

# 2023 Project Catalogue

euodesk  
AWARDS

2023



**Published by Eurodesk Brussels Link  
in May 2023**

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# ABOUT EURODESK

Eurodesk is a European youth information network created in 1990. As a support organisation to Erasmus+, Eurodesk makes information on learning mobility comprehensive and accessible to young people and those who work with them. With a network of 39 Eurodesk Centres connected to local information providers in 37 European countries, Eurodesk raises awareness on European opportunities and encourages young people to become active citizens. Eurodesk federates over 3008 so-called "multipliers and ambassadors" that are regional or local organisations working with young people, delivering youth information and advising young people on mobility opportunities.

# ABOUT THE EURODESK AWARDS

The Eurodesk Awards were established in 2011 to celebrate the day-to-day work of Eurodesk's local Multipliers, who are helping young people discover and seize the numerous opportunities Europe has to offer. The organiser of the Eurodesk Awards 2023 initiative, on behalf of the Eurodesk network, is Eurodesk Brussels Link. In 2023 the organiser received 48 applications from 15 countries.

The projects competed for four awards:



The winners of the first three categories were decided by a jury panel:

**LORENA  
BARIC**

Eurodesk President

**ROSA  
D'AMATO**

Member of the European  
Parliament (EPP)

**MATHIEU  
ORPHANIDES**

Policy Officer, DG EAC,  
European Commission

**NIKOLINA  
ĐURIĆ**

Vice-President of the  
Erasmus Student Network

**NICHOLAS  
KUJALA**

Vice-President of the  
European Youth Forum

The Eurodesk Network Prize was selected by Eurodesk National Coordinators.



# LIST OF PROJECTS

## WINNING PROJECTS

INCLUSION CALL	8
EURODESK TREASURE HUNT	10
EUROPEAN YOUTH PROGRAM: INCLUSION & DIVERSITY	16
EUROLIBRARY	18

## HONOURABLE MENTION

EU BOX	22
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.	23
TAEUS	24
EURODESK JUNIOR MULTIPLIERS	25
COLOURFUL AND CREATIVE EXPLOSION OF SKILLS	26

## ALL OTHER PROJECTS

DIGITAL LITERACY FOR SENIORS.	28
INCONTRI CREATIVI - "CREATIVE MEETINGS"	29
NATURAL BRAIN REFRESH	30
KOZANI YOUTH FEST 2022	31
WORKSHOP "VYJEĎ DO EVROPY!" / "GO TO EUROPE!"	32
PROJECT CAMP "ACTIVEIDEAS"	33
IBERO-INSULAR ENCOUNTER OF YOUTH CORRESPONDENTS	34
"WAT LÖPPT"	35
ENTRE	36
"TIME TO MOVE TOGETHER TO A GREENER FUTURE"	37
SPOTLIGHT ON EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP!	38
EURODESK RACCONTA – 2022 EDITION	39
DISCOVERTALENT	40
TIME TO YOUTH	41

BOARD GAME "PARTICIPATIVE LIFE"	42
VI. YOUTH FORUM IN CEGLÉD	43
YOUTH FESTIVAL "KOPUMS"	44
ROZHODUJ O EVROPĚ	45
EUROPLANTACJA	46
PERIPHERY LITERARY FESTIVAL	47
CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS	48
HOW TO FIND THE RIGHT CAREER	49
"INFORMAZIONE: TO BE PART, TAKE PART"	50
OPEN CAFÉ	51
SPEAK DATING BRNO 2022	52
BE A VOLUNTEER AT HOME AND IN EUROPE	53
EUROPE FOR YOUTH INFO DAY	54
CREATION OF THE "YOUTHCAST STUDIO"	55
EUROPEAN PUB QUIZ	56
TRUE STORY	57
DAY OF EUROPE: SPEAK DATING AND FLAG PARADE	58
RDG FOR SDGS	59
POINTS COMMUNS	60
INTERNATIONAL DAY	61
EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES	62
THINKING OUT OF THE BOX	63
SOLSTICE NIGHT HIKE	64
BUILD EUROPE!	65



## **Inclusion call**

### **MUSIC AND URBAN ART TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2025**

**Youth Information Centre/Eurodesk  
Of The Municipality Of Gorizia**

Italy



The Youth information Centre/Eurodesk of the Municipality of Gorizia aims to meet the needs of young people by adopting active policies focused on up-to-date and independent information, skills enhancement through activities oriented towards social inclusion and the dissemination of opportunities within the European Union targeted at youth. It also includes a youth aggregation centre, where youth can use free of charge meeting rooms to design and plan their projects, and where they can benefit from workshops and seminars. The local EDK centre collaborates with the Municipal Youth Policies Service in the implementation of projects and activities aimed at promoting youth well-being and support (guidance, inclusiveness, job and leisure), promoting mobility projects offered by the Eurodesk. The context is the one of a cross-border city, even more stimulating and lively thanks to the nomination of the city of Nova Gorica (Slovenia) and Gorizia as European Capital of Culture 2025.

The project co-financed by the Department for Youth Policies and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers saw the involvement of the local associations "Macross" and "Examina" and "IAL FVG"; it aimed to promote local actions encouraging the active participation of youth people. We achieved the general objectives: to boost their participation redesigning our city through participatory paths. The result has been the improvement of the social and urban context of the city of Gorizia (joining Nova Gorica as European Capital of Culture 2025) using art language and creativity, and involving the local young population in the creation of music and visual art works to make the city more welcoming in this new cross-border context. In order to offer greater opportunities to local kids, especially NEETs, the project also envisaged the creation of a music hall, currently under construction, providing young people the opportunity to use all the musical instruments to nurture their passion for music. In the project, 132 hours of training workshops were dedicated to Street Art and participatory planning, Photography and urban exploration, Videomaking and Digital

Arts and Audio Technologies. Activities of great impact took place with the creation of murals aimed at the redevelopment of urban areas by young writers by using ecological paints. This project was presented under the tender "Fermenti in Comune".

The project was carried out with local youngsters in a post-pandemic situation. Covid has negatively impacted young people in particular, forcing them to give up their projects and dreams for a long period of time. This project provided them with the opportunity to start over and express themselves through art. Furthermore, it has favoured a recovery of social life and the sharing of ideas in a context completely respectful of the environment, and qualitatively improving the aesthetic impact of the city in which they live. The street-art work "Step by step" was painted, expressing graphically the experiences, doubts and difficulties of students. The graffiti represents a girl who runs up a ladder of books, in analogy with the personal journey of each young person. It is no coincidence that the community specific work was created on the wall of a training institution, partner in the project. The young people involved have also created a mapping of the spaces that can be dedicated to writing. The final event included live music where young artists met to create together a live painting on an old wall, granted by the local Church. The young people also created a manifesto summarising the principles and general rules of behaviour for the best use of a free expression common space. The liveliness created is in sync with the cultural turmoil around the candidacy of Nova Gorica and Gorizia as European Capital of Culture 2025: past and future are mixing and

helping the cultural strategy.

The project, which encompassed the European values of inclusion and equality, had a special focus on the environment. It also aimed at promoting the opportunities provided by the European Eurodesk network: specifically, during the final event, the Eurodesk network and the opportunities it offers both locally and internationally were presented, also through social channels. Moreover, the project boosted many synergies between key players in the area, and the networking activity led to new projects, further promoting the artistic-cultural connection with Nova Gorica.





A large painting was carried out on the facade of a training institution, created by Mattia Dall'Orto, a local but internationally renowned artist, with the use of ecological paints and an innovative air purification technology to reduce air pollutants with high reflective power. The work was created using a new generation product: purifying photocatalytic mineral paint. Photocatalytic painting allows to neutralise the polluting agents present in the air and transform them into other neutral and harmless substances. By painting the walls with these products, it is thus possible to purify the environment. This type of product is also called self-cleaning and anti-mould photocatalytic paint because, in addition to eliminating smog, it helps counteract deposits of dirt, mould and bacteria, keeping the appearance of the paint unchanged over time.

The project had a positive impact on the urban social context, particularly involving young people aged 16-25 at risk of dropping out of school, who were supported in the different project phases by students, emerging artists and young creatives from a peer-to-peer perspective. Furthermore, the project led to an urban redevelopment, making important changes to the urban design of the city, for the benefit of the whole community and not just the young participants. The creation of artistic images visible to all citizens made possible for the whole community to experience and see the city of Gorizia with the eyes of art, favouring an approach to "street painting" as a modern and contemporary art form.







## Eurodesk treasure hunt

### Info Zone Croatia



Info zone is an organisation for youth that has been contributing to the development of policies for young people, quality spending of free time for young people and youth information at the local and national level for over 15 years. Our organisation is a key actor in the dialogue between young people and decision-makers at the local level. The activities of the youth club are realised by the Info zone in cooperation with dozens of associates and annually organised over 1,000 hours of quality youth free-time programs (workshops, lectures, exhibitions, education, gatherings, themed evenings...). Through the Youth Information and Counseling program Info zone implements media projects and informative events that reach more than 30,000 young people annually. The Info Zone is one of the Eurodesk multipliers in Croatia and has been participating in this information network since its very beginning in our country.

The aim of the Eurodesk Treasure Hunt was to strengthen cooperation and exchange of resources among multipliers and to

enable participants to get to know the cities they live in and learn about opportunities for mobility in a fun way. The multipliers shared their experiences and knowledge of organising similar activities. Each multiplier, together with volunteers, worked out tasks adapted to their city, encouraging the volunteers themselves to learn. The synchronised appearance of all multipliers according to the media increased the visibility of the activities and highlighted the spread of the Eurodesk network in Croatia. The participants completed the tasks using the mobile application. By completing the tasks, they learned about the city and were informed about the possibilities offered to them and were inspired for their first or new mobility experiences. Each completed task led them to a new challenge and a step closer to the goal. The tasks were in both Croatian and English, so young people from other countries. In this way, we encouraged the cooperation of locals and young guests as well as peer exchange of experiences. Multiplier organisations were organised ETH in 15 Croatian cities. In total, more than 300 young people from all parts of Croatia

participated. They expressed a high level of satisfaction with the participation and assessed that the activity raised the level of their knowledge about the city in which they competed and about opportunities for mobility.

By moving away from the lecture or workshop approach, we created the opportunity to reach to those young people who may not yet be interested enough in the topic of mobility to participate in such a form of information transfer. In addition to fun, competition, socialising, use of modern technology and the opportunity to learn about your city, we also offered young people the chance to learn about options for mobility. The multipliers shared their experiences of organising similar activities and materials they used, together with knowledge about mobile applications that can be used to implement such activities. Also, they got the opportunity to apply other people's experiences and knowledge in their work. Each multiplier with volunteers worked out tasks adapted to their city, encouraging the volunteers themselves to learn about the peculiarities, history and sights of their city. The tasks were in Croatian and English, so young people from other countries who are currently studying, interning or volunteering in Croatia could also join this fun game. In this way, we encouraged the cooperation of locals and young guests, as well as peer exchange of experiences. Confirmation of the originality and quality of the concept is in the fact that both collaborators and users are interested in participating in this type of activity again and are motivated to further develop it in the next edition and apply it on other occasions as well.



The activity contributed to informing the public about the opportunities that the European Union offers to young people and encouraged the cooperation of locals and young guests. In media announcements and presentations, we pointed out that the Eurodesk Treasure Hunt is held as part of the pan-European campaign Time to move, which takes place in the organisation of the Eurodesk information network. The participants of the activity were also informed about the same information, and in the days after the activity, they also received appropriate promotional materials.

Through invitations to participate in the media, the general public is informed about the existence of the Eurodesk network and the possibilities for youth mobility. The young people who participated in the activity also received specific information about opportunities for mobility and positive experiences about participation in such activities were also shared by young foreigners who participated in the activities together with local young people.

The realisation of the activity implied the use of digital technology and did not require the use of means of transport during the activity. It took place in city centres that have good traffic connections by public city transport for those participants who come from more distant areas.







## European youth program: inclusion & diversity

Las Niñas Del Tul Association  
Spain



Las Niñas del Tul is a non-profit cultural association that has been carrying out activities in the province of Granada for more than 20 years. We are an organisation with extensive experience in youth work that focuses on the methodology of non formal education to offer, primarily, opportunities at the individual level for personal development through experimentation and learning outside the comfort zone and at the same time, to provide the entities with which we work and collaborate with the necessary information to exploit the resources available to them. We do all this from our base in Granada and thanks to the team of professionals and volunteers that we have. That is why our main objective is to develop and carry out cultural activities with the ultimate aim of promoting human rights and always taking into consideration the values that define us: respect, empathy, diversity, inclusion, tolerance, equality, environmental awareness and protection of the historical-artistic heritage.

