

ENHANCING YOUTH PARTICIPATION FOR A MORE INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED ADRIATIC IONIAN REGION

A PRELIMINARY STUDY



www.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu

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This document was prepared as part of the AI-NURECC Youth Action. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of its authors and any opinions expressed herein should not be taken to represent an official position of the European Commission.



Introduction

Young people must not merely be given a voice, but also learn about the follow-up process and be able to further shape the debate. Young people must not simply be consulted but there must be an active effort on the part of the governing authorities to include them further in policy development, for example in the agenda setting phase or in the implementation of solutions to pressing social issues.

EACEA 2010/03.

Young people are increasingly mobilised by very specific issues, more closely linked to their (personal) interest in a given issue than to a general interest in politics and daily experiences. They choose to be involved in collective forms of civic and political action characterised by lower levels of formality and perceived as less binding and “labelling” than political parties, preferring to effect small but profound changes through their daily interactions. Young people are increasingly active in civic associations, charities, NGOs and voluntary activities. In addition, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have drastically changed youth participatory behaviour and political action, updating traditional actions, like sending e-mails to politicians, or offering new ones, like protesting through mail bombing. Local and regional authorities should promote strategies that help to link these new types of action to the conventional participatory paths.

Council of Europe, Resolution 386 (2015).

Adriatic Ionian Youth has a crucial role to play in meeting the many socio-economic, demographic, cultural, environmental and technological challenges facing their territories today and in the years ahead. The European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR) represents a framework to boost youth participation in policy-making and in the democratic process leading to a more effective integration of Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries in the EU. The implementation of youth participation the EUSAIR governance forms has great potential and is an urgent need for increasing sustainable and fair decision-making as well as in supporting the capitalisation of the Strategy.

Adriatic Ionian Youth gained momentum in the high-level policy discourse and the governance of the Macro-regional strategy. On 4th and 5th April 2019, the All/EUSAIR Montenegrin Presidency hosted an All Ministerial Conference on youth called ‘*Conference on strengthening the regional and Adriatic-Ionian cross cooperation in the field of youth*’, organised by the Montenegrin Minister of Sports and Youth in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro.

The Conference gathered participants from countries of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative as well as from regional youth organisations, including the Regional Co-operation Office (RYCO), the Franco-German Youth Office (FGYO), the Western Balkan Fund and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA). The interactive nature of the conference encouraged participants to network, share good practices and discuss experiences and key challenges of regional cross co-operation. One month later, on the occasion of the 4th EUSAIR Annual Forum, the [Budva Declaration](#), signed on 8 May 2019, encouraged the introduction of youth as a new area of cooperation.

But some questions remain unaddressed:

- *How much do we know about Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations?*
- *How can we tap into their motivations to engage in the decision-making process so that this involvement can be meaningful to them, their members and programmes, and be sustainable?*
- *What can local and regional authorities do to facilitate the institutionalisation of a bottom-up approach to youth cooperation in the area?*

Reaching out to Adriatic Ionian Youth was a priority of the AI-NURECC Initiative, within which framework key Adriatic Ionian regional and local stakeholders have joined forces and collaborated for two years towards concrete actions that can drive forward the EUSAIR in achieving this objective. Regional and local worked to reinforcing bottom-up approaches to the capitalisation of the EUSAIR, and took as priority target Adriatic Ionian Youth with a view to raising young people awareness of the resources available to them in addressing such challenge.

With this study, the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion contributes to the [AI-NURECC Youth Action](#), as it was designed to provide a better understanding of the role Adriatic Ionian youth play in order to better plan future actions for their active involvement in the decision-making process. It was based on some documentary analysis and desk research about youth policies in the Adriatic Ionian area. It also collected information on youth cooperation initiatives which were implemented in the framework of Macro-regional Strategies in the last three years. For its empirical part, a survey took as unit of analysis and observation youth organisations of the eight countries participating in the AI/EUSAIR in order to trace a first overview of the current evolving landscape of Youth Organisations in the Adriatic Ionian Region.

The organisational dimension was chosen as it in fact facilitates youth participation and engagement. Youth organisations are one of the key infrastructural mechanisms for improving youth participation, their networking and the development of life skills and non-formal education. Being members of an organisation motivates young people in participating in governance issues, in being agents of local change and in cooperating across the borders as well.

Youth organisations raise youth awareness about the resources (time, skills, competences etc.) available to them in addressing some particular challenge, in accruing ownership of topics, priorities and policies, in keeping up the motivations to engage. Moreover, young people feel that their priorities are heard and addressed in the political and policy debate. By tapping into the motivations of young people to engage and participate, we can increase youth ownership of EU-related or strategy-related priorities and policies in a way that will benefit both youth organisations, individually and organisationally, and cooperation in the area.

In so doing, this study is to be understood as a preliminary action and a basis for reflection aimed at pinpointing concrete and result-oriented recommendations for future action to concretely involve Adriatic Ionian Youth in the decision and policy-making processes, through youth cross-border cooperation and by involving them in building a sustainable and open dialogue with the EUSAIR stakeholders.

Youth Policies in the eight AII/EUSAIR countries, a comparative analysis

The purpose of comparing policy and legislation frameworks across AII/EUSAIR countries is double-fold: on the one hand, we gather evidence on existing policies and practices, and, on the other, we identify challenges in the implementation processes. Such an analysis is valuable also in terms of informing future programming targeting youth in vulnerable situations, through regional thematic cooperation and coordination that can help promoting democracy and active citizenship in countries that are still in a political transition. This is especially meaningful if we consider that youth policies in the Western Balkan countries participating to the strategy still need improvement, as needs to be improved the process of acknowledging youth as an agent of social change towards more stable and cohesive societies.

Over the past three decades, through cross-sectorial approach and adopting various policy initiatives, European institutions and organisations have repeatedly emphasized the importance of youth participation to foster active citizenship, enhance integration and inclusion, and strengthen young people's contribution to the development of democracy in Europe.

The EU's Youth Strategy has *Europeanised* Member States' national and regional youth policies and has inspired reform and progress all across the neighbouring countries, including the Western Balkans. Western Balkan countries begun developing and implementing youth policies and relevant institutional framework in the late 1990s. Such policies consist of strategies and action plans, although the efficient implementation of youth empowerment measures is frequently put into question (European Parliament, 2017). Consequently, a general lack of cross-regional harmonisation is registered.

Among the six flagship initiatives launched by the European Commission in the framework of EU enlargement to the Western Balkans, the "Initiative to support reconciliation and good neighbourly relations" includes support to youth and sport and expanding the scope of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) established in 2016. By partaking to European programmes such as Erasmus+, IPA CBC and INTERREG, these countries have made significant positive steps towards promoting intercultural dialogue, youth participation and empowerment. Crucial measures include the modernisation of the educational systems, the promotion of mobility and exchanges both within the region and throughout the EU and capacity building activities.

