

#eu4youth  
#strongertogether



# EaP | Eastern Partnership

## EU SUPPORTS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN EASTERN PARTNER COUNTRIES

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

Improving prospects for youth is at the heart of cooperation within the Eastern Partnership. Together with the six partner countries, the European Union aims to create further 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 under its **Youth and Education Package 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**

**Higher education reform:** close to €65 million in EU bilateral support for 2017-2020 contributing to the modernisation and quality assurance of the education system.

**eTwinning Plus:** By 2020, over 3,000 schools from across the EaP are connected via eTwinning Plus and over 7,700 teachers are engaged in exchanges and professional development.

**European School in Georgia:** launched in September 2018, a beacon of excellence for pupils from the EaP region receiving 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.



#### EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**EU4Youth:** €43 million in EU support 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.

**Ten large grants** were launched in 2017-2019 to support employability and entrepreneurship among disadvantaged youth, and 267 organisations from the Eastern partner countries participate in EU4Youth capacity building small grants projects.

**Vocational Education and Training (VET):** close to €85 million in EU bilateral support for 2017-2020 to improve skills, boost private sector involvement in VET, modernise qualifications and make VET more attractive 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.



#### 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 the 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 – 80 fellows from the EaP region 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.

**European Solidarity Corps:** since 2018 open to young people from neighbouring countries, aged 18-30.

**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.

**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.

#### SUPPORT TO YOUTH ACROSS DIFFERENT SECTORS

The **EU4Business**, **EU4Innovation** and **EU4Digital** initiatives support, amongst others, young people in entrepreneurship, innovation and digital fields.

**Coming soon:** support for young creative talent in the cultural sector through **EU4Culture**.

# YOUNG VOICES FROM ACROSS THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

## ARMENIA



### ALLA SOGHOMONYAN

EU4Youth Employability & Stability

*"I never knew a project could have this huge influence on my life. My life has changed, I've changed my way of thinking and acting, and I believe my business will grow and become successful."*

## AZERBAIJAN



### ZAUR UNSIZADA

EU4Youth Capacity Building

*"This programme really changed my perspective on social entrepreneurship by emphasising the importance of impactful activities. I would highly recommend this programme to anyone who believes in change."*

## BELARUS



### HANNA PISHCHYK

Young European Ambassadors

*"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."*

## GEORGIA



### DAVID KIRIA

Erasmus+ Youth

*"I think that youth has the power to change the world for good and Erasmus+ offers all the tools to make it happen."*

## REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



### CONSTANTIN ARHIP

Eastern Partnership School

*"The school gave me a unique chance to grow due to academic rigour and extracurricular engagement. I discovered my passion to have a positive impact around me, in the society I live in, and the entire world."*

## UKRAINE



### STEFANIA MARSHALENKO

EaP Civil Society Fellowships

*"Being an EaP Fellow is a real opportunity to improve leadership skills in creating a useful business for your country's society and to gain invaluable experience and knowledge from professional mentors."*

## FIND OUT MORE:

EU SUPPORT FOR YOUTH  
[www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/eu-in-action/youth](http://www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/eu-in-action/youth)

ERASMUS+  
[www.ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus](http://www.ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus)

EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION  
[www.etf.europa.eu](http://www.etf.europa.eu)

eTwinning PLUS  
[www.plus.etwinning.net](http://www.plus.etwinning.net)