



# 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 17 - NUMBER 4  
OF 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022  
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



## Contents

1. Digital Economy and Society Index 2022	3
2. Eighth Environment Action Programme	5
3. Save Gas for a Safe Winter	6
4. EC report shows young people most affected by job losses due to COVID-19	8
5. Summer 2022 Economic Forecast: Russia's war worsens the outlook	9
6. Rule of Law Report 2022: specific recommendations to Member States	10
7. New Roaming rules: "Roam like at home" for 10 more years	13
8. EC and Moderna adapt delivery schedules for late summer and winter	14
9. Condemnation of Russia for violation of aviation rules	15
10. Erasmus+: 44 EU Universities to cooperate across borders and disciplines	16
11. The Comel Award 2022	17
12. EEA photo competition 2022: "Well with Nature"	17
13. OECD Internship Programme	18
14. Internships at the Court of Justice of the European Union	18
15. "EDU-CULT" project: training and activities for children	19
16. Last online meeting "ACT2IMPACT" project	19
17. Last meeting "TAT" project in Bonn	20
18. Multiplier Event "RURALITIES" project	20
19. Training course of the "CLanIMATE YOUTHS" project in Cyprus	20
20. Training course of the "ECHOPLAY" project in Iceland	21
21. Meeting in Potenza of the "Aktif" project	21
22. First meeting "The First Steps in STEM" project	21
23. Insight into European issues online	22
24. Meeting of the "CREATIVENTER" project in Porto	22
25. New video realised by the staff of the Europe Direct Basilicata Centre	23
26. Meeting in Bonn of the "TeaM" project	23
27. New training in Brno of the "The A class" project	23
28. Fourth meeting of the "TELEGROW" project	24
29. Meeting in Potenza of the "Musiclaje" project	24
30. New meeting in Toulouse of the "RURALITIES" project	25
31. Kick-off meeting of the "digi4you" project	25
32. Training course in Potenza for Greek teachers	25
33. Meeting of the "STREM" project in Nicosia	26
34. Online meeting of the "3D4Auto" project	26
35. Meeting in Magdeburg of the "EUCYCLE" project	27
36. New training in Palermo for the project "CONTINUE"	27
37. New training and meeting in Volos of the "SUSTAINAGRI" project	27
38. Meeting in Sassari of the "CECIL" project	28
39. Kick-off meeting of the "Run Forest Run" project	28
40. Last meeting in Dublin of the PRIMAE project	29
41. Last meeting of the STREM project in Bonn	29
42. Final TPM of the project "The Spirit of Europe - Origins" in Greece	30

## 1. Digital Economy and Society Index 2022

The European Commission published the results of the 2022 Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), which tracks the progress made in EU Member States in digital.

During the Covid pandemic, Member States have been advancing in their digitalisation efforts



but still struggle to close the gaps in digital skills, the digital transformation of SMEs, and the roll-out of advanced 5G networks. The Recovery and Resilience Facility, with about €127 billion dedicated to reforms and investments in the area of digital, offers an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate the digital transformation, which the EU and its Member States cannot afford to miss. The findings show that while most of the Member States are making progress in their digital transformation, the adoption of key digital

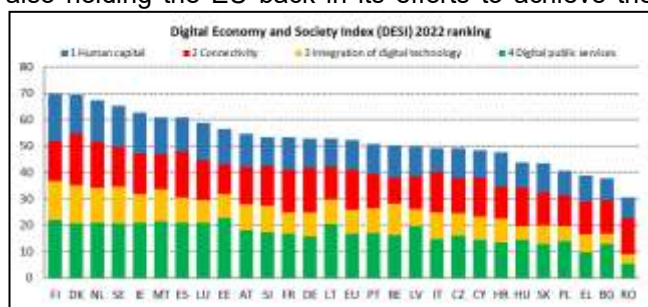
technologies by businesses, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data remains low. Efforts need to be stepped up to ensure the full deployment of connectivity infrastructure (notably 5G) that is required for highly innovative services and applications. Digital skills is another important area where Member States need to make bigger progress. Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, Margrethe Vestager, said: *"Digital transition is accelerating. Most Member States are progressing in building resilient digital societies and economies. Since the start of the pandemic we have made significant efforts to support Member States in the transition. Be that through the Recovery and Resilience Plans, EU Budget or, more recently also through the Structured Dialogue on Digital Education and Skills. Because we need to make the most of the investments and reforms necessary to meet the Digital Decade targets in 2030. So change must happen already now."* Commissioner for the Internal Market, Thierry Breton,

added: *"We are making progress in the EU towards our digital targets, and we must continue our efforts to make the EU a global leader in the technology race. The DESI shows where we need to further strengthen our work, for example in spurring digitisation of our industry, including SMEs. We need to step up the efforts to make sure that every SME, business, and industry in the EU have the best digital solutions available to them and have access to a world-class digital connectivity infrastructure."* The Commission's proposal on the Path to the Digital Decade, agreed upon by the European Parliament and EU Member States, will facilitate deeper collaboration between Member States and the EU to advance in all dimensions covered by the DESI. It provides a framework for Member States to undertake joint commitments and establish multi-country projects that will reinforce their collective strength and resilience in the global context.



Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden remain the EU frontrunners. However, even they are faced with gaps in key areas: the uptake of advanced digital technologies such as AI and Big Data, remains below 30% and very far from the 2030 Digital Decade target of 75%; the widespread skill shortages, which are slowing down overall progress and lead to digital exclusion. There is an overall positive convergence trend: the EU continues to improve its level of digitalisation, and Member States that started from lower levels are gradually catching up, by growing at a faster rate. In particular, Italy, Poland and Greece substantially improved their DESI scores over the past five years, implementing sustained investments with a reinforced political focus on digital, also supported by European funding. As digital tools become an integral part of everyday life and participation in society, people without appropriate digital skills risk being left behind. Only 54% of Europeans aged between 16 -74 have at least basic digital skills. The target of the Digital Decade is at least 80% by 2030. In addition, although 500.000 ICT specialists entered the labour market between 2020 and 2021, the EU's 9 million ICT specialists fall far short of the EU target of 20 million specialists by 2030 and are not enough to bridge the skills shortages businesses currently face. During 2020, more than half of the EU enterprises (55%) reported difficulties in filling ICT specialist vacancies. These shortages represent a significant

obstacle for the recovery and competitiveness of EU enterprises. Lack of specialised skills is also holding the EU back in its efforts to achieve the Green Deal targets. Massive efforts are



therefore required for the reskilling and upskilling of the workforce. Regarding the uptake of key technologies, during the Covid pandemic, businesses have pushed the use of digital solutions. The use of cloud computing, for example, reached 34%. However, AI and Big Data use by business stand only at 8% and 14% respectively (target 75% by 2030). These key technologies bring a

huge potential for significant innovation and efficiency gains, particularly among SMEs. For their part, only 55% of EU SMEs have at least a basic level in digitalisation (target: at least 90% by 2030), indicating that almost half of SMEs are not availing of the opportunities created by digital. The Commission has published a survey of enterprises on the data economy. In 2021, Gigabit connectivity increased further in Europe. The coverage of networks connecting buildings with fibre reached 50% of households, driving overall fixed very high capacity network coverage up to 70% (100% target by 2030). 5G coverage also went up last year to 66% of populated areas in the EU. Nonetheless, spectrum assignment, an important precondition for the commercial launch of 5G, is still not complete: only 56% of the total 5G harmonized spectrum has been assigned, in the vast majority of Member States (Estonia and Poland are the exceptions). Moreover, some of the very high coverage figures rely on spectrum sharing of 4G frequencies or low band 5G spectrum, which does not yet allow for the full deployment of advanced applications. Closing these gaps is essential to unleash the potential of 5G and enable new services with a high economic and societal value, such as connected and automated mobility, advanced manufacturing, smart energy systems or eHealth. The Commission has also published studies on mobile and fixed broadband prices in Europe in 2021 and broadband coverage in Europe. The online provision of key public services is widespread in most of the EU Member States. Ahead of the introduction of a European Digital Identity and Wallet, 25 Member States have at least one eID scheme in place, but only 18 of them have one or more eID schemes notified under the eIDAS Regulation, which is a key enabler for secure digital cross-border transactions. The Commission has published the eGovernment benchmark for 2022. The EU has put on the table significant resources to support the digital transformation. €127 billion are dedicated to digital related reforms and investments in the 25 national Recovery and Resilience Plans that have so far been approved by the Council. This an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate digitalisation, increase the Union's resilience and reduce external dependencies with both reforms and investments. Member States dedicated on average 26% of their Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) allocation to the digital transformation, above the compulsory 20% threshold. Member States that chose to invest more than 30% of their RRF allocation to digital are Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Ireland and Lithuania. Identifying digital as a key priority, providing political support and putting in place a clear strategy, robust policies and investments are indispensable ingredients to accelerate the path towards the digital transformation and put the EU on track to achieve the vision set out with the Digital Decade.

### Background

The annual Digital Economy and Society Index measures the progress of EU Member States towards a digital economy and society, on the basis of both Eurostat data and specialised studies and collection methods. The DESI supports EU Member States by identifying priority areas requiring targeted investment and action. The DESI is also the key tool when it comes to analysing digital aspects in the European Semester. The Path to the Digital Decade, presented in September 2021, and expected to come into force by the end of the year, sets out a novel governance mechanism in the form of a cycle of cooperation between EU institutions and the Member States to ensure they jointly achieve the Digital Decade targets, objectives and principles. It assigns the monitoring of the Digital Decade targets to the DESI and because of this, DESI indicators are now structured around the four cardinal points of the 2030 Digital Compass.





---

## 2. Eighth Environment Action Programme

---

**The Commission presented a list of headline indicators for monitoring progress towards the EU's environment and climate goals to 2030, as well as the 2050 long-term vision to "live well, within planetary boundaries".**

Resulting from intense consultations with stakeholders and Member States, the new Monitoring Framework under the 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme aims to foster transparency and inform Europeans about the impact of EU climate and environmental policy. EU policies have to ensure that the EU gets back on track to living and working within planetary boundaries. As such, the indicators capture progress towards environmental wellbeing, including also economic and social aspects. As such, they could pave the way for measuring the health of our economies and societies based on wellbeing, and beyond the most well-known economic indicator, GDP. Executive Vice-President Frans **Timmermans**, in charge of the European Green Deal, said: *"We have very ambitious environmental and climate targets to help us deliver the just green transition that Europe and the world needs. But what you cannot measure, you cannot manage. To keep us on track, we need to keep a close eye on whether we are meeting our goals. These indicators help us do so."* Virginijus **Sinkevičius**, Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and



Fisheries, said: *"Policies are only as good as their implementation. These headline indicators will help us pursue the agreed policies under the European Green Deal, by shedding light on the trends and facilitating an informed discussion between policy-makers on where further efforts are needed."* The headline indicators follow the structure of the 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme building on the European Green Deal and include the 2-3 most policy relevant and statistically robust indicators for each of the thematic priority objectives to 2030,

covering climate mitigation, climate adaptation, circular economy, zero pollution, and biodiversity. In addition, the list includes five indicators to measure progress towards addressing the main environmental and climate pressures. In line with European Green Deal objectives, this covers the transition we need to see in the coming years towards sustainable systems for energy, industry, mobility and food. Moreover, the headline set includes indicators to monitor progress towards the main enabling conditions, covering sustainable finance, the 'polluters-pay principle', and phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies. The last chapter of the monitoring framework includes systemic indicators that aim to capture progress towards the three dimensions of environmental wellbeing, to cover also economic and social aspects beyond nature protection.