As the comparative overview in Table 1 shows, youth structures and policies vary a great deal in the area. These are quite developed in Serbia as compared to its neighbours. The country has established a Ministry of Youth and Sports in 2007 and youth issues are included across all government's policy priorities. In 2017, the Serbian prime minister also highlighted education as a governmental priority. Serbia adopted its first youth law in 2011, based on the active consultations with multiple stakeholders in the field, and its connected strategy was recognized as a best practice by the Council of Europe. The city of Novi Sad was the European Youth capital for 2019 under the logo OPENS2019. The organising team implemented a very rich program encompassing different cultural, sports, educational and non-formal activities promoting mobility and participation on young people all Serbia and the EU.

With its complex multilevel governance structure, Bosnia and Herzegovina does not deal with youth issues at national level, but at the level of its constituent entities, and at local level. While youth laws and strategies only exist at entity level, Bosnia and Herzegovina has a permanent national Commission for the coordination of youth issues. Following the Federation entity's law on youth, all levels of authority (municipalities/cities/cantons) are obliged to define, adopt and implement youth strategies. According to the Commission's SWD (2019) 222, Bosnia and Herzegovina is at an early stage of preparation in the area of education and culture and needs to align legislation at all levels with the Framework laws on education,

including assuring social inclusion at all stages of education needs to and developing and implementing youth strategies across the country.

In June 2016, Montenegro became the latest country to adopt a youth law, which was followed by a youth strategy for the 2017-2021 period three months later. Serbia is implementing a second wave of long-term youth strategy (2015-2025). With the first Youth Strategy 2008-2014 structures for youth policy were established and guidelines and competence frameworks developed with particular focus to stimulating capacity development of civil society organisations in the relation to participation in decision-making.

With the new formatting of the Government in Albania, youth policies passed to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, while they were previously a prerogative of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth. For the first time in Albania, a Deputy Minister was appointed for Youth Affairs. The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth is preparing a draft law on youth. This law is expected to enhance the role of youth organizations in decision-making and ensure the efficiency of state institutions working on issues related to young people. Tirana is European Youth Capital 2022.

Cross-border cooperation within the Western Balkan region is assured by the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), headquartered in Tirana, which was established within the framework of the Berlin process by six Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*¹, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) during the Paris Summit.

The mission of RYCO is to support activities that promote peoples' reconciliation as well as intercultural exchange, mobility, citizen participation and the promotion of democratic values across the region by involving youth, youth organisations, secondary schools in capacity building activities. In 2019, RYCO was supported by the United Nations Peace Building Fund, the European Union and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in implementing three projects worth over € 300.000,00. RYCO has local branch offices in Belgrade, Podgorica, Pristina, Sarajevo, Skopje and Tirana.

Differences exist also between EU member states partaking to the AII/EUSAIR, mainly linked to the differences in the political and administrative systems. Croatian Youth Policy decision-making takes place primarily at a central government level, whereas in Italy it is regulated according to the principle of concurrent jurisdiction and subsidiarity between the Central Government, the Regions and the Autonomous Provinces (within the "Conferenza Unificata": Unified Conference). Local authorities, the third sector and youth organizations are actively involved in the design and implementation of youth policies.

In Slovenia, according to the Act on Public Interest in the Youth Sector, local communities implement the youth policy by adopting a local programme for youth, including financial support. The municipality of Ljubljana has a youth department, which supports youth and educational programmes, training for youth workers, information, promotes international activities. It adopted its first youth strategy in 2015.

Strengthening the regional and Adriatic Ionian cross-cooperation in this field seems therefore relevant to help developing a common approach to youth policies and cross-cooperation as well as specific mid-term and long-term strategies and action plans for non-EU member states to comply with European priorities.

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Table 1 Comparative overview of youth policies, institutions and representation in the AI/EUSAIR countries

| | Policy & legislation | Institutions | Representation |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| Albania | <p>No Youth Law present. Draft-law published on the official website of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth on 07.11.2018.</p> <p>In 2015, was issued a new law on higher education, pre-university education, vocational education and training centres.</p> <p>The third National Youth Action Plan (2015-2020), runs within the 2014-2020 National Strategy for Development and Integration.</p> | <p>As of May 2019, Youth policies are dealt by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, preceded by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth (MSWY).</p> <p>In 2014 the Council of Ministries created a National Youth Service under the MSWY. Six Regional Youth Centres present in Tirana, Vlore and Korça, Lushnje, Elbasan and Laç). The Municipality of Tirana has a directorate dedicated to youth. Tirana hosts the RYCO's official headquarters since 2017.</p> | <p>Albanian Youth Council (AYC), it is not a member of European Youth Forum. It includes 40 youth NGO members.</p> |
| Bosnia Herzegovina | <p>No national law, no national strategy for youth present.</p> <p>Youth in Action programme (2015) present.</p> <p>Youth Law of the FBiH (2010) and a draft FBiH Youth Strategy (2016-2020) is present.</p> <p>Youth Organisation Law in RS, Volunteering Law and the third Youth Policy (2016-2020).</p> <p>The Brčko District has its own Law on youth.</p> | <p>At national level, responsibility is of the Commission for Co-ordination of Youth Issues in BiH within The Ministry of Civil Affairs. The Commission comprises representatives of competent state, entities' and Brčko District ministries, as well as youth NGOs. In FBiH, responsibility is assigned to the Youth Department within the Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports. The Department for Youth within the RS Ministry of Family, Youth & Sports is responsible for the implementation, co-ordination and monitoring of the youth policies.</p> | <p>No Youth Council at the BiH level. Municipal and local youth councils exist at both BiH and FBiH levels, e.g. Youth Council of the city of Mostar. In RS there is a youth council (Youth Council of the Republic of Srpska - YCRS) is an umbrella organization and a network of youth centres for Animation, Development and Training of RS (M.O.C.A.R.T).</p> |
| Croatia | <p>No national youth law present. The third National Youth Strategy is the focal point of the Croatian youth policy. The new National Youth Programme (2019-2025) is in its drafting phase. In 2018, it was established a national working group for the drafting of a new baseline documents in the youth field for the period of six years. The only normative act is the Law on Youth Advisory Boards, which regulates youth policy locally.</p> | <p>As of May 2019, a new Department of Youth and Volunteering was established within the Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy. However other ministries share this competence (Science and Education and Labour and Pension System). A Parliamentary Committee for Family, Youth and Sport is also present. Youth organisations are members of the Youth Council, and advisory body, which also includes governmental officers and the academic community. Regional and local self-government units coordinate local and regional youth policy.</p> | <p>The Croatian Youth Network (Mreža mladih Hrvatske: MMH) acts as National Youth Council and represents 73 NGOs (in 2017). It participates in the Youth Council of the Government of Croatia, and is a member of the European Youth Forum.</p> |
| Greece | <p>No national youth policy exists. Youth policy is considered cross-sectoral and numerous laws cover youth issues. National youth programmes are influenced by the EU Youth Strategy (2010-2018). Youth Programmes run at regional level (13 peripheries).</p> | <p>General Secretariat for Youth (GSFY) within the Ministry of Education Long-life Learning and Religious Affairs. Regions have the responsibility of developing Youth Programmes, partially coordinated by the Union of Regional Authorities. At municipal level, Youth Councils are represented in the Municipal Committee for Consultation; and a Commissioner for Youth issues is also present in Municipal Councils.</p> | <p>The Hellenic National Youth Council (Εθνικό Συμβούλιο Νεολαίας - ESYN) was established in 1998 as an umbrella organisation of 59 affiliated members. ESYN is a member of both the European Youth Forum and the Mediterranean Youth Forum. Local Youth Councils are also present</p> |