The main objective was to provide information and opportunities through the European programs for young people: Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps to young people with fewer opportunities such as young people deprived of their liberty (in prison) and young people who, after having arrived in Spain alone, fulfilled the coming of age and trying to find a new autonomous and independent life. The activities that were promoted for all young people, deprived or not of liberty, were national and international volunteer activities through which to promote youth participation. The results we obtained were:- Sending more than 30 young people with fewer opportunities to volunteer projects in France.- Preparation of different training activities within the prison through the proposals prepared by the young people residing in the prison.

For young people who, after having arrived in Spain alone when they were minors, after turning 18 and in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic when they were trying to find a new autonomous and independent life, discovering that they were offered the possibility of also living and enjoying as young people in international volunteer projects in France together with other young people, it was quite a discovery of their own personal developments. It was an important adaptation to new realities with new opportunities in which young people with fewer opportunities do not usually participate as much as they could on this occasion. In the case of young people deprived of liberty, in the Albolote prison (Granada), it was also an important adaptation regarding: Vital and emotional situations of young people that we could not previously know about and we could not do group knowledge dynamics as is usually done because personal information inside the prison can always be a threat. The resources that could or could not be used (no new technologies or internet connection), schedules (the prison's own schedules had to be respected), materials to be used (practically all analogue, paper, no scissors, with no possibility of taking photos or videos, ...).

We always kept in mind the European values that, given the ignorance of young people, we made constant presentations of the programs and values with which we were working and that young people could optimise these resources as they progressed in their own personal development. Constant information on European programs and their





opportunities were always visible through paper publications. Given the obligation to respect the image and privacy of the young participants given their personal profiles, we could not disseminate on social networks but we could achieve it through peer to peer contact. So, we couldn't take pictures or videos of participants so we are just able to share pictures of some materials.

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The result most valued by all the people



involved in these activities has been the social awareness of direct contact with young people, very young people with profiles of young people with fewer opportunities for various reasons. And another highly valued result after these activities has been the confidence or personal empowerment of young people in themselves, as young people regardless of the large number of responsibilities that as adults they already had to take into account and be aware of, but they were also young. Finally, another of the great results of these activities has been the rapprochement of the public administration responsible for Youth to carry out training activities in environments deprived of liberty and with young people with fewer opportunities.





## Eurolibrary

Xeracion

Spain



We're a 10 years old organisation based in the northwest of Spain. Our aim is to offer opportunities of mobility, volunteering and participation to the youth of our area. We actively work on local and international initiatives helping to preserve and restore endangered environments, bridging youngsters and decision makers for policy reform and offering non formal learning opportunities for people with fewer opportunities. Thus we help to disseminate European opportunities in our area of influence. Since 2017 we run an info point in the Youth house of Ferrol which since 2022 belongs to the Eurodesk network.

EUROLIBRARY was an original international initiative in which 21 emerging creatives from 4 European countries participated. Over the course of 6 intense days we worked on the organisation of free public activities in the different villages along the Camino de Santiago. This is how we developed human libraries, created stands in central squares, held workshops with schools and planted trees with the local community. All with the mission of sharing and collecting travel experiences while promoting opportunities for international youth mobility.



The innovative part of our initiative wasn't bringing international experience participants of European projects to small villages to share their experiences. That was done many times before. The key of its success was to replace lecture presentations with one to one intimate conversations. It's true we couldn't reach such a huge audience but we're sure the youngsters involved were deeply impacted and inspired to travel and discover Europe.

The methodology used (human library) allowed us to create a safe and comfortable space for exchanging not only travel tips but emotions with a stranger. But it was also a very moving project for the participants. They lived an experience that put them out of their comfort zone by travelling and living in motorhomes with people from other countries along the pilgrimage route to Santiago. A very intense week that stretched their skills as storytellers, promoters or videomakers.

From the very beginning we wanted to create a project that inspires not only the direct participants and attendants but a wider European audience. That's why we planned the creation of high quality content that could document all the experiences and reflections along the journey. Together with 5 of the participants (videomakers, video bloggers and experienced youtubers) we created life videos, reels, pictures... testimonials of the project that were widely distributed in Spain, Greece, Bulgaria and



The Netherlands. The most elaborated of all this content was the short documentary narrating the life changing process of a youth exchange. During the project we had created info points for European mobility opportunities on all the events we organised. In that space we displayed Eurodesk merch and delivered Eurodesk materials as flyers.

In order to compensate for a part of the CO2 emitted by the trips of our participants we included an activity of tree planting in our schedule. That's how we gathered +20 kids and the local government of one of the villages of the route who, together with our participants in a real intercultural way, planted over 30 native trees in a public park. Also our motto was to leave the places we passed better than we found them, so we organised 5 clean ups in different natural areas that allowed us to collect over 310 kg of plastics and trash.



Main results of Eurolibrary are the following:  
 21 participants 3 full day open events  
 organised in 3 different villages + 300  
 youngsters involved (76 of them as readers  
 of stories on our human libraries) 30 new  
 trees planted+310 kg of trash collected +  
 5000 visualisations of our media creations.







## Eu box

### Municipality Of Paredes Portugal



The main objective for the creation of the FUTURE EU BOX was to allow all to participate in the Conference on the Future of Europe and feel that their voices and opinions are heard. Although we are in a digital society, and even after the COVID-19 pandemic, many people don't have access to digital tools. Our questions were: How to promote access to the Conference of the Future of Europe to all? How to reach the most vulnerable population that usually are apart from such initiatives? How to listen to and value the voices of people, especially the young ones, that are in a more vulnerable social and economic situation?

We created a box with cards where people could choose one of the 10 topics for the Conference of the Future of Europe, and we wrote their opinion. We also organised sessions where we wrote the most valuable contribution in the cards and put it anonymously in the boxes. The name "EU" is from the European Union but also means "I" in Portuguese. The message was "I am Europa, I am part of Europe, and I must give my contribution to our common future". Another point was that the boxes were distributed everywhere (swimming pools, gyms, libraries, schools) to put the topic of participation in the Conference on the Future of Europe everywhere. On Europe Day we made an exhibition with the cards, boxes and with the heartbeat of Europe: dates that the different countries became part of, meaning that everyone, even if it is a part before can begin to participate.



We believe we are thinking out of the box with the creation of the "FUTURE EU BOX" because we created a solution for a participation problem using a different method. Not digital, which is always becoming the only way, but which keeps aside a lot of people in a vulnerable situation. We also designed inspiration (heartbeat of Europe) and identification "I"/"EU in portuguese language" box made people feel part of the process. Further, we tried to reach the people where they are and not to wait for them to come to us to participate.

We have excellent results because we have thousands of contributions to all the topics predicted in the Conference on the Future of Europe (as climate, migration, digitalisation...). Although we had participants of all ages, we noticed that young people had a special interest in the topics of climate change and the environment; education, culture youth and sport and a strong Economy, social Justice and jobs. Participants expressed an increased sense of belonging to Europe and thanked the opportunity.



## Vocational education (Meslek edindirme)



### Kilis Gençlik Merkezi Eurodesk Temas Noktası Türkiye

In Kilis, the rate of school enrollment is low for individuals aged 14-18 under temporary protection. The continuing migration from Syria to Türkiye causes individuals to experience disruptions in their education and training pathways. When this situation is combined with difficult economic conditions, it causes them to start working at a young age in heavy labour lines. As a result, they are deprived of their most basic right, the right to education.

At Kilis Youth Center, we decided to open vocational courses for disadvantaged individuals to access a qualified business life. In this context, we signed a cooperation protocol with Kilis Provincial Directorate of National Education and started the process. An average of 250 hours of hairdressing and general accounting courses for boys and girls aged 14-18 were successfully completed. Students received their Course Completion Certificates approved by the Ministry of National Education.

The project aimed to provide vocational training to individuals with Turkish and foreign protection status. While creating the trainee lists, announcements were made through social media and school promotions and field studies. Equality of opportunity was aimed by giving preference to disadvantaged individuals. Groups were formed by paying attention to the equal distribution of the number of Turkish and Syrian students. Thus, it is aimed to prevent discrimination with equal opportunities. Due to the fact that our Centre is the Eurodesk contact point, students' awareness was raised by

conducting introductory and informative studies about Eurodesk during the course.

At the end of the training, which lasted for about 6 months, they gained professional competence with the certificate they received. Qualified personnel have been brought into the Kilis economy. Young people who want to do this profession are provided with the opportunity to further their education in this field.







## Taeus (Take a walk on the EU side)

Ingalicia  
Spain



Take a Walk on the EU Side (TAEUS) is an innovative educational itinerary aimed at promoting and developing principles of active citizenship through research activities and monitoring of cohesion funds. The project allows developing digital, civic and social skills, as well as improving communication skills and acquiring statistical skills, helping participants (through the use of tools such as journalistic techniques) to know and disseminate how cohesion funds intervene in the places where they live.

The methodology used in this project was based on challenge-based learning, through the resolution of challenges and gamification. The project was developed and implemented by four trainers and its theoretical and practical content was based on a MOOC, an online course in an open format, in which both the participating students and their teachers actively participate.

TAEUS empowered the participants on several levels. They became more aware of their opportunities and rights as European citizens. They undertook a non-formal learning itinerary that allowed them to discover the projects funded in their territory and participate in a civic monitoring activity. The young people developed the research in autonomy, choosing the topic they wanted to investigate and putting into action a field research, dividing the roles in each team, making periodical reports and writing informative articles and explanatory videos. The teams met representatives of the public institutions and engineering and architectural experts who worked on the construction of the project of



interest. In addition, they interviewed the local community to find out the real impact of each project.

The participants were able to carry out invaluable research work, raising awareness of the role of EU institutions in society and the value and impact of European funds at local level. This project also allowed them to develop soft skills such as teamwork, critical thinking, communication, conflict resolution and all these soft skills will help them become more adapted to changing realities. Finally, the participants developed concrete proposals on how cohesion funds could be used in their communities, presenting their ideas in front of the high-calibre professionals of the European Commission, this action encouraged them to think out of the box. In total 400 students were involved, 25 teachers and 10 schools, in addition to the support of the Eurodesk Spain network and the province of A Coruña, a local post of Europe Direct. We consider the Project a success since, after the promotion, we have received a lot of expressions of interest from institutes, public institutions and third sector organisations (32).



## Eurodesk junior multipliers

Município De Vila Real  
Portugal



“Junior Multipliers Eurodesk” was an initiative whose objectives were to train and educate young leaders in the Municipality of Vila Real (class representatives, local youth associations, student associations, etc.) to instill active and civic participation, in response to the dissemination of EU opportunities and strengthen the idea of EU citizenship, giving it positive reinforcement and responsibility through this dissemination task.

This innovative solution was designed to reach target groups from disadvantaged backgrounds (rural parishes) and young people with fewer opportunities through peer to peer approaches while overcoming sanitary restrictions that prevented the Municipality of Vila Real to carry out activities directly during the European Youth Week. Thanks to this initiative, around 750 young people were reached and became aware of the EU youth programmes (European Solidarity Corps, Erasmus+, etc.) and encouraged to become European active citizens. The “Junior Eurodesk multipliers” was therefore a smart way to adapt to the pandemic reality.

The Municipality met with 3 young people from the 5 participating school and 2 young people from each of the 20 parish councils and adapted strategies and tools (digital, Kahoot, webinars and merchandising) for young people to share. In order to innovate the transmission of knowledge, non-formal education methods were used (Kahoots and other games). We monitored each “Junior Multiplier Eurodesk” in order

to guarantee the success of the initiative, to see the reach achieved. In addition, it was important to guarantee knowledge to young people. In order to carry out this initiative among young people, we trained and provided them with training tools, as most young people have never had any contact with European mobility. For this, they developed new personal and social skills and innovative learning. Having internally, with the school public and young people from rural areas the dissemination of European opportunities. They held online sessions between youth associations, young NEETs they knew in their rural areas, in order to include all young people.

As a concrete follow up of this initiative, an innovative solidarity project was launched called “Bila Jovem Solidária” that allowed the group of young people to live solidarity experiences, through sharing, involving different target audiences, training and helping young people, especially those with fewer opportunities, to become active citizens and agents of change, inspired by a sense of belonging to Europe.