### **Next steps**

The Commission will report annually on the progress made, based on stocktaking done by the European Environment Agency from 2023 onwards, with the help of the selected headline indicators. This reporting will facilitate an annual exchange between the Commission, the Member States and the European Parliament to be held in accordance with the 8<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme. In addition, the Commission will conduct two in-depth assessments during the lifespan of the programme – a mid-term review in 2024 and a final evaluation in 2029. The Commission will continue to promote coherence between the 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme headline indicators and other crosscutting monitoring tools, such as the European Semester and EU's monitoring on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Background**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme entered into force on 2 May 2022 and includes an obligation for the Commission to present a monitoring framework, based on a limited number of headline indicators. These should include, where available, systemic indicators that address interlinkages between environment-social and environmental-economic policy considerations, respectively. The 8<sup>th</sup> EAP aims at accelerating the green transition in a just and inclusive way, with the 2050 long-term objective of 'Living well, within planetary boundaries', already established in the 7<sup>th</sup> programme (2014-2020). For more than 40 years, these action programmes have provided the EU with policy frameworks that deliver results and ensure predictable and coordinated action for Europe's environment and climate change policies.

### 3. Save Gas for a Safe Winter

**The European Union faces the risk of further gas supply cuts from Russia, due to the Kremlin's weaponisation of gas exports, with almost half of our Member States already affected by reduced deliveries.**

Taking action now can reduce both the risk and the costs for Europe in case of further or full disruption, strengthening European energy resilience. The Commission is therefore proposing

a new legislative tool and a European Gas Demand Reduction Plan, to reduce gas use in Europe by 15% until next spring. All consumers, public administrations, households, owners of public buildings, power suppliers and industry can and should take measures to save gas. The Commission will also accelerate work on supply diversification, including joint purchasing of gas to strengthen the EU's possibility of sourcing alternative gas deliveries. The Commission is proposing a new Council Regulation on Coordinated Demand Reduction Measures for Gas, based on Article 122 of the Treaty. The new Regulation would set a target for all Member States to reduce gas demand by 15% between 1 August 2022 and 31 March 2023. The new Regulation would also give the Commission the possibility to declare, after consulting Member States, a 'Union Alert' on security of supply, imposing a mandatory gas demand reduction on all Member States. The Union Alert can be triggered when there is a substantial risk of a severe gas shortage or an exceptionally high gas demand. Member States should

update their national emergency plans by the end of September to show how they intend to meet the reduction target, and should report to the Commission on progress every two months. Member States requesting solidarity gas supplies will be required to demonstrate the measures they have taken to reduce demand domestically. To help Member States deliver the necessary demand reductions, the Commission has also adopted a European Gas Demand Reduction Plan which sets out measures, principles and criteria for coordinated demand reduction. The Plan focuses on substitution of gas with other fuels, and overall energy savings in all sectors. It aims to safeguard supply to households and essential users like hospitals, but also industries that are decisive for the provision of essential products and services to the economy, and for EU supply chains and competitiveness. The Plan provides guidelines for Member States to take into account when planning curtailment.

#### **Energy saved in summer is energy available for winter**

By substituting gas with other fuels and saving energy this summer, more gas can be stored for winter. Acting now will reduce the negative GDP impact, by avoiding unplanned actions in a crisis situation later. Early steps also spread out the efforts over time, ease market concerns and price volatility, and allow for a better design of targeted, cost-effective measures protecting



industry. The Gas Demand Reduction Plan proposed by the Commission is based on consultations with Member States and industry. A wide range of measures are available to reduce gas demand. Before considering curtailments, Member States should exhaust all fuel substitution possibilities, non-mandatory savings schemes and alternative energy sources. Where possible, priority should be given to switching to renewables or cleaner, less carbon-intensive or polluting options. However, switching to coal, oil or nuclear may be necessary as a temporary



with the amendment of the State aid Temporary Crisis Framework, adopted by the Commission. Another important pillar of energy saving is the reduction of heating and cooling. The Commission urges all Member States to launch public awareness campaigns to promote the reduction of heating and cooling on a broad scale, and to implement the EU 'Save Energy Communication', containing numerous options for short-term savings. To set an example, Member States could mandate a targeted lowering of heating and cooling in buildings operated by public authorities. The Demand Reduction Plan will also help Member States identify and prioritise, within their "non-protected" consumer groups, the most critical customers or installations based on overall economic considerations and the following criteria:

- **Societal criticality** – sectors including health, food, safety, security, refineries and defence, as well as the provision of environmental services;
- **Cross-border supply chains** – sectors or industries providing goods and services critical to the smooth functioning of EU supply chains;
- **Damage to installations** – to avoid that they could not resume production without significant delays, repairs, regulatory approval and costs;
- **Gas reduction possibilities and product/component substitution** – the extent to which industries can switch to imported components/products and the extent to which demand for products or components may be met through imports.

#### **Background: What the EU has done to secure its energy supply**

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Commission adopted the REPowerEU Plan to end the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels as soon as possible. REPowerEU sets out measures on diversification of energy suppliers, energy savings and energy efficiency, and an accelerated roll-out of renewable energy. The EU has also adopted new legislation requiring EU underground gas storage to be filled to 80% of capacity by 1 November 2022 to ensure supply for the coming winter. In this context, the Commission has carried out an in-depth review of national preparedness plans to face possible major supply disruptions. The Commission has set up the EU Energy Platform to aggregate energy demand at the regional level and facilitate future joint purchasing of both gas and green hydrogen, to ensure the best use of infrastructure so that gas flows to where it is most needed, and to reach out to international supply partners. Five regional groups of Member States have already been initiated within the Platform, and a dedicated task force has been created within the Commission to support the process. The EU is succeeding in diversifying away from Russian gas imports thanks to higher LNG and pipeline imports from other suppliers. In the first half of 2022, non-Russian LNG imports rose by 21 billion cubic metres (bcm) as compared to the same period last year. Non-Russian pipeline imports also grew by 14 bcm from Norway, Azerbaijan, the United Kingdom and North Africa. Since long before the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the EU has been building a clean and interconnected energy system, focused on increasing the share of domestically-produced renewable energy, phasing out imported fossil fuels, and ensuring connections and solidarity between Member States in the event of any supply interruptions. By progressively eliminating our dependence on fossil fuel sources and by reducing the EU's overall energy consumption through increased energy efficiency, the European Green Deal and Fit for 55 package strengthen the EU's security of supply. Building upon these proposals, REPowerEU aims to accelerate the instalment of renewable energy across the EU and the deployment of energy efficiency investments. Over 20% of the EU's energy currently comes from renewables, and the Commission has proposed to more than double this to at least 45% by 2030. Since the beginning of the year an estimated additional 20 GW of renewable energy capacity have been added. This is the equivalent of more than 4 bcm of natural gas. Through our investments in LNG terminals and gas interconnectors, every Member State can now receive gas supplies from at least two sources, and reverse flows are possible between neighbours. Under the Gas Security of Supply Regulation, Member States must have in place national preventive action plans and emergency plans, and a solidarity mechanism guarantees supply to "protected customers" in neighbouring countries in a severe emergency.





## 4. EC report shows young people most affected by job losses due to COVID-19

The Commission published its **Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE) review 2022**.

Amongst other findings, the report shows young people were among the most negatively affected by job losses during the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also



shows that the recovery was slower for them than for other age groups. Possible explanations are linked to their high share of fixed-term contracts and difficulties in finding a first job after leaving school, university, or training. The new report helps identify and underpin the employment and social policies needed to address the challenges young people are facing to become economically independent, in the face of a worsening socio-economic situation due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas **Schmit**, said: *"Many young people are highly educated, digitally skilled, and take an active interest in ecological issues. This can help them seize the opportunities of the recovery and of the digital and green transitions. 2022 is the European Year of Youth, because the European Union is committed to listen to young people, to support and improve their chances in life. This also means supporting young Ukrainians who have fled the war, helping them get into the EU's education system and labour market."*

The ESDE review, based on the latest yearly data, finds that:

- **The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic was not evenly spread.** The young (under 30 years of age) still face significant challenges to find jobs, or to find jobs that match their skills and experience. While youth unemployment decreased in 2021, particularly towards the end of the year, it remained 1 percentage point (pp) higher than before the crisis (in 2019). Of those in work, nearly 1 in 2 young people (45.9%) had temporary contracts, compared to 1 in 10 for all workers (10.2%).
- **On average, young people are more likely to face a challenging social and financial situation.** Already prior to the pandemic, the labour income of young people was more volatile than that of older workers. Households headed by young people experienced more poverty, although there are marked differences across EU countries. Young people faced difficulties in meeting their everyday expenses, such as those for bills and rent, with 61% of them worrying about finding or maintaining adequate housing in the next ten years.
- **The challenges young people face depend on their level of education and on their socio-economic background.** Young people with secondary education are 19pp less likely to end up in a situation where they do not work and are not in education or training than those with a lower education level. For those with tertiary education, this risk is 28pp lower. Young people from a disadvantaged background are even less likely to be in employment, education or training.
- **Gender is another factor prompting inequality amongst young people.** When they start their careers, young women in the EU earn on average 7.2% less than their male colleagues, a gap which widens with age. At EU level, only a small proportion of this gap – 0.5pp – results from women's educational achievements, occupational choices, job experiences and the type of work contract they have.

### **Successful policies at EU level to support young people**

The ESDE review provides evidence-based analysis on how to tackle the challenges young people are facing. Notably, employment and social policies should: enhance the integration of young people into the labour market, enable young people to acquire skills, support labour mobility, a building block for a successful and resilient career, reduce risks for young people such as unemployment or illness, poverty and debt, help young people build up their own wealth and acquire property. Further EU initiatives to support young people are in the pipeline. In 2023, the Commission plans to review the Council Recommendation on the Quality Framework for Traineeships, notably as regards working conditions. A high-level group is currently looking into ways to improve social protection, including for young people, and is set to present its findings at the beginning of next year. The annual Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE) review is the European Commission's analytical flagship report on employment and social affairs. It provides up-to-date economic analysis as well as related policy proposals.



