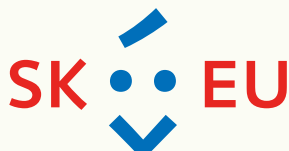


Implementation Tool Box



Structured Dialogue V

Enabling all young people to engage
in a ~~diverse, connected and inclusive~~ Europe -
Ready for life, ~~ready for society~~



MALTA EU2017

Agenzija
zghazagh

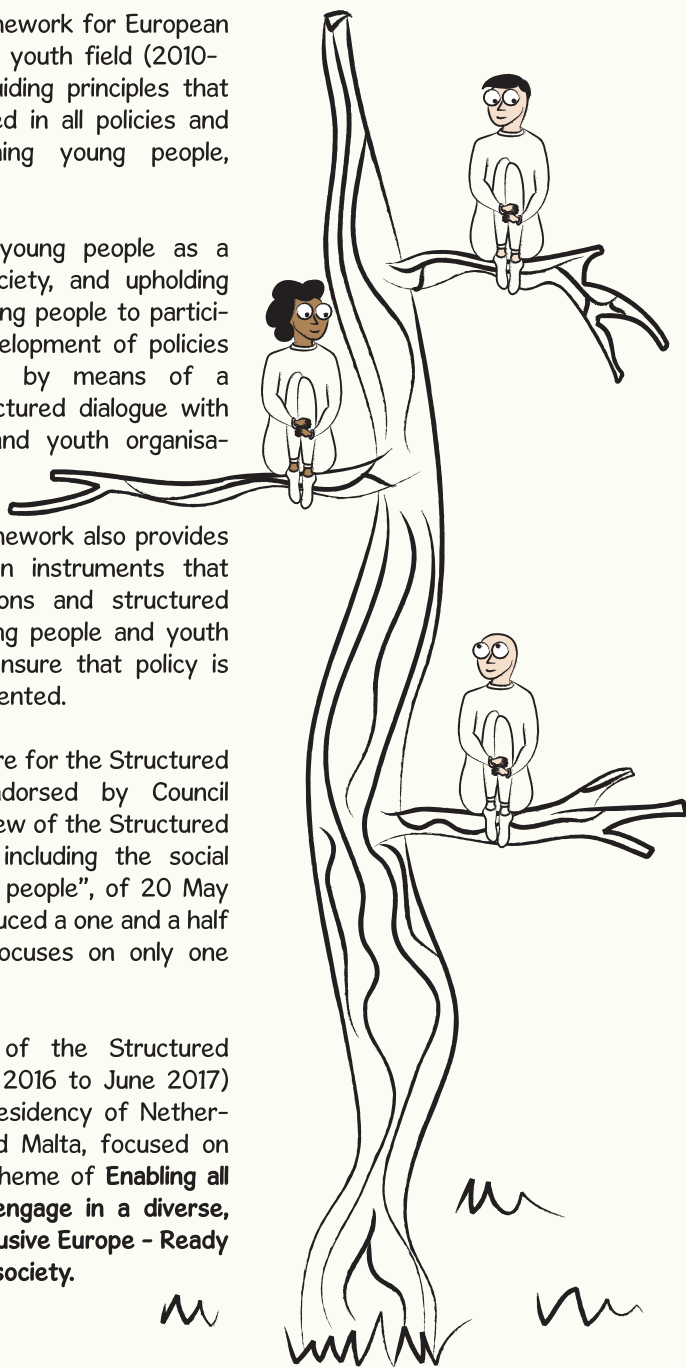
The renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010–2018) sets out guiding principles that should be observed in all policies and activities concerning young people, including:

recognising all young people as a resource to society, and upholding the right of young people to participate in the development of policies affecting them by means of a continuous structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations.

The renewed framework also provides for implementation instruments that include, consultations and structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations to ensure that policy is effectively implemented.

A new architecture for the Structured Dialogue was endorsed by Council Resolution “Overview of the Structured Dialogue process including the social inclusion of young people”, of 20 May 2014, which introduced a one and a half year cycle that focuses on only one thematic priority.

The fifth cycle of the Structured Dialogue (January 2016 to June 2017) under the Trio Presidency of Netherlands, Slovakia and Malta, focused on the over-arching theme of **Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe - Ready for life, ready for society.**



Maltese Presidency

The third and final phase was held under the Maltese Presidency during which the Joint Recommendations agreed in Kosice and considered by the Council of Youth Ministers were further discussed.

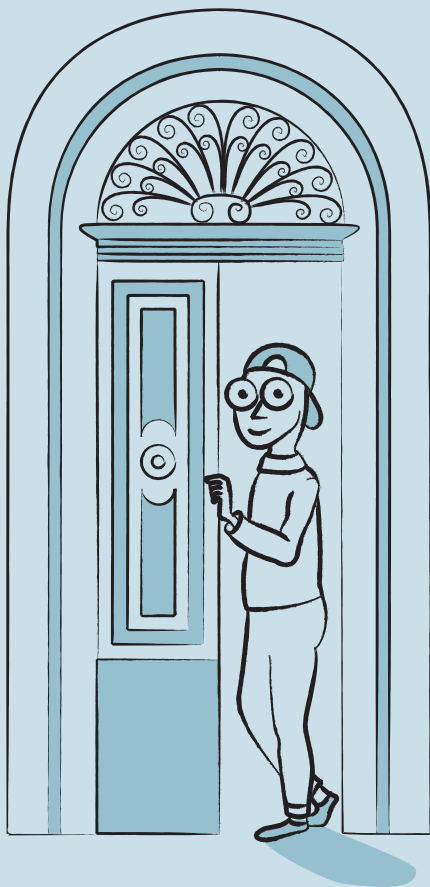
To facilitate these discussions, eight workshops under the headings of the Joint Recommendations agreed at Kosice were conducted during the Youth Conference which was held in Bugibba in Malta in March 2017