## Colourful and creative explosion of skills

Association Co-Efficient  
Hungary



'Here We Are' is an informal group of young people who live with barriers in their everyday life (living with disability) and face many obstacles: mainly impaired in movement, impaired in speech, and impaired in hearing, and three of our group members' speech is also affected. The members of the group set an aim of being able to write and express themselves with visual tools, and were ready to show this to the world as well. We wanted to inspire other peers living with barriers to self-express themselves with different creative techniques, in order to see their abilities instead of obstacles. Activities also aimed to show the broader society that diversity is valuable.

During the follow-up of the young people participating in the project, we found that they have developed higher competences in the digital space and self-expression in writing is less foreign to them. They are therefore able to participate much more actively and efficiently in everyday life, and in addition, they regularly and actively conveyed their needs to mainstream society. One of the tangible results of the project is that two team members joined the work of the Association, one of them deals with social media and graphic elements, and the other leads a project. A third member is writing his own youth project. Two of them also participated in a mobility project during the project, one of them plans to participate in new mobility projects after overcoming his mobility-related difficulties. One of them got a very good job, where he can develop. Another team member is

currently striving for higher positions and wants to continue studying social policy, his ten-year association with the association and his insight into the situation of people with disabilities brought him closer to these ideas. One member is currently participating in a Scientific Student Conference, which is a high-level event in our country. Since then, we have had several appearances in the online space and on the radio. And a person related to a project wants to write a project in the future. This is how we made the possibilities visible.

One of our results is that more and more people start following our social media page and are interested in our programmes compared to the general starting state. Since our events are open, we attract new participants more and more often and more successfully and make Erasmus+ available and Eurodesk information for young people with disabilities. At our events, young people with various disabilities, mixed with young people without disabilities, think together about social issues such as how self-expression in writing could be made more barrier-free. We look at all aspects of this and try to make it accessible to them.



# Digital literacy for seniors

## Youthmakers Hub

Greece

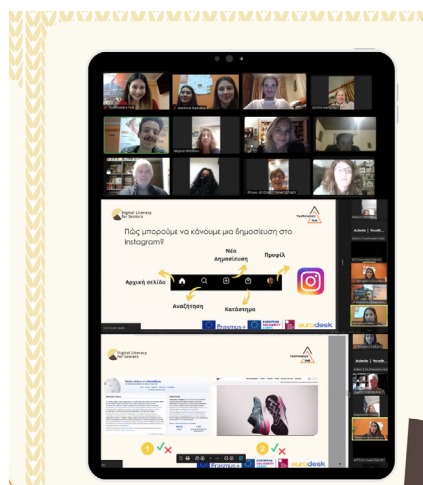


The Digital Literacy For Seniors (DLFS) project was implemented by the Youthmakers Hub organisation from October 2021 to September 2022. The goal was to address the digital illiteracy of older adults (ages 50-70) and provide them with digital skills and knowledge to help them adapt to the changing reality. Addressing the issue of digital illiteracy among older adults is becoming increasingly important in today's digital world.

The project included 2 interactive webinars and a workshop on digital skills and tools, a Facebook group for participants, and a survey to evaluate the impact of the programme and identify potential needs for future educational programmes. The webinars covered topics such as "Learning the Internet," "Learning Social Networks," and "Internet and Social Networks in Practice."

The project's approach to addressing digital illiteracy among older adults is innovative in many ways. It was led by a group of young people from the Youthmakers Hub organisation, who were able to develop valuable skills such as project management, communication, and leadership. Additionally, they were able to make a positive impact on their community by addressing an important issue and supporting older adults in gaining digital literacy skills. The project also included non-traditional methods such as interactive webinars and a Facebook group for participants, showing that the project's organisers were thinking creatively about how to effectively engage and support their target population.

A total of 83 people from 21 cities in Greece participated in the project, 10 of which were from remote areas. The average age of the participants was 60 years, with 70% being female and 30% being male. The project has built a small community through the creation of the Facebook Group DLFS Community, in which there are 70 members who participated in the project and 20 posts with educational content related to the project. 86.7% of the participants stated that improving their digital skills will help them use their time more productively while 46.7% stated that improving their digital skills contributes to a sense of independence/autonomy. These results demonstrate the positive impact the project had on the participants and their ability to navigate and use digital tools in their daily life.



## Incontri creativi (creative meetings)

### “The Informagiovani Eurodesk Of The Municipality Of Iglesias”

Italy



Creative encounters is a project developed by the Informagiovani Eurodesk of Iglesias. It involved 15 young people/adults with fewer opportunities in interactive and re(creative) activities. The main objective was to improve awareness of their abilities and lead them to reflect on the present, past and future. Participants took part in various non-formal activities such as film viewing, an Escape Room, a Linguistic Tombola and board games. The project managed to give them a voice and the power to express feelings, anxieties and visions for the future, acquiring various transversal skills. The presence of some adults was important as the young people were able to notice the different facets of life yesterday and today, learning from them and approaching different realities of life.

During the meetings, the topics were varied and important, from European opportunities to what the City of Iglesias can offer. In fact, Iglesias faces a series of hardships with young people every day that affect not only the socio-economic sphere but also the relational and school sphere, causing school failures, early school leaving and dispersion phenomena. So we moved from themes dedicated to music, literature, poetry (often forgotten by young people), to themes dedicated to mentality and health, active citizenship, communication with peers and other parts of the community. There was no shortage of discussions from young people regarding their future, what they went through during the pandemic and how to deal with fear and anxiety in the face of changing routines, work and living conditions.



For a young person it is important to create new networks, through these meetings they managed to create new interpersonal relationships, an aspect that they had completely forgotten due to the isolation resulting from the pandemic. For them it was vitally important to resume such relationships, leaving aside loneliness and the cold screen of a PC or smartphone. The impact on the local community was considerable. The young people interacted with elderly participants and grasped the different facets of life of yesterday and today, learning to be more patient and approaching the different realities of life. Another very important aspect was that of people with disabilities, who finally felt welcomed, understood and not judged and had an opportunity to have a voice again and hope, helping them not to fall behind and to get out of their “minority”, also through moments of conviviality.

# Natural brain refresh

## Eurodesk Provincia Vco Vedogiovane

Italy



The “Natural Brain Refresh” project developed activities in nature toward the inclusion of vulnerable youth through outdoor education, as a strategy for new actions to support safe chances for well being and socialisation in pandemic or post pandemic situations. The project took place in Verbania, Piedmont region, Italy, a rural area very rich in natural resources and landscapes. A wide set of actions aimed to promote different approaches towards a better use of outdoor education for the inclusion of disadvantaged young people were developed.

Natural Brain Refresh was designed to enhance the skills of young people with a background in education and willing to become green agents in the field of environmental education and develop and spread locally innovative methods of outdoor education. The project valued creative resources and skills of the local young people passionate about environmental education. It led to the creation and implementation of specific outdoor education programmes addressed to disadvantaged young people facing an increased risk of social exclusion in connection with pandemic situations.

The project involved 6 stakeholders and 12 young people in charge of territorial social service and 2 reference educators and 20 youth participants. 500 young people were involved in an online survey on the impacts of pandemic on the psycho-physical well-being. The activities provided young people with personal or family difficulties and facing psychological diseases with an intense and enriching educational process as well as

some chances to develop active participation experiences for future actions of non formal education, using the resources of youth work in the frame of outdoor education.

The project proved to be particularly effective in supporting the acquisition of specific skills necessary for rural youth to successfully respond to the challenges of the future such as greater self-confidence, knowledge on the principles of inclusive and sustainable development, greater resources of creativity, flexibility, openness, increased cooperation skills, perseverance, determination, independent initiative and entrepreneurial spirit. An increased awareness of having in the local area a strategic heritage to be valued not only to enhance local tourism but also towards some relevant improvement in the quality of life of young generations grew. The project itself supported the creation of future prospects for young people living in rural territories qualified as subject to geographical isolation.



## Kozani youth fest 2022

### European Initiative For Youth Empowerment, Mindfulness And Wellbeing “GO Alive”

Greece



In the context of the “European Year of Youth” and Eurodesk campaign “Time to Move”, the youth organisation “GO Alive” coordinated in September the first informative Youth Festival in Kozani, the “Kozani Youth Fest 2022” on the theme “Are you informed?” Its successful outcome, apart from the 13 cooperating local and national institutions, is also due to the 25 volunteers of our city who contributed to its preparation and implementation.

The objectives of the Youth Fest were to disseminate information about EU opportunities to young people, create contacts between them and local and national stakeholders, promote the regions’ green and digital transition as well as youth work and active citizenship, and integrating a youth perspective into EU policy-making.

The Festival took place on 23-25/09/2022, featuring a young forum, day-long info-kiosks, motivational speeches and interactive workshops on Kozani’s central square prepared by the cooperating local and national institutions, in the standards of the European Youth Event Village. Our target group were young people aged 15-29. The Festival was very successful and met its objectives. It managed to mobilise the region’s youngsters into actively participating in the activities and created a dynamic that is necessary for its reorganisation.

The “Kozani Youth Fest 2022” empowered young people by giving them access to information they may not have otherwise known about, offering them networking opportunities, encouraging their active



participation in the activities, and providing learning opportunities through the workshops and motivational speeches.

Overall, the “Kozani Youth Fest 2022” aimed to support, motivate, entertain, and empower young people, and by achieving its objectives, it could be considered a successful empowering event for young people. The project was designed and implemented taking into consideration the needs of the local and regional youth community. The main result of the Festival was the engagement and the active participation of the local youth community into activities that will have a possible impact on their future.



## Workshop „Vyjed' do Evropy!“ “Go to Europe!”



**Eurocentrum Ústí Nad Labem**  
Czech Republic

The workshop “Go To Europe!” was aimed at secondary school students, who were introduced to the possibilities of non formal education and mobility within the EU in a non-traditional way. The students were divided into teams and had the task of promoting the selected EU mobility to their classmates. Each team worked on one of the following topics: study abroad and youth exchanges, volunteering, DiscoverEU, internships in EU institutions, Solidarity Projects and work in the EU. They were provided with brochures, links to websites, videos and social media as a tool that helped them develop their ability to search for relevant information. After 60 minutes each team presented their topic to the classmates and tried to convince them to go abroad for an experience in the future. Mentimeter app was used for the final voting on the best team. The winners received small prizes. As a feedback students wrote which mobility they would like to try. Part of the workshop included a visit to the newly constructed depository in the city library, built with the support of EU funds.

The workshop aimed to develop teamwork, presentation skills and searching for relevant information. Its uniqueness lies in the reversal of the traditional teacher-student role as students were not just listeners, but in the role of teachers, giving information to their classmates. All activities required an active approach. The search for information alone gave the students the opportunity to determine the content of the workshop

and its further direction. The subsequent presentation of the individual topics was not an easy task, it was a step out of their comfort zone and a test of their presentation skills. At the same time, they had the opportunity to find out their shortcomings and focus on their elimination in the future.

Students gained awareness of EU programmes in a fun way. Thanks to the interactive format of the workshop they will remember the information better which will be useful for them in future. The workshop also had a great impact on the teachers, who can pass on the information further in the school, reach a larger number of students and include gained knowledge into the teaching. The whole concept can help to improve the current situation in the region, when the mobility of young people abroad are not so numerous. The Ústí Region needs young people with experience from abroad, every such experience helps the development of the local community. The impact of the workshop on the local community was significant and diverse, so we will continue to organise it in the future. It was already used several times by colleagues in the regions and is not demanding financially.



## Project camp “activeIdeas”

### NGO Youth Club Active

Estonia



From 16-18 December, a project camp “ActiveIdeas” was held, where Russian-speaking youth aged 13-26 tried their hand at writing their own projects. Participants were introduced to Eurodesk, international opportunities and the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes. Over the three days, the participants learnt to generate ideas, formulate goals and look for solutions to problems, work in teams, complete a project application form and present their project prototypes. It was a productive 3 days, through which interesting projects were born. After the project camp, the participants continued working on their projects and prepared to submit them on 23 February. As a result of the productive work and support of the mentors, 1 youth exchange, 1 local ESC initiative project and 1 international project for youth workers were submitted.

This project was really empowering for Russian-speaking youth in Estonia, as this kind of event are usually held in Estonian or English, but here participants were able to learn and get answers about international opportunities in their native language, which is very important considering the age of participants. The project provided them a safe and non-threatening environment, supported by youth workers and informal methods. For some, it was their first experience of writing projects and an introduction to the Erasmus+ and ESC programmes. Feedback from participants confirmed the importance and necessity of such events, when you not only get information on opportunities, but also have the opportunity to put them into practice



on the spot and get the necessary support from experienced youth workers. The results confirm the interest of young people in this kind of project.

