

Meeting of the EU Youth Stakeholders Group

15 October 2026
Online

**EU YOUTH
STAKEHOLDERS
GROUP**

Agenda of the day

Thursday 15 October 2026

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- **10:00** Welcome
 - **10:05** Updates on Key Youth Initiatives
 - **10:30** Roundtable Update from Members

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- **10:55** Youth Check – AI Strategy for the Culture and Creative Sector
 - **12:00** Comfort Break

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- **12:10** Feedback Session
 - **12:55** Wrap-up and Closing

2026 Youth Policy Dialogues

- Each Commissioner has to hold one Youth Policy Dialogue per year
- All the Commissioners held or have planned their Youth Policy Dialogue in 2026
- **31 Dialogues** already took place in **11 countries**, with 3 more coming
- The topics covered **all portfolios**, engaging a wide range of discussions
- Link, as much as possible, to key initiatives in the **2026 Work Programme** relevant for young people
- Ensure Dialogues feed directly into the **Youth Check** process, and concrete follow-up actions

YOUTH

DIALOGUES

WEU
TALK



2026 Youth Policy Dialogues with Commissioner Micallef

1. **Young Voices for the Ocean**, with Commissioner Kadis, on 19 March in Ayia Napa (Cyprus)
2. **Youth on the Frontlines of Resilience**, with Commissioner Hoekstra, on 7 May, in Brussels
3. **European Sport Model**, on 26 May, in the Royale Union Saint-Gilloise stadium (Belgium)
4. **Young Voices for Europe** on the EU Youth Strategy, 16 July in Lyon (France)
5. **Arctic youth participation**, with Commissioner Kadis, on 1 September in Brussels
6. **Protection of minors online and cyberbullying**, with EVP Virkkunen, on 22 September in Brussels



EU Youth Dialogue

- **12th cycle**, under trio IE-LT-EL: **consultation phase**, with National Working Groups leading consultations at national level
- Inclusion of candidate countries, potential candidates, and other non-EU countries
- **EU Youth Conference in Dublin (27-30 September):**
 - **Recommendations** relating to Youth Goal #4
 - **Revision of the European Youth Goals**
 - **Conference report** to be published on the European Youth Portal
- **13th cycle**, under trio IT-LV-LU: Preparations ongoing (onboarding in June 2026; informal meetings)
- Ongoing work on **monitoring and dissemination guidelines**



President's Youth Advisory Board

- **Second meeting:** 15 July 2026 on Youth policy priorities post-2027
- **Main recommendations:**
 - fully integrate young people into policymaking as long-term partners and co-designers, beyond consultation; extend youth check
 - address cost of living and affordability as primary concerns facing young people
 - address climate crisis and mental health challenges to safeguard the future of all generations
 - deliver effective responses to young people's concerns



Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness

- **13 October:** launch of the [Pledge on Intergenerational Fairness](#)
 - With the **Committee of the Regions**
 - Hosted on **Intergenerational Fairness Index** [webpage](#)



Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness

- Next up:
 - Event on **16 November** – Day of Intergenerational Fairness
 - Future-Oriented Policymaking Package by JRC

JRC science for
intergenerational fairness



Public Consultation post-2027 EUYS

Main Results

From April to July 2026, over 6 000 people took part in the public consultation on the post 2027 strategy. More than half of respondents were young people aged 15–29, with many responses also from NGOs.

Key priorities for the next EU Youth Strategy

Respondents want the next EU Youth Strategy to focus on:

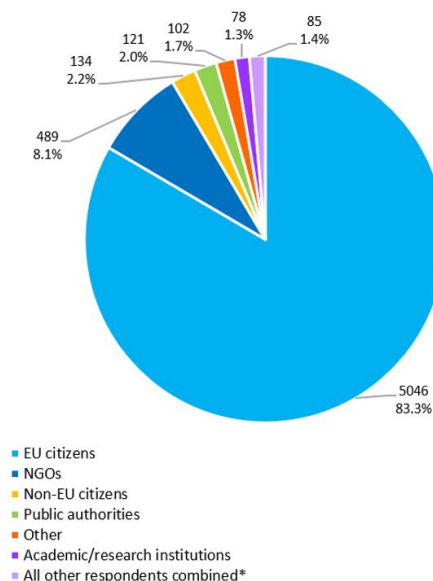
- Active citizenship and participation in decision-making
- Health and well-being
- Transition from education to employment

Removing barriers to youth participation

Respondents see a clear need to remove barriers to participation. The most common obstacles mentioned are:

- Limited opportunities to influence policy
- Lack of access to quality civic education
- Limited opportunities for young people to get involved in politics, including voting in elections