- ✕ Access to quality and Critical Information.
- ✕ Young People under pressure: Building Resilience and self-confidence.
- ✕ Beyond fear and intolerance - experience diversity.
- ✕ Towards an education system that realises young people's potential.
- ✕ Fostering young people's engagement in society in particular for vulnerable groups.
- ✕ Rebuilding the trust of young people in the European project.
- ✕ Mobility programme: employment and education for all.
- ✕ The impact of youth work and youth organisations for all.

During the first session (Tuesday, 21 March), workshops focused on establishing the main issues, priorities and concerns related to their designated theme under the Joint Recommendations in preparation for visits to selected Ministries and agencies.

During the second session (Tuesday, 21 March) workshops visited selected Ministries and agencies in Malta to discuss issues related to the implementation of the Joint Recommendations and what facilitates or impedes effective policy implementation. The Ministries and agencies selected were apprised of the process in advance of the scheduled visits. During the last session of the day, workshops discussed the outcomes of their visits.

During subsequent sessions (Wednesday, 22 March) workshops decided on actions that could be taken to implement the Joint Recommendations with a view to including them in an implementation Toolbox.



Implementation Toolbox

- * What actions could be taken?
- * How do we take these actions?
- * Which stakeholders and partners need to be involved?
- * What timeframe, money and people are needed to complete the action - can it be done?
- * What successful measures or programmes inspired the action?
- * How we can advocate and promote action?



Netherlands Presidency

The first phase of this cycle of the Structured Dialogue was held during the Netherlands Presidency and explored the challenges and the existing problems faced by young people.

The Youth Conference, which was held in Amsterdam in April 2016, drew up a guiding framework that included the following guiding questions for consultation with young people. National Working Groups at Member State level were invited to carry out the consultation and provide feedback on responses by 1 September 2016.

Guiding questions for the consultation with young people

- ✕ What changes in society are you concerned about and what do you need to be able to adapt to such changes? What would make you feel more secure?
- ✕ What would help you connect more and build trust with people from a different cultural, social, economic, religious background than yours?
- ✕ What can be done to avoid the stigmatization of vulnerable young people and provide them with equal opportunities in society?
- ✕ What do you think makes you feel that you belong to a local community, to society, to Europe?
- ✕ What competences would help you when you are facing difficult situations?
- ✕ What would you need to fully realize your potential and help others to realize theirs?

Slovak Presidency

The second phase was held during the Slovak Presidency and focused on considering the results of the survey of young people agreed under the Netherlands Presidency.

The Youth Conference, which was held in Kosice in October 2016, comprised a number of workshops to discuss the results of the consultations with young people. Youth representatives, together with representatives from Member States, agreed Joint Recommendations of the Structured Dialogue on Youth, which were forwarded to the Council of Youth Minister's for consideration in November 2016.

Kosice Recommendations

Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe

Access to quality and Critical Information

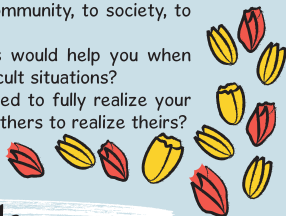
1. The EU Institutions and the Member States should develop or further implement evidence based policy and practice that aim to continually improve the skills of young people to critically evaluate and process information through both formal and non-formal education
2. The EU Institutions and Member States, in cooperation with civil society organisations, should support youth-led media that are transparent, independent and diverse, as it contributes to enhancing media literacy, critical and analytical thinking amongst young people. The CULT committee of the European Parliament as well as the European Commission are invited to take into account this aspect while reviewing the « Erasmus + », « Europe for Citizen », « Creative Europe » and all other relevant programs.

Young People under pressure: Building Resilience and self-confidence

1. Considering that expectations to perform competitively are increasing in educational settings, national competent authorities must ensure that young people have enough time and space for activities that help them to build resilience, self-awareness and self confidence.
2. National competent authorities should implement education on mental wellbeing and mental health, both through the formal education system and in the non-formal environment. The goal is to break stigma through raising awareness as well as to enable young people to learn how to maintain their mental health and how to communicate with their peers on this issue.

Beyond fear and intolerance - Experience diversity

1. European and National Authorities should increase funding and institutional support in establishing Local Programmes and National Level Exchanges to enable all young people to have a direct connection with others from different backgrounds and realities, so as to strengthen intercultural competences, tackle discrimination, promote empathy and solidarity, and experience the benefits of diversity.



2. For all young people to live in a diverse Europe, the EU and National Competent Authorities must develop or support training and development programmes to teachers and school communities in order to create a safe and inclusive environment where young people can develop competences to overcome fear and discrimination.

Towards an education system that realises young people's potential

1. We ask for commitment in all member states to ensure guidance and counselling services that empowers all young people to develop themselves and find their path in life throughout all stages of education.