“ActiveIdeas” was primarily aimed at young people, giving them the opportunity to show their civic initiative by writing projects. When generating ideas for the project, the participants were guided by issues that concern them in their community or surroundings, thereby demonstrating civic initiative as well. The project generated ideas for a youth exchange on the importance of cultural heritage, a youth exchange on bullying and a youth worker exchange on sex education among young people. The experience will have a positive impact on their lives and they will be able to use these skills in the future. The social media coverage of this project has interested other young people who visited the youth centre, thereby informing the local community about the opportunities to participate and directly address their concerns through the Erasmus+ and ESC programmes.

# Encuentro ibero-insular de corresponsales juveniles



## ES033 - INTERCAMBIA MALAGA

Spain

Intercambia Malaga and its partners organised a live training in which a group of 200 young people from Spain and Portugal, 25 youth technicians, and 15 political directors of youth shared and expressed their ideas and concerns and carried out activities related to the development and promotion of the figure of the Youth Correspondent.

Youth correspondents are fundamental figures for youth information. They make it possible to decentralise Youth Information Services and establish a direct connection with young people through a horizontal, peer-to-peer communication model while encouraging their participation. Youth correspondents function as transmitters of information in a double sense: they collect the concerns and preferences of young people in the area in which they operate and try to provide them with information on topics of interest to them through a close, youthful channel and in their own language.

During our meeting, we worked on the profile of the youth correspondent as a figure of participation in the creation and dissemination of youth information. The objectives were to create a space for youth participation, a sense of identity and belonging to a collective, establish networks of connection and an Iberian network of youth correspondents, strengthen the training of youth correspondents and promote and encourage the development of correspondent programmes in other Autonomous Communities. Participatory, dynamic, and interactive methodologies were used with a playful and formative approach



composed of training and informative workshops, interactive spaces with group dynamics, impact and visibility activities, SWOT analysis, networking and structured dialogue between young people and general directors.

The Eurodesk Multiplier Intercambia, together with other multipliers of the network, such as the Directorate General of Youth of the Community of Madrid, representing its Network of Youth Information Centres, together with the Andalusian Youth Institute (IAJ), the Valencian Youth Institute (IVAJ) and the Directorate General of Youth of the Region of Murcia and ERYICA have jointly promoted the activity. The importance of correspondents was raised, including in schools, as a powerful way to reach more young people.

# “Wat Löppt”

LeeWerk-WISA GmbH

Germany



We are working with groups of disabled young people in our organisation to ensure that all interested young people would have a chance to participate in our Theatre Play project. We also worked with young people from across borders, and together considered their ideas. Especially for this project we also worked with a youth-house in Leer and a secondary school in the Netherlands. Our project had the motto: “What löppt” where 20 young people from Germany and the Netherlands exchanged views on language and cultural challenges in the border region. During the participation phase, the war in Ukraine became a big topic with the young people. This gave rise to the idea of finding a form of dealing with the war, with the help of a theatre play. The special feature was that a young participant had fled from Ukraine with her sister and mother just a short time before. The aim of the international Theatre Play was the common examination of the current situation and to empower the participants to deal with the topic. The resulting Theatre Play was presented to local, state and federal politicians.

During this project, young people had the possibility, with the development of a play, accompanied by a theatre director, to find a way to deal with the war in Ukraine. We also had the chance to integrate a young girl from Ukraine who fled shortly before the project started. The aim of the project was to empower the participants to deal with the situation in the Ukraine, to express their feelings and to improve international understanding, reduce resentment and take a look at the current situation in Europe.

Accompanied by 4 teachers and a theatre director, the participants had the chance to look at their own situation and also at the habitat from the people in the Ukraine. Through the theatre play, feelings, thoughts and fears could be made visible. Through the performance and the presentation of their own ideas on the war in the Ukraine, the young people gained self-confidence and self-reflection.

The young people had experience with their own target group in the neighbouring country. For many participants, a new view of Europe, of the war in Ukraine and of the people in a war situation emerged. Due to the fact that the topic of the theatre performance was very topical, the European Minister of Lower Saxony, federal and state politicians were interested to watch the theatre performance. The inhabitants of the districts Landkreis Leer and Winschoten region, had the possibility to be informed via press reports and a YouTube recording about this project. The visit of the Europe Minister in particular was very well commented by the press. This project has helped to bring German and Dutch young people closer together.

DEUTSCH-NIEDERLÄNDISCHES PROJEKT Gruppe „Wat löppt“ nimmt sich thematisch den Ukraine Krieg vor

The collage contains several elements:
 

- Top Left:** A photo of a group of people in a dark setting, possibly during a performance or rehearsal.
- Top Right:** A photo of a young girl with blonde hair, looking towards the camera.
- Middle Left:** A column of text with the heading "Krieg im Theater".
- Middle Right:** A column of text with the heading "GÄSTE UND PHASENBEREICH".
- Bottom Left:** A column of text with the heading "Krieg im Theater".
- Bottom Center:** A column of text with the heading "Krieg im Theater".
- Bottom Right:** A photo of three young people (two girls and one boy) smiling.

# Entre - Youth project for development of entrepreneurial skills

## Rysy Foundation

Poland



The main objectives of the project were to increase the entrepreneurial and initiative competences of young people from Poland and Ukraine by both a theoretical and practical approach (project based learning method), help the initiative group of 5 young people aged 23-25 in establishing their own new youth NGO (social incubation) and increase knowledge of local people from Wielkopolska, our region, about Eurodesk, project management, EU Youth Programmes (like Erasmus+, ESC) and mobility.

Our project was empowering young people by many mean. The 5 young people wrote their own application under our supervision and obtained their first grant of 10 000 PLN. They conducted workshops in schools, university circles and NGOs about project management, European Youth Programmes (like Erasmus+, ECS) and mobility, for 1074 young people in Wielkopolska region. They organised a competition for youth for the best idea of their own project, in accordance with the Project Based Learning method, which was attended by 104 people. 4 workshops on running your own business in Poland were conducted for refugees from Ukraine aged 18-30, who were forced by the war to find themselves in an unfamiliar labour market. In addition, during the classes at schools, they conducted surveys among students, checking their opinion on the acquisition of skills useful in running a business and creating their own initiatives during school education.

Finally, as a result the youth initiative group established their own new youth NGO. Together with them we attended the NGO fair NGO-EXPO in October 2022 in Kielce, during which one youth social and business idea was run with crowdfunding campaign, and together with them we won the Time To Move campaign in Poland.

From the beginning of September to the end of November 2022, the Time To Move campaign, organised by the pan-European youth information network Eurodesk, was running across Europe, promoting learning mobility and participation in international youth projects. This year is also the European Year of Youth. Youth came to the conclusion that it is even more worth joining these activities and strengthening the initiative aimed at stimulating young people to act. As the Eurodesk Polska Information Point, they organised 53 events and workshops for youth as part of the Time To Move campaign. The best results were that 1 youth NGOs and 1 youth social business were established.



## “Time to move together to a greener future”

### “Youth And Civil Initiatives In The Rose Valley” NGO Bulgaria



“Time To Move Together To A Greener Future” aimed on the one hand to inform young people about educational mobility opportunities and promote our Youth Centre as a Eurodesk point where young people can get useful information about their personal and professional development. On the other hand, it aimed at empowering young people to organise innovative informational campaigns involving practical youth-led campaigns. The project was part of the Time to Move 2022 Campaign, and on the 15th October 2022 we organised a non-formal info session in the Youth Centre of Karlovo. The session was attended by 20 of our active youth volunteers and 10 newly attracted young people to whom we presented the information services we offer as a Eurodesk point, and the useful tools and resources of the network. The info session continued into an environmental awareness raising session acquainting the young people with our previous environmental projects and giving them a list of important eco-dates around which they could plan and implement future youth-led eco-initiatives. The empowered young people then organised a youth-led green eco-campaign for cleaning the biggest park in our town while informing more young people on the way as well as spreading the green project tote-bags encouraging their use instead of plastic ones. This was an innovative information on-the-go campaign combined with a green youth-led eco-campaign.

The project included an innovative element combining information delivery with a direct youth-led campaign. It directly empowered the involved young people as on the one hand it gave them useful information about educational mobility opportunities, the Eurodesk network



and its benefits for young people. On the other hand, it raised their environmental awareness and trained them how to organise youth-led eco-campaigns combined with information and awareness raising elements.

The project directly involved and empowered 30 young people and resulted in a youth-led green eco-campaign that reached over 5000 youngsters on social media. The youth information centre and Eurodesk services became better known in the community and gained in visibility. The young people that participated increased their active citizenship in their communities, including in raising awareness of their peers on ecological issues. -oreover, the project, Eurodesk and the Time to Move Campaign were promoted internationally during the Climate Change Week meeting in Cyprus.

## Spotlight on european citizenship!

### Alfa3a/Info Jeunes01

France



Info Jeunes de l'Ain with its 7 partners carried out the "Spotlight On European Citizenship!" project from September to December 2022. The project aimed to raise awareness of European citizenship among young people aged 13-30 in rural areas, from social centres and with fewer opportunities of the Ain territory.

The project included 3 key milestones: a challenge based on street interviews with the subject: "What is European Citizenship?", a quiz on social media "Just Try Europe!" with lots of goodies and a closing ceremony to award the winners, congratulate the participants, have feedback from the young people on their participation, and share non-formal friendly time. These activities aimed to encourage young people to question their place as European citizens, to raise awareness, and become the actors of their own citizenship. 4 young participants were involved in project development and management.

Empowerment of young people means encouraging them to take charge of their lives. Today, young people across Europe are facing diverse challenges and youth work in all its forms can serve as a catalyst for empowerment. Therefore, we deeply believe that activities planned by our programme had a great impact on empowering youth with fewer opportunities in the territory of the Ain Department. We got 60 young people involved in the project through games. This brought a playful approach to introducing young people to European issues. They opened their minds to a European reflection and were no longer local. The dynamism and the investment of the referents of the project were important drivers



for the construction of the team spirit of the young people.

Regarding mid and long term impact for the local partner organisations, the project aimed to stimulate an internationalisation dynamic in our territory. The challenge was to capitalise on our experience to spread our good practices to our peers from other youth organisations. It was also an opportunity and a lever to motivate and boost innovation and creativity in approaches and practices for local organisations. In terms of the expected impact on the final beneficiaries (young people), the project brought added value to the development of soft skills such as open mindedness, adaptation to change, interpersonal skills, management and communication skills.

## Eurodesk racconta 2022 edition

### Comune Di Cinisello Balsamo

Italy



"Eurodesk Racconta – 2022 Edition" is a project carried out by the young volunteers (20-25 years old) of the Universal Civil Service Department of the Municipality of Cinisello Balsamo from May 2021 to May 2022. Since 2016, the Municipality hosts the Eurodesk agency thanks to which it is possible to involve young people and give information about European opportunities for them. The young volunteers were enthusiastic about the mobility and training experiences they could have through the Eurodesk service and decided to open this new format trying to illustrate how interesting and useful these opportunities were. This Project is about peer to peer education, inviting young people who went abroad to share their experience with others. You can find our format section on our Instagram and Facebook pages "eurodesk\_cinisellobalsamo".

We ask each young person who takes part in a mobility project with Erasmus+ or ESC to share with us their experience and, after receiving their consent, we publish it. It consists of posts coming directly from the young people with pictures and descriptions in which they express how the experience made them feel and what they have gained from it. These posts are very useful to promote new activities and they have positive feedback on our social pages. For these reasons we decided to maintain a similar format which will be continued by the new volunteers which began their Civil Service in May 2022. They kept the same concept and modified only the graphics. The page also offers informational videos, always produced by volunteers, about

European opportunities. This aims at bringing a change in young people's perceptions of European mobilities and trying to make more and more young people aware of this reality. Thanks to our users we discovered that direct testimonials are a great tool to motivate them for new experiences.

Thanks to the numerous "Eurodesk Racconta – 2022 edition" posts, we have succeeded in reaching a not inconsiderable number of young people (more or less 10000 from the end of 2021). Youth were immediately interested in the format and said that through our stories they became aware of the countless opportunities addressed to them. "Eurodesk Racconta - 2022 edition" has proven to be an initial information tool regarding opportunities aimed at young people. Many youths contact us for support regarding European experiences specifically designed and directed to them. So many young people state that before Eurodesk they knew nothing about the experiences they could have in Europe; therefore, "Eurodesk Racconta - 2022 edition" has proven to be an excellent tool for informing young people.