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| Italy | <p>No national youth policy exists. The Strategy for Youth is issued annually and is agreed upon within the framework of the Unified Conference State-Regions and local authorities. The first National Youth Plan was adopted in 2007. At the end of 2018, a law set up National Youth Councils, the advisory and representative body of the Italian youth. Regional laws dealt with youth issues and agreements between the government and local authorities. Regional youth laws are present in 12 out of 20 regions.</p> | <p>The top level authority is the Italian Prime Minister's Office, under which operates the Department of Youth and Universal Civic Service, responsible for the implementation and coordination of the youth strategy. Major youth programmes are also developed by other Ministries (Education, Universities and Research; Labour and Social Policies; Economic Development; Health; Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism). Italian Regions and Autonomous Provinces have youth departments. At a local level, each Municipality (out of 8.047) has an office that provides, inter alia, services for young people (e.g. Youth Information Centres).</p> | <p>The National Youth Council (previously Forum), established in 2019, comprises 75 youth groups. It is a member of the European Youth Forum. Youth Councils at municipal and regional level exist, too. Participatory bodies of young people (fora, tables and councils) are present in almost all Italian Regions, each with its own statutes and missions based on regional laws. In 2002, the Ministry for Education created the National University Council. Student Unions are also active nationally and locally. At the local level, municipal youth councils (Consigli Comunali dei Ragazzi) guarantee students' participation.</p> |
| Montenegro | <p>Youth law (June 2016) and new law adopted in 2019 with provisions along the lines of the renewed EU youth strategy 2018. National Youth Strategy (2017-2021).</p> | <p>Since 2019, youth issues are dealt by the Ministry of Sports and Youth of Montenegro. A youth centre (In Podgorica, a Youth Centre was established in 2017, which also serves as the local antenna of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO). A dozen youth centres were opened in municipalities across the country.</p> | <p>The National Youth Council of Montenegro was established in 2010 and is involved in all important policy-making processes and consultations. It is not a member of the European Youth Forum.</p> |
| Serbia | <p>Youth Law present since 2012. A Second National Youth Strategy (2015-2025) is supported by an Action Plan (2018-2020) and by guidelines for implementation at the local level. Local Youth Action Plans at town/municipality level present. E.g. the European Youth Centre of Vojvodina, coordinates 20 local organisations in carrying out Local Action Plan for Youth Policy of the City of Novi Sad (2019-2022).</p> | <p>The Department of Youth is under the Ministry of Youth and Sport. A National Youth Agency is expected to be established in 2018. At administrative level, the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina has established a Provincial Secretariat for Sports and Youth, which developed an Action Plan for Youth Policy (2015-2020). Local Youth offices also present in towns/municipalities (132/158 active).</p> | <p>The National Youth Council (Krovna organizacija mladih Srbije: KOMS) is involved in the monitoring of the National Youth Strategy. It is member of the European Youth Forum. Youth Councils are also present at provincial level. The National Association of Youth Work Practitioners and the national associations of local youth offices cooperate at the strategy.</p> |
| Slovenia | <p>The youth field is regulated through the Act in Public Interest for Youth Sector (2010) and the the Resolution on National Youth Programme 2013-2022 as an overarching document.</p> | <p>The main responsibility is assigned to the Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth within the Ministry for Education, Science and Sport. In 2009, the Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth (Svet Vlade RS za mladino) was established to advise the government and suggest new initiatives. 4 different working groups were set, consisting of representatives of various ministries, to discuss youth issues and encourage cross-sector cooperation. The involved ministries* report to the Office for Youth. A Youth Department is present in the municipality of Ljubljana and Youth Centres in smaller communities.</p> | <p>The National Youth Council of Slovenia (Mladinski svet Slovenije: MSS) was established in 1990. MSS operates under the Youth Councils Act (2000), requiring government to consult on new youth legislation. It is a member of the European Youth Forum. Local Community Youth Councils are present too.</p> |

Source: Enlargement country reports various years, EKYP country sheets various years, www.youthpolicy.org, CoE updates on Youth policies as of 2019; Youth Wiki.

* Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice.

EUSBSR

Action

[Baltic Sea Youth Camp](#)

Location/ timing Description

Gdansk (PL) on 8 – 11 June 2018

The Youth Camp took place just before the 10th EUSBSR Annual Forum. The Baltic Sea Youth Camp was the Strategy's 'initiative to involve youth in the Baltic Sea Region'. It was funded by the Council of the Baltic Sea States Project Support Facility. The partners were: Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSS, Coordinator) together with the Union of Baltic Cities (UBC), the Euroregion Baltic (ERB) and the Baltic Sea Cultural Centre (BSCC) in Gdansk. With support of the EUSBSR Policy Area Culture.

Its main goals were to build mutual understanding and togetherness among the youths of the Baltic Sea Region, to raise awareness on the sustainable development goals and circular economy, to assure the dialogue among the youth and the EUSBSR decision-makers.

Logo



Methodology

A [Baltic Sea Youth Camp website](#) was created to introduce the initiative, its goals and organisation. Practical information was provided. Travel and accommodation was covered by the organisers. The call for participants and registration form was made available on the [Strategy's website](#).

Social media profiles were activated

- Instagram: @balticyouthcamp
- Facebook: Baltic Youth Camp
- Twitter: @BalticYouthCamp

Over 20 different workshops were offered, organised by the different EUSBSR thematic experts linked to the strategies' priority areas, with the aim of actively involving young people in learning about the different cultures around the Baltic Sea Region, the role of culture in creating mutual respect and understanding, the 2030 Agenda and the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives and agenda of the EUSBSR. Small seminars and social activities were also organised. A special focus was put on SDG12 'Responsible consumption and production' as well as to discussing the topics of circular and sharing economy as a part of the solution to achieve goal 12.

Target group

Youth aged between 18 and 25, with specific criteria of gender balance, heterogeneity and motivation.

Target values:


- 110 young people from all over the Baltic Sea Region
- 50 students from local schools in the Pomorskie region
- 30 young participants to attend the Annual Forum

Results


The Camp involved 100 young people.

main output of the Youth Camp was the the '[Baltic Sea Youth Declaration](#)', which was designed during the camp and presented during the Annual Forum.

