

Overview of Commission Youth Check in 2025



Application of the Commission youth check in 2025

Key elements of the 2025 youth check process

The Commission youth check was applied to the 2025 work programme. As a result, Commission services carried out consultations with young people and youth stakeholders on the following key/Annex I initiatives:

1. 2030 Consumer Agenda, including an action plan for consumers in the Single Market
2. An EU fit for enlargement: policy reviews and reforms – *carried over to 2026*
3. A new action plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights – *carried over to 2026*
4. EU Anti-racism Strategy
5. EU Preparedness Union Strategy
6. EU Strategy to support, protect and empower the civil society
7. European Democracy Shield
8. European Ocean Pact
9. Post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework proposals
10. Quality jobs roadmap – *carried over to 2026*
11. Union of Skills
12. Vision for Agriculture and Food

Young people and youth organisations were consulted through various formats, including Youth Policy Dialogues with Commissioners, EU Youth Conference of the EU Youth Dialogue, the EU Youth Stakeholders Group, focus groups and dedicated meetings, the European citizens' panels and the Citizens' Engagement Platform. Special attention was given to the responses by young citizens in the public consultations.

Outcome of the 2025 youth check process for adopted initiatives

Initiative	Youth in the policy initiatives
2030 Consumer Agenda/ DG JUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Puts forward as an action the organisation of a Youth Policy Dialogue on consumer policy in 2026• Recognises risks for young consumers as specific target group• Points out that minors are particularly vulnerable consumers• References the EU-wide inquiry on the broader impacts of social media on the wellbeing and the panel of experts on children and social media• Mentions the housing crisis disproportionately affects young people
Anti-racism Strategy 2026-2030 / DG JUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentions young people and youth civil society were consulted in the framework of the Commission Youth Check process.• Announces that JRC will carry out a study on the role of social media in the forming of young people's attitudes to ethnic diversity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refers to citizenship education as key for shaping open mindsets of young learners to appreciate diversity
<u>EU Preparedness Union Strategy / DG ECHO</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> youth civil society mentioned as having a vital role in population preparedness recognition of youth workers having a key role in fostering digital and media literacy and critical thinking, promoting civic engagement, and teaching democratic citizenship dedicated key action on promoting preparedness in youth programmes (E+ and ESC) a new preparedness priority will be created in EU youth programmes
<u>EU Civil Society Strategy / DG JUST</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognises the contribution of civil society to actively involve young people. civil society promotes active citizenship and encourages young people to participate in democratic processes the Commission plans to involve young people and organisations in various youth forums, encourage civil society participation in debates on the Citizens' Engagement Platform, and connect civil society with citizens' input from the European Citizens' Panels to help shape EU policies mentions the youth check, youth policy dialogues, Youth Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean, the EU Youth Stakeholders Group
<u>European Democracy Shield / DG JUST</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentions the Basic Skills Support Scheme for schools to support children and young people to acquire literacy, the Guidelines for teachers and educators on tackling disinformation and promoting digital literacy and the critical thinking skills of young people Announces a EU democracy guide for citizens, which will have particular focus on young people Gives visibility to the importance of youth participation References the President's Youth Advisory Board Youth Policy Dialogues Confirms that the EU Youth Dialogue Participation Toolkit, created with national youth councils, will be adapted to reach more young people and will be promoted via the European Youth Portal to boost youth engagement more broadly Announces the Voices of the Future initiative which will aim to create a European Forum for Intergenerational Fairness in Democracy, as an inclusive space where people of all ages can meet to shape Europe's long-term choices.

<p><u>European Ocean Pact / DG MARE</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announces that the Commission will establish an EU Ocean Youth Ambassador and Intergenerational Network to engage young ocean professionals and advocates in ocean sustainability across the EU and globally. • Career development of early career ocean professionals will be supported through the new Blue Intergenerational Programme of the All Atlantic Ocean R&I Alliance. • A new internship programme under the EU4Ocean coalition will offer young people hands-on experience in jobs that contribute to a competitive and sustainable blue economy. This will not only equip young people with the skills necessary for future careers but also reinforce the link between ocean literacy and the private sector.
<p><u>A dynamic EU Budget for the priorities of the future - The Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034/ DG BUDG</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new long-term EU budget will step up investment in education and skills to help EU students and workers embrace opportunities across the EU. It will continue to promote Europe’s rich cultural diversity, democratic values and freedoms. It will be rooted in respect for the rights and values that define our Union. • The Erasmus+ programme - combining the current Erasmus+ with the European Solidarity Corps - will be strengthened, reflecting its status as one of the most emblematic EU programmes. • Erasmus+ will continue to support high quality education and training, boosting the learning mobility of young people to develop skills and create shared experiences. By investing in youth, volunteering, and sport, Erasmus+ will help build stronger, more connected societies, encourage civic and democratic engagement, and contribute to social cohesion at all levels. • The national and regional partnership plans will also provide strong support for reforms and investments supporting skills development and related social infrastructure, fully aligned with country-specific recommendations. • The new AgoraEU programme will support the pillars of a strong democracy, including culture, media and civil society • Mentions agriculture and rural areas remaining a priority and possibility for creating opportunities for young farmers and promoting generational renewal • Proposes a social target of 14% applying to National and Regional Partnership Plans to steer significant investments towards the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, supporting quality

	employment, skills, social inclusion and housing
<u>Union of Skills</u> / DG EMPL/DG EAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognition of youth work and volunteering can offering valuable opportunities for people to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours to grow and become active citizens. • highlighting particular changes for young people: sharp decline in basic skills, including digital skills, the need for generational renewal in crafts occupations, agriculture, fishers, shortage of young women in STEM, • reference to younger generations' evolving needs and expectations when it comes to education and careers • recognising the higher risk for young people with disabilities leaving school early and the lower share of rural young people with a higher education compared to young people in urban areas • announcing key deliverable: Basic Skills Action Plan, for children and young people struggling to acquire basic skills • mentions value of multi-generational workplaces supporting two-way knowledge and skills transfers between young and older citizens
<u>Vision for Agriculture and Food</u> / DG AGRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mentions that while young people express an interest in farming as a career there are many challenges and barriers • Annual Youth Policy Dialogues will empower the meaningful inclusion of young citizens and farmers in policy discussions. • proposed targeted public support for young farmers. • recognises young farmers as drivers of innovation and that growing organic sector and agroecological farming practices are attractive options for them • points to challenges faced by young farmers and the need to tackle the key barriers to generational renewal