# DiscoverTalent

## Volontariato Torino (Vol.To ETS)

Italy



This project was promoted by the students of the SAA-School of Management of Turin for the development of youth transversal skills that aimed to reduce the gap between the school and the world of work. Vol. To collaborated with 15 students of the Curie Vittorini High School (aged 17-18 y.o.), who were involved in the activities of the Eurodesk Local Point so that they could actively experiment themselves in professional contexts and increase their knowledge about European issues and opportunities for young people.

Students were invited to create an awareness campaign to be used on the social media channels of the Eurodesk Multiplier of Turin. Participants created their project, structuring an awareness-raising campaign on "Violence in Europe" divided into three categories: gender violence, violence about one's sexuality and racial violence. For each category, students created videos and posts in Italian which were translated in English and French and which were also able to reflect the identity brand of the Instagram page of the Eurodesk Local Point. The campaign attracted the attention of users, with an increase of about 60% in views on the Facebook page and on Instagram profile (counting together 1,500 followers) of the Eurodesk Local Point in Turin. Overall 19 posts were published in March 2022, each of them accompanied by impactful images and videos and then re-posted on the SAA-School of Management Facebook and Instagram profiles (counting together more than 9,000 followers).

The project was entirely realised by young people for young people, therefore a true youth-led project that empowered its participants. Participants structured the whole programme from the beginning, without the intermediation of adults. This opportunity led students to experience a work environment and, on the basis of the feedback received during the meetings, improve their information-seeking skills, communication with the work team and respect for deadlines, in order to gradually gain greater levels of confidence. The creation of the campaign allowed students to analyse social issues with the aim of increasing their sensitivity to these topics and using a peer-to-peer approach. The attractive communication strategies of these posts allowed Vol.To and SAA to gain even more visibility about their social campaigns and about the opportunities offered by both organisations. More young people, attracted by the campaign, later chose to find out more about Eurodesk and about mobility opportunities abroad. Finally, all the involved students had the opportunity to develop their soft skills and to make an important experience of teamwork.



# Time to youth

## KAINOTOMIA & SIA E.E.

Greece



KAINOTOMIA hosted the “Time to Youth” event as part of the Time to Move campaign. The event aimed to empower young people to become active citizens, highlight their concerns and needs and raise their voices and showcase perspectives-co-create an action plan for the youth generation with the help of policymakers. 80 young people across Europe met, collaborated and analysed current issues, designed solutions and presented them at the European Parliament. The activities were implemented using a youth-led model and with the assistance of policymakers, produced an action plan with qualitative proposals that better meet youth’s needs. In addition, the participants had the opportunity to express their opinions and highlight perspectives for their generation, promoting their active participation.

Time to Youth was an innovative event for our region. It was the first time that an event brought together young people and policymakers from the local, regional, national and European levels to discuss the needs of young people in depth and design a future action plan together. The event provided an opportunity to hear young people’s voices, strengthen collaboration between them and policymakers and lay a solid foundation for future synergies. The event’s methodology was based on the project “YouPart” (KA220-YOU-Cooperation partnerships in youth) in which KAINOTOMIA is an active participant. The total outreach of the campaign, including Eurodesk and Time to Move logos, was approximately 50,000 people! The event was attended by almost 60 young people, individuals and representatives of



organisations along with 5 policymakers from the local and regional levels.

The local community benefited from “Time to Youth” in several ways. The event significantly increased the level of engagement between the youth generation, local and regional organisations and policymakers’ building a solid foundation for future synergies. It also resulted in the development of a strategy tailored to the youth’s needs, designed by the participants with the support of the experts. Some of the ideas proposed at the event are currently being discussed by the Region of Thessaly and the Municipality, such as the creation of a Career Hub, supporting young people in the employability sector and the founding of a Youth Center in the city of Larissa, proving that the event had accomplished its purposes. It would be an omission not to mention the fact that after the event, a great number of event participants and people belonging to their networks contacted our organisation for more information on European mobilities while others took part in several projects we implement, developing new skills and gaining knowledge.

# Board game “participative life” (“Līdzdalīgā dzīve”)



## Creative Minds For Culture

Latvia

The creation of a board game about youth participation and international participation opportunities “Līdzdalīgā dzīve” was created by young people during several activities. Its aim was to give power to young people, to ask their opinion about participation, to collect all ideas and create a game for the young people about youth participation in a creative, funny and interactive way.

The activities of the project included 10 face-to-face workshops where young people from 10 different villages/cities were actively learning about youth participation, exploring the process of board game creation and sharing their ideas on what a great board game about youth participation and opportunities should look and work like. After these, 5 digital workshops took place where youngsters from previous meetings could look at the proposed design and mechanics of the game and advise adjustments. After that, the game was created and played in at least 10 events in different cities and villages.

The project was nominated for empowering young people, because the idea of creating a board game for young people about the topic about participation and EU opportunities was put into the hands of young people during this project. It was their idea of the game, their ideas of the questions and answers and how the game should be played and they tested the game for improvement. The project reached around 300 young people and the game is still available for use to anyone who wants to borrow it for their events. It attracted the interest of other young people from different regions in Latvia



and educators who are already using it to develop understanding of youth participation in a creative and fun way.

As a result of this project, over 500 young people from all over the central part of Latvia were more educated about the topics of youth participation, EU opportunities, Eurodesk network as well as the creation process of different board games. The biggest part of this audience had never heard about such opportunities and networks, and showed a true interest in continuing exploring the topic and using some of the EU programmes to participate in them, or at least joining a local NGO. Youth workers from the area are also well informed about the possibility to use the game in their everyday work. The game was such a success that the National Agency of Youth Programmes in Latvia took the blueprints of the game and has printed it into 200 more copies to gift it to young specialists who finish their youth worker training under the Ministry of Science and Education.

## VI. Youth forum in cegléd

### Youth Cooperation Is The Association For Successful Communities In Cegléd

Hungary



In the heart of the city of Cegléd was held the VI Youth Forum under the Time to Move campaign. The purpose of the day was - in addition to the social role of young people - to connect Eurodesk employees actively in the country, to present and transfer mobilities and the experiences derived from them, thereby sensitising the youth to international opportunities. The 110 young people and 31 youth professionals were able to process the morning's experience reports and information in a Live Library, where the books/ speakers were "borrowed" by participants. In the afternoon, the national teams created in advance with the patronage of foreign volunteers were able to take part in a treasure hunt. After creating a common identity/logo, they did tasks at different locations, and at the same time, the youth professionals were informed about Erasmus+ opportunities with the Eurodesk national coordination.

The project aimed to address the needs of the youth after the pandemic and to get them out of their comfort zone. The students recruited from the local educational institutions represented a potential layer of young people participating in international mobility. During the event there were also students who, due to their age, could not necessarily participate in foreign projects. The event filled a gap, since the Eurodesk network was still unknown to many participants, and in terms of involving the target group, it allowed us to try out methods that were also instructive for us.

As a result, community building, more confidential communication between young people, and the fact that they dare to address each other more courageously by completing

playful tasks, created a closer youth social sphere and the demand for regular meetings like this. By introducing the actors of the network, the participants were able to gain an insight into the life of several youth organisations, so they are aware of who they can turn to for help in different arenas of the country. With the presence of foreign volunteers, intercultural learning was also a big part of the day. By learning soft skills, they could not only show their creativity, but also express themselves, and also get to know customs and cultures that could further broaden their world view. The programme provided an opportunity for the teachers accompanying the students (and youth professionals) to participate actively, they also received information about Erasmus+ opportunities in a separate workshop. From the point of view of the local community, it is decisive that the majority of students and teachers belonging to different social backgrounds and schools were also interested in the field of interest representation, thus conveying information, contacts, promotional materials and the experience at their own meetings.



# Youth festival “KOPUMS”

## Jurmala Youth Initiative Centre

Latvia



The youth festival “KOPUMS” (together) was the biggest event for youngsters, celebrating the European Year of Youth and providing youngsters with all kinds of opportunities. The main focus was young people and their needs and interests. Our goal was to create an event that would reach as many youngsters as possible around Latvia, that’s why we gave youngsters opportunities to participate in the making of the programme.

“KOPUMS” was a two-day festival, gathering more than 2 000 youngsters that were participating, working as volunteers or in the organiser’s group, but if we count all the people that went through our festival area, it was around 7 000. 80 young people developed their skills by doing voluntary work at the festival. Our main objective was to inform and give youngsters a chance to learn and even try some opportunities that they have. We had a main stage that held discussions about hot topics in youth work, for example, how youngsters and their needs change, what are the risks and challenges in this field and open discussions with our government leaders. We held an opportunity market with Eurodesk point, youth podcast, Youth agency with information about exchange and different projects, leadership improving tents, summer job opportunity tents, scouts, university tents etc.

The event was organised by a team of young people who put a lot of effort to make the festival topical and relevant for other young people. The organiser team had never yet organised a youth event of such a big size, so it served as a huge

empowering experience. We gave them a chance to advise, lead, organise, represent activities that are important and actual for them, because we do believe that youngsters know better about their needs and interests. Young people represented their own NGOs, led activities and workshops, participated in discussions about the future of Europe, shared their opinions, created art, found new friends and asked questions that were of interest to them, therefore afterwards feeling more empowered to raise their voice and believe that they are special, worthy and important to the society.

Approximately 10 000 people got acquainted with the project, the European Year of Youth, as well as information about all kinds of youth opportunities both digitally and face-to-face. The city of Bauska, who is the capital of youth for the year 2023, saw the festival as a good practice, and is planning to implement a similar one in August as the start of a tradition. The event was a very good chance for the local youth professionals to meet, network and discuss further opportunities to work together and form new alliances to be able to work more efficiently and reach bigger goals.



# Rozhoduj o Evropě - staň se na den tvůrcem evropské politiky ("Decide On Europe")



**Eutis, O.p.s**  
Czech Republic

Thirteen regional seminars of the "Decide on Europe" project were addressed to students of all types of secondary schools in the Czech Republic. The project had several objectives. First, it aimed to bring the EU decision-making process closer to young people. The workshops and the subsequent follow-up meeting of young people (in 2023) from the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic included a simulation of the proceedings and work of the EU institutions - the European Parliament and the Council of the EU. The simulation aimed to understand the complexity of EU decision-making and the equality of views represented by different countries and political groups at European level. Secondly, the project aimed to promote dialogue between young people and students on topical issues that significantly affect their lives in a common Europe - green transition, digitalisation, democratic values and intergenerational dialogue.

During the project, young people could have first-hand experience of how decision-making in the EU works. The project promoted the direct involvement of the participants, which can significantly contribute to increasing interest in participating in democratic processes at local and regional levels. We believe that active young people are the future of society, and supporting their activities can increase interest in politics among their peers. Through informed discussion on current European and domestic issues with decision-makers from European, national and regional politics, young people not only had the space to learn new information, but had the opportunity to share



their views on the future direction of Europe and to communicate these to policymakers and the general public. Furthermore, the project aimed to create a network of active young people interested in European politics, to promote opportunities for young people to share contacts and experiences and to connect them across regions and national borders.

All workshops took place directly in regions of the Czech Republic and involved young people from all over the region, not just from the capital and regional cities. Young people had the opportunity to dialogue with EUTIS, with representatives of Eurocentres, Europe Direct centres and Eurodesk partners, local politicians, local and regional authorities, and representatives of local civic initiatives. Local decision-makers had a better overview of the issues of interest to young people in their region, what problems they perceive, and thus had the opportunity to reflect this knowledge in their future activities. The participants also uploaded the resulting suggestions and ideas on a variety of topics to the Voice Platform, as the project also took place within the framework of the European Year of Youth.

# EUROPlantacja

## Fundacja Europejski Instytut Outsourcingu

Poland



The aim of the EUROPlantacja project was to raise environmental (benefits of caring for the environment and benefits of planting trees) and European (promotion of European programmes, opportunities for EU-funded youth projects and intercultural integration) awareness among young people and the local community. Project activities were implemented in the cities of Rybnik, Piekary Śląskie and Częstochowa.

EUROPlantacja consisted of organising an event in each partner city, during which an action of planting trees in the urban space was organised, under the auspices of Eurodesk and in cooperation with the City Offices. In each city, 15 trees were planted. The planting groves were marked with plaques. Pupils, representatives of town halls, municipal institutions and NGOs took an active part in the event. Workshops on environmental issues were also held in each city on "The importance of planting trees and taking care of the environment today" with about 300 young participants. In addition, each partner organised events and games in parallel to these activities.