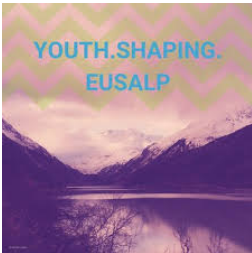
EUSDR

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| <i>Action</i> | 'Youth Engagement in the Danube Region – Stakeholder Dialogue' |
| <i>Location/ timing</i> | Stuttgart (DE) on 23 March 2018 |
| <i>Description</i> | The conference was organised by the Ministry of Education of the Baden-Württemberg Region in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport and Danube Region Strategy under the Priority Area 10. |
| <i>Logo</i> |  |
| <i>Methodology</i> | The aim of the conference was to provide an overview of the existing structures and networks, mapping the field of youth cooperation in the Danube Region. Working groups reflected on support mechanisms and networks in place aiming to support youth cooperation in the region. |
| <i>Target group</i> | Stakeholders, experts and project practitioners from civil society, national and regional administration as well as academia shared their experiences and identified joint challenges regarding the youth engagement in the Danube Region. |

EUSDR and EUSAIR build social cohesion through youth involvement

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| <i>Action</i> | 'Youth for Cross-Border Partnership and Cohesion of EUSDR and EUSAIR' International Conference and Youth Leadership Forum |
| <i>Location/ timing</i> | Tivat (ME) on 30-31 May 2018 |
| <i>Description</i> | <p>The event was organised by the Central European Service for Cross-Border Initiatives (CESCI) in partnership with the Association of European Border Regions, the AEBR Task Force of External Borders, the Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia (ISIG) and CESCI Balkans. It fell within the SECCO2 project.</p> <p>The joint event was aimed at boosting cross-border cooperation and the involvement of youth in transnational and macro-regional cooperation. It was an occasion to present some cross-border programmes, projects and initiatives in which Danube youth was involved and launch initiatives such as Young Leaders' Platform and a practitioners' program involving cross-border cooperation structures from the Danube and Adriatic Ionian Macro-regions.</p> |
| <i>Logo</i> |  <p>The logo features the SECCO2 logo at the top, followed by the text 'INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM' and '30-31 May, 2018, Tivat, Montenegro'. At the bottom, it reads 'EUSDR and EUSAIR youth for cross-border partnership and cohesion'.</p> |
| <i>Methodology</i> | <p>The Forum was organised divided into discussions and workshops related to the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macro-regional and transnational approach of the EU • The Danube Strategy and cross-border cooperation • A model of transnational cooperation of cross-border actors • The main characteristics of cross-border cooperation in the Danube Region • The role of youth in transnational and macro-regional cooperation • Models of cross-border cooperation based on the Madrid Outline Convention • Cross-border cooperation along the external borders of the EU • Citizens' participation in cross-border cooperation • The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation as a form of cross-border governance • Youth involved in cross-border programmes and projects • Mission of cross-border youth initiatives • Action Plan for implementation of Youth Charter for Cross-Border Cooperation <p>Target groups were recruited through an application form. Applicants were asked to mention their motivations to participate in the Forum and to attach their curriculum vitae.</p> <p>Fields of specialisation: cross-border cooperation, European integration, social, economic or territorial cohesion, history and culture, peace and conflict resolution, political science and youth activism.</p> |
| <i>Target group</i> | <p>EUSDR and EUSAIR Youth, preferably aged between 20 and 35, including postgraduate students, young professionals and young activists from NGOs.</p> <p>The target value was to involve 100 youth and to recruit at least 20 young people to join the Young Leaders' Platform for CBC at the end of the project.</p> |
| <i>Results</i> | <p>During the Youth Forum, the Young Leaders for Cross-Border Cooperation (YLCBC) was established.</p> |


EUSALP

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| <i>Action</i> | 'Youth.Shaping.Eusalp' Workshop |
| <i>Location/ timing</i> | Innsbruck on 19 November 2018 Schaan/Liechtenstein on on 19 and 30 March 2019 |
| <i>Description</i> | <p>The process 'Youth.Shaping.EUSALP' was a jointly initiative of the Tyrolean EUSALP Presidency, the Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development, the Office for Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein, the Association Alpine Town of the Year and CIPRA International.</p> <p>The first 'Youth.Shaping.EUSALP' Workshop was held just before the 2nd EUSALP Annual Forum, which had as a focus the next generation. One year later took place a second workshop, while during the 3rd EUSALP Annual Forum that was held on 28-29 November 2019 in Milan, two separate sessions were devoted to the topics of youth: 'Shaping.Future.Together'. With the Next Generation' and 'Shaping.Future.Together. The Youth in Action'.</p> <p>Among the aims of the process, there is the creation of an online Platfom for Youth Participation, taking step from the one already developed by CIPRA International within a Youth in Action project (www.yapp-network.org).</p> |
| <i>Logo</i> |  |
| <i>Methodology</i> | <p>Aim of the workshops: the long-term objective of the Youth.Shaping.EUSALP project is to develop an Action Plan for Youth Participation in the EUSALP that will be approved by the EUSALP General Assembly and anchored to the future EUSALP activities.</p> <p>Young active people were invited to develop and present their ideas on youth participation in the EUSALP process. They brought in their ideas and expectations and work together with the EUSALP Executive Board to develop an 'Action Plan for Youth Participation'.</p> <p>An official letter was sent by the Land Tyrol and the Land Liechtenstein to young people from the following channels: Young people form the member towns of ASdJ, CIPRA youth council, members of Youth Parliament to the Alpine Convention, participants in Erasmus+ and other projects, participants in Youth Alpine Interrail, associations involved in youth work in Alpine countries, university students from UNI Innsbruck and Politecnico Torino.</p> |
| <i>Target group</i> | Young people between 15 and 28 from all over the Alpine Region |
| <i>Results</i> | <p>The two workshops involved a total of 50 young people. The results are summarised in two reports per workshop: Report of the 1st workshop and Report of the 2nd workshop</p> <p>These results were prepared to be presented during the EUSALP 2019 Executive Board. They would be a basis for the joint elaboration of a binding youth participation plan within EUSALP.</p> <p>Participants also developed a vision for 'Youth.shaping.EUSALP' in 2022 and tools to get to its implementation, including the online platform, awareness raising activities (such as Info Days, Summer Camps, workshops, school events etc.), online consultations, etc.</p> |

CASE STUDY (EUSALP)

