym "CDTMOOC"), approved as action n.2019-1-FI01-KA203- 060718, in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus - Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships in Higher Education. During the meeting the project partners discussed the whole project development and planned the steps of the activities to be carried out in the next months. The partnership, which for Italy involves the association EURO-NET, also includes 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 consultancy agency), MSS 42 (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 modernisation and complexity of today's world of work, starting with the creativity of ideas as a new skill to be developed and cultivated by students. The project idea is based on preliminary research carried out by the project partners, which shows an ever-increasing need to cope with technological changes and rapid changes in the world of production. Indeed, the ability of the worker to handle complex information and to think creatively and independently is increasingly required. The activities and products to be developed in the project are based on the use of some successful methodologies (such as creative problem solving and Design Thinking) with a practical and interactive approach. More information on the project is also available on the official Facebook page at the web address: <https://www.facebook.com/cdtmooc>.



31. Meeting in Potenza of the “PRIMAE” project

In the day 28 and 29/11/2021 took place in Potenza (Italy) a meeting of the project "Participation and Recreation through Inclusive Martial Arts Education and ELearning" (acronym PRIMAE) approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in the UK under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme as action n.2019-1-UK01-KA204-061975. The European initiative, coordinated by Ikkaido Ltd (an Oxford-based charity), is developing the first

platform to provide online education and training in the martial arts sector, providing an e-learning tool accessible to all, to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities. The meeting in Potenza, hosted by the association EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata centre) was attended by some twenty participants in attendance from the partners' delegations : Ikkaido LTD (England); EURO-NET (Italy); Areadne OE (Greece); Futuro Digitale (Italy); Ikkaido Inclusive Martial Arts (Ireland); Stockholm Vastra Idrottsforening For Funktionsnedsatta (Sweden); University of Cyprus (Cyprus); Aux Couleurs Du Deba (France). The meeting was held at the GODESK coworking innovation space, where it was possible to ensure the respect of the covid regulations. The initiative be followed on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ikkaidoPrimaie>.



32. Kick-off meeting of the “CLANIMATE” project in Lyon, France

In date 01/12/2021 took place in Lyon (France) the first meeting of the project “CLANIMATE youth: Empowering young people to tackle climate change through the use of animation tools” (acronym “CLanIMATE Youths”) approved, as action n.2020-3-FR02-KA205-018477, by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in France within the framework of the Strategic Partnership for Youth. During the meeting the project partners discussed about the activities to be developed in the next months. The European initiative coordinated at transnational level by the Association FenêtreS (France) has a partnership also composed of the association EURO-NET (Italy), AIJU (Spain) and STANDO LTD (Cyprus). The project, which will take place over a period of only 18 months (and exactly in the period between 01/02/2021 and 31/07/2022), intends to contribute to increase young people's awareness and responsibility in tackling climate change through the production of short animations, to be used as an effective tool that can give them a voice in political debates on climate change. The initiative can be followed on Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ClanIMATEYouths>.



33. Multiplier events of the “m-Game” project

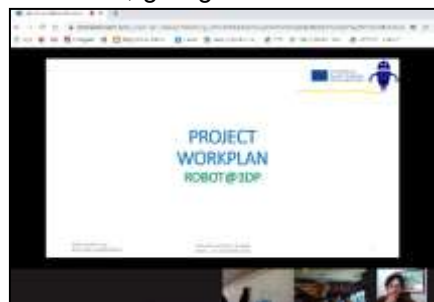
In the days 02/12/2021 and 09/12/2021 took place two multiplier events of the project “MOOCs for Mobile Game Development Programme ” (acronym “m-Game”) approved as action n.2018-1-TR01-KA202- 059731 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnership for VET by the National Erasmus Plus Agency in Turkey. The first event was held in the Godesk coworking centre with the presence of 20 participants (10 from Italy and 10 from Portugal). The second event was held at the IPESOA institute in Potenza. During both events the products, activities and results achieved in the implementation of the project were presented.. You can follow the development of the project on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/M-Game872446363106303/>.



