



EU4Youth

September 2021

Newsletter of the EU4Youth Programme



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Phase III of the EU4Youth programme launched

We are happy to announce that the third phase of the EU4Youth programme has been launched!

This new phase aims to further support active participation of young people in society, economy and policy, by stimulating them to achieve leadership and entrepreneurship skills. As before, the focus on disadvantaged youth will remain a priority. However, the new phase will also focus more on sustainable and smart growth, social cohesion and the reduction of social inequalities in the Eastern partner countries.

PHASE III OF EU4YOUTH CONSISTS OF THREE COMPONENTS:



The third phase, co-financed by the EU and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania will be implemented by the Central Project Management Agency (CPMA) and will run until 2025.

Stay tuned for updates on EU4Youth Phase III: calls for new EU4Youth grant projects and scholarships for the College of Europe are coming soon!

EU4Youth Coordination and Support: a new phase with a new team composition



We are glad to announce that the EU4Youth Coordination and Support team will continue its activities under Phase III, to ensure the effective functioning of the overall programme, supporting coordination among the various EU4Youth projects, and overseeing the alignment with relevant policy dialogues and other programmes.

The team has recently undergone a few structural changes and has welcomed its new Team Leader and Programme Coordinator. Continuity of the team's activities will be also ensured by Anahit Minassian, one of the key experts from the previous phase, who will continue providing her expertise in the youth policy field.



Behrooz Motamed-Afshari, Team Leader:

"I'm a consultant with over 28 years of experience in civil society and youth work at international level, including management, capacity building, research and evaluation. Since 2004, I have held various positions working with the Eastern Partnership region, particularly in the areas of social inclusion, non-formal learning, democratisation and aid effectiveness, as well as youth policy and active citizenship."

Anahit Minassian, Senior Thematic Expert:

"Engaged in the non-profit sector for the last 17 years, I am committed to the development of quality rights-based public youth policies, youth-sensitive budgeting and sustainable youth work practices. I design and lead programmes of different scale focusing on youth empowerment, development and youth-led social changes, and continuously look for innovative and sustainable ways of engaging with young people on issues that matter to them."



Maxim Pijevskii, Programme Coordinator:

"I have been engaged in youth work, international youth cooperation and civic engagement for more than 15 years. I was also active as a trainer and facilitator in non-formal education, working with civil society organisations, individuals and groups. My fields of interest include non-formal and intercultural learning, active youth participation, facilitation, conflict transformation and sustainable development."

New cycle of EU4Youth Alumni Network: Call for new Alumni

The EU4Youth Alumni Network is also entering a **new phase and calls for young people** from the Eastern partner countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) and Russia to become members of the new cycle of the Network.

The Alumni Network for the Eastern Partnership and Russia brings together young beneficiaries of the Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps, EU4Youth grant projects, Young European Ambassadors Network as well as other regional programmes targeting young people. The new Alumni will continue the mission to support the **stronger engagement of disadvantaged youth** from their countries in their local communities and in EU mobility programmes, drawing on the enthusiasm and voluntary spirit generated during their own participation in EU mobility programmes.

The Alumni will participate in a series of online and residential events: kick-off, mid-term and final evaluation event, IdeaLab, regional and local meetings. Mentors (professional youth workers) will guide and support the Alumni in their learning process, as well as in the process of implementation of local initiatives for the disadvantaged youth groups.

The next phase of the EU4Youth Alumni Network will last until the end of 2023 and will consist of two cycles of ten months each.

The new network will bring together up to 90 young people who will be chosen through an open selection process. Applications are open **until 15 October 2021** via [the link](#). Applicants need to be/get registered on the platform to proceed with the application.

Find out more details about the call for applications.

 [Read more about the Alumni network](#)



Success stories and achievements of EU4Youth Alumni



Coffee, Tea and Opportunities: how EU4Youth Alumni are sharing their experience in the villages of Eastern Ukraine.

[Read more](#)



The EU4Youth Alumni sharing their enthusiasm and experience in disadvantaged communities in Armenia.

[Read more](#)



Media education in a deprived community: how EU4Youth Alumni set up a studio in a small border town in Ukraine.

[Read more](#)

EU4Youth support for youth policies in the EaP: Youth Policy Labs

After the successful kick-off of the **Youth Policy Labs (YPL)** earlier this year, the EU4Youth - Youth Engagement Roadmaps project continues the series in all six Eastern partner countries, addressing topics of youth employment, social entrepreneurship, youth participation, green economy, and other issues of concern for young people in the region. YPLs are a way to innovate the policy making process, by involving young people and other stakeholders in identifying concrete challenges, proposing improvements, checking feasibility, and testing new approaches.

Twelve Policy Labs, two per Eastern partner country, are taking place from May to November 2021: they are organised and supported by facilitators and experienced researchers from the European Policy Labs clusters. Each Policy Lab has been articulated in three workshops and two “homework” periods over six months: innovation ideas proposed in the workshops are discussed

with the stakeholders at local or national level and tested in small-scale experiments.

By the end of this year, all twelve Youth Policy Labs will have concluded their cycle. Of course, their recommendations are only the “official” output of the process: the “process of production” of these **recommendations** is in itself a relevant learning and practical outcome of the YPLs. At the same time, if recommendations are implemented next year, they will demonstrate how this new participatory approach to existing policy challenges may produce an impact in local communities. Last but not least, YPLs create a realistic environment for the development of the **Youth Dialogue**, in which topics relevant for young people are presented not only to the policy makers, but also to a variety of stakeholders who might be less familiar with the practical dialogue with youth.

Upcoming EU and EaP youth events

EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT

4-9 October, online

The European Youth Event brings together at the European Parliament in Strasbourg thousands of young people from all over the European Union and beyond, to shape and share their ideas on the future of Europe. Under the tagline “The future is ours”, the event will run online activities from 4 October, leading up to the main event on 8 and 9 October 2021.

 [Read more about this hybrid event and the opportunities to join it virtually](#)

ETF-ILO JOINT EVENT ON “CAREER DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AT THE HEART OF LIFE-LONG LEARNING SYSTEMS”

27 October, online

This online policy dialogue will focus on five key topics:

- ✘ *The role of career development support in lifelong learning systems.*
- ✘ *The importance of context sensitive approaches to national career development support systems.*
- ✘ *Lessons learned from national reform experiences with system building.*
- ✘ *The role of donors and social partners in supporting system enhancement.*
- ✘ *Lessons learned from national system reviews.*

The working language for this online event will be English, with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, French, Russian, and Spanish.

 [Take part in this online policy dialogue](#)