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| <i>Action</i> | GaYA project (Governance and Youth in the Alps) |
| <i>Location/ timing</i> | Duration: 01/11/2016 - 28/02/2019 |
| <i>Description</i> | <p>The project was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the INTERREG Alpine Space programme.</p> <p>The Development Agency GAL Genovese (IT) coordinated the action and led other 7 partners: CIPRA International Lab GmbH (AT), Aha-Jugendinformationszentrum Vorarlberg (AT), EURAC Research (Italy), ALPARC Alpine Network of Protected Areas (FR), Massif des Bauges Regional Nature Park (FR), Municipality of Idrija (SI), and the Alpine Town of the Year Association (DE).</p> <p>In the GaYA project, eight partners from five different Alpine countries have worked together for two years to increase the quality of democratic processes in the region by increasing the dialogue between youth and local politicians.</p> <p>The main aim of the project was to ‘Bring the Youth and Authorities Together’ to create new participatory methods involving youth that were tested in 15 pilot sites - from Kranjska Gora in Slovenia to Chambéry in France - and made available in order to overcome the challenges of territorial cohesion and participatory involvement of young people in political decision-making.</p> |
| <i>Logo</i> |  |
| <i>Methodology</i> | <p>15 trainings and workshops targeting young people, decision- and policy-makers took place between September 2017 and March 2018, with a view to improve the cooperation between young people, administrators and politicians. Participants designed and initiated new youth participatory processes through Local Action Plans for Participation ranging from setting up youth commissions, increasing transparency and designing youth rooms to revising municipal youth policies, different forms of youth participatory budgeting or even adding youth to the governance models of entire regions.</p> |
| <i>Target group</i> | Young people from the Alpine Region |
| <i>Results</i> | <p>The GaYA project yielded a Youth Participation toolbox aimed at providing guidelines for youth participation at municipality level. The toolbox included ‘Thoughts, Models and Methods’ brochure, case studies, Try Different Cards (methodology), Youth Participation Canvases and three posters.</p> <p>Policy recommendations and practical recommendations were also issued, together with a comparative report on democratic innovation and participatory democracy in the Alpine area.</p> |

CASE STUDY (EU/ Western Balkans)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>Action</i> | ' Connecting Youth – Moving Forward ' EU-Western Balkans Youth Forum |
| <i>Location/ timing</i> | Trieste (IT) on 11-12 July 2017 |
| <i>Description</i> | The EU-Western Balkans Youth Forum was held at the premises of the University of Trieste (IT) in the margins of the Western Balkans Summit. The event was organised by the European Commission and the Italian Government, supported by the European Youth Forum and the SALTO South East Europe Resource Centre. |
| <i>Logo</i> |  |
| <i>Methodology</i> | <p>The Forum built on the outcomes of the 2016 Western Balkans Youth Conference in Paris and its follow-up conference held in Ljubljana, where the 'Action Plan for Youth Work and Youth Policy' was developed.</p> <p>Organised on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the launch of the Erasmus Programme, focused on identified challenges and priorities in the region as linked to key topics of the programme.</p> <p>Young participants, divided in working groups, discussed about mobility/exchanges; inclusion/overcoming of stereotypes; entrepreneurship; youth participation.</p> <p>Horizontal topics were also discussed, including: the work of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO); the young civil servants' scheme/mobility of young professionals; bridging the gap between youth policy, youth participation and parliamentarians in the region.</p> |
| <i>Target group</i> | University students, young people, youth organisations |
| <i>Results</i> | <p>The Forum brought together 130 university students young people, youth organisations, academia and decision makers from the six Western Balkans and EU Member States to discuss common challenges and work towards finding joint solutions.</p> <p>The main result of the event was a list of recommendations, which, among other things, included to recognise the role of youth organisations as fundamental in the enhancing youth empowerment and inclusion in the region.</p> <p>Recommendations about how to boost youth participation in the region included introducing civic education in school curricula and providing tools for the development of critical thinking (e.g. workshops and non-formal education) as well as the creation of an informal group and/or co-management body aimed at co-designing, discussing, evaluating and monitoring youth policies at all levels in a transparent and efficient way.</p> |

Main findings

The general finding of our investigation is that each strategy has in some way figured out that youth should be involved in a more concrete way in the decision- and policy- making. This has been implemented both through a top-down approach and through a bottom-up approach, including interesting efforts to promote youth participation through stakeholders' involvement. In this respect, the case of the GaYA project is an interesting and innovative approach where EUSALP stakeholders were involved in pilot activities aimed at harmonising their action plans or strategies so to reflect the priorities of the strategy and concretely support target groups to take part in its implementation. Stakeholders' involvement is hence key to innovative and successful youth participation initiatives.

In most of the, the policy dialogue and priority setting has been activated, mainly through networking events, as to increasingly envisaging youth issues, yet many initiatives are project-based and there is only limited awareness of other undertakings.

Financial support is also only limited. There is no specific fund, in any of the macro-regional strategies, available to youth and youth organisations. Also, none of the strategies has defined a clear approach to tackle the issue of youth participation in comprehensive and effective way yet. The social, political, administrative, economic heterogeneity of macro-regions can be seen to lay an important role.

Mostly youth has been involved through networking events aimed at raising awareness about the strategies and youth participation. These events are in any cases related to the strategies' Annual Fora, showing that the issue of youth involvement is held momentous. One interesting case is the Baltic Sea Youth Camp of June 2018, which yielded a Youth Declaration that was also presented during the EUSBSR Annual Forum. The creation of platforms is taken as an innovative way to improve youth participation and policy dialogue, however macro-regional strategies are only at the initial stages of such undertaking and there is not enough data to evaluate the performance of the already existing platforms.

Last but not least, none of the strategies has taken into account the role of youth organisations as such and their active and systematic involvement in priority setting and both decision- and policy-making. This will be the focus of next session.

The AI-NURECC Youth Action. Reaching out to Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations

In order to activate a bottom-up approach and to explore and map Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations' motivations to take action in building youth participation processes in the context of the EUSAIR, we needed to identify a sample of organisations and establish a contact with them. It was decided to conduct a survey through an electronic questionnaire. A QR code of the questionnaire is available in the Annex.

Sampling

By means of the SALTO YOUTH search engine, we identified 100 Youth Organisations covering at least 10 organisations per All/EUSAIR country. The research yielded a number of 2.282 potentially reachable Youth Organisations located in the eight All/EUSAIR countries out of 12.903 globally registered organisations.

The selection criteria for the sampling were set as to obtain the most various sample possible:

- geographical variable: Country (all of the eight All-/EUSAIR countries);
- type of organisation variable: NGO, informal, national, international or umbrella organisations;
- key words/field of interest variable: *participation* (European citizenship, integration, youth policy, policy-making), *inclusion* (minorities, gender equality, LGBTQ+, religion and beliefs), *entrepreneurship* (unemployment/employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, sustainable development), *mobility* (intercultural dialogue, non-formal learning, sport, volunteering).

The questionnaire

The invitation to take the survey was sent by e-mail and included links to information about the AI-NURECC and the EUSAIR as well as an interactive button leading to an online questionnaire (see Annex).

We created a survey which was sent out to the mailing list of identified youth organisations. The survey was implemented through an electronic questionnaire aimed at understanding the motivations of young people in participating in EU cooperation and in the decision-making process and to collect information about their priorities/expectations.

The questionnaire included:

- a section to collect data about the respondent organisation (name, website, social media profiles, average age of the members);
- a section with dichotomous questions (Yes/No) and multiple response questions (scale questions and multiple choice questions);
- an open-ended question for comments;
- a privacy policy and a note explaining the use of personal data;
- graphic elements to comply with visibility and transparency requirements.

Table 2 Rank order of the motivations to participate %

| | |
|---|------|
| Building new collaborations/projects | 92,9 |
| Networking with YOs from other countries/regions | 78,5 |
| Being updated about EU opportunities for youth | 64,3 |
| Cooperating with bigger organisations/networks | 64,3 |
| Advocating your ideas in front of decision-makers | 35,7 |
| Getting informed about EU and EU policies | 28,6 |

Question: Among the following, what do you feel would benefit your Organisation most?