34. Fourth newsletter and penultimate TPM of the “ROBOT@3DP” project

In date 23/11/2022 took place Krsko, (Slovenia) the fourth and penultimate 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. Unfortunately, the EURO-NET Association was only able to attend the meeting online with Dr Luigi Vitelli due to technical issues relating to

pandemic contagions. During the meeting, the overall management of the initiative was discussed, giving an overview of all the activities already developed since 31/12/2019 and those



to be completed by 31/03/2022 as well as the promotion and dissemination of the project outputs already realised. One of the topics was the last newsletter to be developed by our organisation, which immediately produced and distributed it as foreseen in the project. On the right side you can see the fourth newsletter of the project (a



fifth and last newsletter will be developed by the end of the activities). More information on the project can be found on the project web site at the following link www.robot3dp.eu or on the official Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/robot3dp/?modal=admin_todo_tour.

35. Training course “Ruralities” project in Berlin

In the period 15-19/11/2021 took place in Berlin (Germany) the training course of the project “Ruralities”, an initiative approved in France as action n.2019-1-FR01- KA204-063000, in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships program for Adult Education. During the training course, the EURO-NET technicians presented the board game developed in the project and tested it by letting the participants play it. The game developed (of which you can see something in the two photos published in this article) was very well received and many participants of the training course expressed their compliments on the work done by our



organisation. Please note that 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 ensure 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 awareness about the discrimination of refugees. The project partnership is composed by Ipso Facto (France) - coordinator, EURO-NET (Italy), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Panepistimio Thessalias (Greece), Arbeit Und Beben Lag Mv (Germany) and Krajowy Instytut Polityki Przestrzennej I Mieszkalnictwa (Poland). More information can be found on the project website www.ruralities.eu or on the official Facebook page available at the link <https://www.facebook.com/ruralitieserasmusplus/>.



36. Meeting of the “Digi4Equality” project

In date 06/12/2021 took place in Turkey a new meeting of the project DIGI4EQUALITY (A DIGItal toolkit for promoting gender EQUALITY in science and technology), an initiative approved as action n.2020-1-PL01-KA201-081630 by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Poland, within the KA2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education programme. Unfortunately, due to Covid rules, Italy and Greece were not able to attend the face-to-face meeting and participated online. During the meeting the project partners discussed the whole project development and planned the steps

of the activities to be carried out in the next months. The project aims to develop a new toolbox through which professionals and teachers can attract, reach and assist students to raise awareness and address gender stereotypes in society and in career choices in a digitised world

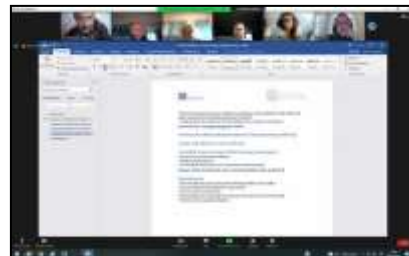


and to encourage women in particular into STEM careers. The partnership that is developing this very interesting project against the discrimination that unfortunately still exists in modern European society is composed of the Polish coordinator Szkoła Podstawowa Nr 2 W Proszowicach and the partners EURO-NET (Italy); Mpirmpakos D. & SIA O.E. (Greece); Challedu (Greece); Aydin II Milli Egitim Mu-Durlugu (Turkey) and Adazu Vidusskola (Latvia). (Greece); Challedu (Greece); Aydin II Milli Egitim Mu-Durlugu (Turkey) and Adazu Vidusskola (Latvia). The project, which started in October 2020

and will end in September next year (2022), will develop several intellectual products including a methodological guide to promote gender equality in STEM subjects in schools, a selection of videos to encourage women to pursue their professional careers, an interactive platform and a tool-kit of games, including the electronic games created by EURO-NET staff. More information on the project is available on the website <https://digi4equality.eu/> or on the official Facebook page of the initiative at <https://www.facebook.com/Digi4Equality/>.