**The EU supports young people through a series of policy programmes, including:**

The Youth Guarantee scheme, including the Youth Employment Initiative, has had a transformative effect on EU labour markets. Evidence shows that, since 2014, over 36 million young people who were once registered in Youth Guarantee schemes have then received an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeships and/or traineeships. The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) is the EU's main instrument to invest in people, including support to youth employment. The new initiative ALMA (Aim, Learn, Master, Achieve) targets disadvantaged young people who are not in employment, education or training. The European Instrument for Temporary Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency (SURE), worth EUR 100 billion, was launched in April 2020 to tackle the impact of the pandemic on EU labour markets, including for young people. In 2020, it supported around 31 million people and 2.5 million firms. In 2021, it supported approximately 3 million people and 400.000 firms. The Recovery and Resilience Plans of EU Member States focus on policies for the next generation as one of their six pillars, in line with the reinforced Youth Guarantee.

---

## **5. Summer 2022 Economic Forecast: Russia's war worsens the outlook**

---

**Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine continues to negatively affect the EU economy, setting it on a path of lower growth and higher inflation compared to the Spring Forecast.**

The Summer 2022 (interim) Economic Forecast projects that the EU economy will grow by 2.7% in 2022 and 1.5% in 2023. Growth in the euro area is expected at 2.6% in 2022, moderating to 1.4% in 2023. Annual average inflation is projected to peak at historical highs in 2022, at 7.6% in the euro area and 8.3% in the EU, before easing in 2023 to 4.0% and 4.6%, respectively.

**Shocks unleashed by the war take a toll on growth**

Many of the negative risks surrounding the Spring 2022 Forecast have materialised. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has put additional upward pressures on energy and food commodity prices. These are feeding global inflationary pressures, eroding the purchasing power of households and triggering a faster monetary policy response than previously assumed. Ongoing deceleration of growth in the US is adding to the negative economic impact of China's strict zero-COVID policy. The EU economy remains particularly vulnerable to developments in energy markets due to its high reliance on Russian fossil fuels, and weakening global growth detracts from external demand. Momentum gathered with the rebound of last year and a somewhat stronger than previously estimated first quarter is set to prop up the annual growth rate for 2022. Still, economic activity in the remainder of the year is expected to be subdued, notwithstanding a promising summer tourism season. In 2023, quarterly economic growth is expected to gather momentum, on the back of a resilient labour market, moderating inflation, support from the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the still large amount of excess savings. Overall, the EU economy is set to continue expanding, but at a significantly slower pace than expected in the Spring 2022 Forecast.



**Record high inflation expected to ease in 2023**

Headline inflation until June has hit record highs as energy and food prices continued growing and price pressures broadened to services and other goods. In the euro area, inflation grew strongly in the second quarter of 2022, from 7.4% in March (y-o-y) to a new all-time high of 8.6% in June. In the EU, the increase was even more pronounced, with inflation jumping a full percentage point, from 7.8% in March to 8.8% in May. The forecast for inflation has been revised considerably upwards compared to the Spring Forecast. Besides the strong price increase in the second quarter, a further surge in European gas prices is set to pass through to consumers also via electricity prices. Inflation is projected to peak at 8.4% y-o-y in the third quarter of 2022 in the euro area and from there decline steadily and fall below 3% in the last quarter of 2023, in both the euro area and the EU, as the pressures from supply constraints and commodity prices fade.

**Risks remain high and dependent on the war**

Risks to the forecast for economic activity and inflation are heavily dependent on the evolution of the war and in particular its implications for gas supply to Europe. New increases of gas prices

could further drive up inflation and stifle growth. Second round effects could in turn amplify inflationary forces and lead to a sharper tightening of financial conditions that would not only weigh on growth, but also come with increased risks for financial stability. The possibility that the resurging pandemic in the EU brings renewed disruptions to the economy cannot be excluded. At the same time, recent downward tendencies of oil and other commodity prices could intensify, bringing about a faster decline in inflation than currently expected. Moreover, thanks to a strong labour market, private consumption could prove more resilient to increasing prices if households were to use more of their accumulated savings.

**Members of the College said:**

Valdis **Dombrovskis**, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People said: *"Russia's war against Ukraine continues to cast a long shadow over Europe and our economy.*



*We are facing challenges on multiple fronts from rising energy and food prices to a highly uncertain global outlook. We are fortunate to be starting from a position of strength, having weathered through the previous crisis with a solid return to growth. Economic growth will slow markedly in the second part of this year but gain more traction in 2023. In view of high inflation and tightening financing conditions, it will be important to find the right balance between moving towards a more prudent fiscal stance and protecting the most vulnerable. We should also reduce our dependence on*

*Russian fossil fuels."* Paolo **Gentiloni**, Commissioner for Economy said: *"Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine continues to send shockwaves through the global economy. Moscow's actions are disrupting energy and grain supplies, pushing up prices and weakening confidence. In Europe, momentum from the reopening of our economies is set to prop up annual growth in 2022, but for 2023 we have markedly revised down our forecast. Record-high inflation is now expected to peak later this year and gradually decline in 2023. With the course of the war and the reliability of gas supplies unknown, this forecast is subject to high uncertainty and downside risks. To navigate these troubled waters, Europe must show leadership, with three words defining our policies: solidarity, sustainability and security."*

**Background**

The Summer 2022 Economic Forecast provides an update of the Spring 2022 Economic Forecast, which was presented in May 2022, focusing on GDP and inflation developments in all EU Member States. This forecast is based on a set of technical assumptions concerning exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices with a cut-off date of 30 June. For all other incoming data, including assumptions about government policies, this forecast takes into consideration information up until and including 5 July. The European Commission publishes two comprehensive forecasts (spring and autumn) and two interim forecasts (winter and summer) each year. The interim forecasts cover annual and quarterly GDP and inflation for the current and following year for all Member States, as well as EU and euro area aggregates. The European Commission's next forecast will be the Autumn 2022 Economic Forecast, scheduled to be published in November 2022.

---

## 6. Rule of Law Report 2022: specific recommendations to Member States

---

**The Commission has published the third annual Rule of Law Report.**

The report comes in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which further showcased the importance of upholding democratic values, human rights and the rule of law. It includes an overview of the trends in the EU as a whole and 27 country chapters looking at developments in every Member State since July 2021. This year's report for the first time contains specific recommendations addressed to each Member State, as announced by President **von der Leyen** in her 2021 State of the Union address. The recommendations are intended to encourage Member States to take forward ongoing or planned reforms and help them identify where improvements are needed. As with previous editions, this report examines developments in four key areas for the rule of law: justice systems, the anti-corruption framework, media pluralism and freedom, and other institutional issues linked to checks and balances. The report shows that rule of law reforms have continued to take place in many Member States to address challenges identified in the previous two editions. At the same time, systemic concerns remain in some

Member States. The report follows-up on challenges identified in previous reports, deepens the Commission's assessment, and includes observations also on issues such as public service media, the use of spyware or the implementation of judgements by the European Court of Human Rights.

## **Key findings and recommendations**

### **1. Justice reforms**

Justice reforms have remained high on the political agenda over the last year. Many Member States have embarked on important reforms to strengthen judicial independence, such as reforms related to the composition and powers of councils for the judiciary, improving judicial appointment procedures or strengthening the autonomy of prosecution services. Member States also introduced measures aimed at improving efficiency and quality of justice, such as further digitalising justice systems, and facilitating access to justice. At the same time, structural concerns persist in a few Member States as regards judicial independence. In some Member States there are challenges regarding appointments in higher courts and for court president positions. In others, concerns exist regarding the independence/autonomy of prosecution services and disciplinary proceedings are used to curtail judicial independence. To address these issues, the Commission's recommendations encourage, for example, a stronger involvement of the judiciary in appointment procedures, more autonomy of prosecution services and for Member States to provide adequate resources for justice systems.



### **2. Anti-corruption frameworks**

The EU remains one of the least corrupt regions in the world. Since July 2021, many Member States have adopted new or revised existing anti-corruption strategies, or are in the process of revising them. Several Member States have brought existing frameworks in line with international anti-corruption standards and EU law. Most Member States have extensive legislation in place providing the criminal justice system with the necessary tools to fight corruption. Many Member States have taken measures to increase the capacity of prosecution authorities responsible for the fight against corruption through steps such as additional resources, or extra training. However, corruption remains a serious concern for EU citizens. The 2022 Eurobarometer on corruption shows, for example, that 68% of them believe that corruption is widespread in their country. In some Member States, investigations and prosecutions into corruption cases are lengthy and judgments still lacking, especially in high-level cases. Public officials are subject to asset and interest disclosure obligations in all Member States, but these vary in scope, transparency and accessibility of disclosed information, as well as in the level and effectiveness of verification and enforcement. As regards anti-corruption frameworks, the Commission has made recommendations related to the strengthening of preventive frameworks, for instance on lobbying and conflicts of interest rules, and on ensuring the effective investigation and prosecution of corruption cases.

### **3. Media freedom and pluralism**

Both the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war against Ukraine have demonstrated the crucial role of journalists to check facts and inform citizens. Several Member States have adopted, stepped up or are considering measures to improve journalists' safety and working conditions, building on the recent Commission initiatives. Since the last report, several Member States have made efforts to improve the transparency of media ownership. Concerns remain regarding the lack of transparency in the distribution of state advertising, conflict of interests and obstacles related to the access to public documents – these are some of the important issues highlighted in the report which require attention. For the first time, the report also looks into public service media, recognising their special role for society and democracy. Safeguards are needed to ensure that the independence of public service media is protected, that public funding is adequate and not used to put political pressure on those media, as it is outlined in European standards. The findings of the report are building on a series of sources, including the Media Pluralism Monitor (MPM 2022), the Council of Europe Platform to Promote the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists as well as the Mapping Media Freedom Platform. The Commission has issued a number of recommendations which cover among others the transparent and fair allocation of state advertising, the independent governance of public service media and measures to improve the safety of journalists. The upcoming Media Freedom Act will be aimed at addressing several of the issues identified in the Rule of Law reports.

#### 4. Institutional checks and balances

Member States have continued to improve the quality of their legislative processes – a trend noted in the 2020 and 2021 Rule of Law Reports. Constitutional Courts continue to play a key role in the system of checks and balances including oversight of emergency measures as well as in other areas such as elections. Human rights institutions, ombudspersons and other independent authorities have seen their status further strengthened in some Member States. In the majority of Member States, there is an enabling and supportive environment for civil society. However in some Member States there is still no formal framework to consult stakeholders, which is a concern, and civil society organisations continue to face challenges such as funding issues, negative narratives and restrictions to their operating space. For the first time, the report also looks at Member States' implementation of judgements by the European Court of Human Rights. The report also looks into the reactions of Member States' checks and balances to the use of spyware. While linked to national security, the use of such tools should be subject to national checks and balances. To address some of these challenges, the Commission has made recommendations relating for example, to the involvement of stakeholders in the legislative process, the establishment and functioning of accredited National Human Rights Institutions and to ensure an open operating framework for civil society.

