



This European Youth Week was a great success — and it would not have been possible without all of you. Thank you for your energy, your ideas and your commitment in making it happen across Europe.

European Youth Week Highlights

On **Friday 24 April**, the European Youth Week began at the European Parliament in Brussels, bringing together a vibrant community of over 1,000 young people, alongside policymakers and political figures and inspiring speakers from across the youth field.

The kick-off event started with a [dynamic plenary session](#) with insightful discussions and collective engagement. Opened with inspiring video-messages by **Roberta Metsola**, President of the European Parliament, and **Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission, a **high-level session** featured dynamic paired conversations between high level speakers and inspirational young people:

- **Nela Riehl**, Member of the European Parliament and **Yuliya Ralko**, Belarusian youth advocacy expert and journalist.
- **Marios Panayides**, Permanent Secretary at the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth and **Lars Westra**, EU Youth Delegate to the United Nations.
- **Rareş Voicu**, President of the European Youth Forum and **Anastasia Andreou**, Digital Communications Expert, Inclusion advocate and International Relations Secretary of the Board of the Cyprus Youth Council.

The plenary was closed by **Commissioner Glenn Micallef**, who highlighted the need to reach more young people at the local level, in conversation with **Magnus Lenngren**, Vice President of Red Cross Youth Norway.

Encompassing a multifaceted approach, the event also hosted an extensive selection of 43 parallel **breakout sessions** bringing together young people, European Institutions policy experts and stakeholders, and a **networking event** where participants met with EU policymakers to learn more about related EU policies and career pathways.

Throughout the whole duration of the event, a vibrant **marketplace** ran in the side line with 27 stands, showcasing and promoting various youth initiatives, EU policies and programmes that concern young people.

Prior to the Kick-Off event, on 22 April an **outdoor exhibition** titled 'Stories of Solidarity' opened on the Esplanade Solidarnosc of the European Parliament, celebrating 30 years of volunteering in Europe and beyond. A testimony of volunteers from 33 countries, from different generations,

who open their heart about how volunteering changed their lives, helped them grow and opened their eyes on what solidarity and fairness truly mean. Read their stories [here](#).

Check out our recap [video](#)!

EU Events happening across Europe

Between 24 April and 1 May, 398,615 participants attended more than 1,467 activities taking place in 39 (European) countries. With activities ranging from workshops and conferences to debates and hackathons, the Week provided opportunities for everyone to get involved. Explore them in the [Activities Map](#).

Youth Policy Dialogues

More [Youth Policy Dialogues](#) with Commissioners are on the horizon, offering young people further opportunities to engage directly with decision-makers, share their perspectives, and contribute to discussions shaping the future of Europe.

On **7 May**, Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth, Wopke **Hoekstra**, and Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, Glenn **Micallef**, will jointly host a dialogue with 17 young people on “**Youth on the frontlines of climate resilience**”.

As part of the consultation process to prepare the future Commission’s Communication “**A Strategic Vision for Sport in Europe: Reinforcing the European Sport Model**”, which will be adopted at the end of 2026, Commissioner Micallef will hold a Youth Policy Dialogue with 25 young people in Brussels on **26 May**.

To engage directly with young Europeans, Jessika **Roswall**, Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy, will meet 15 selected young participants from across the EU on **3 June**, in Brussels. More Youth Policy Dialogues will take place this year, so [stay tuned](#)!

DiscoverEU

The latest DiscoverEU call was held in the first half of April on the [European Youth Portal](#). More than 40,000 young people will be awarded a travel pass to explore Europe from this summer, with results announced on 1 June. But that’s not all! From 16 to 18 July 2026, 200 young DiscoverEU travellers from across Europe will gather in Lyon, France for a huge DiscoverEU Meet-Up. This big event will celebrate youth mobility, cultural diversity, and the power of European connections, showing how DiscoverEU brings young people together to build solidarity, inclusion, and a shared sense of belonging across borders. Find out more [here](#).

We are All in for Change, are you in?

The European Youth Week Team at the European Commission