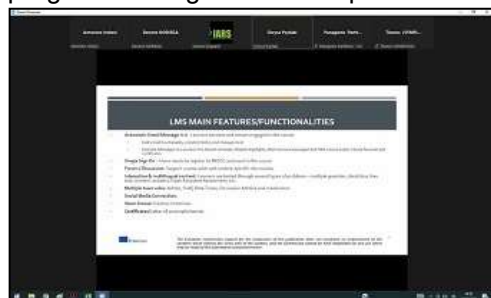
37. Short online meeting “PISH” project

In date 08/12/2021 took place a short online meeting of the project “Problem-Based Learning, Intercultural Communications and STEM in Higher Education” (acronym PISH) – action n. 2020-1-DK01-KA203-075109 approved by the Danish Erasmus Plus National Agency in the framework of the KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education. During the meeting, the project partners discussed the intellectual products already produced and other activities to be carried out in the coming months. The project aims to meet the needs of intercultural communication in the peer-to-peer learning environment of STEM students in Higher Education Institutions. All interested parties can follow the project on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/PISHproject/>.



38. Short online meeting of the “Queer Migrants” project

In date 13/12/2021 took place a short online meeting of the project "Queer Migrants: Addressing gaps in adult education and social cohesion" project (acronym "Queer Migrants"), approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in the United Kingdom as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 program Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as action n.2020-1-UK01-KA204-079101. The



European initiative, well-coordinated by the IARS Institute (Independent Academic Research Studies International Institute) in London, is aimed at improving social cohesion and allowing the inclusion of LGBTQI migrants. During the meeting the project partners discussed the whole project development and planned the steps of the activities to be carried out in the next months. The partnership that works on the project includes the following partners: IARS (UK), EURO-NET (Italy), Symplexis (Greece), Astiki Mh

Kerdosko-piki Etaireia Helping 23 Hand (Greece) and CSI Center for Social Innovation LTD (Cyprus). The project can be followed on the official website <http://queermigrants.netsons.org/> and on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/queermigrants>.

39. Online training course of the “HOPE” project

In the period 13-15/12/2021 took place an official training course of the project "Supply of High Quality Learning Opportunities for Migrant People and Enhance Social 24 Inclusion" (acronym "HOPE"), an initiative approved in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices by the National Agency Erasmus Plus in Germany (action n.2019-1-DE02- KA204-006479). The course was organised and hosted by EURO-NET staff and addressed to learn and share new experiences on the inclusion of migrants in the various countries of the partnership. The partners of the project are: Centrum Fur Innovation Und Technologie Gmbh (Germany) coordinator of the project; IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus); Mitropolitiko College Anoyimi Ekpaideytiki Etairia (Greece); EURO-NET (Italy); Foundation for Shelter And Support To Migrants (Malta); BSC, Poslovno Podporni Center, Doo (Slovenia). More information can be found on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/erasmusplusHOPE>.



40. Online meeting of the “F.A.M.E.T.” project

In date 16/12/2021 was realised an online meeting of the project “F.A.M.E.T.” during which the partners discussed the testing phase of the IO3 Carrer Kit and some improvements to be implemented on its interactive online version. In addition, the partners also discussed some financial obligations and dissemination activities to be carried out by March 2022. The project "Fostering Adult Migrant Entrepreneurial Training and Qualification" (acronym F.A.M.E.T. - action n.2019-1-DK01-KA204-060186) has been approved under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark. The project focuses on adult education and lifelong learning, excluding barriers and obstacles to discrimination through the provision of education and training. In addition, the project addresses the development of entrepreneurial skills and is aimed at migrants and refugees who wish to start a business. The project' partners are: Aalborg Universitet (Denmark); Markeut Skills Sociedad Limitada (Spain); Kainotomia & SIA EE (Greece); Danmar Computers SP ZOO (Poland); EURO-NET (Italy); Crossing Borders (Denmark). More information on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FAMET-117061303388382/> or on project web site <https://famet.erasmus.site/> or.