Table 3 shows the rank order of the aspirations for future support. 85,7% of the time youth organisations have indicated *‘training and mentoring with decision-makers’* as their preferred choice, followed by the creation of an *‘open platform for youth cooperation’* and the *‘co-organisation of workshops’*. *‘Mobility opportunities’* are mentioned less frequently than the other possibilities, and, by *‘local’* organisations only, while the choice that distinguishes international or umbrella organisations (such as RYCO, JEF, WBAA) is the possibility to build new collaborations/projects.

Based on these answers, we are allowed to think that there is a great interest in being exposed to exchanges with decision-makers, in understating which are the opportunities and the modalities of youth participation in the decision-making by establishing a direct contact with those who make the decisions and to taking on an active part in role in putting these opportunities in practice (co-organisation of workshops).

Table 3 Rank order of the support needed %

| | |
|---|------|
| Training/mentoring with decision-makers | 85,7 |
| Open platform for youth cooperation | 71,4 |
| Co-organisation of workshops | 71,4 |
| Mobility Opportunities | 64,3 |

Question: Among the following, what would you prefer to get support for in the next future?

Inclusion and innovation are the key sectors in which youth cooperation and participation can be successful. When asked to choose the field in which they would feel more satisfied to cooperate, 71,4% of the times youth organisations indicated *‘social rights and inclusion’*, followed by *‘innovation, digitisation and entrepreneurship’*, *‘culture and creativity’* and *‘fight against climate change and green skills’*. *‘Circular economy’*, *‘sustainable tourism’* and *‘locally-led development strategies’* are mentioned half of the times if compared to *‘social rights and inclusion’*.

Events

Table 4 summarises the results of the two events that were organised under the AI-NURECC Youth Action and that were aimed at creating an opportunity of mutual knowledge and networking for the AI-NURECC Consortium and Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations. The two events were related inasmuch as the Info Day was conceived as a preparatory event to launch the Youth Forum.

The Info Day took place in Campobasso and was a first networking occasion for Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations to exchange experiences and discuss common challenges and solutions in a European perspective. It also provided a first setting for stimulating the dialogue between Adriatic Ionian EUSAIR stakeholders on how to effectively involve Adriatic Ionian Youth in the decision- and policy-making as well as priority setting. The hosted the selected Youth Organisations showcased their priorities and activities, and got informed about the EUSAIR, its objectives and the then forthcoming Annual Forum in Budva, as well as EU financial opportunities for youth cooperation.



Images from the AI-NURECC Info Day in Campobasso

The Youth Forum was held in Tirana, at the premises of the EU Delegation to Albania. The event was aimed at promoting a technical debate on the added value of EU policies and the macro-regional approach for the Adriatic and Ionian countries, with a focus on non-EU; encouraging the involvement of Youth and Youth Organisations of the Adriatic Ionian area in the EUSAIR implementation and capitalisation; increasing skills and knowledge of young people, students and civil servants in identifying opportunities available through EU, national, and regional funding programmes by capitalising on existing project ideas, exchange of best practice; supporting multi-actor networking activities and innovative synergies among regional and local authorities and youth organisations, and share with relevant EUSAIR decision-makers and stakeholders recommendations about a possible Agenda for Youth.



19 November 2019
TIRANA (AL)
Adriatic Ionian
Youth Organisations
Forum





Images from the AI-NURECC event in Tirana

Youth Organisations were invited to help the identification of recommendations for a better involvement of the Adriatic Ionian youth in the decision-making, including actions to improve the participation of young people to international exchanges, their knowledge of the EUSAIR and the EU, about self-employability and, last but not least, their chances to network also through a transnational platform.

Both events attracted young people from local secondary schools and universities, who got the outstanding opportunity for being informed about European policies and strategies in the field of youth. They were also attended by representatives of local authorities and local stakeholders.

Table 4 AI-NURECC Youth Action

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Action 1.a Action 1.b</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info Day “Adriatic Ionian Youth own their Future” 10 December 2019, Campobasso (IT) • “Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations Forum” 19 November 2019, Tirana (AL) |
| <p>Objective</p> | <p>Creation of an open dialogue between the EUSAIR institutional and technical structures and the Adriatic Ionian Youth</p> |
| <p>Organisations involved</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Balkans Alumni Association (WBAA) • NOVI SAD European Youth Capital 2019 – RS • National Youth Council – SI • Youth Centre of Epirus – EL • Student Parliament, International University of Sarajevo – BA • Bosnian Representative Association for Valuable Opportunities (BRAVO) – BA • Bosnian Advocacy Centre – BA • ReAttiva – Regione Europa Attiva – IT • Young European Federalists – IT • Forum Mladi I Neformalna Edukacija (FORUM MNE) – ME • Cooperation and Development Institute (CDI) – AL • Junior Achievement of Albania – AL • Code Partners – AL • Students in Academic Senate, University of Tirana – AL • Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) • Biennial of Young Artists of Europe and the Mediterranean (BJCEM) • EUSAIR Youth Games (FAIC) • Adriatic Start-up School (Forum AIC) • University of Tirana – AL • Luarasi University, Tirana – AL • University of Durres – AL |

Young people attending events

150 (high school and university students) representing:

- Epoka University, Tirana
- University of Tirana
- University of Durres
- Laurasi University, Tirana
- University Mesdhetar I Shqipërisë, Tirana
- “Qemal Stafa” High School, Tirana
- Turgut Ozal College, Tirana
- Gjimnazi “Hahxi Qehaj”, Rogozhinë
- Gjimnazi “Sami Frashëri”, Tirana
- Gjimnazi “Petro Nini Laurasi”, Tirana
- Profesionale Kamëz School, Tirana
- “Charles Telford Erickson” Professional School, Tirana
- “Isa Boletini” Middle School, Vorë
- Liceo Linguistico “Giuseppe Maria Galanti” Campobasso
- Liceo Scientifico “Alberto Romita” Campobasso
- Liceo Classico “Mario Pagano” Campobasso

Recommendations

In order to involve youth in policy-making and make them more aware of the benefit of transnational cooperation and macro-regional approaches, Adriatic Ionian policy-makers should:

- Improve participation of young people in international exchanges e.g. through the creation of an [Erasmus programme for the Western Balkans](#).
- Increase youth knowledge of the EUSAIR and the EU e.g. through an education programme focused on leadership and policy-making at macro-regional level ([Scuola di Politiche](#)).
- Improve the [self-employability](#) of youth especially in the fields were youngsters are skilful such as ICT, creativity and social inclusion.
- Stimulate youth organisations to establish a [transnational platform](#) based on ad hoc “memoranda of understanding” aimed at achieving a critical mass.
- Stimulate stakeholders to seek an open [dialogue with colleagues of other Macro-regional Strategies](#) (EUSBSR, EUSALP, EUSDR) as to exchange good practices and promote a stronger youth cooperation and participation.