##### **Members of the College said:**

Vice-President for Values and Transparency, Věra **Jourová**, said: *“Rule of law remains a bedrock of democracy. Russia's war in Ukraine is another reminder of the importance of our work to uphold and promote rule of law in the EU and beyond. This year's report shows that the debate about rule of law in Europe is making progress as Member States make improvements and address rule of law matters. Unfortunately, concerns still remain in some Member States, especially when it comes to the independence of judiciary. Also, for the first time, the report looks into public service media. More safeguards are needed to ensure that the independence of public service media is protected, that public funding is adequate and not used to put political pressure on those media. Today we are taking it one step further by recommending how to improve the rule of law situation across the EU. I call on Member States to follow the recommendations, engage in a serious*



*debate and take action.”* Commissioner for Justice, Didier **Reynders**, said: *“The unprovoked and unjustified Russian military aggression against Ukraine shows that protecting and promoting the rule of law is more important than ever. The EU will only remain credible if we uphold the rule of law at home and if we continue to reinforce the rule of law culture. I am glad to see that our report contributes to this objective. It helps to drive forward important reforms in the Member States. Today we are not only reporting on the rule of law situation, but we are also recommending constructive ways to improve justice systems, step up the fight against corruption, and ensure a free and independent media and strong checks and balances”.*

*debate and take action.”* Commissioner for Justice, Didier **Reynders**, said: *“The unprovoked and unjustified Russian military aggression against Ukraine shows that protecting and promoting the rule of law is more important than ever. The EU will only remain credible if we uphold the rule of law at home and if we continue to reinforce the rule of law culture. I am glad to see that our report contributes to this objective. It helps to drive forward important reforms in the Member States. Today we are not only reporting on the rule of law situation, but we are also recommending constructive ways to improve justice systems, step up the fight against corruption, and ensure a free and independent media and strong checks and balances”.*

##### **Next steps**

The Commission now invites the European Parliament and the Council to continue general and country-specific debates on the basis of this report. It also calls on national parliaments and other key actors, including civil society, to continue national dialogue on the rule of law. Lastly, the Commission invites Member States to address the challenges identified in the Report and stands ready to assist them in their efforts, including to implement the recommendations.

##### **Background**

The rule of law is crucial for every EU citizen and business as it guarantees fundamental rights and values, ensures the application of EU law, and supports an investment-friendly business environment. It is one of the fundamental values upon which the EU is built. The annual Rule of Law Report is the result of close dialogue with national authorities and stakeholders, and covers all Member States on an objective and impartial basis, looking at the same issues. The qualitative assessment carried out by the Commission focuses on significant developments since the adoption of the second annual Rule of Law Report in July 2021 and ensures a coherent approach by applying the same methodology to all Member States, while remaining proportionate to developments. The assessment contained in the country chapters has been prepared in line with the scope and methodology as updated following discussions with Member States. The report is at the centre of the European Rule of Law Mechanism. The Mechanism is a yearly cycle to promote the rule of law and prevent problems from emerging or deepening. The



objective of the Mechanism is preventive. It is separate from the other elements in the EU's Rule of Law Toolbox, and complements but does not replace the Treaty-based mechanisms for the EU to respond to more serious rule of law related issues in Member States. These tools include infringement proceedings and the procedure to protect the founding values of the Union under Article 7 of the Treaty on European Union. The third edition of the report takes the next step in the Commission's investment in the rule of law with specific recommendations for all Member States. The recommendations have been prepared based on the assessment in the country chapters and the dialogue with Member States as well as in full respect of the principle of equal treatment. In issuing the recommendations, the Commission has paid close attention to keeping them focused and anchored in European standards, and to taking into account national legal systems. In addition, consistency and synergies with other processes, such as the European Semester, the budget conditionality mechanism and the Recovery and Resilience Facility are ensured. Subsequent editions of the Rule of Law Report will look at the follow-up given to the recommendations. The recommendations should be read together with the assessments in the country chapters that examine particular concerns and are meant to guide Member States to take measures to address them. The challenges in the area of media freedom and pluralism identified by the previous rule of law reports have led to several recent EU initiatives, including a recommendation on the safety of journalists and a package of measures to address abusive lawsuits against public participation. The Commission is working on a proposal for a European Media Freedom Act.

---

## 7. New Roaming rules: “Roam like at home” for 10 more years

---

### **1 July 2022, the new improved Roaming regulation enters into force.**

It extends “Roam-like-at-home” until 2032 – the scheme thanks to which travellers in the EU and the EEA can call, text and surf abroad without extra charges. The new rules will also bring about significant benefits for EU businesses and citizens, who will enjoy a better roaming experience, with the same quality of mobile service abroad as they have at home. The new rules also improve access to emergency communications across the EU and guarantee clear information about services that may be subject to extra charges. Margrethe **Vestager**, Executive Vice-President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, said: *“With our roaming regulation we have all benefitted from Roam-like-at-home. We can call, text and use the Internet without extra costs when we travel in the EU. This is a very tangible benefit of our European Single Market. Prolonging these rules will keep inter-operator prices competitive, and allow consumers to continue enjoying free-of-charge roaming services for the next ten years.”* Thierry **Breton**, Commissioner for the Internal Market, said: *“Remember when we had to switch off mobile data when travelling in Europe — to avoid ending up with a massive roaming bill? Well this is history. And we intend to keep it this way for at least the next 10 years. Better speed, more transparency: we keep improving EU citizens' lives.”*



### **Better mobile internet speed while travelling**

Consumers now will have the right to the same quality of mobile internet abroad, as the one they have at home. Operators providing mobile services should ensure that consumers have access to use 4G, or the more advanced 5G, networks, if these are available at the destination the consumer is visiting. Consumers should be able to find information about network availability in their mobile service contracts and on the operators' websites.

### **Preventing unexpected hidden charges**

When consumers travel by planes or on boats, mobile phones may automatically connect to the on-board network, provided by satellites. Using mobile connection services provided by non-terrestrial networks may be subject to very high surcharges. The new roaming rules oblige operators to protect their consumers and notify them if their phones switch to a non-terrestrial networks. Additionally, operators should automatically interrupt mobile services if the mobile services over non-terrestrial networks reach charges of €50 or another predefined limit. Operators may also offer additional services, such as the possibility to opt out from roaming on planes and boats.

### **More information for better choices**

Consumers should be able to make informed decisions about using services that may subject them to additional costs. When travelling abroad, calling customer service, insurance and airline helpdesks, or SMS texting to participate in contests or events, may be more expensive than it costs at home. Operators have to make sure to provide consumers with information about the types of phone numbers that may carry additional costs when consumers dial or access them from abroad. Operators should inform consumers via automatic SMS messages sent when crossing the border to another EU country, as well as in the service contracts.

### **112 – Emergency communication while travelling**

The new roaming rules are ensuring that citizens are aware of the single EU emergency number 112, which they can use anywhere in the EU to reach emergency services. By June 2023, operators should send automatic messages to their customers who travel abroad to inform them about the available alternative means of reaching emergency services, such as through real time text or apps. Those citizens who are not able to make voice calls may use these alternative means.

### **Lower inter-operator prices, better conditions for consumers**

The new Roaming regulation sets lower wholesale charges, the cost to operators for using networks abroad to provide services to their customers when they are 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.

### **Background**

Thanks to the EU Roaming regulation since 2017, citizens have been enjoying free roaming to call, text and use mobile data abroad in the EU without additional charges. A review of the rules has shown that 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 had 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. As the previous Roaming regulation was due to expire on 30 June 2020 and, in order to allow all mobile phone and Internet users to continue being connected at no extra charge when travelling across Member States, the Commission had proposed in February 2021 a new improved Roaming regulation.

---

## **8. EC and Moderna adapt delivery schedules for late summer and winter**

---

### **The European Commission and Moderna have reached an agreement to better address Member States needs for COVID-19 vaccines for the late summer and winter period.**

This will ensure national authorities have access to the vaccines, including variant-adapted vaccines if authorised, at the time they need them for their own vaccination campaigns and to support their global partners. This agreement will adapt the originally agreed contractual delivery schedules. Doses originally scheduled for delivery in the summer will now be delivered in September and during the autumn and winter period 2022, when Member States will more likely need additional stocks of vaccines for national campaigns and meeting their international solidarity commitments. The agreement also ensures that, if one or more adapted vaccines receive marketing authorisation, Member States may choose to receive those adapted vaccines under the current contract. In



this context, at the request of some Member States, the agreement also secures additional 15 million doses of Omicron-containing vaccine booster candidates from Moderna, subject to marketing authorisation within timelines that would allow the use of these doses for their

vaccination campaigns. Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella **Kyriakides**, said: *“Increasing COVID-19 vaccination and booster rates will be crucial as we plan ahead for the autumn and winter months. To best ensure our common preparedness, Member States must have the necessary tools. This includes vaccines adapted to variants, as and when they are authorised by the European Medicines Agency. This agreement will ensure that Member States will have access to the vaccine doses they need at the right time to protect our citizens”.*

#### **Background**

In 2020, the European Union invested heavily in the global production of a number of COVID-19 vaccines. It was crucial to have vaccines as early as possible and at the scale needed, requiring important investments before knowing whether any of these vaccines would prove successful. These actions taken at risk in 2020 have clearly paid off, as the development of vaccines has been highly successful: Member States had equal access to safe and effective vaccines at the earliest opportunity, and at the scale needed, allowing all EU citizens to be offered primary and booster vaccinations, saving lives and mitigating the impact of the pandemic upon social and economic life. Moreover, a large number of these vaccines could also be used in the global efforts to tackle the pandemic. As of end July 2022, the EU exported more than 2.4 billion vaccine doses to 168 countries. Member States have shared over 478 million doses of which around 406 million have already been delivered to recipient countries (around 82% of these via COVAX). At the same time, Member States must continue to ensure they have the strategic stocks of vaccines they need to deal with the potential epidemiological evolution of the COVID-19 virus, given the uncertainties over its future evolution and impact. The EU's Vaccines Strategy provides Member States with certainty that they will have the supply they need, including of adapted vaccines.