41. “Break Your Chains” training finally takes place in Potenza

Finally, after countless postponements due to the covid-19 and after having done the necessary prayers, it seems that the project "Break Your Chains" (acronym BYC), approved in the Erasmus Plus programme by the National Youth Agency, as action n.2019-3-IT03-KA105-017544, can finally be realized, although the latest rules decided by the Italian Government to contain the umpteenth expansion of the pandemic did not help its implementation. If all goes well, the project (extended by the National Youth Agency until 31/01/2022) will be able to bring together from 3 to 12 January 2022 in Potenza 28 youth workers, NGO activists and young people (including many with fewer opportunities) from 7 different countries. The main idea of the project is to spread the knowledge of human rights and allow young people to confront the problems that still exist in this area for young people. The project partners are EURO-NET (Italy), amitie franco russian languedoc "AFR" (France), NGO Logos Latvja (Latvia), Asociación Xuvenil Arousa Moza (Spain), EURO-IDEA (Poland), Kirsehir Kültür Sanat Çevre Koruma Ve Tanitma Derneği (Turkey) and Asociatia Clubul Sportiv Experienta-multisport (Romania).



42. Last meeting of the project “Foster Social Inclusion”

In the date 22/10/2021 took place in Berlin the last meeting of the project "Foster Social Inclusion: volunteering, social entrepreneurship and art for social inclusion" (acronym Foster Social Inclusion), an initiative approved by the Polish National Agency as action n. 2019-1-PL01-KA204-065375 as part of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices. During the meeting, the partners took stock of the activities already developed and defined the steps of the activities to be developed until the end of the project, which will end on 31 December 2021. More information on the official Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Foster-Social-Inclusion-109112230563838/>.



43. Intermediate report of the “INTERACT” project

The project “Innovative Cultural Heritage the Root of European Identity” (acronym “INTERACT”) an initiative approved by the UK National Agency as action n. 2020-1-UK01-KA204-078950 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Innovation programme, arrived at the first interim report. The objectives of the project are to develop new sectoral policies in European cultural tourism, adopting innovative practices for tourists and promoting authentic interactive cultural experiences. Project partners are the following organisations: Find an Internship (UK) - project coordinator; Youth Europe Service (Italy); S.C Predict CSD (Romania); Interacting S.L (Spain); Logos Polska (Poland). The project will develop the following three intellectual products: theatrical performances; digital platform and tool-kit; augmented reality app. More information on the project can be found on the following Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Erasmus-Plus-Interact-100911398721786> or the web site <https://interactproject.eu/>.



44. First intellectual product realised of the “Explore Europe” project

The first intellectual product (a cartoon) of the "Explore Europe" project is finally ready. You can watch it at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8WrfpyzEw>. The project “Explore Europe” was approved by the National Youth Agency in Italy the Erasmus Plus KA2 (action n. 2020-2-IT03-KA205- 018664) within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Youth Partnerships programme - Innovation. The initiative intends to develop a "Europe Zone"



aimed at young people thanks to the combined use of: new generation interactive tools, didactic-formative activities led by youth workers. The so-called "Europe Zone" will be a place to be discovered and where young people will be able to live a "competitive adventure" characterised by: respect for human rights, promotion of coexistence and inclusion, support to integration and solidarity, citizenship rights, promotion of European values. The project "Explore Europe" foresees the development of a tool kit composed of 3 intellectual products allowing the realisation of a non-formal, innovative, modern, inclusive, simple, effective, productive and pro-active training programme on European citizenship, addressed to young people and youth workers. The kit consists of an interactive animation on the European Union, a team game and a virtual simulation of the European Parliament. The whole kit (in 4 languages, including English) will be based on operational methodologies favouring learning through play. The project partnership consists of: Youth Europe Service (Italy) - project coordinator, Damasistem (a spin-off of the University of Ankara in Turkey) and the Romanian company S.C. Predict CSD Consulting S.R.L. More information are available on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/Explore-Europe104476754982850/ or on the official project website www.exploreurope.euwhich.