Conclusions and recommendations for EUSAIR stakeholders and decision-makers

Based on the analyses carried out in this study, it can be suggested to focus attention on the governance of Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations as facilitators of innovative forms of youth participation. This objective can be attained through the following actions:

- 1) Networking events involving EUSAIR decision- and policy-makers should be multiplied and open to the involvement of stakeholders as they could be crucial in emphasising the role of youth in identifying priorities, so that future action is tailor-made to their needs.
- 2) Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations should be included in the EUSAIR board-level governance in order to make them protagonists of priority setting.
- 3) EUSAIR stakeholders should be involved in a process of co-creation of innovative approaches that can help the capitalisation of strategy-related priorities at the local level, for instance by ensuring that local action plans go in the same direction of the strategy, by creating training and mobility opportunities and by including youth organisation in the co-creation of dissemination events.
- 4) Local and national EUSAIR stakeholders should be involved in a systematic mapping of programmes and funding (e.g. operational programmes and their sections targeting international cooperation, participation in direct funding including European territorial cooperation and pre-accession instruments, also at cross-sector level), in the identification of the scope, target group and results of the different activities in the field of youth (including funding for R&D, innovation, mobility, career development, networking etc.) so to uncover good practices and/or possible action aimed at taking stock and coordinate future action.
- 5) Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations should be directly involved in the creation, maintenance and animation of a transnational platform (Adriatic Ionian Youth Platform), both financially and in terms of acquisition of knowledge, models and practices that should be the topics of interest of such platforms.

Main references

Council of Europe, Resolution 386(2015) of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Youth and Democracy: *Bringing down barriers to youth participation: adopting a lingua franca for local and regional authorities and young people.*

EACEA 2010/03, *Youth Participation in Democratic Life*. Final Report.

European Commission, COM (2018) 269 final, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions '*Engaging, Connecting and Empowering young people: a new EU Youth Strategy*'.

European Parliament (2017), *Youth challenges and opportunities in the Western Balkans*, Briefing September 2017.

Annex



INVITATION TO ANSWER

SURVEY ON ADRIATIC IONIAN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Dear COLLEAGUE,

the **Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)** is conducting a survey about **Youth Organisations** in the 8 countries participating in the EU Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region (**EUSAIR**).

The survey falls within the **AI-NURECC**, a joint initiative of key stakeholders representing regions, cities, chambers of commerce and universities of the Adriatic Ionian area. Financed by DG Regio with a direct grant, the Initiative is aimed at supporting the implementation of and capitalisation of the **EUSAIR**.

As part of the **AI-NURECC Youth Action**, the survey is a first step into establishing an **open dialogue** between Adriatic Ionian Youths and Youth Organisations and the structures and actors of the **EUSAIR**.

It is an honour and privilege to invite You to take the survey. It can be completed in a few minutes, enough to collect your valuable opinion.

With your feedback we will better understand the role of Youth Organisations in the Adriatic Ionian Region and plan future action to enhance Youth Participation in the area.

With sincere regards,

Francesco COCCO, Secretary General

[GO TO THE SURVEY](#)

The action AI-NURECC initiative has received funding from the European Union



Go to the survey



AI-NURECC

ADRIATIC IONIAN NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES, REGIONS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND CITIES INITIATIVE

ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΙΑΚΗ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΦΗ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ ΤΩΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ

EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region EUSAIR

**SURVEY ON
 ADRIATIC IONIAN YOUTH
 ORGANISATIONS**

Your Organisation:

Country:

Region:

Address:

Phone:

Email (include postal code):

No. Number:

Average age of members:

Do you know about the EU Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region? Yes No

How much do you know about the EU Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region?

How much is your Organisation interested in participating in the following activities?

Among the following, what is your Organisation most interested in participating in?

- Networking with YOs from other countries/regions
- Making new collaborations/connections
- Being informed about EU and EUSAIR
- Being invited/guest EU representatives for youth
- Addressing your issues in front of decision makers
- Cooperating with target organisations/institutions

How much is your Organisation interested in participating in the following activities?

Please, check the fields, in which your Organisation would like to participate in cooperation?

- Culture and Creativity
- Citizen Inequality
- Entrepreneurship
- Democracy, Digitalisation and Entrepreneurship
- Local and Development Strategies
- Gender Rights and Inclusion
- EU Flagship: Climate Change and Green Skills

Among the following, what would your Organisation be most interested in participating in?

- Mobility opportunities (Exp. Erasmus)
- Other projects of your cooperation
- Training/working with decision makers
- Cooperation of workshops

How much is your Organisation interested in participating in the following activities?

All your comments:

Do you agree to publish your answers in the survey?

Submit

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Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