---

## **9. Condemnation of Russia for violation of aviation rules**

---

**The Commission welcomes the decision by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to call on the Russian Federation to immediately cease its infractions of international aviation rules, in order to preserve the safety and security of civil aviation.**

The ICAO decision refers to the violation of Ukraine's sovereign airspace in the context of Russia's war of aggression, and to the deliberate and continued violation of several safety requirements in an attempt by the Russian government to circumvent EU sanctions. These actions include illegally double-registering in Russia aircraft stolen from leasing companies, and permitting Russian airlines to operate these aircraft on international routes without a valid Certificate of Airworthiness, which is the necessary safety certificate. Adina **Vălean**, Commissioner responsible for Transport, said: *“It is of utmost importance for all countries to defend the international aviation rules-based system, for the safety of passengers and crew. Russia continues to disrespect the fundamental rules of international aviation and to instruct its airlines to work against these rules. I welcome the ICAO Council's clear condemnation, which reflects the gravity of the actions undertaken by Russia.”* Josep **Borrell**, High Representative/Vice-President, said *“The aim of EU sanctions, in addition to all our other actions, is to stop the reckless and inhuman invasion by Russia of Ukraine. In this context, I welcome ICAO's report, which points to another example of Russia's blatant disregard of international rules and standards, putting the lives of people at risk, including Russian citizens.* ICAO informed its 193 Member States about Russia's blatant non-respect of crucial international aviation law and will bring the issue to its next general Assembly, taking place from 27 September to 7 October 2022.



#### **Background**

ICAO was the first UN agency to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Since then, it has taken a number of actions. On 15 June 2022, in its role as global safety oversight authority, the ICAO Secretariat issued a “Significant Safety Concern” against the Russian Federation in relation to the treatment of the stolen aircraft. The posting of a Significant Safety Concern is a measure which ICAO reserves to only the gravest of violations of international safety rules. The ruling of ICAO's

governing body, the ICAO Council, was issued on 22 June 2022. It is wider than the issues covered by the “Significant Safety Concern” and also covers the airspace violations committed by Russia. The issue will also be on the agenda of the upcoming 41<sup>st</sup> ICAO Assembly in September/October 2022. ICAO is the guardian of the international civil aviation system. ICAO States and in particular the individual members of the ICAO Council must respect these rules. An ICAO Council member actively working against these principles puts ICAO's overall credibility at risk.

---

## 10. Erasmus+: 44 EU Universities to cooperate across borders and disciplines

---

**The Commission has announced the results of the 2022 call for the European Universities initiative: with a record budget of €272 million from Erasmus+, 16 existing European Universities will continue to receive support, and four new alliances will be able to start their cooperation.**

Together with the 24 alliances selected in 2020, a total of 44 European Universities now involve 340 higher education institutions in capital cities and remote regions of 31 countries. European Universities are alliances of higher education institutions from across Europe that cooperate on education, research and innovation for the benefit of students, educators and society. Vice-President Margaritis **Schinās** said: *“If you look at Europe's higher education institutions individually, you will see that each one of them is a centre of knowledge and innovation in its own right. By linking them and creating transnational alliances, we allow them to become European Champions of knowledge; to grow even further through cooperation on education, research and innovation. I am convinced that together, the European Universities will bring higher education in Europe to a new level. I warmly congratulate all successful applicants.”* Mariya **Gabriel**,



Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth said: *“Brings us closer to achieving our vision for the higher education sector in Europe: campuses that span between universities and cross borders and disciplines, where students, staff and researchers from all parts of Europe can enjoy seamless mobility, and create new knowledge together. I am proud that we are able to provide higher and more long-term funding for the alliances with the Erasmus+ programme, and also that we have ensured an inclusive approach, giving*

*opportunities to higher education institutions to join existing alliances or to form new ones.”* Each alliance receives a budget of up to €14.4 million from the Erasmus+ programme for four years. This represents a strong increase compared to the maximum of €5 million for three years under previous Erasmus+ calls. The 2022 Erasmus+ European Universities call was structured around two topics: on one side, it offered to provide sustainable funding for already existing successful alliances of higher education institutions to pursue their long-term vision. The successful 16 alliances have expanded to about 30 new higher education institutions. On the other side, the call supported the creation of new European Universities across Europe, gathering diverse higher education institutions around common strategic visions. Together with the 24 alliances selected in 2020, a total of 44 European Universities now involve 340 higher education institutions in capital cities and remote regions of 31 countries, including all EU Member States and Iceland, Norway, Serbia, and Turkey. A novelty under the 2022 Erasmus+ call is that the alliances can now accept associated partners from Bologna Process countries, including for example from Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. By furthermore partnering with around 1300 associated partners ranging from NGO's, enterprises, cities and local or regional authorities, the European Universities are able to substantially increase the quality and scope of tertiary education. In the fall 2022, the Commission will launch the next Erasmus+ call for proposals, with the aim to offer funding for existing alliances and to create new ones.

### Background

European Universities are transnational alliances of on average nine higher education institutions, that can include different types of establishments (such as comprehensive and research universities, universities of applied sciences, institutes of technology, schools of arts and higher vocational education and training institutions), and cover a broad geographic scope across Europe. Together, these institutions are finding new ways of long-term structural, sustainable and



systemic cooperation on education, research and innovation throughout Europe. They offer student-centred curricula jointly delivered across inter-university campuses, on which students, staff and researchers from all parts of Europe can enjoy seamless mobility. Over time, European Universities will connect more and more faculties, departments, staff and students, offering more innovative pedagogies based on challenge-based and transdisciplinary approaches, implementing more joint programmes, being even more inclusive and engaging more with their communities. The Commission proposed the European Universities initiative to European Union leaders ahead of the Gothenburg Social Summit in November 2017, as part of an overall vision for the creation of a European Education Area by 2025. The European strategy for universities sets the ambition to support 60 European Universities involving more than 500 higher education institutions by mid-2024. For this, a record €1.1 billion under Erasmus+ is foreseen under the current programming period 2021-2027 to support European Universities. Support for the research dimension of European Universities will be covered by the European Excellence initiative under Horizon Europe.

---

## 11. The Comel Award 2022

---

The Award wants to draw attention to the expressive, aesthetic, communicative and constructive possibilities of aluminum, strengthen the relationship between business and contemporary art, create a vital and significant synergy between the public and artists, promote intercultural relations among European countries. Released or unreleased artworks using the following techniques may be submitted: painting, sculpture, design, photography and installation. Quality, research, originality and contemporaneity of the work will be the essential criteria of selection. Participation in the competition is free and open to all artists, 18 years of age and older, that operate in any of the European countries, and use aluminum as the main and significant medium for the realization of the work to be submitted. Location of the events is the Spazio COMEL Arte Contemporanea opened in February 2012 in the historic center of Latina. A combination of art and company, past and present, history and modernity, tradition and innovation. **Deadline: 28 August 2022.** For more information please visit the following [link](#).



---

## 12. EEA photo competition 2022: “Well with Nature”

---

The European Green Deal and the EU Zero pollution action plan put special focus on improving the state of Europe's nature and creating a toxic-free environment that is not harmful to people's health and ecosystems. Our health, quality of life and wellbeing are inextricably linked to a clean



environment. The EEA's 'Well with Nature' photo competition highlights our connection to nature, how much we care for it, and how it can keep us emotionally and physically healthy. It aims to raise awareness about the benefits we can all receive by taking action towards zero pollution. The rules are simple: Send us up to five of your best nature photos in any of the four competition categories — air, water, land, sound — by **1 October 2022**.

The winner of each category will receive a cash prize of €1,000. Additional prizes are awarded to the best youth entry as well as the public's favourite photo. All participants have to be at least 18 years old and citizens of one of the 32 EEA member countries or six cooperating countries, including the 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia. Read more about the competition categories, rules and how to participate on the ['Well with Nature' competition page](#).

---

### 13. OECD Internship Programme

---

**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. **The Internship Programme** is open on an on-going basis. Students enrolled at a fully accredited degree programme (Bachelor, Master, PhD) during the entire duration of their internship can apply online. Selected interns are on-boarded both remotely and in a hybrid form until further notice. We recruit interns on an on-going basis and applications are accepted throughout the year. You can apply anytime via our [online application platform](#). Internship start dates will be set based on your dates of availability and the OECD hiring teams' schedules: do not forget to specify the date and duration of your availability in the application form. If your application is not successful, you are welcome to apply again to the next vacancy publication, which appear on the dates: **1 September 2022**; 1 March 2023; 1 September 2023; 1 March 2024. Due to the high volume of applications received, 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 dates provided above. Please remember you will still need to be enrolled as a student during the internship period. For more information please visit the following [link](#).



---

### 14. Internships at the Court of Justice of the European Union

---

Every year, the Court of Justice of the European Union offers a limited number of paid traineeships in the chambers of Members of the Court of Justice and the General Court of the European Union and in the administrative departments of the Court. Traineeships in the chambers of Members of the Court of Justice and the General Court of the European Union last for between three and five months. They begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month during the two periods referred to below. Traineeships in the administrative departments of the Court last



for five months and start on the first day of the first month of each of the two periods referred to below. Traineeships in the Court's administrative departments are generally undertaken in the Directorate for Legal Translation, the Research and Documentation Directorate, the Communication Directorate, the Protocol and Visits Directorate, the office of the Legal Adviser on Administrative Matters, the Registry of the General Court or the Interpretation Directorate (for detailed rules regarding traineeships in the Interpretation Directorate, see below). There are two traineeship periods: from 1 March to 31 July (applications to be made between 1 July and 15 September of each year); from 16 September to the end of February for the traineeships in the Members' chambers and 1 October to the end of February for the traineeships in the administrative departments (applications to be made between 1 February and 15 April of each year). Applicants, who must hold a degree in law, political sciences, economics or an associated field or, for traineeships in the Interpretation Directorate, a diploma in conference interpreting, must apply using the [EU CV Online](#) application within the above deadlines. Applicants must have a thorough knowledge of one official language of the European Union and a good knowledge of another official language. In view of the nature of the working environment, a good knowledge of French is desirable. Applicants must not have already undertaken a traineeship (whether paid or unpaid) in another institution or body of the European Union. The grant paid is €1372 per month. Traineeships are not subject to the tax regime applicable to officials and other agents of the European Union. A contribution of €150 towards travel costs is also made to trainees whose place of residence is located 200km or more from the seat of the Court of Justice of the European Union. For more information and applications please consult the following [link](#).