The project was unique for several reasons. Firstly, it was carried out in cooperation between 3 Eurodesk points involving 3 different local communities, and allowing the synergy of ideas and effectiveness of activities and the use of a scenario of activities prepared jointly. Secondly, the project involved, on the one hand, young leaders who prepared the event and accompanying activities in the form of thematic European outdoor games and the planting of trees, and on the other hand,

young people - participants in the event who, through participation in the game, educational workshops and tree-planting action, were able to learn more about the proposals for young people in Europe and become more climate-conscious. All became more aware of European and environmental issues after attending the event and had a sense of individual impact on positive change around them.

The impact of the project can be divided into several groups. The first group is the youth, who had the opportunity to participate in tree planting workshops, to learn all the techniques and increase their knowledge on topics related to projects, the European Union and the many opportunities they have. They got to know better about the activities of Eurodesk. The second group is the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the tree planting sites. All of them were very pleased with the actions that were carried out and were eager to talk to the planters and were happy that they would have some shade and the opportunity to follow the growth of the trees.



# Periphery literary festival

## Eurocentrum Karlovy Vary

Czech Republic



The Sokolov region has long been one of the structurally affected regions. This means that it faces higher unemployment, a low standard of living, a low proportion of university-educated inhabitants, poor transport accessibility, an outflow of young people from the region and problems associated with lignite mining. Young people respond to these problems with their literary work, which they present in the form of POETRY SLAM - a performative genre of original poetry in which poets perform spoken poetry in front of an audience. In this region there is a very strong share of representatives of this genre, who initiated the creation of the first edition of the Periphery Literary Festival.

The creation of the festival aimed to offer young people the opportunity to step out of the dark stereotype of the periphery and be active and creative while introducing well-known writers and poets. The festival took place over 3 days and during which the following activities were carried out: introduction of the DiscoverEU programme, Time to Move activities, discussions with Czech language teachers, readings by high school students, reading poets: rap concert, Lettrism workshop literary Pecha Kucha Poetry Slam, theatre for children, workshop blackout poetry.

A young person looking for a place in society needs to be able to express his or her opinions and emotions. It is very important for their personal development. Identification with the place where they live is very important. Finding their place in society and being happy, even if it may be a grey periphery. Young



people have been involved in the preparation and implementation and their opinions through literature have made their views and wishes known and thus can give impetus to changes in society and empowerment. In an interesting way they can reach out to the public who will listen to them. Teachers and public administration were also involved in the festival and can spread these views further.

It was the first year of the festival, 200 young people from the region attended, initiating the creation of a festival that will be repeated every year and in which young people can participate through their literary work. It also brought young amateur authors together with professional book authors, who were able to pass on their experience and motivate young people to create their own work. At the same time, a community of active young people was created who care about where they live and are interested in their surroundings and want to bring about change in society through their artistic expression.



# Capacity building workshops youth in Europe



**MALIK E.T.S**

Italy

The project “Capacity Building workshops - Youth in Europe” developed inside the initiative MOCORE, had the main objective to provide young people (16 to 30 years old) with the basic tools to design and formulate a project proposal concerning the following topics: youth policies, active citizenship, transversal skills, non-formal learning, European integration, and transnational mobility. The activities inside the projects were done through face-to-face and remote participatory meetings, bringing more than 25 young people coming from 26 rural towns from the central part of Sardinia to work together. This area is a mountainous region, considered to be a remote area, where young people often face quite isolated contexts. Towns located there have considerable distances between each other, and from big centres, so the lack of a car can cause barriers to getting around at specific hours; the municipalities face a massive depopulation phenomenon; the public transportation system is really bad; and there is registered a high level of school drop out.

Through this activity young people were empowered because they got a new vision over European projects, they saw how it works from the inside, and got to know the basic knowledge regarding project management and the life cycle of a project. They were also informed about Erasmus+ and the ESC. But, more importantly, they gained the steps to follow in order to make an idea become a project (e.g. sense of initiative, critical thinking, responsibility), including their capacity to analyse the problems and possible actions to tackle

them, and last but not least the willingness to get deeper into the topic and explore. All of the participants got the motivation to participate in different European projects after this experience, and more awareness of the importance of these projects on their personal and professional development.

The most important result achieved is the active participation of young people from remote areas, inside our laboratories. Lots of times we face difficulties in this process because of a closed mindset, lack of interest, and the unknown. We think that our initiative had an impact not only on youth but also on the community thanks to the active participation of young people and representatives of the community and/or municipality. That was great also for an intergenerational exchange while talking about the problems of the area and the solutions that could be implemented in the future. As a concrete result two ideas for Erasmus+ youth exchanges emerged: Our Rural Future - with the objective to promote the sense of initiative and entrepreneurship of young people living in rural areas of Europe by encouraging them to recover ancient crafts in an innovative way - and Islanders - with the objective to promote awareness of training and employment opportunities among young people coming from insular areas of Europe. Young people who participated in the elaboration of the project idea will be actively involved in the next steps of the youth exchanges’ implementation.

# How to find the right career

## APLIC Association

Romania



The purpose of the project was to improve the lives of young people from Arges County through education, facilitating their integration into the labour market by developing their social and communication skills. Furthermore, it aimed at empowering young people to be citizens actively involved in their communities. For that to happen, we developed the first 5 Eurodesk Euro-Activism workshops for young people in 5 cities and communes from Arges County, in order to find some youth willing to participate and create ideas for projects that could be implemented with their help. 15 youngsters (16 to 18 years old) from 3 communities were convinced that they could do more for society and joined our association as volunteers to create activities for other youth regarding how to define their professional road. This was the point where they put the basis of the "How to find your right career" project, based on their direct needs.

The main objectives of the project were the personal and professional development of at least 60 young people from Arges communes by organising workshops with non-formal exercises, strategies for professional growth and development, creating an interactive guide book with basic concepts and practical tests that indicate personality types for successful careers, creating 3 Reading Nests in the Public Libraries from the 3 involved communities.

We met frequently with them and helped them to turn their ideas into a concrete project. We think this is a strong example of empowering people to do as much as they

can, to demonstrate their true European active citizenship. Not only they succeeded in their tasks but also managed to convince other young people included in the project that they could be as them also. So other participants manifested their intention to continue our activities in the Reading Nests for other people. In this aspect, after the project was finished, some other activities were organised with the help of librarians, but most of all, with the help of young people included in the project, who had the chance to meet our group of empowered youngsters. So, we can say we empowered young people from the rural area, supporting young people with difficulties.

389 participants attended the Euro-Activism workshops and the activities carried out within the project who learned about European citizenship and how to create their own CV, to write a cover letter or how to present themselves at a job interview.

1 press release;

22 posts, videos, albums with photos and information on social media.



## “InFormAzione: to be part, take part”

### Cinisello Balsamo Municipality

Italy



The project “Informazione: To be part, take part!” was born from a regional call to support new projects to increase the active participation of young people. The project “Informazione: to be part, take part” had two main actions: the first one was the opening of three new Eurodesk Local Points located in different Municipalities in the North of Milan, in order to improve and extend the services offered by Eurodesk. This gave birth to the “North Milan Eurodesk Network”. The main goal was the promotion of European mobility opportunities abroad for training/work/volunteering experiences and youth exchanges. All these experiences are really important for the development of soft and hard skills in youth.

The second action of the project involved directly young people and made them protagonists. This consisted in a Call to Action for youth living in the north of Milan. We made an open call to every youth between the age of 18 and 30, asking them to present us their project idea with a social impact in the territory. The 4 most innovative ideas were selected, and the youth who won had the possibility to follow training courses with youth workers, mentors, professionals in order to develop their ideas and realise them successfully. One project was applied to the European Solidarity Corps call and received a grant. A second project has been finalised and will be submitted to the same programme in February 2023. The last two ideas became two excellent projects for a high school “PCTO”, a Pathway for Transversal Skills and Orientation that all the Italian students need to do during their



schools years. This project belongs to the category of “empowering young people” as it was designed to make the youth more conscious about their skills and opportunities.

“Informazione: to be part, take part” has proven to be a very important tool to strengthen and consolidate the partnership between municipalities in order to share missions and strategies. The network helped widespread communication actions on the territory, and has been able to offer the Eurodesk service for all young people of the area. Furthermore, it had a great impact on young people for two reasons: in the first place the project allowed them to easily learn more about the European opportunities offered by the Eurodesk point in their municipalities, and secondly, it gave them the chance to strengthen their competencies thanks to our training course and guidance. Since the project involved local youth from various backgrounds (some with language difficulties others with lack of project management skills) the training courses became the opportunity to develop their skills and have the professional support to implement their own ideas. As mentioned above, the results were excellent because all the ideas became real projects.

# Open café

## International Projects' Association INPRO

Poland



Our project is called "Open Café". We organise meetings for locals and people who want to gather together, speak English, have fun, and meet new people. The various topics that we discuss are usually connected to human rights, global and social issues, science, and philosophy. We always do this from an approach of integration, and with the aim of breaking language barriers and stereotypes. Open Café is a place where people can learn about various cultures, share their own experiences, and take part in fun activities and workshops. No matter where you are coming from, Open Café builds an international family together with foreigners living in Rzeszow, volunteers, and locals. In "Open Café" we are free from any kind of judgement or discrimination, any idea is welcome and there is no such thing as a wrong opinion.

These meetings are organised every Wednesday, at 6.00 p.m., in Urban Lab, Rzeszów. Open Café meetings are held in English and facilitated by international volunteers working in our organisation thanks to the European Solidarity Corps and come from countries such as Armenia, Georgia, Spain and Türkiye. Every week these young volunteers elaborate on current social and political issues and adapt it to achieve a unique debate for the attendees. This is an opportunity for volunteers and participants to discuss topics and change negative social stereotypes, ethnic discrimination, or legislation affecting the freedom and rights of the people living in Poland. Every week we reach an average of 50-60 people, some of them are already known as our 'usual' participants that hardly miss any session,

while also welcoming new faces who reach us thanks to our social media and local events.

Even though the meetings are open to everyone, regardless of age, gender or nationality, INPRO dedicates specific effort to involve the youth community of Rzeszów in the event. Open Café is a space in which people of all ages can attend knowing they will learn, develop social and linguistic skills, and at the same time have a nice afternoon. Our volunteers have the opportunity to improve their linguistic, social, and organisational skills by hosting these meetings and learning from each one of them to be better facilitators and event managers. They also hope to inspire and encourage young people to follow their steps and participate in other projects of the European Solidarity Corps and Erasmus+.

With these meetings what we have mainly achieved is what we like to call the 'INPRO community'. For many people, gathering every week has already become a habit, and for most of them, Open Café is a must-be activity in their weekly planning. They know every week they will meet here with long-lasting or new friends, to have interesting discussions and enjoy their time in an international environment.



# Speak dating Brno 2022

## Eurocentre Brno

Czech Republic



On the occasion of the European Day of Languages 2022 we decided to organise an event called Speak Dating. The aim was to allow visitors to practise speaking foreign languages via short conversations with native speakers/tutors from European and non-European countries. This event was organised with the support of Eurodesk and Europe Direct Brno, which was inspired by this event to join the Eurodesk network. Various activities were prepared by the tutors which allowed the visitors to learn more about the languages and the tutor's cultures in a fun way. As a result, we managed to engage people in fun activities which helped them to explore new languages and break down some cultural barriers. The event is inspired by the Speed Dating concept however, instead of love life, participants had a chance to find the language they might like to learn or the country they would like to visit, ideally via Erasmus+ or European Solidarity Corps.

The event used an unconventional way of engaging people by taking place in the city centre at one of the main squares, which allowed any passers-by to take part in the event and try or practise any language they found interesting. The tutors prepared various games and other activities to introduce their language, culture and other realities of their country. Via these games and activities visitors not only practised new languages but also connected them with other cultures; it empowered them to be more open to other foreign nationals and motivated them to travel and explore the countries of the tutors. It was a new and

innovative way to reach the participants and show them new possibilities of learning languages. This new format was appreciated by the participants since there is no equivalent in the region. We also created new partnerships with university youth organisations, for example some of the students of the ESN Mendelu were helping with the promotion on site during the event.

The project connected people of different cultures and enriched the Czech population with insights into the language, culture and realities of foreign countries. It was also an effort to motivate people to improve their language competences and inspire them to learn other languages as well as encourage them to experience the world. First step to being an active citizen is to show interest in the surroundings and try to understand it. With this in mind, the event promoted mutual respect and understanding among the different cultures in the local community which is one of the principles of human rights. The event was very positively rated by the visitors and by the tutors as well. It created new opportunities as well as friendships among participants. We believe that thanks to our Speak Dating we made young people think out of our region, moreover, think out of the box.