2. Education fails to provide young people with the necessary practical skills relevant to modern society. We urge all Member States to encourage the inclusion of practical life skills in education so young people can be active participants in diverse societies and in the workplace.

Fostering young people's engagement in society in particular for vulnerable groups.

1. Educational institutions and local stakeholders, in cooperation with young people, should provide tailor-made support, accessible service, as well as create spaces for meaningful interaction, so that all young people can discover and embrace their individual identity and value. This is the basis for building mutual trust between young people from different background.

2. The European Commission and the Member States should ensure that every young person, regardless their personal and social situation, can freely engage in volunteering activities by making them accessible. Engagement should be ensured, for instance in youth organizations, to create a sense of belonging and to empower young people as citizens.

Rebuilding the trust of young people in the European project

1. The European Commission and the European Youth Forum should work together to analyse and understand how young people access communication from and about the EU and to develop a communication strategy to inform young Europeans about the EU and how to positively impact the EU project. accessible, relevant and meaningful for all young people.

2. To bridge the distance between young people and the EU and its policies, National and/or Regional EU Youth Festivals should be organized in all Member States in connection to European initiatives. These festivals, combining social, political and cultural activities should gather young people from different backgrounds. These events will foster learning and debating about the EU, its opportunities and shape its policies while having fun together.

Mobility programme: employment and education for all

1. Member States and the European Commission should further their efforts to overcome existing obstacles to young people's access to mobility. Access to mobility programs should be simplified and better adapted to the diverse needs of young people. Information and guidance should be provided to spread awareness of mobility opportunities.

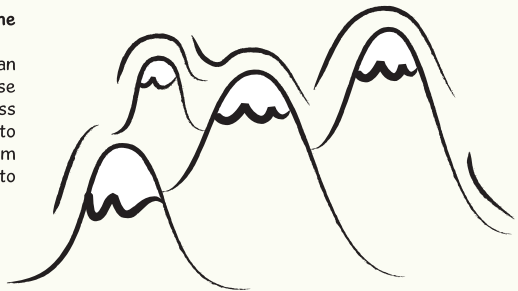
2. EU Member States should create a legal framework for the recognition and validation of competences acquired through mobility programmes on national and European level. This will provide not only equal access to diverse learning opportunities but also validate the attained skills and contribute to social inclusion of young people.

The impact of youth work and youth organisations for all

1. Member States and the European Commission should promote and support a range of virtual and physical spaces dedicated to qualified youth work in order to respond to the needs and interests of all young people.

2. The European Commission and Member States should allocate sufficient operational funding so that youth work and youth organizations are able to implement

sustainable youth work that is accessible, relevant and meaningful for all young people.



What action could be taken?

- ✘ Support youth-led media through the creation of a young journalist card associated to a charter of deontology and that can give recognition to young people providing information content.

This card could give access to:

- ✘ Training designed by youth organisations and youth information sector to ensure that young people are able to develop medias alone, how to develop quality editorial lines, and how to conduct local or regional investigations and research.
- ✘ Funding for the creation of youth projects related to the creation of media under different forms such as blogs, newspapers, radio, TV, magazines that ensure both quality and ethical standards.



Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

- ✘ EC - to include this action in future policy proposals and monitor its implementation.
- ✘ National authorities: to work jointly with organisations on the development of youth led media policies as well as create a culture of understanding quality information.
- ✘ Youth workers: to deliver training programmes and supports to young people
- ✘ Youth organisation: to cooperate with MS to provide accurate state of play and proposals.
- ✘ Youth information centres: to provide expertise on how young people use the media and other information.

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

- ✘ It is important to link it with already existing dynamics in the field of education.
- ✘ To teach young people the importance of media is a long term process that needs to involve all sectors of education.



How do we take action?

- ✘ Develop the concept in cooperation between the Member States (MS) and youth organisations on a periodic basis that enables them to take into account the rapid changes occurring in modern media.
- ✘ At European level, this concept can be considered and supported while reviewing various programmes (Erasmus +, Creative Europe, Europe for Citizens).
- ✘ Support twinning projects for young journalists from different countries working together on European issues.
- ✘ Critical thinking as a possible theme for youth and class exchanges and strategic partnership construction.
- ✘ Include concept in the next EU youth strategy as a key topic for European cooperation in the youth field.
- ✘ Document all policies related to youth and the media in the youth wiki as soon as it is online.
- ✘ Invite the European Commission (EC) to include these elements in its draft proposal of new programmes. The CULT committee should take this into account in deciding the type of grant actions, the programme priorities, programme objectives, eligibility criteria for projects.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

- ✘ There are practical examples in France and Bulgaria on how this can be done successfully.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

- ✘ France: Information to all teachers has been delivered by the ministry on how to support youth-led media in schools.
http://cache.media.eduscol.education.fr/file/D_P_rentree/35/1/2015_rentreescolaire_fiche_34_456351.pdf
- ✘ France: the organisation - Jet d'encre - has created a non-official youth media press card.
- ✘ Bulgaria: Youth led media talks concerning young people and the UN
<http://news.unabg.org>
- ✘ France: The youth-led media has created training for young journalists from deprived areas <http://www.bondyblog.fr>

Recommendation



Beyond Fear and Intolerance - Experiencing Diversity

European and National Authorities should increase funding and institutional support in establishing local programmes and national exchanges to enable all young people to have direct connection with others from different backgrounds and realities, so as to strengthen intercultural competences, tackle discrimination, promote empathy and solidarity, and experience the benefits of diversity.