Respondent categories



Public Consultation post-2027 EUYS

Most effective engagement methods

- Promoting their involvement in EU decision-making
- Making information for young people more relevant, accessible and engaging
- Creating opportunities for dialogue and meetings between young people and EU policymakers

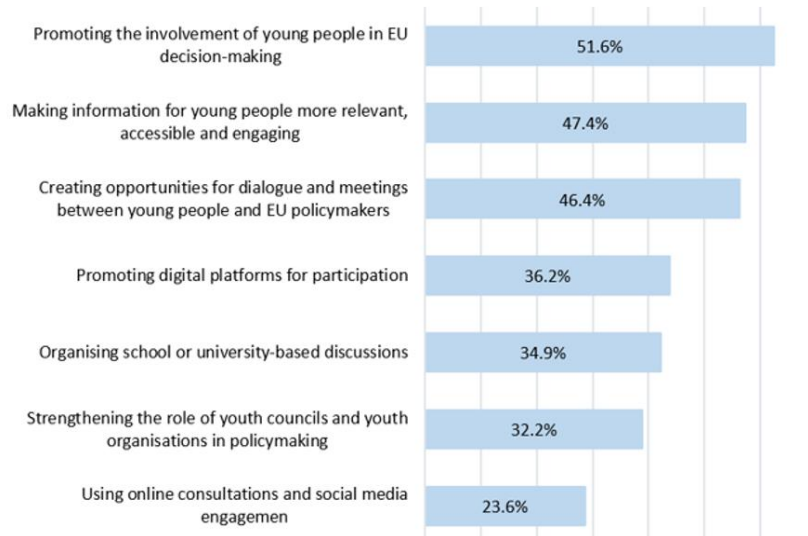
Inclusion

Inclusion is a major concern. Respondents see an urgent need to:

- Tackle disinformation, hate speech and harassment
- Improving access to opportunities for young people to have their ideas and opinions heard by policymakers
- Supporting research and knowledge-building

The full report is available [here](#)

Most effective way for engaging young people in EU policies



Update – 2026 Youth Check

24 initiatives confirmed for 2026 Youth Check

(adopted)

Novelties for 2026

- Age specific question in OPC
- Stronger links to Youth Policy Dialogues
- To apply to all relevant initiatives beyond Annex I CWP

1. Climate package for the decade ahead
2. European integrated framework for climate resilience
3. Action Plan against cyberbullying
4. Education package
5. Intergenerational fairness strategy
6. Communication on a European sport model
7. Communication on humanitarian aid
8. Quality Jobs Act
9. Fair labour mobility package: Skills portability initiative
10. Anti-poverty strategy
11. Strengthening of the child guarantee
12. Update of the governance of the energy union and climate action
13. Energy efficiency – legal framework after 2030
14. Energy union package for the decade ahead: setting-up of the renewable energy framework
15. Circular Economy Act
16. Modernised rules to combat organised crime
17. Global health resilience initiative
18. Digital Fairness Act
19. Enhancing the strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities up to 2030
20. Vision 2040 for fisheries and aquaculture
21. European strategy on sustainable tourism
22. Right to stay strategy
23. Stress test of birds and habitats directives
24. Action plan on the protection of children against crime

Examples of consultations



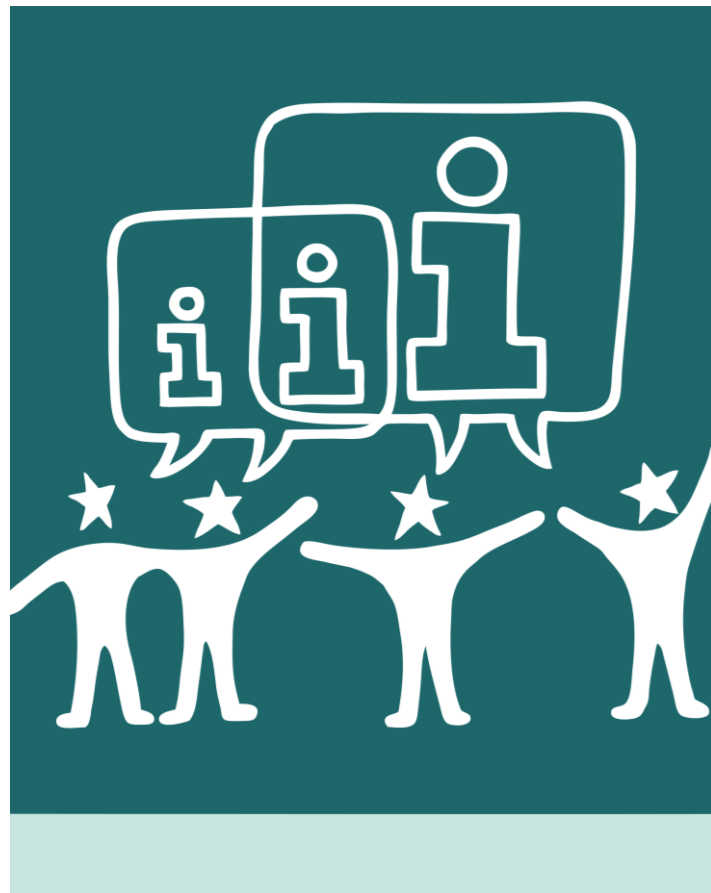
- Two Day Reality Check consultation event on **the Stress Test of the Birds and Habitats Directive**
- Consultations on the **Education Package** and **Quality Jobs Act** – EU Youth Stakeholders Group Meeting (2026 initiative)
- Informal consultations – **Young Energy Ambassadors** – Energy Union Package for Decade Ahead (2026 initiative)
- Youth organisations in the strategic dialogue on the EU **Anti-Poverty Strategy** (2026 initiative)
- Youth stakeholders in the **Culture Compass** survey