45. Meeting of the “Everywhere is home” project in Luxembourg

In the date 09/12/2021 took place, in presence in Luxembourg, the transnational meeting of the project "Everywhere is home", a project approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in France as action n.2020-1-FR01-KA204-080291 aimed at sharing good practices in adult education. The project "Everywhere is home" aims to improve the social inclusion and acceptance of migrants and refugees in European societies. During the project, focus groups (in order to better understand the problems of these target groups) as well as several training events for the partners' staff (to provide competences and skills to those working with the target groups) will be carried out.

Other activities foreseen in the strategic partnership initiative are the development of local networks of stakeholders (to foster their cooperation and offer better integration); the organisation of multicultural festivals in the project countries to disseminate "other" cultures; and a guide containing good integration practices (researched at international level). Project partners are GODESK SRL (Italy), CIEUX (France), ISEDE (Germany), NGO NEST BERLIN EV (Germany) and AGD (Luxembourg). More information on the project and its activities is available on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/everywhereishomeeu>.



46. Training course of the “Future Target” project in Germany

In november took place in Bonn, Germany, a training course of the project "Future Target", (action n. 2019-1-DE02-KA204-006511) approved by the Erasmus+ National Agency in Germany within the framework of the Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education. The European initiative focuses on the exchange of good practice between 7 partner organisations; Youth Europe Service (Italy), Sharing Europe (Italy), IYDA e.V. (Germany), 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. The training, developed in presence with a large group of Italian participants, was organised by the German association YIDA e.V. and focused on attitudes towards migrants and refugees and activities to be developed to convey empathy and make them feel better included and integrated. The strategic partnership initiative, as well as carrying out training activities and transnational project meetings, also developed a beautiful comic book (translated into 7 languages (in addition to Italian, versions were produced in English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish and Greek), interviews with refugees, asylum seekers and organisations working with them, and collected a series of good practices of integration and inclusion that could be replicated in all European

countries (contained in a guidebook) as well as some cultural festivals where locals and foreigners could meet and get to know each other. In fact, the initiative, which officially started on 1 October 2019, like all the European actions that provided for meetings and training courses in EU countries, had to face the problems related to the difficulty of implementing mobility due to the pandemic but did not suspend its activities, using all possible tools and methodologies in order not to interrupt the activities. For further information you can consult the official Facebook page of the project at the following link <https://www.facebook.com/projectFutureTarget/>.

47. Meeting of the “Digital Voyage Around Europe” project

In date 25/11/2021 took place in Luxembourg a new meeting of the project "Digital voyage around Europe" (of which GODESK is the Italian partner) an initiative approved in Spain by the National Agency Erasmus Plus as action 2020-1-ES01-KA204-082259. It is a KA204 project, a Strategic Partnership for Adult Education aimed at raising awareness on the use of new and latest generation digital tools. The "DVAE" project is aimed at raising awareness on the use of new and latest generation digital tools. During the face-to-face meeting the participating organisations discussed the whole project development and planned the steps of the activities to be carried out in the next months. You can follow the development of this interesting initiative on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Digital-Voyage-Around-Europe-102972418345600> or on the website available in all languages of the partnership at the following link: <https://dvaeproject.eu/>.



48. Meeting in Potenza of the “TeaM” project

Today 20/12/2021 an international meeting is in realization in Potenza in mixed mode (i.e. partly in person and partly online due to new and additional restrictions imposed by the Italian government authorities to limit the escalation of the ongoing pandemic). The meeting is realised in the framework of the project "TEAM" (Teaching to Marginalized Groups), an initiative approved in Greece as action n.2020-1-EL01-A204-078944 under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme. The project is aimed at the exchange of good practice among organisations working 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 per tutti (Italy); STANDO LTD (Cyprus); Initiative for Sustainable Education and Development (Germany). The agenda of the meeting foresees that the partners should discuss the activities already developed in the project and those still to be realised, especially the next planned mobilities, and their possible ways of implementation. More information on the project is available on the initiative's website <https://team-euproject.eu/> and on the official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/TeaM-Project-110817037508230>.



49. 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 2022. Merry Christmas... and Happy New Year!