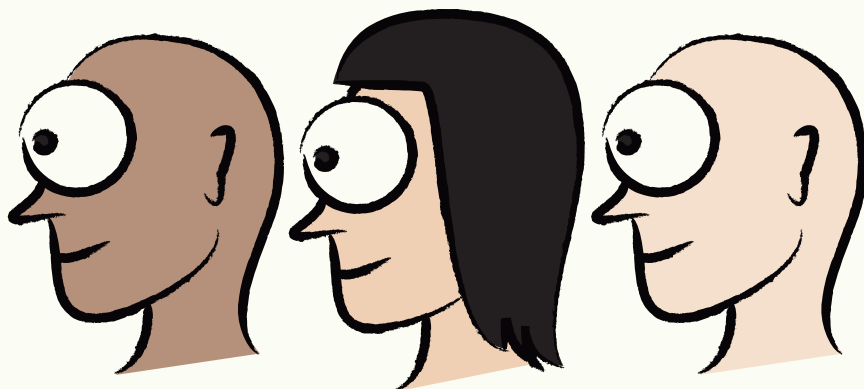
What action could be taken?

Investing in bridging figures:

Local organisations wishing to expand the reach of their services and programmes to a more diverse population should invest time and money, supported by governments, into identifying and supporting people to act as bridging figures who work at making connections across a broader spectrum of social groups to enrich their lives through more diverse participation.

How do we take action?

- ✗ Local organisation to define role and required knowledge, competences and skills of prospective bridging figures.
- ✗ Establish terms of work and conditions for bridging figures - vetting/voluntary or paid/full-time or part-time protection and safety standards etc.
- ✗ Monitoring and assessment of the impact of bridging figures on programmes and services.



Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

- ✗ Local organisations
- ✗ Local and national government
- ✗ Umbrella organisations to provide platform for - exchange of experience and skills, consultation and support, training and skills sharing,
- ✗ funding (government), needs analysis, experiments and projects - what makes a good bridging figure?

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

Performance can be held for the community - focusing on accomplishments, videos and social media campaigns can serve to inspire organisations, communities aid potential bridging figures to come forward and participate.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

The challenge in this action is to recruit and retain effective bridging figures at local community level who will successfully connect young people from different and varied backgrounds. Financial and administrative costs should be minimal.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

Leadership is a common and defining feature of local community development.

Recommendation



Towards An Education That Realises Young People's Potential.

Education fails to provide young people with the necessary practical skills relevant to modern society. We urge all Member States to encourage the inclusion of practical life skills in education so young people can be active participants in diverse societies and in the workplace.



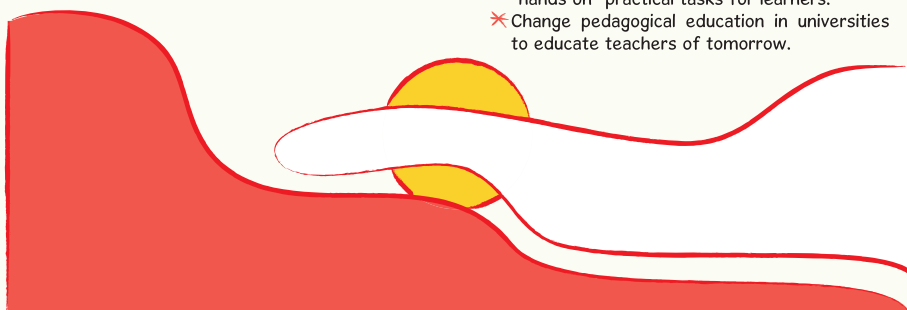
What action could be taken?

- ✘ Introduce ways for school students to get a "hands on" work practical experience and the practical life skills during their formal education.



How do we take action?

- ✘ Update curricula to have dedicated hours throughout all stages of education to have "hands on practice" trying out different working environments outside school (not limited to business companies, can be NGOs and the public sector).
- ✘ Challenging and shaping the national curricula so that the things thought in school would be practiced in life.
- ✘ All stakeholders in the field to create a national research monitor to gather best "hands on" education practices and create a toolbox publication.
- ✘ Create a step-by-step national manual for implementing the process of practical working environment and delivering "hands on" education for students with emphasis on practical learning outcomes as well.
- ✘ Ensuring the quality of the practical experiences outside of the school by asking Member States (MS) to support and provide training for educators to learn to deliver "hands on" practical tasks for learners.
- ✘ Change pedagogical education in universities to educate teachers of tomorrow.



Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

Workers, NGOs, volunteers: to be involved in the research/monitoring of the good practices, follow the implementation of the national manual for "hands on" education and experiences, support educator training with best practice of non-formal education.

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

In the field of formal education, this action can be promoted as a means of integrating formal learning methods and practices into the formal education system.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

This is an ambitious action requiring ongoing commitment from a range of relevant stakeholders.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

The need to expand and integrate young people's learning, life skills and life experiences.

