

EU Youth Stakeholders Group – collection of good practices

This document presents a set of good practices in youth participation, mainstreaming, youth engagement, outreach and more! These initiatives aim to foster youth involvement in democratic processes, advocate for youth priorities, and empower young people to take active roles in shaping their communities and societies.

These good practices were submitted by the members of the [EU Youth Stakeholders Group](#).

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Outreach and campaigns

Young European Federalists

EurHope, massive consultation of young people's priorities ahead of 2024 EU elections

A participatory campaign for the 2024 European Elections, backed by over 50 partners. The campaign's initial phase collected 1.5 million votes and over 5,000 proposals on its multilingual platform. The resulting Agenda of Hope, outlining 15 key youth priorities, was presented to European politicians. JEF Europe collaborated with civil society organizations to draft reforms for these priorities. The campaign's final phase focused on mobilizing young people to vote through both offline and online efforts.

Kunsill Nazzjonali Taż-Żgħażaġħ (KNŻ)

MEP Election Campaign

This initiative aimed to boost youth engagement in the MEP elections in Malta by focusing on themes such as Youth Empowerment, Human Rights, and Environmental issues. Through events like the Ewroagora sessions and the Final MEP Debate, young people were provided with opportunities to interact directly with candidates, enhancing their understanding of the electoral process. The campaign also featured informal gatherings like "Policy and Pints" to encourage open dialogue. Overall, it sought to create a more informed and active young electorate, aligning with national goals for youth empowerment and civic involvement.

One Hour for Europe

#paintEU - Promoting Art to Raise Awareness of European Values

A communication campaign designed to promote European values and foster a sense of belonging to the EU through art. It encourages people to express their vision of Europe via murals, art installations, and drawing competitions in their cities. Supported by the 'One Hour for Europe' network and various local partners, the campaign aims to encourage active citizenship and highlight the EU's role in daily life.

Federation of Young European Greens

EU and You! Subgranting Scheme 2023

Members of the network of the Commission, Parliament, Council, European Economic and Social Committee and Committee of the Regions developed and executed campaigns to promote and analyze EU policies, engaging 11 national youth groups and implementing six actions. The initiative enhanced participants' abilities in researching EU policies, understanding their community impact, and creating activities to disseminate their findings. It also helped them develop project and financial management skills.

European Youth Energy Network (EYEN)

YEC (Young Energy Consumers Task Force)

It is a Task Force which focuses on improving the representation of young energy consumers in EU energy policies.

Starting in April 2023, the initiative has targeted energy poverty among 18 to 35-year-olds, analyzing causes and proposing solutions. Preliminary findings were presented at the Citizens' Energy Forum in Dublin in November 2023. In 2024, the initiative expanded to include a research program involving policy analysis and surveys to boost youth engagement in the energy transition.

SOS Children's Villages International

Youth-led Initiatives Driving Global Change: The Impact of Youth Power

This program empowers young changemakers to tackle global challenges and support the Sustainable Development Goals. Despite facing barriers like exclusion and discrimination, these young people lead impactful initiatives through skills development, confidence-building, networking, and funding support provided by the programme.

Ministry of youth and sports of Bulgaria

International Volunteer Day

This event aims to raise awareness about the importance of volunteering and to foster a culture of volunteerism from a young age. The main goal is to give deserved attention to volunteer initiatives held throughout the country, to the young people participating in such initiatives, as well as to the organizations that create and conduct them. They are distinguished and awarded in the categories: Youth Volunteer Initiative; Organization that Conducted a Volunteer Initiative; Outstanding Young Volunteer. Voting is held for each category and the winners receive special awards from the Ministry. By highlighting youth volunteering, the initiative seeks to create a better understanding of its value as a unifying force within communities, driven by commitment, empathy, and respect.

Participation

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Czechia

Youth Panel of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

It is an independent advisory group within the Czech Republic's Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, aimed at engaging young people in developing youth policy. Established in March 2024 for a two-year term, the panel consists of 20 members aged 15-26 from diverse social backgrounds, including those with fewer opportunities. The panel collaborates with the Youth Department, offering insights and suggestions that inform the creation and evaluation of youth policies. In 2024, its main focus was contributing to the development of the "Concept of Support for Young People in the Czech Republic 2025-2030" and establishing sustainable operations for the panel itself.

Cyprus Youth Council

House of Youth Representatives – Empowering Young Voices in Decision-Making

It is an initiative that allows young people to participate in a parliamentary simulation of the House of Representatives, drafting policy recommendations to improve youth engagement in decision-making. Its main goal is to establish a permanent platform for young people to express their views on political matters. The initiative has achieved the submission of policy proposals on issues like unpaid internships and youth mental health support.