---

## 15. “EDU-CULT” project: training and activities for children

---

In the period 20-23/06/2022 took place in Potenza a new training of the project "Arts, museums, outdoor activities and learning" (acronym "EDU-CULT") - action n. 2020-1-BG01-KA227-SCH-094995 - an initiative approved in Bulgaria in the framework of the Erasmus Plus Programme



Strategic Partnerships KA227 addressed to innovation and creativity in the school sector. During the course, the partners had the opportunity to deepen and test some modules of the training developed in the project, participated in discussions with institutions and visited some museums to test innovative techniques to interest and welcome visitors as well as to work closely with groups of learners: in fact, the EDU-CULT project has the ambition to unite three types of institutions (kindergartens/schools, museums and NGOs) with the aim of creating an innovative regional and European model for

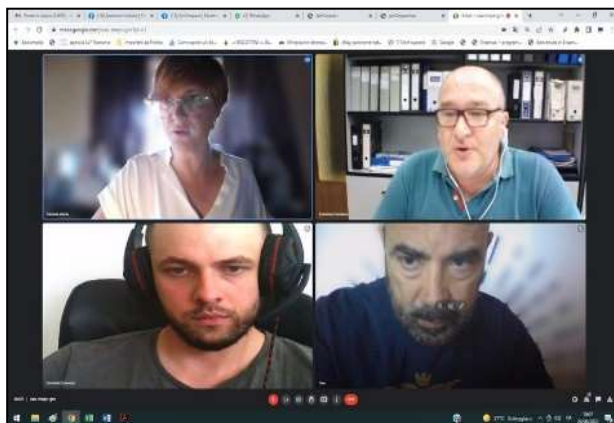
outdoor and museum learning in times of pandemic, creating an opportunity to develop modern cultural tours and attracting new visitors. During the training activities, the EURO-NET association organised an outdoor treasure hunt in cooperation with the animators of the Rossellino Village Summer Centre (at the Palarossellino in Potenza). *"The activity was obviously aimed primarily at children, - explained Alessia Di Tolla of the EURO-NET association - but it also involved some foreign teachers from the EDU-CULT project who danced some European folk dances with them. In addition, the animators wore an AIL (Italian Leukaemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Association) T-shirt as a uniform to bring young people closer to the world of solidarity, thus making a reality that is often forgotten known. It was a wonderful experience for everyone!"* 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).

---

## 16. Last online meeting “ACT2IMPACT” project

---

In date 21/06/2022 took place an online meeting of the project “Development of Critical and Creative Thinking Skills to Foster Employment and Impact Success in Job” (acronym “ACT2IMPACT”), approved in Spain as Action n. 2019-1-ES01-KA204-065216 in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme by the Spanish National Agency. The project, which is drawing to a close at the end of August this year, has carried out all the planned courses (developed in an innovative and interactive manner with concrete activities and practical exercises) and envisaged a pilot training activity with some young people. The project, which involves FUNDEUN (Spain), UTH (Greece), E&D Knowledge Consulting Lda (Portugal), Danmar Computers LLC (Poland) and EURO-NET (Italy), aims at bridging the gap between the set of transversal skills of young people preparing to enter the labour market or their first work experience and the needs currently demanded by companies: as the traditional education system is changing very slowly, solutions to support young people to face the new challenges of the changing labour market are extremely necessary. More information can be found on the project's official Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Act2impact-101666948045902>.





---

## 17. Last meeting “TAT” project in Bonn

---

In date 21/06/2022 took place in Bonn, Germany, the last meeting of the project TheArThee” (acronym “TAT”), initiative approved as Action n. 2019-1-UK01-KA205-061358, under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth programme by the Erasmus Plus National



Agency in the UK. The “TheArThee” project, which finally ended on 25 June (at the end of the nine-month extension granted by the UK NA due to the pandemic), explored the inclusive potential of theatre and performing arts as a methodology for creating opportunities and acquiring new skills, as well as improving communication and dispelling prejudices that cause situations of social exclusion. This was achieved through the sharing of good practices and the exchange of expertise between the partner organisations, which used theatre as a tool to bring together elements of society and to empower young people regardless of class, race, gender, disability or personal abilities: the so-called

“Devised Theatre” was used as a means to promote an inclusive, educational and creative dimension. More information on the initiative, which involved 7 European organisations for 33 months, namely County Limerick Youth Theatre (England), Chicken Shed Theatre Trust LTD (England), MV International (Italy), Champions Factory (Bulgaria), EURO-NET (Italy), IYDA E.V. (Germany), and Pro Ifall AB (Sweden), is available on the project's official Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/Thearthee114642043269776/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/Thearthee114642043269776/?modal=admin_todo_tour).

---

## 18. Multiplier Event “RURALITIES” project

---

In date 21/06/2022 the EURO-NET organisation developed a Multiplier Event to promote the project "Ruralities", approved as action no. 2019-1- FR01-KA204-063000, within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme in France. During the Multiplier Event, the intellectual products developed in the 3 years of activities were presented and in particular the board game realised in the project by making the participants physically play it. The game developed firstly by the technicians and researchers of EURO-NET was highly appreciated by the participants at the event, which took place in Potenza at Godesk, in one of the rooms of the most important and well-known coworking centre in the entire Basilicata region. The project partnership that developed the entire European initiative (which will end at the end of August this year) is composed of Ipso Facto (France - coordinator of the initiative), EURO-NET (Italy), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Panepistimio Thessalias (Greece), Arbeit Und Beben Lag Mv (Germany) and Krajowy Instytut Polityki Przestrzennej I Mieszkalnictwa (Poland). More information on the project can be found on the initiative's website at the link [www.ruralities.eu](http://www.ruralities.eu) or on the project's official Facebook page at the link <https://www.facebook.com/ruralitieserasmusplus/>.

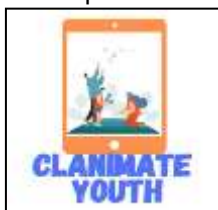


---

## 19. Training course of the “CLanIMATE YOUTHS” project in Cyprus

---

In the period 26/06-02/07/2022 took place in Nicosia, on the island of Cyprus, the first training provided in 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 National Agency Erasmus Plus in France within the framework of the Strategic Partnership for Youth. The training course, hosted by the Cyprus partner (STANDO LTD) was attended by 4 youth delegate from each of the partner organisations, including the Cypriot company itself, namely Association FenêtreS (France), EURO-NET (Italy) and AIJU (Spain). In addition to the training in





Cyprus, the project includes 3 other training courses, all focusing, like the first one, on the development of animations to be used as an effective tool for young people to make their voices heard in political debates on climate change, which will be developed respectively in Italy, Spain and France by the end of the activities. More information on the project is available not only on the <https://clanimateyouths.netsons.org/> website, but also on the initiative's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ClanimateYouths>.

---

## 20. Training course of the “ECHOPLAY” project in Iceland

---

In the period 26/06-02/07/2022 took place in Iceland, the training course foreseen in the project “European Career Help and Occupational Orientation Play” (acronym “ECHO PLAY”), an initiative approved in the same country as action n. 2020-1-IS01-KA202-065802 within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET programme. During the training course, the participants, from Midstod Simenntunar in Sudurnesjum (Iceland), project coordinator; EURO-NET and Studiodomino SRL (Italy); Turun Yliopisto (Finland) and Kelje Production (France), learnt the innovative methodologies and approaches explored in the project through a mix of activities and knowledge transfer through lectures, interactive presentations, creative problem solving exercises, and the application of LEGO Serious Play techniques. At the Icelandic training, the association EURO-NET (Europe Direct Basilicata centre) participated with 2 delegates of its staff, including Dr. Peppino Franco, Vice-President of the association. More information on the project is available on the official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Echoo-Play-project-102639605153401> and on the initiative's website at the link <https://www.echooplay.eu/>



---

## 21. Meeting in Potenza of the “Aktif” project

---

In the days 28 and 29/06/2022 took place in Potenza, in Italy, a new transnational meeting of the project "Aktif yaslanma kapsaminda mültecilerin yasam kalitesinin arttirilmesi" (in English "Increasing the quality of life of refugees under active ageing") approved in the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education - Exchange of Good Practices programme by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Turkey. The project envisages improving the living conditions of refugees in old age by offering activities and products that foster and enable their better integration in the host countries. The project partnership consists of: Kirsehir Aile Calisma Ve Sosyal Hizmetler Il Mudurlugu (Turkey); Kirsehir Il Milli Egitim Mudurlugu (Turkey); Kirsehir Ahi Evran Universitesi (Turkey); EURO-NET (Italy); Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis (Greece); Genista Research Foundation (Malta); Municipio De Lousada (Portugal). During the meeting, the state of the art of the products envisaged in the initiative was reviewed and activities still to be developed in the coming months were planned.



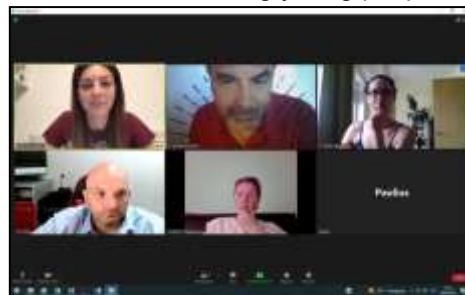
---

## 22. First meeting “The First Steps in STEM” project

---

In date 30/06/2022 took place the first online meeting of the project "The first steps in STEM, Robotics and Programming", an initiative approved in Romania by the Erasmus Plus National Agency as Action n. 2021-1-RO01-KA220-YOU-000029548 within the framework of Cooperative

Partnerships in Youth. The aim of the project is to develop skills in robotics and STEM education, which have undergone a great increase over the past decades, although these topics are still not taught in schools and have not been integrated into a formal curriculum, causing young people to miss opportunities (the universal programming language and STEM-related aspects are an important elements of ensuring that the current generation is prepared for a digitised future). But, for young people, to be able to understand how ICT can be useful in their lives and generate potential solutions for the future, they must firstly know their basics in computational thinking and be aware of the basic concepts and notions on which the entire digital world was created: in short, they must know programming. The overall aim of the project is, therefore, to immerse young people (mainly) in the extraordinary worlds of robotics, programming and STEM by creating three relevant products: two online training courses and an e-game. The project partners are Asociatia Zury (Romania- project coordinator), S.C. Predict CSD Consulting S.R.L. (Romania), EURO-NET (Italy), VSI Robotikos Mokykla (Ltuania) and Vantaan Venäläinen Klubi RY (Finland). More information on the meeting will be available in our next newsletters.




---

### 23. Insight into European issues online

---

In date 30/06/2022 took place an online seminar on European issues with many leaders of voluntary organisations in the region. During the meeting, the future of Europe and the opportunities offered by European programmes were discussed. Furthermore, the design of community actions and initiatives in the Erasmus Plus programme were addressed in a more cogent manner, explaining how a project should be set up and how a partnership action should be structured.

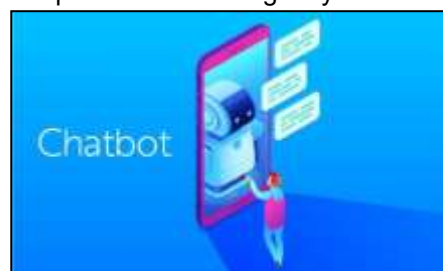



---

### 24. Meeting of the “CREATIVENTER” project in Porto

---

In the days 01 and 02/07/2022 took place in Porto, Portugal, the first meeting of the project "Creativity skills for young social entrepreneurs for development in the VUCA world", acronym "CREATIVENTER", an initiative approved in Poland by the competent National Agency as action n.2021-1-PL01-KA220-YOU-000029767 in the framework of the programme Erasmus Plus Cooperative Partnerships in Youth. The meeting, hosted by the Portuguese association EMBAIXADA DA JUVENTUDE, served the partners to know each other personally after the online-only activities and to define the development of the various products to be developed during the project. The EURO-NET association (Europe Direct Basilicata centre) attended the meeting in Porto with a delegation of two of its management staff, Anna Lagrotta and Antonino Imbesi, who were also involved in the development of the three innovative products envisaged by CREATIVENTER, an e-learning course, a manual to develop creative skills and a chatbot (a software that simulates and processes written or spoken human conversations) with a digital assistant to support the creativity of those who want to try their hand at developing a social cooperative. More information on the meeting will be available in our next newsletters.