Privacy Policy

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| Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations | Website | Contact Person |
|---|--|------------------------|
| ALBANIA | | |
| URA Centre (Qendra URA) | http://qendraura.al/ | Ergys Gezka |
| Udhetim I Lire - liberi di viaggiare | https://udhetimiilire.org/ | Miranda Mansaku |
| EU Policy Hub | www.eupolicyhub.eu | Gentiola Madhi |
| Cooperation and Development Institute | http://cdinstitute.eu/ | Krisela Hakaj |
| Albanian Young Leaders Forum | www.facebook.com/AlbanianYoungLeadersForum/ | Leons 287170 |
| Fyouture | fyouture4u.wordpress.com/ | Marco Vigliocco |
| Junior Achievement Albania | www.junior-albania.org/ | Blerina Guga |
| Roma Versitas Albania | https://romaversitasalbania.org/ | Brejdon Xhavara |
| Institute for Environmental Policy (IEP) | www.iep-al.org | Edvin Pacara |
| Fondacioni Arsimor Shqiptar | www.fash.al | Aurel Cani |
| Regional Youth Cooperation Office | www.rycowb.org | Duro Blanusa |
| Code Partners | https://al.linkedin.com/in/arta-nikolli-2242236 | Arta Nikolli |
| Academic Senate - University of Tirana | al.linkedin.com/in/kristian-kina-80911b101 | Kristian Kina |
| Shoqata Shqiptare e Studenteve te Shkencave Sociale | www.assa.org | Flavio Dibra |
| EU Policy Hub | info@eupolicyhub.eu | Gentiola Madhi |
| BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA | | |
| Youth Movement Revolt | https://oprevolt.com/ | Dejan Popovic |
| Omladinski Savjet Bijeljina/ Youth Council Bijeljina | www.facebook.com/omladinskisavjetrs | Darko Rikic |
| Institute for Youth and Community Development | www.pm.rs.ba | Aleksa Matic |
| Perpetuum Mobile | | |
| Snaga Mladhi / Youth Power (YP) | www.youth-power.org/ | Franjo Brkan |
| AIESEC Tuzla | www.aiesec.it/ | Daria Vilušić |
| Student Parliament - International University of Sarajevo | www.facebook.com/spiusbh/ | Bayram Hamidullah |
| "TUZLA LIVE" Association | www.fb.com/TuzlaLive | Anes Husanovic |
| International Burch University | www.ibu.edu.ba/ | Samet Shabani |
| Jedinstvena Organizacija Mladih | www.facebook.com/Armin.Maglic | Armin Maglić |
| Centar za drustvena kretanja | centarzadrustvenakretanja.webs.com/ | Vlatka 283286 |
| Bosnian Representative Association for Valuable Opportunities (BRAVO) | https://bravo-bih.com/ | Ismail Sehic |
| Bosnian Advocacy Centre | https://bosnianadvocacycenter.com/ | Ismail Cidic |
| CROATIA | | |
| P.O.I.N.T. Association | www.linkedin.com/company/p.o.i.n.t.-association | Mario Rajn |
| "Jablani" (Poplar Trees) | www.jablani.hr | Vesna Staresinic |
| Forum for Freedom in Education | www.fso.hr | Mario Bajkuša |
| Marine Explorers Society 20000 Leagues | www.drustvo20000milja.hr/ | Andrea Blašković |
| Udruga za zastitu okolisa "Hippocampus" | www.udrugahippocampus.hr/ | Zeljko Domitrovic |
| Urbana mladež (Urban Youth) | www.urbanamladez.hr | |
| Association Prism | www.udrugaprizma.hr | Silvestar Petrov |
| Association of European citizens | www.facebook.com/ueg.eu | Filip Orešković |
| Association Practicum-center for children and youth | www.udruga-praktikum.hr | Andjelka Budic |
| Local Democracy Agency Brtonigla - Verteneglio | www.lida-verteneglio.hr/it/ | Eric Persel |
| JEF | croatia@jef.eu | Kristijan Orešković |
| GREECE | | |
| Youth Centre of Epirus - Κέντρο Νέων Ηπείρου | www.youthcenterofepirus.org/ | Tomas Tsikos-Cermeli |
| Panhellenic Union of Social Economy Partnership (PESKO) | http://synedriokalo.gr/ | Evangelos Spinthakis |
| Erymanthos | www.erymanthos.eu | |
| Creative Youthland | creativeyouthland.org | Maria Sotiropoulou |
| Athina Educational Network- Skills Academy | www.athinaedunet.org | Dimitrios Philippidis |
| Community Enterprise of Thessaloniki Municipality | www.kedith.gr | Dimitris Georgiadis |
| YIA18 NGO | http://via18.org/ | Vasileios Tsillas |
| Hellas for Us | hellasforum.com | Kostas Alexandrakis |
| Eos-Art | http://eos-art.gr/en/ | Sofianna Theofanous |
| Youthfully Yours GR | youthfullyyours.gr | Apostolos Vagenas |
| YOUNG | info@young.org.gr | Giannis Chatzinikolaou |
| JEF | www.jef.eu , greece@jef.eu | Anneta Dimtsa |

ITALY

| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| Amici del Villaggio | www.amicidelvillaggio.it | Antonio Bonamin |
| Associazione InCo | www.incoweb.org/ | Luigi Balacco |
| Associazione Culturale Verde Binario | www.verdebinario.org/ | Irene De Franco |
| Associazione Trentino con i Balcani | www.trentinobalcani.eu | Paola Filippi |
| Biennale dei Giovani Artisti d'Europa e del Mediterraneo | www.bjcem.org/ | Mercedez Giovinazzo |
| Associazione Elios | www.eliosacireale.com | Giacomo Antronaco |
| EDYM-NGO EuroDemos Youth Mobility | http://edym-ngo.org/ | Silvia Crocitta |
| Union Pro Europe | www.unionproeurope.org | Nicola Lorusso |
| NetInEurope - Social Promotion Association for the Development of European Programmes | http://netineurope.eu/ | Maria Lucrezia Di Blasi |
| ReAttiva | www.reattiva.eu | Domenico De Cesare |
| Erga Omnes | www.erga-omnes.eu | Pasquale Elia |
| Associazione socio-culturale OPERA | associazioneopera.rc@gmail.com | Giuliana Favara |
| JEF - Termoli | www.jef.it | Alfredo Marini |

MONTENEGRO

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------|
| NVO Razvojno kulturno edukacioni centar zdrava buducnost | http://nvoinfo.me/ | Sladjana Samardzic |
| JEF Montenegro - Mladi evropski federalisti Crne Gore | https://jefmontenegro.wordpress.com/ | Mira Radovic |
| Centar za razvoj mladih (Center for Youth Development) | www.facebook.com/pg/centarzarazvojmldih | Damir Suljevic |
| YOUTH FOR YOU | rad.mare@gmail.com | Marija Radunović |
| NGO Creative Civic Centre | www.facebook.com/civiccreativecenter | Dejana Dizdar |
| Don Bosko centar | www.donbosko.me | Radovic Jela |
| Mladiinfo Montenegro | https://mladiinfo.me/ | Milica Zugic |
| Montenegrin Youth Power | www.facebook.com/ngo.myp/ | Stefan Jelušić |
| Forum Mladi I Neformalne Edukacija (FORUM MNE) | www.forum-mne.com/ | Tamara Cirgic |

SERBIA

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| Center for Youth and Social development "RES POLIS" | https://rs.linkedin.com/in/nikola-radman-311b993b | Boris Negeli |
| Omladinska organizacija IFIX | www.ifixada.org.rs | Istvan Mikusak |
| CEIR - Centre for education, innovation and research | www.ceir.co.rs/ | Tamara 291248 |
| Association Kulturanova | www.kulturanova.org | Milan Vracar |
| AMA | http://amacentar.org | Katarina Milenkovic |
| Biznisnova - Center for Proactive Business Initiative for Development and Cooperation | https://rs.linkedin.com/in/delia-bosiok-72382895 | Delia Bosiok |
| Society support alliance | www.idcserbia.org | Ivana Kecović |
| Asocijacija Duga/Association Rainbow | organisation.ssa@gmail.com | Katarina Ilic |
| Youth for Youth - Novi Sad | www.asocijacijaduga.org.rs | Milos Peric |
| JEF Serbia | www.facebook.com/YFYNS/ | Dragan Markelic |
| Western Balkans Alumni Association (WBAA) | www.jef.rs | Dušan Petrov |
| Novi Sad European Youth Capital 2019 | www.western-balkans-alumni.eu | Milan Stojanovic |
| Centre for Democracy Foundation | https://opens2019.rs/ | Valentina Antic |
| | www.centaronline.org | Dragoljub Mićunović |

SLOVENIA

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| National Youth Council of Slovenia | www.mss.si | Anja Fortuna |
| Društvo Mladi Evropejci | www.facebook.com/MladiEvropejci/ | Lovro Klinar |
| Student Organization of the University of Ljubljana | www.sou-lj.si/sl | Damjan Vinko |
| Fundacija Studentski tolar | www.studentski-tolar.si/ | Damjan Vinko |
| Etno.Eko | www.facebook.com/EtnoEkoSeloSkopljanci/ | Tanja Gobec |
| Scientific and Research association for Art, Cultural and Educational Programmes and Technology EPEKA | www.romani-kafenava.si | Stefan Simoncic |