Youth Check – Next Steps

- 20 October 2026 –2027
Commission Work
Programme published
- Spring 2027 – List of
policy initiatives published
for 2027 Youth Check
- Spring 2027 – Overview
published online of 2026
Youth Check process





IE Presidency

Strength with unity

Youth Goal #4: Information and Constructive Dialogue

Council Files

Conclusions on empowering young people in an evolving information environment

Conclusions on promoting youth spaces for young people in Europe

Presidency Consultation Paper on the next EU Youth Strategy

EYCS: 19-20 November

Praise the youth & they will flourish



Roundtable – Updates from members – Achievements and upcoming projects

**EU YOUTH
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Youth Check Consultation – AI Strategy for the Culture and Creative Sector

EU Youth Stakeholders Group Meeting, 15.10.2026

Willy Kokolo, European Commission, DG EAC, Europe for Culture Unit



1. Policy context

AI horizontal policies and cultural policies

- AI Continent Action Plan (2025)
- Apply AI Strategy (2025)
- Culture Compass for Europe (2025) + Joint Declaration “Europe for Culture, Culture for Europe” (2026, Parliament, Council, Commission)

→ AI Strategy for the Cultural and Creative Sectors

2. Objectives

Set out an overarching vision for AI and Culture that will support the European Cultural and Creative sectors in grasping the opportunities offered by AI while ensuring that AI enables and reinforces human creativity, cultural and linguistic diversity, and that creators remain in control of their content.

Opportunities (e.g. creativity, efficiency, etc)

Challenges (copyright, skills and jobs, etc)

3. Guiding principles

1. technology at the service of culture
2. support to genuine human creation and protection of creators' rights
3. protection and promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity and inclusion, alongside broader access to diverse cultural content and knowledge
4. long-term sustainability of the creative economy
5. preparedness and future-proof policymaking

4. Pillars

1. INNOVATE: fostering innovation and competitiveness through collaboration between CCS and European AI developers
2. PROTECT: promoting fair business models and ethical use of AI in the CCS and protecting European creation and original content, and cultural and linguistic diversity
3. EMPOWER: equipping the CCS for their successful digital and AI transition through support and adaptations needed to grasp opportunities



What are the 3 key messages or priorities that young people would like to share with EU policymakers working on the AI Strategy for the Cultural and Creative Sectors?

- Work in break-out rooms for 30 minutes and reporting in plenary for 15 minutes
- One notetaker and one rapporteur per room
- Link in TEAMS for input document and to be broadcast in the breakout rooms

Comfort Break

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Feedback Session

- EU Youth Stakeholders Group – 2025/2026
- Two central questions:
 - 1) *What worked well in 2025/2026 with a view to identify best practices as relates to the work of the Group?*
 - 2) *What areas require further reflection?*
- Work in break-out rooms for 25 minutes and reporting in plenary for 15 minutes
- One notetaker and one rapporteur
- Link in TEAMS for document and to be broadcast in breakout sessions



Wrap Up and Closing

- Thanks to you!
- Continue to reach out and collaborate
- TEAMS Channel
- Post-2027 Youth Strategy – Results of the OPC – Have your Say
- Eurobarometer – Youth and Democracy – Results to be published soon
- Report of the meeting – European Youth Portal
- Next meeting online – January/February 2027

