



Youth Goals

Revising the European Youth Goals

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Revising the European Youth Goals

How were the European Youth Goals Originally Created?

The 11 [European Youth Goals](#) summarise the issues affecting young people in Europe and the political priorities important to them. The Youth Goals show in which areas change still has to happen so that young people in Europe can use their full potential.

The European Youth Goals were initially created through the 6th cycle of [the EU Youth Dialogue](#). Approximately 50,000 young people across all EU countries contributed to the goals through surveys, focus groups, and other consultation methods.

The current European Youth Goals are:

1. Connecting EU with Youth
2. Equality of All Genders
3. Inclusive Societies
4. Information & Constructive Dialogue
5. Mental Health & Wellbeing
6. Moving Rural Youth Forward
7. Quality Employment for All
8. Quality Learning
9. Space and Participation for All
10. Sustainable Green Europe
11. Youth Organisations & European Programmes

The 11 themes of the goals were chosen by the European Steering Committee of the 6th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue, based on the [consultation results](#) of the 6th cycle of EU Youth Dialogue. Using these 11 themes, the content of the goals was created by youth delegates at the EU Youth Conference in Sofia, Bulgaria, April 2018.

Why do the European Youth Goals need updating?

The European Youth Goals are annexed to [EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027](#), which is the framework for EU youth policy cooperation for 2019-2027

As this strategy comes to an end in 2027, it is necessary to consider how the European Youth Goals might need to be updated as a part of the revision of the EU Youth Strategy.

The [consultation](#) conducted in the 11th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue also identified that, while most current goals remain relevant to young people, there are several 'missing themes'. These include peace, security, economic security (including cost of living), and digitalisation, all of which are increasingly of concern to young people and are not featured in the current European Youth Goals, because they were of less concern to young people when the goals were originally created.



How will the European Youth Goals be revised?

The European Commission, working in collaboration with the European Youth Forum and researchers supporting the EU Youth Dialogue, has developed a participatory process that will enable young people across Europe to contribute to revising the current European Youth Goals. The process is linked to the 11th and 12th Cycles of the EU Youth Dialogue and especially the EU Youth Conferences in Cyprus and Ireland.

The purpose of this participatory process is to revise and update (rather than rewrite completely) the European Youth Goals as a part of the revision of the EU Youth Strategy. The intention is that revisions and updates will be based on the outcomes of consultations for the 11th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue, the EU Youth Conferences in Cyprus and Ireland, and a dedicated consultation process on the 'missing themes' in the current European Youth Goals. This means that some Youth Goals may remain unchanged, some others may be updated, merged or changed, and some new Goals may even be identified and created. It is foreseen that the format of the Youth Goals will remain unchanged, always featuring a title of the Goal, its definition, and a list of challenges or subgoals. It is also foreseen that the number of Youth Goals will not radically increase or decrease.

To guide the participatory process and ensure it is a youth-led process, a **Youth Goals Task Force** has been convened by the European Youth Forum with the support of the European Commission. This group will be made up of young people from National Youth Councils, International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations, as well as young people not engaged directly representing a youth organisation.

The following steps will be taken to revise the Youth Goals:

- The Youth Goals Task Force will develop proposals for the structure of the new European Youth Goals. This will include deciding the total number of goals and the theme of each goal. Their work will be based on the results of the consultation of the 11th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue and seek to incorporate the 'missing themes' identified by this consultation. They will consider which goals might need amending or updating to incorporate the new themes.
- These proposals of the Youth Goals Task Force will be presented to youth delegates at the Cyprus EU Youth Conference in March 2026 for approval. Youth delegates at the conference may be asked to choose among multiple proposals through voting. With the approval of the youth delegates, the structure of European Youth Goals and their themes will be finalised.
- The European Youth Forum and the European Commission will jointly launch a consultation to gather further young people's views related to the 'missing themes' in the current Youth Goals (peace, security, economic security, digitalisation). This consultation will focus on identifying what changes young people wish to see across Europe in relation to those specific themes. This consultation will be sent to the YFJ membership (which includes the National Youth Councils).
- The consultation replies will be analysed by the European Researchers supporting the EU Youth Dialogue and presented to Youth Delegates at the Irish Youth Conference in Autumn 2026.