---

## 25. New video realised by the staff of the Europe Direct Basilicata Centre

---

We are pleased to inform you that our new video, made entirely by the staff of the Europe Direct Basilicata Centre with the contribution of the European Union, has just been published. The video is about the European Year of Youth 2022. The video aims to encourage young people to be



agents of change and emphasises the importance they have in building peaceful, democratic societies and, above all, their crucial role in the future of our Europe and the world being greener, more inclusive, more digital. In the video they are encouraged to discover the institutional sites with all the projects dedicated to them: Green Transition; Participation and Commitment; European Values; Youth in the World; Integration and Equality; Media Literacy and Misinformation.

The production direction of the video was supervised by Antonino Imbesi; Antonia Bruno took care of the subject, texts and voice; while the images were edited by Gianluca Lagrotta. The video is available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkDIZTVPUz8>.

---

## 26. Meeting in Bonn of the "TeaM" project

---

In the date 05/07/2022 took place in Bonn, Germany, a new training of the project "TeaM" (Teaching to Marginalized Groups), an initiative approved in Greece as Action n. 2020-1-EL01-A204-078944 within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme. The project is aimed at the exchange of good practices between 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). During the meeting, the partners discussed the activities already developed in the project and, in particular, the upcoming mobilities still to be implemented. More information on the project is available on the website <https://team-euproject.eu/> and on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TeaM-Project-110817037508230>.



---

## 27. New training in Brno of the "The A class" project

---

In the period 11-15/07/2022 took place in Brno, Czech Republic, the training course foreseen in the project "The "A" class: integrating and supporting students with autism in the mainstream classroom" (acronym "The A Class"), approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Denmark within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education programme as action n.2020-1-DK01-KA201-07505. The European initiative, coordinated by the Danish organisation Sosu Ostjylland, aims to develop an innovative educational package based on didactic approaches for primary school teachers to support their teaching of autistic children in the classroom. A respectable partnership is working on the project, which, in addition to Sosu Ostjylland, includes the following partners: EURO-NET (Italy), Inercia Digital SI (Spain), Masaryk University (Czech Rep.), Center for Autism (Croatia), Stando Ltd (Cyprus) and Association for improving quality of life of people with autism spectrum disorders "Blue Firefly" (Macedonia).



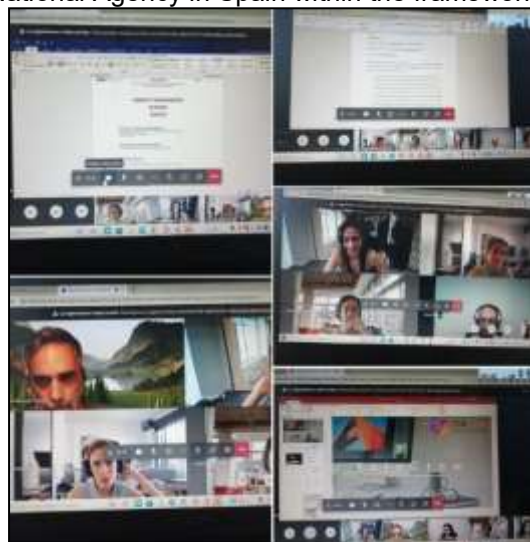


---

## 28. Fourth meeting of the “TELEGROW” project

---

In date 08/07/2022 took place an online meeting of the project «Telegrow: "Enhancing the Teleworking Digital Skills for the Middle aged employees» (acronym “Telegrow”) approved, as action n.2020-1-ES01-KA226-VET-096306, by the National Agency in Spain within the framework of the Erasmus Plus programme in 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 project results achieved so far and, above all, the next steps (in particular the organisation and documents to be produced for the LTTA in Larissa, which will take place on next 5-9 September). 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 50+ and help them to work efficiently from home, using teleworking consciously and effectively. The project partnership is composed of: Florida Centre De Formació, COOP. V (Spain), project coordinator; Stowarzyszenie Centrum Wspierania Edukacji I Przedsiębiorczosci (Poland); Kainotomia & SIA EE (Greece); E-Seniors: Initiation Des Seniors Aux Ntic Association (France); Markeut Skills Sociedad Limitada (Spain) and EURO-NET (Italy). More information on the project can be found on the official website (<https://telegrow.erasmus.site/>) or on the official Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TeleGrow-Enhancing-Teleworking-Skills-for-the-Middle-aged-employees-106389581610827>).



---

## 29. Meeting in Potenza of the “Musiclaje” project

---

In the date 12/07/2022 took place in Potenza, Italy, a new meeting of the project "MUSICLAJE: Emprendimiento social con instrumentos reciclados" (MUSICLING: Social entrepreneurship with



recycled instruments) approved and financed (as action n. 2020-1-ES02-KA227-YOU-16727) by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Spain, within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA227 Youth programme, dedicated to youth initiatives in the field of creativity. During the meeting, the partners showed the progress made in the development of the planned intellectual product (which consists in creating musical instruments from recycled materials, teaching young people the importance of re-use) and planned the new activities still to be realised. The meeting was hosted in the premises of the Europe Direct Basilicata centre of the EURO-NET association, located in the historical centre of Potenza, and was coordinated by the Italian trainers Renato Pezzano and

Emiliano Tricarico, with Antonino Imbesi supervising the whole activity. The project partnership consists of Xeracion Valencia (Spain), EURO-NET (Italy), Social Youth Development Civil Nonprofit Society (Greece) and Association for Volunteerism Volonterski Centar Skopje (Macedonia).



---

### 30. New meeting in Toulouse of the “RURALITIES” project

---

In date 18/07/2022 took place in Toulouse a new meeting of the project "Ruralities", an initiative approved, as action n. 2019-1-FR01-KA204-063000, within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education programme in France. During the meeting, the partners took stock of the development of the project, which will end next 31 August, and defined the dates of the next activities still to be developed, as well as talked about the Multiplier Events to be completed in several countries of the partnership. The project partnership that developed the entire European initiative is composed of Ipso Facto (France - coordinator of the initiative), EURO-NET (Italy), Comparative Research Network Ev (Germany), Panepistimio Thessalias (Greece), Arbeit Und Beben Lag Mv (Germany) AND Krajowy Instytut Polityki Przestrzennej I Mieszkalnictwa (Poland). More information on the project can be found on the initiative's website at [www.ruralities.eu](http://www.ruralities.eu) or on the project's official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ruralitieserasmusplus/>.



---

### 31. Kick-off meeting of the “digi4you” project

---



In date 23/07/2022 took place the first online meeting of the project "Digital skills development toolkit for young NEETS to increase employability" (acronym "digi4you"), an initiative approved in Turkey by the National Agency of the same country within the framework of the Erasmus Plus Programme - Cooperative Partnership for Youth as action n. 2021-2-TR01-KA220-YOU-000047996. During the meeting, the partners introduced themselves and planned the steps to be developed in the coming months within the framework of the European initiative. They also defined the dates of upcoming mobilities. You can follow the development of the project activities on the initiative's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/digi4youproject>.

---

### 32. Training course in Potenza for Greek teachers

---

In the period 25-29/07/2022 took place in Potenza, Italy, the training course entitled "Introducing our school to Europe" in which three teachers from Greece participated. The training on European project design and development methodologies was held at the Europe Direct Basilicata centre located in vicolo Luigi Lavista, in the historic centre of the regional capital city, and it was coordinated by the staff of the EURO-NET association. During the training course (supported by funds from the Erasmus Plus programme) all the issues and techniques for developing a successful project that could potentially be approved by the European Commission were addressed. The course also addressed the issues of a technically correct and well-balanced budget (an essential prerequisite for a successful application, but also for effective project management). Successful case studies were also analysed, with expert advice, and planning models and techniques were structured with insights into the new 2021-2027 programming.



---

### 33. Meeting of the “STREM” project in Nicosia

---

In date 28/06/2022 took place, in Nicosia, a new meeting of the project "Stressless Employees - Introducing the profile of Employee Satisfaction Officer to tackle work-related stress" (acronym "STREM"), an initiative approved by the German Erasmus Plus National Agency as action n.



2020-1-DE02-KA202-007495 within the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Education and Training (so-called VET) programme in the Innovation sector. The European partnership, which is developing the project that will end in late August 2022, consists of Initiative for Sustainable Education and Development (Germany), Youth Europe Service (Italy), Stando LTD. (Cyprus), Asociacion Egeria Desarrollo Social (Spain), SC Mixt Source Management SRL (Romania) and Innovation Hive (Greece). During the meeting in Cyprus, the partnership took stock of the situation and also discussed the promotion and dissemination activities still to be finalised, such as the Multiplier Events. More information on the project and its activities is available both on the initiative's

Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Project-STREM-102693358527163> and on the official website <http://www.strem-euproject.eu/>. More information on the meeting will be available in our next newsletters.

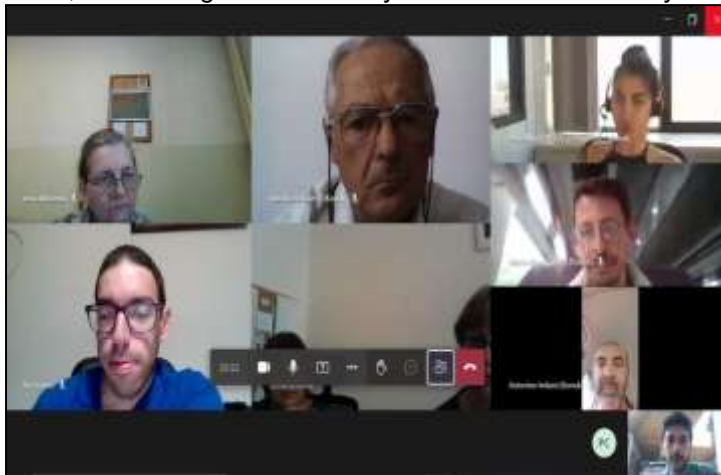
---

### 34. Online meeting of the “3D4Auto” project

---

In date 01/07/2022 took place an online meeting of the project "ECVET compatible 3D printing training modules for automotive technologies" (acronym "3D4Auto") approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in Slovakia as Action n.2021-1-SK01-KA220-VET-000034617 within the framework of the Erasmus Plus KA220-VET Programme Cooperative Partnerships in Vocational Education and Training. The project, whose international partnership also includes the Italian company GODESK, is mainly aimed at the implementation and development of a 3D printing and prototyping course for high schools in the field of “Automotive Technology” with the intention of stimulating the young minds of students, awakening their creativity in a school laboratory. 3D

printing technology is now present in many sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing, aerospace and others, but it is still little used in vocational schools, where it is necessary to implement tools and materials that can be used by teachers to promote new forms of education and training in step with the times, which can also be used through specific Apps. The partnership, includes the following organisations: Stredna priemyselna skola dopravna (Slovakia - project coordinator),



Higher School of Transport 'Todor Kableshkov' (Bulgaria), CEPROF (Portugal), Vienna Association Of Education Volunteers (Austria), Exelia E.E. (Greece) and International Association for Research and Development of Vocational Education and Training (Turkey). More information on the meeting will be available in our next newsletters.