Recommendation



*fostering young people's engagement
in society.*

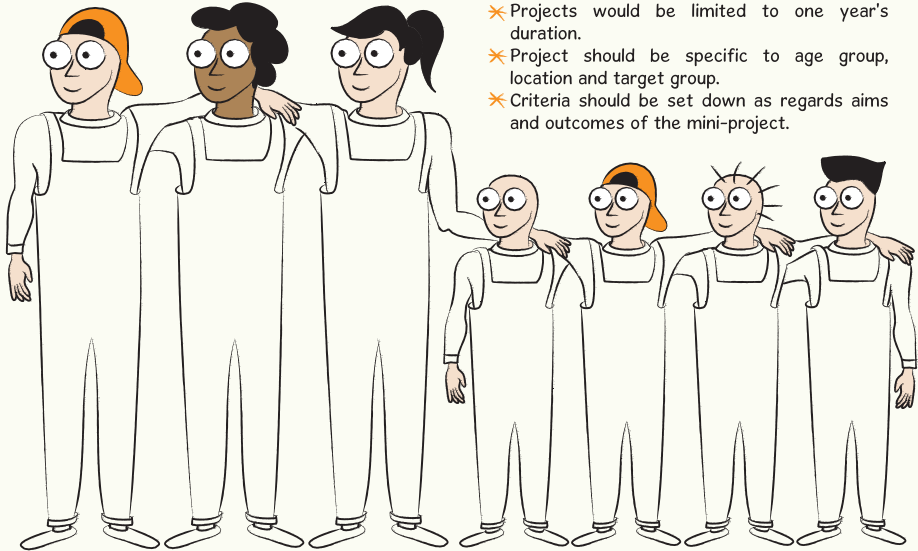
The European Commission and Member States should ensure that every young person, regardless of their personal and social situation, can freely engage in volunteering activities by making them accessible.

Engagement should be ensured, for instance in youth organisations, to create a sense of belonging and to empower young people as citizens.



What action could be taken?

- ✦ Mini grants for mini projects. Provide funds for youth mini-projects concentrated on vulnerable groups with a particular focus on public benefit, limited age range, limited duration and sustainable outcomes. Focus should be on minimising the administrative burden and application procedure.



How do we take action?

- ✦ Some Member State (MS) have a model or financial mechanism already in place into which this action could be integrated. Where this is not the case, MS may adapt existing systems to implement the action. Ideally, mini-projects should "piggy back" on existing models, systems and financial mechanisms.
- ✦ Costs for each mini-project could be up to €500 with a prospect of 10-15 projects per year under each model or financial mechanism.
- ✦ Projects would be limited to one year's duration.
- ✦ Project should be specific to age group, location and target group.
- ✦ Criteria should be set down as regards aims and outcomes of the mini-project.

Stakeholders & partners

Who needs to be involved?

Co-management board with young people and stakeholders to manage the process of calling for applications, processing applications and allocating mini-grants.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

Ideally, mini-projects should "piggy back" on existing models, systems and financial mechanisms and time allocation, costs and employment of human resources kept to a minimum. Projects in the Netherlands, Austria and Estonia are practical examples of how this can be done successfully.

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

Mimi-projects accessibility in terms of application and funding should be promoted as their main "selling point".

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

Dutch project "Extraordinary Me"
Austria - "Bure Projekte"
Estonia - "nopi Ules project".

Recommendation



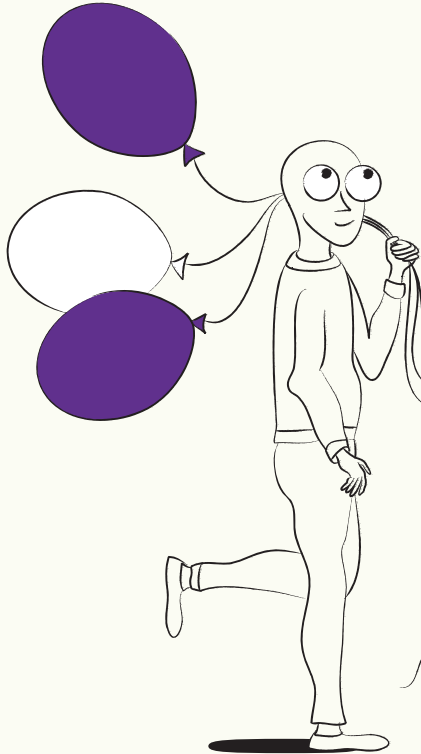
Building Resilience and Self Confidence

Competent national authorities should implement education on mental health and wellbeing, through both the formal education system and non-formal learning. The goal is to break the stigma through raising awareness as well as to enable young people to learn how to maintain their mental health and how to communicate with their peers on this issue.



What action could be taken?

- * First aid kit for mental health.



How do we take action?

- * During the first six months, analyse the situation as regards the promotion of mental health of young people on a country specific, research and best practice basis.
- * In the following year, establish a working group, comprising professionals, representatives of youth organisations, teachers, parents and public health officials and educators with the aim of producing four training modules for the following groups:
 - * Teachers
 - * Youth workers and youth organisations
 - * Parents
 - * Young people.
- * The aim of these training modules would be to promote positive mental health among young people and to provide information of support services.
- * In year three, the training modules would be disseminated and implemented with the support of relevant organisations such as Ministries of Education, national and local parent associations, national and local youth bodies and National Youth Councils.

Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

- * Ministries of Education
- * Ministries for Health
- * National Youth Councils
- * National and local youth bodies and organisations
- * Relevant NGOs
- * Researchers, youth workers, trainers

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

The action can be promoted as a practical example of cross-sectoral cooperation between different stakeholder - education, health, youth and parents.

feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

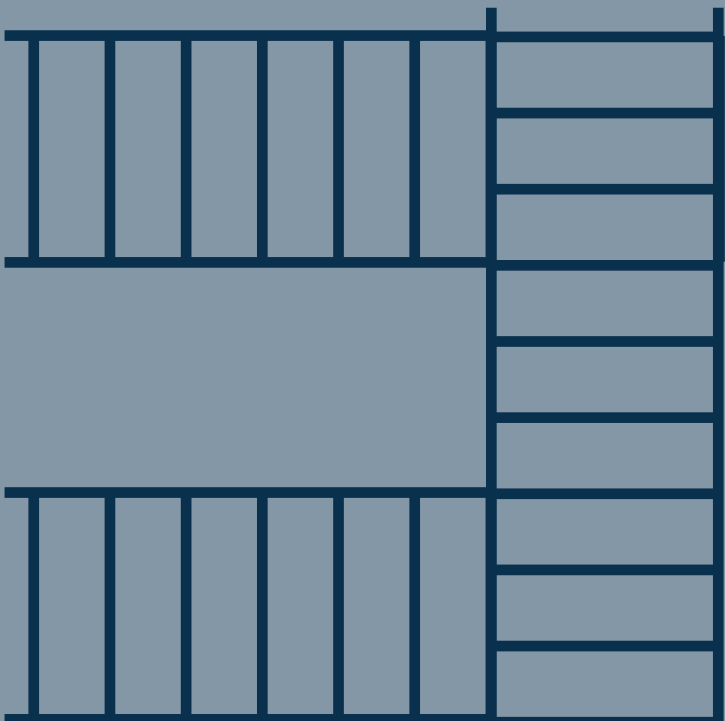
Mental Health First Aid in Australia and Malta are practical example of how this can be done successfully.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

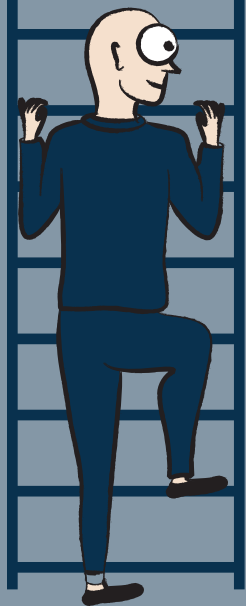
- * Mental Health First Aid Australia www.mhfa.au
- * Mental Health - Empowering Caregivers in
- * Malta. www.agenzijazghazagh.mt

Recommendation



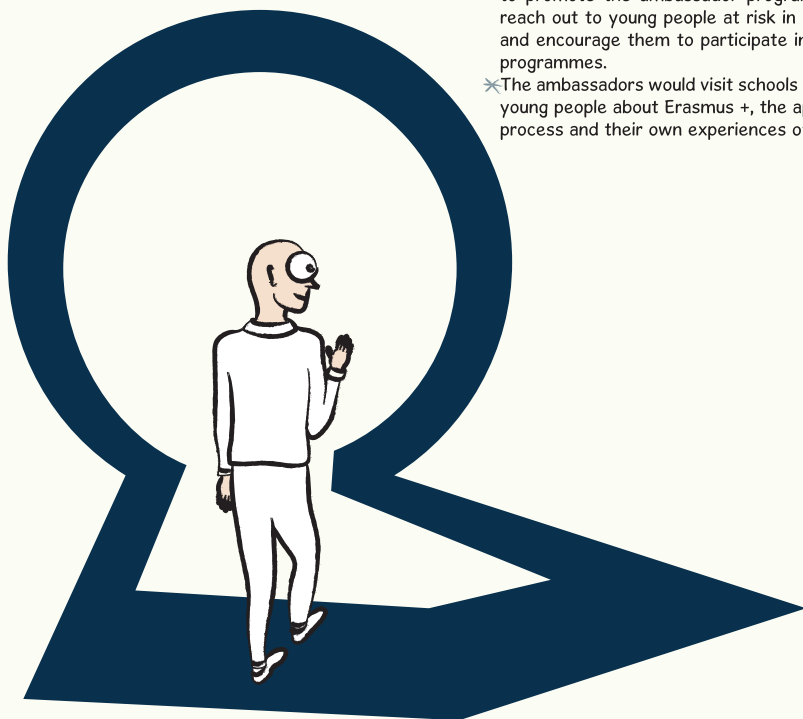
Mobility Programmes

Member States and the European Commission should further their efforts to overcome existing obstacles to young people's access to mobility. Access to mobility programmes should be simplified and better adapted to the diverse needs of young people. Information and guidance should be provided to spread awareness of mobility opportunities.



What action could be taken?

- ✦ Create an ambassador programme at secondary school level employing young people who have participated on a mobility project abroad.



How do we take action?

- ✦ Erasmus + should be used to financially support the programme and enable youth organisations and/or educational institutions to promote the ambassador programme and reach out to young people at risk in particular and encourage them to participate in mobility programmes.
- ✦ The ambassadors would visit schools to inform young people about Erasmus +, the application process and their own experiences of mobility.

Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

- ✦ Erasmus +: to promote and provide financial aid for the programme through national agencies.
- ✦ Second level schools: to facilitate the operation of the programme in cooperation with national agencies.

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

The action can be promoted as a practical example of how young people's actual experience of mobility can be conveyed to other young people in a classroom or school setting.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

Time, money and people.

There are practical examples from the Erasmus Student Network and from Malta on how this can be successfully done.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

- ✦ VET Ambassadors' Pool
- ✦ Mov'in Europe <http://esn.org/movineurope>.
- ✦ Young Ambassadors for Youth's Right to Information.

Recommendation



Rebuilding The Trust Of Young People In The European Project.

To bridge the distance between young people and the EU and its policies, National and/or Regional EU Youth Festivals should be organized in all Member States in connection to European initiatives. These festivals, combining social, political and cultural activities should gather young people from different backgrounds. These events will foster learning and debating about the EU, its opportunities and shape its policies while having fun together.



What action could be taken?

- ✦ Organise European Youth Festivals as part of the Structured Dialogue with Young People.

Stakeholders & Partners

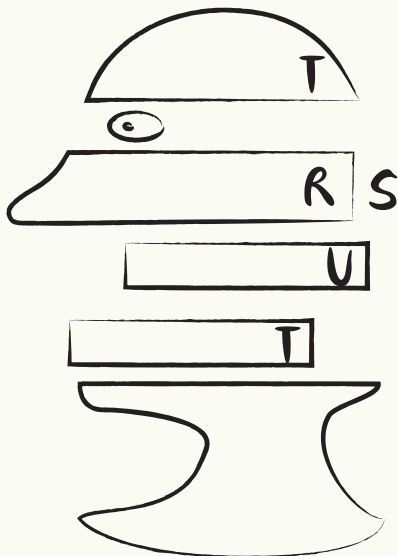
Who needs to be involved?

- ✦ National Working Groups
- ✦ National Youth Councils
- ✦ Youth Organisations
- ✦ Schools
- ✦ Youth Workers
- ✦ Politicians
- ✦ Youth Ministries
- ✦ Erasmus+ Agencies
- ✦ European Commission
- ✦ Parliament Representations in Member States.

Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

- ✦ The action can be achieved through advocating for adequate funding from different sources (European, governmental and non-governmental). In addition, the leadership of at least one and engagement of several stakeholders should be secured.



How do we take action?

- ✦ National working groups should receive funding to organize European Youth Festivals as part of their Structured Dialogue activities for each 18 month cycle.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

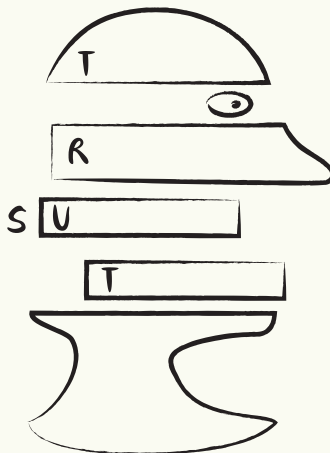
Time, money and people.

- ✦ This is an ambitious project to organize in all countries, due to organizational and financial burdens. However this will depend on the scale of the event proposed. Nevertheless, this is possible with the support of volunteers.

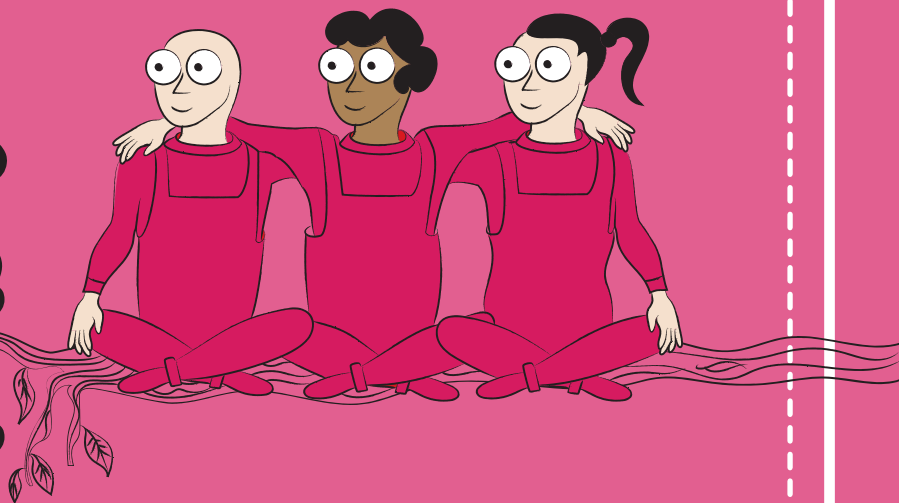
Inspiration

What inspired this action?

- ✦ European Youth Event
- ✦ YO!Fests
- ✦ New Narratives national youth events
- ✦ Other existing national festivals for intercultural learning, peer learning and European engagement.



Recommendation



Youth Work and Youth Organisations for All

Member States and the European Commission should promote and support a range of virtual and physical spaces dedicated to quality youth work in order to respond to the needs and interests of all young people.

What action could be taken?

- * Quality youth work across Europe.

Stakeholders & Partners

Who needs to be involved?

