

#eu4youth
#strongertogether

EaP | Eastern Partnership 

THE EU AND BELARUS: A PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUTH



A YOUTH AND EDUCATION PACKAGE TO DELIVER CHANGE BY 2020 AND BEYOND

Improving prospects for youth is at the heart of the European Union's cooperation with its Eastern Partners. Together with Belarus, the EU aims to create opportunities for young people to study, work, participate fully in society and fulfil their potential. Across the Eastern Partnership, the European Union is providing close to **€330 million** of support to youth for 2017-2020.

*With the **New Deal for Youth**, proposed by the European Commission in March 2020 as an element of the Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020, investment in youth is expected to be enhanced during this period.*



EDUCATION, TRAINING AND MOBILITY

Erasmus+: €210 million for the EaP region for 2014–2020, enabling over 80,000 young people, youth workers, students and academic staff to benefit from exchange opportunities, including:

- **Scholarships to study in Europe**
- **Student exchanges**
- **European Solidarity Corps**
- **Youth exchanges**

- From 2014-2019, EU funding enabled **2,032 students and academic staff from Belarus** to study or teach in the EU, and 1,081 Europeans to study or teach in Belarus; **24 Master's students from Belarus** have received full Erasmus scholarships.

- **4,030 young Belarusians** and youth workers have benefited from Erasmus+ exchange projects, with 93 of these involved in specific activities targeting young people and decision-makers.

European School in Georgia: launched in September 2018, a **beacon of excellence** for pupils from the EaP region – including Belarus – who will receive an internationally recognised degree. With the third cohort of pupils having taken up studies in September 2020, 105 young people have been receiving a high quality multilingual and multicultural education including an understanding of the EU, its core values, and the EaP.

European Humanities University in Vilnius: €7 million in EU support since 2011, to give young Belarusians access to independent higher education.

Professional Mobility: €7.5 million for **MOST** mobility scheme, ongoing since 2015 and offering short-term **exchanges for professionals** in Belarus – **2,200 Belarusians** interested in creating their own business or facilitating SME development have so far taken part in short entrepreneurship and innovation events in the EU, with further phases in preparation.



EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

EU4Youth: €43 million for the EaP region to foster **entrepreneurial potential** and develop **labour market skills**, through the establishment of business incubators and innovation clusters, mentoring schemes focused on entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and non-formal catch-up programmes for early school leavers. **Belarus is taking part in three EU4Youth grant projects** launched in 2017-2019 to support employability and entrepreneurship among disadvantaged youth, and 53 organisations from Belarus participate in EU4Youth capacity building small grants projects.

Vocational Education and Training: €11.5 million in EU support for 2017-2021 for Employment and Vocational Education and Training in Belarus to ensure greater synergy between VET and labour market demands, improving skills and job prospects for young people.

European Training Foundation: supporting cooperation by **mapping of policies supporting young people in their transition to work**, to identify priority areas for action and to support national youth strategies – read the **Belarus report**.



PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

The 4th **Eastern Partnership Youth Forum** in 2019 discussed 'Critical thinking through media literacy and active participation', and the 2020 **virtual EaP Youth Summit** promoted exchange around key priorities of the post-2020 'New Deal for Youth'.

EaP Civil Society Fellowship Programme: supporting young civil **society leaders** from Eastern partner countries in developing leadership and skills – **3 fellows from Belarus** were selected in 2017 - 2020.

EU4Youth Civil Society Fellowships for Youth: supporting **youth organisations** and about 460 fellows in becoming active participants in policy-development.

Young European Ambassadors: **more than 700** Young European Ambassadors (YEAs) fostering cooperation between young people and youth organisations in the EU and the Eastern partner countries, as part of the 'EU NEIGHBOURS east' project – meet the **YEAs from Belarus**.

EU4Youth Alumni network: building on the enthusiasm and experience gained in non-formal education programmes, alumni from different EU youth initiatives support greater engagement of disadvantaged young people from Eastern partner countries in their local communities and in EU mobility programmes. In its pilot phase 10 EU4Youth alumni from Belarus will reach out to at least 50 disadvantaged youth in their communities.

YOUNG VOICES FROM BELARUS

EaP CIVIL SOCIETY FELLOW



IGOR ZAGREKOV

EaP Civil Society Fellow

"It has helped me realise my leadership potential. Being a leader in your community is bright, interesting, important! I was able to gather a variety of people with whom we were able to achieve excellent results in our region."

EU4YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY & STABILITY



NATALIA TITOVA

EU4Youth project beneficiary

"The grant I received has become a very attractive and necessary bonus to the EU4Youth training courses, but the knowledge gained is incommensurable with any money."

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS



ANATOLI BLETSKO

Worked as an ESC volunteer in media production in France

"My experience was connected with working as an operator, director, video editor, photographer and I loved it. I was working with youngsters in an education centre. This year was unforgettable and one of the best in my life!"

EU4YOUTH SCHOOL GARDEN



ARTEM SHAKUNOV

EU4Youth project beneficiary

"I live in village and see my future as rural entrepreneur. Thanks to the project I learned about interesting trends in agrobusiness, and I'm proud to take part in the development of a tourist route in our school garden."

YOUNG EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR



HANNA PISHCHIK

Young European Ambassador

"What matters most to me in being a Young European Ambassador is the opportunity to create, implement and participate in activities, in which I can share my experience and ideas with youth across Belarus, and beyond."

ERASMUS+ YOUTH



MARYNA KARALIOVA

Participated in an Erasmus+ training course in the Czech Republic

"Over eight days of training, I received a huge amount of knowledge and motivation for self-development. I met wonderful people who became friends. Training is the best combination of study and recreation!"

FIND OUT MORE:

EU SUPPORT FOR YOUTH
www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/eu-in-action/youth

ERASMUS+
www.ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus

ERASMUS+ NATIONAL OFFICE BELARUS
www.erasmusplus.by/

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EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION
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CIVIL SOCIETY FELLOWSHIPS
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