Injuve (Instituto de la Juventud) ES02

Structure of the National Agency

It is a structure which involves the National Youth Institute (Injuve), the National Youth Council, and 17 Regional Youth Institutes. This collaborative framework operates at two levels: a governing board for annual oversight and a technical working group. The youth council and regional officers actively engage with the agency by communicating programs, supporting beneficiaries, conducting assessments, and co-creating national strategies. This approach ensures youth perspectives are integrated into decisions, adapts to diverse regional needs, and enhances program quality. It strengthens youth participation and aligns with youth dialogue, providing a successful model of cooperation.

Ministry of youth and sports of Bulgaria

National Working Group on Local Youth Policy

In 2024, Bulgaria's Ministry of Youth and Sports formed the National Working Group on Local Youth Policy to help local communities develop sustainable youth policies. The group's goals include improving the National Youth Strategy's implementation, creating unified elements for local youth policies, and proposing a National Youth Capital initiative. It comprises representatives from local authorities, youth organizations, and advisory councils.

European Youth Energy Network (EYEN)

EYEF (European Youth Energy Forum)

It is a forum aimed at fostering youth participation in the European energy transition. It provides a platform for

young people (ages 18-35) to collaborate with energy sector stakeholders, share ideas, and develop solutions to enhance their involvement.
National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI)
<i>EU Youth Dialogue Cards</i>
It is a set of 42 cards designed to empower and guide young people in effecting positive change. These cards emphasize the importance of connection with peers, the community, and decision-makers, while also focusing on empowerment, representation, and impactful change. Continuously updated, the deck now includes themes like global citizenship, offering a dynamic tool for youth participation and empowerment.
European Parliament CULT Secretariat
<i>Engaged4YOUth</i>
It is a strategy which aims at enhancing cooperation with other committees, follow up on the European Year of Youth 2022, and integrate youth concerns into policy-making. Key actions include promoting youth participation and mainstreaming (also referencing to the newly introduced 'Youth Checks'), addressing youth mental health and well-being, and coordinating with EU institutions. The committee will also involve young people in their meetings and ensure strong participation in European Youth Events, such as EYE2025, while maintaining engagement with European Youth Capitals.
National Youth Council of Romania
<i>The Romanian Youth Capital</i>
It is a national initiative modelled after the European Youth Capital, aiming to empower youth organizations and local authorities to tackle key issues and attract investments. Annually, a Romanian city is awarded the Youth Capital title through a competitive process, receiving financial support and resources to execute its initiatives. The program enhances youth ecosystems and fosters collaboration across sectors, driving economic and social advancements nationwide. Its success is overseen by the Governance Commission, supported by prominent partners, ensuring systematic management and monitoring of youth-oriented projects.
DYPALL Network
<i>European Network of Local Youth Councils (ENLYC)</i>
It is an initiative aimed at connecting Local Youth Councils across Europe to enhance collaboration, share best practices, and strengthen their influence in decision-making. Recognizing the absence of a dedicated platform for these councils to interact internationally, ENLYC seeks to fill this gap by establishing a supportive network. Already engaging LYCs from over 30 countries, ENLYC acts as a bridge between local youth participation and European policymaking. The initiative also provides resources like Quality Charters on Local Youth Councils to support its mission.
Erasmus Student Network
<i>Enriching Communities through Engaged Mobilities (ECEM)</i>
This project aims to boost students' civic engagement during their exchange programs. It acknowledges active citizenship as crucial for making mobilities more inclusive and societies more integrated. ECEM seeks to increase student participation in community volunteering by fostering connections with Higher Education Institutions and Civil Society Organizations. Project website here - https://www.ecem-project.org/
Hellenic National Youth Council
<i>nEU Citizenship: Empowering Greek Youth through Active Citizenship</i>
The “nEU Citizenship” program activates Greek youth participation in civic life and promotes EU priorities and UN Sustainable Development Goals. Targeting young individuals aged 18-28, particularly in remote areas, it offers online and in-person activities to enhance skills in civic engagement, sustainable development, and active citizenship. The initiative has empowered over 300 young people across Greece, fostering a sense of belonging and equipping them to actively contribute to their communities. It effectively connects EU institutions with Greek youth, making European values more relevant and inspiring continued active citizenship beyond the program.
Spanish Youth Council - CJE (Consejo de la Juventud de España)
<i>Observatory on Emancipation of Young People in Spain</i>
Every six months, the Spanish Youth Council releases the Emancipation Observatory, which monitors key factors related to employment and housing that impact the living conditions and transition to adulthood for young people in Spain. The observatory provides a quantitative and descriptive analysis of selected indicators, offering insights into the socio-demographic profile and the opportunities for young people to access the labour and housing markets at specific times, without making causal conclusions.

For more information: <https://www.cje.org/observatorio-de-emancipacion/>

Research and evidence

EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership

Review of the 9 cycles of the EU Youth Dialogue (2010-2022)

The EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership carried out the review of the 9 cycles of the EU Youth Dialogue (2012-2020). The executive summary and full report were published in 2024 focusing on the relevance and impact of the EU Youth Dialogue on young people and youth policy. More information on the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership website.