- * The European Commission
- * National Youth Councils
- * Youth organisations
- * Youth researchers
- * Governmental and non-governmental youth work providers
- * Youth work accreditation associations.
- * Young people participating in youth work.



Advocacy

How can action be promoted?

- * National Youth Councils and governments should, through the Youth Report and EU Youth Strategy, work on proposals together. In addition, National Youth Councils across Europe could share best practice. Finally, increased EU-Council of Europe cooperation on youth work could facilitate better youth work.

How do we take action?

- * Youth work should be a priority for the next EU Youth Strategy
- * There should be a focus on youth work in difficult-to-reach areas so that learning opportunities can be provided for all young people. The possible contribution of online tools should also be considered
- * Opportunities should be provided for exchanges among youth work providers and participants, potentially through networks, campaigns and magazines
- * YouthPass should be improved for better recognition of the skills acquired through youth work.

Feasibility

Can it be done?

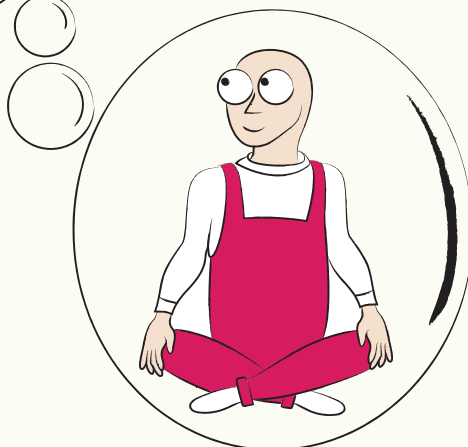
Time, money and people.

- * There should be stronger support for youth work in the next EU Youth Strategy, building on the recently adopted Council Conclusions and in light of the Third Youth Work Convention in 2020. Funding for such work would need to be sought, in particular, at regional and local level.

Inspiration

What inspired this action?

- * The positive results youth work delivers for young people, as well as the learning young people acquire through non-formal education.
- * Experiencing youth work can be life changing.



Hackathon

A Vision for The future of Europe Manifesto of Young People

This Manifesto has been drafted in the framework of the EU Youth Conference and the Structured Dialogue held in Malta in March 2017.

Over the course of 24 hours, 24 youth delegates and International Non Governmental Youth Organisations (INGYO) from different European countries collaborated in a Hackathon setting to discuss, explore and develop a vision for the future of Europe in the coming decade. The Hackathon was a parallel event held in conjunction with the Youth Conference.

In light of the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, an ongoing reflection process on the future of the EU and the upcoming proposals for the next EU Youth Strategy and Erasmus+ programme, this Manifesto aims to contribute to rebuilding and strengthening the European project, by empowering young people to become drivers of positive change for a peaceful and inclusive continent.

In times when social, cultural and political values in Europe are being challenged by an unstable geopolitical and economic context, the weakening of the EU and the rise of populism, nationalism and xenophobia, young people are faced with more obstacles to realising their full potential as active European citizens and social innovators.

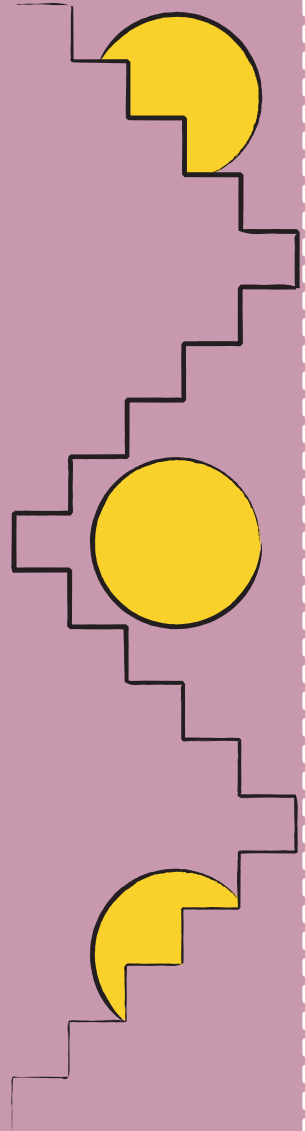
At the same time, this is the most educated and connected generation of young people ever in Europe who are actively involved in socio-political processes and have huge potential to further contribute meaningfully to a Europe that

- ✧ embraces diversity beyond borders
- ✧ ensures full realisation of human rights, with citizens being aware of their rights and responsibilities
- ✧ facilitates and promotes inclusion of both Europeans and non-Europeans, and
- ✧ implements sustainable development in all its dimensions.

✧ 24 youth delegates

✧ 24 hours

✧ 24 debates



Vision - The future of Europe

We strive for a Europe where:

- * young people no longer suffer any forms of poverty
- * quality jobs and other opportunities are created in order to realise the potential and dreams of young people, and not only to sustain their economic survival
- * wellbeing and happiness of citizens is an overarching policy priority that is monitored by specific institutions
- * youth organisations and young people are engaged in policy processes that affect them on a local and European level
- * young people's interests and profile are reflected in the co-creation of educational curriculum design
- * all young people experience and benefit from mobility opportunities across Europe and beyond
- * diversity is celebrated, and the role of youth cultures is a positive driver for social change
- * young people do not consider the Earth as theirs, but borrowed from future generations