## Be a volunteer at home and in Europe

### Farní Charita Litomyšl – Volunteer Centre

Poland



During the Time to Move campaign we wanted to come closer to the general public and young people, so we decided to take part in the Library Week (3 - 9 October 2022), which was held in the local library. The library itself organises various activities for the readers during this week: lectures, workshops or free registration for readers. We spiced up the activities and promoted volunteering, travelling and Erasmus+ programme. We organised short and long-term activities during this week and promoted them on our website, social media and local newsletter.

As part of the short-term activities we organised: workshops for children (memory game with European flags); Eurodesk online Escape Room "Mysteries in Riga"; a quiz for youngsters about the EU; board games for young people (game Travel through Europe from Eurodesk); 2 lectures about volunteering in our town and in Europe, which included the experience of a young volunteer (helping in home for elderly people) and 3 students of local College of Education who talked about their Erasmus+ stay in various kindergartens.

These activities had long-term effect. We bought attractive books with an educational theme about the EU/travel and donated them to the library; each book included a leaflet, which informed about volunteering in Litomyšl and Eurodesk activities. The library promoted the books during the Library Week and rewarded each book loan with small promo items from Eurodesk. About 100 people participated during the Library Week (students, adults, seniors).

We tried to reach people of various age



and more in a longer time frame, we can also analyse the amount of book loans over the time and let the people think of various volunteering opportunities. We condensed the activities into a few days, and made the Time To Move campaign "stronger". We included students from primary and secondary schools, adults and seniors, so the activities were suitable for everyone.

We were able to informally reach especially young people and open volunteering possibilities for them (a completely new information or view). We spread the information about where to find our Eurodesk point. We established a new cooperation with the local library and College of Education, which might continue this year as well. We enriched the local library book depository and possibly might reach people who are interested in volunteering or studying/working abroad for a longer time (through the leaflets, where they will stay for a while).

# Europe for youth info day

## International Projects' Association INPRO

Poland



INPRO provides a bridge between the local youth and the international community in the region of Podkarpackie. Part of the young community in Rzeszów is disconnected from the wide variety of European opportunities within their reach. Thanks to "Europe For Youth" Info-Day they could explore their interests and potential, getting informed about new ways to discover and learn internationally. Our goal was not only to introduce them to the projects but also experience a first glance into them. In the 'Human Library' six participants of these projects were interviewed and shared their experiences to encourage young people to take part in European programmes.

"Europe For Youth" info-day takes place every three months and is initiated by international volunteers of INPRO from more than 10 countries. They inform about European opportunities, present their countries in a multicultural environment. The event is an opportunity for people from Rzeszów to learn more about European youth programmes such as Erasmus+ and ESC, discover different cultures, break down language barriers, and stereotypes.

Participants and international volunteers had the perfect space to practise their English outside the traditional formal environment, from theatre plays, to human libraries or interactive debates with topics such as global society or cultural differences. These methods made them feel more comfortable which allowed them to overcome language barriers and improve their linguistic skills. Finally, we offered individual consultations in

the Eurodesk Info Point, in which they could ask our volunteers about the project that can adapt better to their situations, depending on their age, interests or studies. We attempted to improve and learn from every try, thinking out of the box, to keep the perfect balance between providing useful information while having fun with appealing activities for the participants.

Each 'Country Corners' display a variety of country presentations, fun quizzes, food and games to help discover the countries of origin of our volunteers. In the Eurodesk point, you can find out more about the opportunities for young people and adults offered by the EU through Erasmus+ or the ESC programmes. In the Chillout Zone you can relax with coffee, tea, and play board games. In the Youth and European debates we enjoy actively involving young people into the discussion and for them to feel free to express themselves in an intercultural environment. We had a total of 254 people during the last event. About 1/3 of them approached our Eurodesk point and asked to be registered and 20% of these people took part in two youth exchange programmes that we had after the last event. During this past year, we held a total of 4 Info-Days, managing to reach more than 700 people. The local community provides us lots of positive feedback and supports our work by inviting us to organise new and innovative activities.



## Creation of the “Youthcast Studio”

### Limbažu Novada Izlītības Pārvalde (Board of Education of Limbazi Municipality)

Latvia



There are a lot of situations when youngsters are too shy to express their opinion, or don't like to talk too much. At one of our youth rooms we had a podcast equipment so we decided to create a whole studio with possibilities to create audio talkings, podcast episodes, interviews and much more. We also offered the possibility to create Live videos, create and digitally edit audio files. Our main objective was to create a space where youngsters could gain new experience and competencies in digital knowledge and communication skills.

Another objective was to develop creative classes for youngsters in creating podcasts and interviews and also being prepared for conversation. One of the general role of the studio is to share information about project possibilities around Europe, share the stories from youngsters about their experience in Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps. The studio has a large role in the Eurodesk Multiplier network. At “Youthcast” youngsters can receive consultations and information about youth possibilities around Europe. At the end of 2022 Board of Education of Limbazi municipality received the “Best in Youth Work” award, organised by the Latvian Ministry of Education and Science, for the best digital support for youngsters about Youthcast Studio.

Such a “Youthcast Studio” isn't in every youth centre or organisation. We are literally thinking out of the box, so we made this studio as a mobile studio. It means that Youthcast Studio can be in different places around Latvia. One of the examples is youth

## YOUTHCAST studio

activities and youth festivals where we can give an open platform for youngsters to participate in the creation of podcast episodes and interviews. In partnership with different youth organisations and NGOs we are providing an open platform for youngsters to find news about Eurodesk and other similar possibilities or simply talk about their experience in international cooperations and activities. We are going around our local youth rooms to give a chance to experience this studio for other youngsters, especially in rural areas where creative and digital possibilities are limited, that also means to give information about Eurodesk in these rural areas.

Our podcast initiative made a large impact not only in the local community, but also on a national level. We made a great platform for youngsters where they can not only express themselves but also get useful information about Eurodesk and youth interests. After the creation of studio lot of organisations are contacting us to get information about how to make podcast studio for youngsters and what possibilities does it open. Locally we are continuing to organise mobile studios around the municipality, including rural regions for youngsters with logistical obstacles.



## European pub quiz

### Eurocentrum Plzeň

Czech Republic



The European Pub Quiz was our main event in the Time to Move campaign. Pub Quiz is a popular form of entertainment in recent years even among young people. Five thematic circuit were prepared for contestants – newsreel and mobilities, music, European culture, identification of European cities and European cuisine.

The whole event was rather informal, and due to this, the age differences between high school students and older participants were blurred. 37 contestants were divided into 9 teams – 5 teams of high school students and 4 team mixing students and working people. In the following days we received positive reactions so we want to organise this form of fun event regularly in Plzeň and in other towns.

The European Pub Quiz is an informal out of school activity, using non-formal education and mixing fun and knowledge based on a popular hobby.

As the result, the community is more informed about the EU and its programmes focused on student mobility and education. This type of fun is popular too, so we want to hold another round in April Klatovy and in May in Plzeň.



## True story

### Comune Di Pordenone

Italy



TrueStory is a project of the youth policies department of the Municipality in collaboration with the Eurodesk centre to give a voice to the young people of Pordenone. Through the local web radio Wideline, youngsters expressed ideas, aspirations, emotions, and discussed the main issues of the city regarding their area of interest. The main concern of the municipality in this project was listening to young people's dreams and ideas, with the goal to reshape a modern city oriented to the youth needs.

In 40 episodes, TrueStory analysed every week with the youngsters their concerns and ideas related to training, mobility, job opportunities, dreams and aspirations in a complex and constantly evolving society. The broadcast took place every Thursday live from Wideline Radio venue and each episode lasted about 40 minutes. In every episode a group of max 4 youngsters discussed with a youth worker that had the role of facilitator. In the end 121 young people from Pordenone (or working/studying there), mainly aged 15-22, chose TrueStory as their means to express themselves.

The active role of the youngsters in shaping the title and format of the broadcast has been considered a key element in the implementation of the project: they always chose the main themes and created the schedule of each episode with speeches, interviews, phone calls, debates and music tracks, with the opportunity to express themselves freely and with their language. Therefore TrueStory shaped itself on the real needs of the youngsters to be communicated and shared with their peers.



The initiative stemmed from the idea that youth policies should be implemented starting from the needs and expectations of young people and not descend from above by adults. The municipality didn't just involve young people in the decision making, but stimulated them to be the proactive part of a process set up in an informal and free space where they didn't feel under judgement. In a friendly context, young participants surprised us with proposals that were not so hard to realize. The unconventional approach of True Story had a positive influence both on young people and the city itself, as new projects and ideas took place thanks to what emerged from every episode. Their ideas didn't remain as a dream book, but really influenced Pordenone's policies. Thanks to TrueStory, the strengths and the weaknesses of the city emerged in a public and spontaneous way. Just to give an example, the municipality is modifying scheduled times and dimensions of the buses, as the lack of efficient public transportations emerged as one of the city weaknesses.

## Day of Europe: speak dating and flag parade



### Eurocentrum Liberec / Europe Direct Liberec

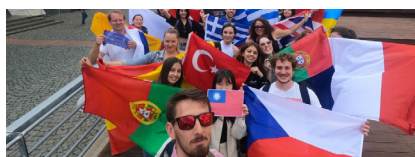
Czech Republic

On the occasion of the celebration of Europe Day we organised a Speak-dating at the University Square of the Technical University of Liberec followed by a flag march. The event took place in cooperation with ESN Liberec and the Technical University of Liberec and was attended mainly by students of the Technical University of Liberec, but also by students from secondary and primary schools in the Liberec region. The main objectives were to celebrate Europe Day, linguistic and cultural diversity, to connect foreigners studying or working in Liberec with local people, to be inspired by the stories of individual speakers and to inform young people about the opportunities offered by the EU.

Key to this event was the partnership with the local branch of ESN Liberec and the Technical University. We emphasised on a good selection of speakers for the speak-dating, the informative side of the event but also on the visual side of the event. We wanted the event to sound like a real celebration. We often feel that there is relatively little contact between students who are at our university on Erasmus+ and Czech students and thus the much desired exchange of experiences does not take place. This is exactly what we wanted to reinforce through Speak-dating with 10 native speakers from the local university. The aim was to talk and learn a little bit of different languages, but at the same time for both sides to get to know each other better and be able to inspire each other. We had an information stand in the square with Eurodesk, ESN and representatives from the

international department, Eures Liberec and other partners. Apart from small competitions for Eurodesk promotional items, we mainly wanted to inform about international opportunities for young people. After the end of the speak-dating we went together in a parade with flags to the city centre, where we actively talked to people and explained why we were organising such a parade.

There were about 300 active participants and hundreds of other people who didn't participate actively but saw the event and the march with flags. They engaged in conversations with teachers and international students from the local university, some of whom walked with us in the parade. We talked to a large number of them about different international opportunities and motivated them to get involved in the programmes. Hundreds more saw the parade with flags or decorated booths for speak-dating, this way we were able to make the foreign community more visible in our region and connect them a bit more with the locals. Information about the event also made its way into the local press and a video of the event went viral on social media. We have established a tradition of celebrating Europe Day in our region. We have connected more people from different parts of the world and let the European spirit live a little more in our country.



# RDG for SDGs – Reggio Emilia, Dijon and Girona for the sustainable development goals



## E35 Foundation

Italy

RDG for SDGs was coordinated by the Reggio Emilia Eurodesk Agency. The main goal was to create and disseminate a communication and awareness campaign made by and for young people, to contribute to the promotion of the 2030 Agenda within the twin cities of Reggio Emilia, Girona and Dijon, with a focus on 3 topics: green transition, digital transition and fight against inequalities.

Each city established a Young Editorial Team (YET) composed of 15 participants (18-30 years old) through an open public call. Each team mapped the most relevant local practices and selected 1 for each of the 3 topics. The young people participated in 4 online workshops held by communication experts (social media, video making, graphics) and defined and developed different communication projects (social media campaign, video, podcast, websites) to promote and disseminate at local and international level the best practices.

The participants had the chance to meet locally and internationally, with peers as well as local actors, discussing and exploring relevant issues and experiences related to sustainable development of their territories. The project has fostered an intensive exchange of ideas, good practices and competences that resulted in 9 different communication projects, developed by the young participants, which contributed to raise awareness about the 3 project's topics among the overall population with a particular attention to youth. The various contents were disseminated through the partners' web and social channels, media (TV and newspapers) and dedicated events, locally



and internationally, reaching around 650,000 people, of which over 350,000 through social media. This dissemination has also made it possible, at the local level, to bring the results of the project and, in particular, the selected good practices, to the attention of over 50 local administrators and about 80 organisations operating in the relevant thematic areas of the 3 territories.