Voices of Young Refugees in Europe

MYCOMM Project - Policy Brief on 'Promoting European Values and Citizenship for Migrant and Refugee Youth Integration'

The MYCOMM project focuses on integrating migrant and refugee youth in Europe through the promotion of European values and citizenship. A key policy brief highlights the need for inclusive education and intercultural dialogue, identifying challenges like discrimination and economic barriers. It recommends initiatives such as intercultural programs, youth-led projects, anti-discrimination campaigns, resource accessibility, and partnerships with organizations. These actions aim to empower migrant youth to participate in civic life, enhancing their sense of belonging and contribution as European citizens.

You can download the policy briefs here <https://mycomm.obsglob.org/roadmap-d52/>

Skills and non-formal education

EURODESK

Pool of Young Journalists in Europe

Annually, EURODESK selects a dozen young journalists to produce opinion-based content for the European Youth Portal on topics like youth participation, climate change, and human rights. The initiative aims to boost youth participation through journalism and create relatable content about the EU's opportunities and contemporary issues.

Junior Enterprises Europe

The Junior Enterprises Concept

Student-run organizations in higher education that function like small businesses, providing consulting services to real clients. These enterprises offer a "learning by doing" model that bridges academia and the professional world. They help students develop entrepreneurial and professional skills, preparing them for the job market while contributing innovative solutions to SMEs and startups.

ENGSO Youth - European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation Youth

"Back to Basics: Human Rights Education through Sport"

It is a program of ENGSO supported by the Council of Europe, which uses sports as a tool for Human Rights Education. It includes a multilingual toolkit designed with young people, incorporating sports to teach inclusion, equality, and social awareness. The program offers interactive games and discussion methods to educate on human rights, making activities inclusive for various disabilities. It aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals to promote gender equality and social inclusion through sports. This initiative highlights sports' potential to educate about human rights, reaching around 20,000 people to foster social change.

<https://engsoyouth.eu/human-rights-education-through-sport/>

Aġenzija Żgħirażagh

Civic Education Programme

It is a programme in Malta which aims to equip young people with the skills and knowledge for active citizenship, following the lowering of the voting age to 16. Delivered through non-formal education and youth work methodologies, it includes components like the I.S.S.A. initiative for active school participation, 'It's My Choice' seminars for decision-making, the Young Parliamentarians program for debate, and the Student Councils Democracy Awards. These activities focus on experiential learning, critical thinking, and democratic participation, reaching over

10,000 students annually. The program prepares youth not just for voting, but for meaningful engagement in their communities, promoting a more informed and democratic society in Malta.
European Educational Exchanges - Youth for Understanding (EEE-YFU)
<i>Coloured Glasses workshops</i>
It is a series of workshops by EEE-YFU designed to promote intercultural awareness and global citizenship among young people. Using interactive sessions, the workshops address concepts such as stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination, aiming to build cultural self-awareness and understanding. Rooted in volunteerism and peer-to-peer learning, "Coloured Glasses" has been continually updated over its 20-year history to remain relevant and engaging. The initiative enhances EEE-YFU's reach, strengthens ties with schools, and creates meaningful learning experiences, fostering social cohesion and intercultural awareness through non-formal education.
European Committee of the Regions
<i>Gabrovo Youth Center - club activities</i>
The Youth Center in Gabrovo offers interest-based clubs to engage young people in creative and educational activities. The 3D Printing Club teaches image processing and 3D model creation, the BANDA Podcast Club focuses on sound recording and public speaking skills. The Master Art Club introduces various crafts such as glass engraving and wool felting. The Spanish Evenings Club offers language learning and cultural activities like dancing and cooking. These clubs provide a supportive environment for exploring new skills and interests.
World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)
<i>Vision of an equal world where all girls can thrive</i>
WAGGGS aims to create an equal world where all girls can thrive by 2032. It offers non-formal education programs that provide safe spaces for girls and young women to grow, learn, and lead. Its Leadership model helps participants understand and apply their leadership styles through self-reflection. Additionally, programs like Surf Smart 2.0 focus on safe internet use and identifying fake news, while Free Being Me promotes body confidence, addressing societal pressures that limit girls' potential.
Finnish National Youth Council and Youth Sector (FYCS, former Allianssi)
<i>The Youth Elections</i>
The FYCS coordinates the Youth Elections in Finland, held since 1995, to educate young people about elections, parties, and candidates. These mock elections take place in schools and are aligned with national elections, allowing those under 18 to gain practical voting experience. The initiative has grown in popularity, with over 94,000 votes cast in the 2024 youth elections. While the Youth Elections weren't held during the 2024 EU elections due to school holidays, they will next occur in spring 2025, before the municipal and regional elections.

Youth mainstreaming

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