- Youth Delegates at the Irish Youth Conference in Autumn 2026 will be asked to create the content for the revised Youth Goals. They will do this within the structure set at the EU Youth Conference in Cyprus and based on the results of the consultation on missing themes, as well as relevant consultations from past cycles of the EU Youth Dialogue. Youth Delegates will be tasked with creating the content of any new Goals and editing and amending existing Goals as needed. This will produce the final revised set of European Youth Goals, which will be presented to the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the European Steering Group for EU Youth Dialogue.

Finally, it needs to be noted that the ultimate decision on the inclusion of the revised Youth Goals in proposals and decisions related to the post-2027 EU Youth Strategy lies with the European Commission and the Council of the EU. Thus, it cannot be guaranteed that the outcomes of the revised Youth Goals will, in the end, be part of the new EU Youth Strategy. The intention of the update of the Youth Goals is to provide input and consideration to the process of the update of the EU Youth Strategy. Moreover, several aspects, such as the timeline, depend on the decision-making processes within the European Commission and the Council. While the overall goal is for the revised Youth Goals to feed into the EU Youth Strategy, it is also possible for them to be a standalone product, independent of the EU Youth Strategy or other youth policies.



Youth Goals Task Force: Remit and Scope

The purpose of the Youth Goals Task Force will be to steer the process of revising the European Youth Goals and to provide guidance on the consultation methodology across different events and opportunities.

The objective of the Youth Goals Task Force is to:

- Accompany the process of revising the European Youth Goals ahead of the next EU Youth Strategy
- Brainstorm and discuss different possibilities of a structure for revising the Youth Goals
- Establish an overview of the next action points for the revision of the new Youth Goals
- Use the outcomes of various consultations and youth spaces, upcoming youth participation spaces (such as EUYC), to gather further input on the new Youth Goals.

Specifically, the Youth Goals Task Force will be responsible for four major tasks:

Task one: Creating proposal(s) for the structure of the revised youth goals, including the theme of each new Youth Goal, and the number of Youth Goals. This will require considering:

- Which of the existing EU Youth Goals should stay in place, unchanged
- Which of the existing EU Youth Goals may need amendments, revisions, or merging
- Which of the existing EU Youth Goals, if any, may need removal
- Which new Youth Goals may need creating, and what their themes will be

These proposals(s) will need to be developed within the following context:

- The format of the Youth Goals should stay the same (that is, one theme per goal, a title, a definition, a description of the challenges and subgoals).
- It is also foreseen that the number of Youth Goals will not radically increase or decrease. The group is free to propose horizontal priorities or draw up other ideas.
- The proposal(s) should be based on realistic expectations of what can be achieved at the EU Youth Conference in Ireland, especially the fact that a limited number of working groups will be made available for the purpose of creating content for the new Youth Goals.
- The proposal(s) should take the consultation outcomes of the 11th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue into consideration.
- The Youth Goals should be in line with EU values as defined by the Treaties.

The group will be expected to submit its proposals to the EU Youth Conference in Cyprus. Multiple proposals can be submitted for a decision by a vote of the conference youth delegates.



Task two: Advising the European Youth Forum, European Commission and European Researchers on the consultation questions to be used to explore the ‘missing themes’.

Task three: Setting the overall title for the revised youth goals (i.e. European Youth Goals, EU Youth Goals or just Youth Goals).

Task four: If required, provide advice on a coming communication campaign to promote the Youth Goals.

The ultimate decision on the inclusion of the revised Youth Goals in proposals and decisions related to the post-2027 EU Youth Strategy lies with the European Commission and the Council of the EU. Thus, it cannot be guaranteed that the outcomes of the revised Youth Goals will, in the end, be part of the new EU Youth Strategy. The intention of the update of the Youth Goals is to provide input and consideration to the process of the update of the EU Youth Strategy. Moreover, several aspects, such as the timeline, depend on the decision-making processes within the European Commission and the Council. While the overall goal is for the revised Youth Goals to feed into the EU Youth Strategy, it is also possible for them to be a standalone product, independent of the EU Youth Strategy or other youth policies.

Membership of the Youth Goals Task Force

Members of the Youth Goals Task Force have been selected by the European Youth Forum through an open call as follows:

- The European Youth Forum (Chair)
- Cyprus Youth Council
- National Youth Council of Ireland
- German National Committee for Youth Work
- Young European People’s Party
- World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
- An individual from Italy

The European Commission and European Researchers will attend and support the task force meetings. Their role is to provide advice and guidance. The European Commission and researchers will not steer the discussions and will not have voting rights.