The project resulted in an increased knowledge and awareness on the SDGs, thanks to the development of a communication campaign carried out by young people and aimed at the citizens of the 3 cities. Another relevant outcome of the project was the connection it created among the partners and local stakeholders involved. This strong collaboration resulted in the approval of an Erasmus+ youth exchange, which will give the YET members the opportunity to finally meet in person, in Reggio Emilia, in March 2023, to discuss and exchange their ideas on the topic of inclusion and equity.

## Points communs

### Info-Jeunes Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

France



This project was initiated by 2 Eurodesk coordinators of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France) and Lombardy (Italy) regions. It has been noticed on both sides that the feeling of belonging to the European Union is very quickly eroded among young people and the impression of not being listened to does not encourage them to become aware of their European citizenship and make their voices heard. They do not know how to access the decision-making processes and how to participate in the social life of their territory and their community.

The collaboration of the 2 transnational networks allowed to:

- encourage the active participation of young people in democratic life;
- encourage the debate on themes that concern youth policies;
- take into account the word of the young people in the elaboration of the future political decisions which concern them;
- know the Eurodesk network to accompany them in their project;
- allow the Eurodesk multipliers to develop spaces of speech.

2 mobilities allowed 40 Italian and French young people to meet, exchange, test animation tools and share good practices. By receiving more detailed information on Europe and its functioning, young people better understood the possibilities offered by the EU programmes and all the initiatives of participation in its democratic life. This project allowed the development of

innovative actions with and for young people in order to make them actors of their life path. In collaboration with the multipliers and the decision makers, the participants thought about solutions allowing everyone to interact in a European and international environment and be part of it. Through different workshops, the young people were able to experiment with methods of public speaking and encourage the emergence of local projects.

The involvement of elected officials and decision-makers made young people aware of the need to actively participate in their municipality's policies and enabled administrators to establish direct contacts with young people in their region. The participation of the multipliers led to a better coordination and animation of the network of regional actors working on international mobility. Moreover, it provided a better knowledge of the Italian-French civil society and in particular of the youth policies at the local, regional, national and European levels, of the Italian-French youth information system and networks as well as provided new skills and tools to inform young people, in particular on international mobility and youth and political dialogue and in building projects at European level with foreign partners.



25 SEPT - 1 OCT SAREZZO, IT  
13 NOV - 19 NOV LYON, FR

**FAIS ENTENDRE TA VOIX !**

## International day

### Eurocentrum Liberec / Europe Direct Liberec

Czech Republic



The International Day is a fair of international opportunities with lectures, debates and other accompanying activities, which is intended primarily for students of secondary schools and universities from the Liberec Region. We established the fair to inform a larger number of young people at once and also because there was a complete lack of similar events in our region. We organised the event in cooperation with the Foreign Department of the Technical University of Liberec and together with other partners. One of the main goals was to motivate young people by personal stories of the speakers, by showing them real people and examples.

During the event it was possible to visit the stands of exhibitors, including ours, where representatives of different institutions offering various international opportunities exhibited. For this event, we tried to motivate young people to try a foreign opportunity and give them confidence through the stories of specific people from different backgrounds. Participants could attend a lecture entitled "Study, travel, work in the EU" by Martin Fišer from Eurocentrum Liberec, partner of the Eurodesk network. In the second part, they could participate in "From Liberec to the World and Back", where they could be inspired by the stories of 8 people who shared their international story and how it personally affected them. The speakers talked about volunteering, DiscoverEU, Erasmus+ Youth Exchanges, etc. In the last part, there was a discussion with students who had been to university on Erasmus+ and participants could ask them anything practical.



The event was attended by around 800 people from students and teachers from secondary schools and universities. The atmosphere was really positive and the hunger for information from young people was incredible. Despite our other activities in the region, many young people are still unaware of the opportunities the EU offers them and often do not believe that the opportunities are for them. They don't trust themselves linguistically, they are afraid of the high costs, or they think that the different programmes are only for the most talented from the best schools. We believe that by interactively sharing just the personal experiences of a variety of people, we can rid them of these fears (and myths). An important dimension of the event is to connect the students of the SHS with the local university, where they can perhaps see the campus for the first time in their lives and have a taste of a foreign opportunity before actually going to any university. Then they often have a greater interest in Erasmus+ at university.

# European day of languages: as many languages you know, as many times you are a human being!



## Eurocentrum Liberec / Europe Direct Liberec

Czech Republic

The main goal of the project was to motivate young people to learn foreign languages, to get to know different people and cultures from different countries and to travel and take advantage of the opportunities offered by the EU across Europe. The event was organised in the modern Regional Scientific Library Liberec and it was held from 8 am to 2:30 pm. During the day, 310 young people from 12 schools attended the event.

Each group was able to try several activities. The first was a speak-dating with 15 foreigners from our region. Each of them had a table with a flag and the children were able to stop by and have a brief conversation with them. The students were also able to try out a sign language workshop with a tutor from the Center for the Disabled. Then they could try dubbing foreign language films or compete in the "Take a risk with languages" knowledge competition, where they competed in teams and answered different categories of language-related questions. There was also a stand with Eurodesk information and promotional materials where we could advise them on current opportunities or motivate them for the future. Additional activities included the opportunity to complete a giant puzzle of the European Union, or to see the best works from the European Day of Languages art competition held in September. 271 students from 29 schools took part in that competition which was displayed in the library during the event and then in the V-Club youth leisure club until the end of the year.

Our innovation was mainly in the variability of the activities, their interactivity, duration and execution, and perhaps the involvement of a lot of diverse actors from the region. Young people were actively informed about the opportunities offered by the EU and according to the reactions, most of them were not aware of many of them (e.g. Discover EU, or Erasmus+ youth exchanges, etc). In order to multiply the results of the event, we prepared a package with information materials for each teacher and also explained the basic opportunities that they could disseminate among young people and introduced them to the Eurodesk network. We were also able to bring together partners from different sectors. We worked with the Technical University of Liberec which connected us with international students through the Erasmus Student Network. We also included the Disability Centre who prepared a workshop on sign languages and the young people also had the opportunity to communicate and get to know a deaf person. All of this took place at our regional library. The result was also to create a connection between different groups of people who do not normally meet so much.



## Thinking out of the box

### Directorate of Primary Education of Arta

Greece



A two-day symposium was held during Time to Move campaign in Arta, in cooperation with the support of Eurodesk, the municipality of Arta, the Epirus region and regional Directorate of Education. Guests were invited to make speeches, including a green company who developed alternative energy sources and 3 problems were submitted to students as green case studies in order to provoke problem solving in action:

1. Elimination of industrial emissions.
2. Recycling and waste management.
3. Wastewater treatment.

The expected results were to invite students to think out of the box and the local community to learn a new way of thinking, through cooperation and sharing knowledge. Because knowledge is power, and it must be shared. Young people must learn how to learn in a world that is changing, in a global society, with many challenges but also prejudice. We are teachers, so we must inspire young people. The key is to change reality and if we want we can work in that direction in order to create tomorrow's thinking outside the box adults.

There is one particular puzzle we may have seen. It's a drawing of a box with some dots in it, and the idea is to connect all the dots by using only four lines. We can work on that puzzle, but the only way to solve it is to draw the lines so they connect outside the box. It's so simple once we realise the principle behind it. But if we keep trying to solve it inside the box, we'll never be able to master that particular puzzle. That puzzle represents the



way a lot of people think. They get caught up inside the box of their own lives. We've got to approach any problem objectively and stand back. All of a sudden, just like the puzzle, we'll see how to handle our problem. And just like the four lines that connect all the dots, we'll discover the course of action that's just right in order to set our life straight. In order to live in a different way we must first think in a different way.

The target group were the students, invited to get out of the comfort zone and learn to think in a different way. The opening and openness of the mind is an opening to society and globalisation. The benefits start from the students and their teachers. Then they will affect the families and their friends, because young people love new things, and thinking out of the box. We'll show them the way. Then there is the local community in which the parents of the students work. It is not that we are more clever than others. It is the will not only to do things right, but to do the right things. And until now, in our region the thinking is common and seems like Youth has no other solutions. So we want to open a new direction and show Youth that life is unlimited.



# Solstice night hike

## Jurmala Youth Initiative Centre

Latvia



Solstice night hike was a unique event, because its goal was to inform and educate youngsters not only about EU opportunities, but how important it is to maintain traditions and each nation's values, and to do it through yet unexplored methods. Latvians originally have very nature-based beliefs in our lifelong values and traditions, but due to change in the way people nowadays consume information and use their knowledge on a daily basis, we gave our youngsters an opportunity to re-learn skills, knowledge and values that our ancestors had.

Our project combined different types of activities and methods: as a base - hiking along the sea, folk song writing, traditional power symbol learning, solstice celebration traditions meaning and trying them out (flower crown, midnight swim, bonfire etc.), example comparison from different countries etc. Our goal was to teach youngsters traditions that they could easily share with others making our inheritance stronger. This event took around 7 hours and was filled with emotions and sights that youngsters had never experienced before. It helped them to understand why we cherish in our country such things as nature and its ways, traditions shared between generations, our folklore etc. As a result, thanks to a professional coach that had tradition based knowledge, at the end of the event youngsters could make the closing part - bonfire ceremony, by themselves.

The project was rather atypical because it joined a cultural happening, Līgo festival

celebration that is usually done by sitting in one place, with a healthy, active process of hiking along the seaside. Also most of our events are usually done in daylight because of safety, and the legal work hours, but young people had been asking for activities in the second part of the day more and outside the youth centre, this was stepping out of the box. We believe this project made youngsters think outside of the box in two different ways - learning experience and acknowledging the different backgrounds we come from and - that the learning ways and circumstances changed all the time. Almost every task they needed to do was integrated with the surroundings.

More than 40 youngsters are informed about Eurodesk and their opportunities in Europe. We introduced youngsters to a new way of how to spend their free time (hiking). More people are informed why and how Latvians and other cultures celebrate the changing of the seasons around the year. We made the seaside cleaner and provided opportunity for youngsters from further regions to see the sea. Youngsters agreed that they need more activities like this, so we are planning the second part of the hike.



# Build Europe!

## Ayuntamiento De Albacete

Spain



BE! is a large open game, versatile, an educational and entertainment resource. The participants, generally young, place countries, their names and their flags correctly on the board. BE! offers modalities (questions on European culture, Erasmus+ and ESC, youth resources such as the EYC,...) The degree of satisfaction of the participants has been mostly "totally satisfied" and "very satisfied". The game is very entertaining and as a result you know Europe better in a fun and dynamic way.

Have you seen a giant game? A 4 metres map of Europe? Countries with a large area or elongated shapes like Sweden or Turkey measure more than a metre in length! And Belgium fits in your hand. The participant can literally walk around the giant map of Europe, step on the countries and scroll on the map to find where each country is and place its territory. All the countries fit together to form the giant puzzle. It's surprising, young people get to know Europe while they build it by playing. They also have to place the tokens/ flags and the ones with the names of the countries in their territory. It has been used in many events (Europe Day, EYID, EYW, TTM, youth fairs,...), in educational centres, in streets and squares with all kinds of visiting public. In all of them the participants have left with the satisfaction of having learned something new about Europe.

During the prototyping phase, youth groups participated. They played and suggested important changes to us. Now it is much more fun and educational than at the beginning. BE! it is more than a puzzle. It adapts to different youth groups (size, ages, level of



knowledge). BE! It can be used in different activities (promotional, educational, youth exchanges, fairs,...). They are the protagonists making team decisions. This year, we will consider the Youth Participation Guide in Youth Information Services co-published by Eurodesk.

In terms of impact, young people improved their knowledge of Europe, Eurodesk, European programmes and other resources. The game proved to be an excellent resource to publicise the office and the services provided by Eurodesk and at the same time the Center. It's based on quality materials, easy transportation, quick assembly and disassembly. It's very versatile: easy or very difficult mode. It adapts to all kinds of groups. It allows adding other resources: Kahoot, information searches on the Internet. Just over a hundred young people have played. It has been a success. Now the educational centres ask us for their school exchange activities. BE! It will be on the European Youth Information Day, Europe Day, European Youth Week, youth exchange activity organised by the Albacete City Council in September and in October for our Time to Move. And the rest of the year it is extended to youth groups (scouts, for example), where another 500 young people can use it.



# eurodesk

For more information please visit [eurodesk.eu](https://eurodesk.eu)



Co-funded by  
the European Union

The project was co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those only of the author, Eurodesk Brussels Link, and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union or EACEA can be held responsible for them.