---

### 35. Meeting in Magdeburg of the “EUCYCLE” project

---

In date 04/07/2022 took place in Magdeburg, Germany, a meeting of the project “Upcycling Europe - Sharing Good Practices on Circular Economy within a European Partnership” (acronym “EUCYCLE”), approved as action n. 2020-1-IT01-KA202-008379 by the Erasmus Plus National Agency INAPP in Italy in the framework of the KA2 actions concerning Exchange of Good Practices in Strategic Partnerships for VET and coordinated at European level by the best known startup from Potenza, GODESK SRL. At the meeting, which was hosted by the Germans of FA Magdeburg GmbH, were discussed the last tasks still to be carried out before the end of the project in next November 2022 and were assigned the last 'tasks' to be developed by each member of the European consortium. More information on the project is available on the website <https://eucycle.wordpress.com/> and on the official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Eucycle-project-101446965239402>.



---

### 36. New training in Palermo for the project “CONTINUE”

---

In the period 11-13/07/2022 took place in Palermo, Italy, a new youth training in the framework of the CONTINUE project, a KA3 Erasmus Plus action (approved in the “European Youth Together” call for proposals as action n. 624723-EPP-1-2020-1-DE-EPPKA3-EU-YTH-TOG). The CONTINUE project is aimed at supporting young people living in marginalised situations and the youth workers who support them, through the development of tools and activities that will help young people to find, promote and co-create solutions to the problems they face on average in a bottom-up approach. The partnership is composed of Comparative Research Network EV (Germany - coordinator), People's Voice Media (UK), Crossing Borders (Denmark), FAJDP - Porto Federation Youth Associations (Portugal), Per Esemplio (Italy), Artemisszió Foundation (Hungary), Youth Europe Service (Italy) and Active Youth (Lithuania). More information on the project can be found on the website <https://www.continue.community/>.



---

### 37. New training and meeting in Volos of the “SUSTAINAGRI” project

---

In the period 18-20/07/2022 took place in Volos, in Greece, the training course envisaged within the “Sustainable Agripreneurship” project (acronym “SustainAgri”), an initiative (of which the Italian association Youth Europe Service is a partner) approved in the Czech Republic in the Erasmus Plus KA2 VET programme as action n. 2020-1-CZ01-KA202-078268. The training course was aimed at trainers and aimed to develop the trainers' skills in training farmers, in turn, by applying the outputs created in the project and primarily the game developed. At the end of the training activities, participants evaluated the material presented in order to identify any weak



points that might need revision. In the date 21-22/07/2022 took place a project meeting where the state of the art of the activities was checked and the plan for the implementation of the last



remaining initiatives was defined. The partnership that is working on the development of this project consists of the following organisations: Ceska Zemedelska Univerzita V Praze (Czech Republic), Youth Europe Service (Italy), Dekaplus Business Services LTD (Cyprus), Exponential Training & Assessment Limited (UK), Center For Education And Innovation (Greece), 8D Games BV (Netherlands) and Trebag (Hungary). For further information, please visit the project website at [www.sustainagriproject.eu](http://www.sustainagriproject.eu) or the official Facebook page of the European initiative at <https://www.facebook.com/sustainableagripreneurship>.

### 38. Meeting in Sassari of the “CECIL” project

In the days 25 and 26/07/2022 took place in Sassari, Italy, the first meeting in presence of the project "Circular economy education for social inclusion of Women" (acronym “CECIL”), an initiative approved under the Erasmus Plus KA220-ADU programme by the National Agency in Portugal as Action n. 2021-1-PT01-KA220-ADU-000026125. The CECIL project aims to promote the Circular Economy and Sustainability among women at risk of exclusion, fostering greater interaction with the European Green Deal and the EU Strategy for Gender Equality 2020-2025. It pursues the following specific objectives: to provide adult educators and trainers with skills, competences and tools to engage women (especially in the 35-45 age group) at risk of exclusion and/or who have not completed their studies, as well as to create retraining pathways for the same target group in order to offer new educational opportunities in the field of circular economy and sustainability. The European consortium developing this two-year project is composed of the following organisations: Domínio Vivo - Formação e Consultoria, LDA (Portugal - project coordinator), Mine Vaganti NGO (Italy), Center for Education and Innovation (Greece), Youth Europe Service (Italy), Mobilizing Expertise AB (Sweden) and Aidlearn Consultoria Em Recursos Humanos Lda (Portugal). During the meeting, the partners took stock of the state of the art of the first product under realisation and planned further activities to be developed to complete it. They also defined the dates of upcoming mobilities. You can follow the development of the project activities on the initiative's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cecilproject.eu/>.



### 39. Kick-off meeting of the “Run Forest Run” project



In date 02/08/2022 took place the first online meeting of the project “Run Forest Run”, an initiative (approved in Poland under the Erasmus Plus programme). The project aims to encourage young people to discover the world they live in, while at the same time committing them to fight climate change and fighting to protect the environment. The objective of this European partnership relates to a key priority of consists of making young people aware of environmental issues and pushing them to do their utmost to do something to protect their



planet, by starting to apply 'green' and respectful behaviour towards the world around them on a daily basis. The project also aims to promote an intergenerational exchange of experiences, skills and knowledge between young people and adults. This action will, therefore, be characterised by various "creative" workshops addressed to young people aged between 15 and 30 years and aimed at educating them in the field of ecology, identifying behaviours and solutions in four areas (cosmetology, household chemicals, food and flora, everyday objects). In addition to the classic training activities linked to training modules, special videos (lasting between 5 and 8 minutes depending on the complexity of the specific activity) will be developed (also using mobiles) to concretely describe the actions and exercises to be developed. The three partner organisations of this action will follow and promote the principles of recycling and reuse, directing the new generations to reduce the consumption of new materials and to reduce urban waste, especially in the kitchen and gardens, recovering and reusing materials such as plastic, glass, paper, aluminium, etc., which, if reused, no longer remain rubbish but become a precious resource. To do this will also require a major awareness-raising campaign and an educational action that starts, first and foremost, with the younger generations in order to make them civically and environmentally active at European level. Before the end of the project, the partnership will also develop a publication on various ecological methodologies entitled 'We want a clean environment' to give impetus to further activities directed, also with the help of other non-governmental organisations, at environmental protection and climate change reduction. The young people will use the knowledge they have acquired and will put it into practice, presenting their own ecological activities and solutions, which will be collected in the aforementioned publication, working together with the older generations and developing an intergenerational discussion on modern methods and ancient remedies. The publication will also contain ideas for being 'eco' every day and instructions on how to make new dishes using leftovers from the day before.

---

#### 40. Last meeting in Dublin of the PRIMAE project

---

In date 19/08/2022, took place in Dublin, in Ireland, the last meeting of the project "Participation and Recreation through Inclusive Martial Arts Education and E-Learning" (acronym "PRIMAE"), approved by the Erasmus Plus National Agency in the UK, within the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as Action n.2019-1-UK01-KA204-061975. The meeting, held both in the presence and for some partners (due to covid infections) in virtual form, was aimed at verifying the achievement of the objectives set by the initiative before its expected conclusion at the end of August.



During the meeting, the delegates of the EURO-NET association presented the dissemination activities carried out and suggested future projects to be developed in continuity with the one in conclusion. The strategic partnership initiative, which, as already mentioned, will end in about ten days, has developed the first eLearning platform aimed at providing online education and training in the martial arts sector, under the coordination of kkaido Ltd (a English charity based in Oxford). More information on the project and the products developed are available on the website <https://primae.eu/> and on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lkkaidoPrimae>.

---

#### 41. Last meeting of the STREM project in Bonn

---



The last meeting of the project "Stressless Employees - Introducing the profile of Employee Satisfaction Officer to tackle work-related stress" (acronym "STREM"), an initiative (of which the association of Potenza Youth Europe Service) approved by the German Erasmus Plus National Agency as action n.2020-1-DE02-KA202-007495 under the Erasmus Plus KA2 Strategic Partnerships for VET program will take place in Bonn on next 26/08/2022. The final meeting, which will be hosted by the German coordinator of the project

(the ngo INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT), will be the moment of closing and definitive consecration of the results and the very useful products of the project (as the same will formally end after a few days at the end of the month): the STREM project (in which is partner also the Italian association YOUTH EUROPE SERVICE), in fact, taking its cue from the fact that stress often causes mental health problems for employees of various companies, has developed the job profile and skills of a new professional figure called "Employee Satisfaction Officer" (ESO), which should assist the manager in companies, in order to improve the well-being of workers, and, consequently, exponentially, also their professional performance, reducing stressful situations that affect the quality of the work performed and also the life of the people. More information on the project, its activities and the products developed are available both on the website [www.strem-euproject.eu/](http://www.strem-euproject.eu/) and on the Facebook page of the initiative at the link [www.facebook.com/Project-STREM-102693358527163](https://www.facebook.com/Project-STREM-102693358527163).

---

## 42. Final TPM of the project "The Spirit of Europe - Origins" in Greece

---



On next 28 and 29 August in Piraeus, the famous port of Athens in Greece, will be held the final meeting of the project "The Spirit of Europe - Origins", an initiative funded in Romania by the Erasmus Plus program KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education as action n.2019-1-RO01-KA204-063864. In the project, which saw as partners of the initiative 5 European organizations and specifically S.C. PREDICT CSD CONSULTING S.R.L. (Romania), ASOCIATIA MILLENNIUM CENTER ARAD (Romania), IDEC (Greece), INERCIA DIGITAL SL (Spain) and EURO-NET (Italy), a 3-dimensional game has been developed. This e-game allows the payers to experience a fragment of the history of Europe, traveling through the ages of our continent from ancient times to the Renaissance: it permits to learn, by playing, European historical events, interacting with more than 100 characters, guiding their actions and assisting them in relation to the consequences in crucial events of Europe's past. For the game (which can be downloaded on your own computer from the link <https://predictcsd.itch.io/spirit-of-europe-origins> or from the link [https://store.steampowered.com/app/1689280/Spirit\\_of\\_Europe\\_Origins](https://store.steampowered.com/app/1689280/Spirit_of_Europe_Origins)) is available also a beautiful video trailer on YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4elJoEK0RA&t>). More information on the project is available on the website <https://thespiritofeurope.eu> or on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheSpiritofEurope.Origins>.