



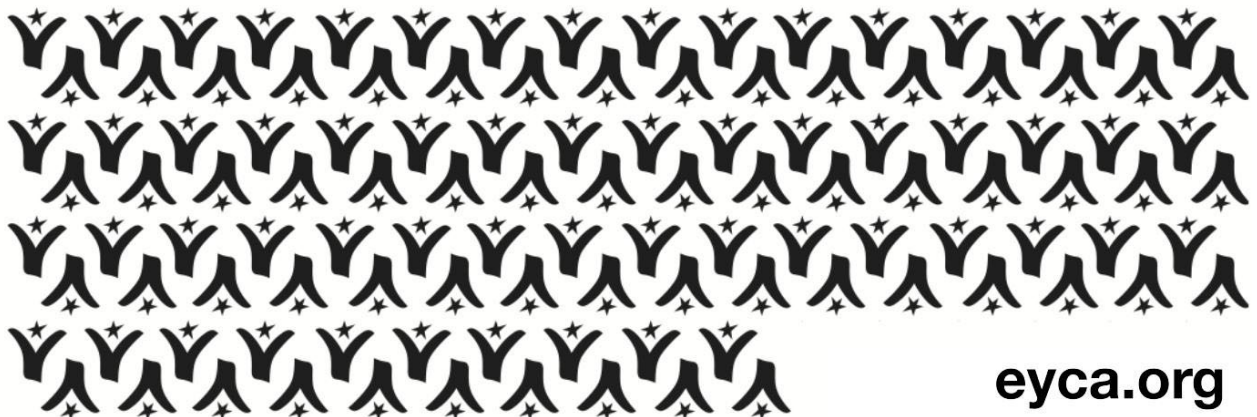
Development of the European Youth Card

Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the youth card

and

the European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

Report 2023



eyca.org

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this report is to describe the activities of the work undertaken by EYCA in 2023 as a result of the financial support the Association received through the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card in the framework of the Council of Europe.

The Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card has become one of the core priorities of the European Youth Card Association, through 36 years of its operations. EYCA is continuously investing efforts to strengthen its relationship with the Council of Europe, as part of implementing its vision to improve mobility and active citizenship for all young people in Europe.

European Youth Cards are a valuable tool for physical and social mobility of young people. Not only do they offer benefits that help youth to save up and reinvest in their personal development but having a European Youth Card (EYC) also exposes young people to various professional opportunities. Moreover, European Youth Cards provide communication channels, enabling policy-makers (1) to provide young people with information, and (2) to engage effectively young citizens in policy making and programme design.

In 2023, the implementation of the programme of the Partial Agreement (PA) on Youth Mobility saw a refresh in its activities through the experimentation of new models of events as part of the usual PA programme. In this regard, events such as study visits or interactive seminar organised in cooperation with another Partial Agreement of the Council of Europe – they all brought new perspectives to the work we usually do as part of PA on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card.

Priorities

Having in mind the [Council of Europe Youth Sector's priorities for the 2022 - 2025](#)¹ adopted by the Joint Council on Youth, youth mobility remained in 2023 an important tool for achieving these objectives.

The proposed specific aims for the Partial Agreement work programme 2023 were:

- Support and empower young people to actively shape their communities by getting involved in decision making processes;
- Explore how the European Youth Card (EYC), as a youth mobility tool, can foster sustainability and align with SDGs;
- Explore the role that European Youth Card (EYC) can have in fostering intergovernmental co-operation on youth policy.

I. HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY: YOUTH POLICY AND YOUTH WORK PROMOTING THE CORE VALUES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

1. Commissioning design and content input for EYCA communications tools

1.1 Communication activities have been implemented as planned.

- The EYCA Facebook page is growing, with 4.900 likes and an average organic reach of 35.000 users per month.

1.2 Website

- The EYCA website was updated throughout the year
- Information on the PA is prominently featured - <https://www.eyca.org/partial-agreement>.²

¹ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/priorities>

² <https://www.eyca.org/partial-agreement>

1.3. PA on Youth Mobility branding

- In 2023, EYCA advertised the branding of PA on Youth Mobility during the organised events and open calls. Approximately 100 persons were directly exposed to the branding in person.
- On social media channels and website, EYCA helped expose the Partial Agreement branding to at least a third of our annual organic reach, i.e. an estimate of 10.000 persons.
- EYCA also distributed its promotional materials branded with PA on Youth Mobility during all events: rolls-ups, mugs, tote bags, stickers.
- A *[promotional video of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#)*³ was produced and is available for promotion. The video shows important stakeholders of the PA and glimpses into the typical seminar organised as part of the PA work programme.

1.3 EYCA Update

The EYCA internal mailing list offered information to all members about opportunities at European level, news from members and benefits for young cardholders. The PA seminars calls were promoted accordingly and member organisations were encouraged to attend and present good practices.

2. Travel, board and lodging associated with:

Quality improvement support to existing members

In 2023, EYCA continued to offer support to member organisations to improve their youth card related services, diversify the offer for young people and ensure we offer a digital and sustainable product.

Key elements of each of the visits and capacity building events are offered below:

Visits to Czech Republic

- Combining at the same time a support visit to the EYCA member organisation in Czech Republic and a working session of the EYCA Youth Panel, the EYCA team undertook a visit to Prague and met various stakeholders related to EYC.
- EYCA director met the leadership of the Czech Youth Council and discussed different opportunities for diversifying the EYC services and better integrating the youth card in their overall programmes.

Visit to Italy

- On the occasions of regional group 5 meeting, the EYCA team also undertook a support visit to the member organisation in Sardinia. The member is also a provider of youth information services and the support visit covered elements of integrated approach to youth services and youth policies and how the EYC can play a strategic role.
- Support was offered also in relation to regional governmental actors and promotion of the EYC across the Sardinia region.
- The meeting was also an opportunity for all EYCA members from Group 5 to start an initiative of promoting youth mobility in the Mediterranean countries and using the EYC as a tool to advance it. The initiative was eventually co-funded by the EYCA's Maximising Impact programme and will see its first meeting early next year.

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DaHeYzxm8A&feature=youtu.be>

Visit to Montenegro

- On the fifth anniversary of the European Youth Card in Montenegro, EYCA Director undertook a support visit to strengthen the partnership between EYCA, our member organisation and the Ministry of Youth and Sport.
- Different aspects of the PA on Youth Mobility were also discussed and, as a result, Montenegro will host the next PA seminar in Spring 2024.

Maximising Impact Seminar in Spain

- Every year, EYCA organises a flagship capacity building event dedicated exclusively to a member organisation. In March 2023, EYCA organised the MI seminar focused on connecting the youth card infrastructure to policies and youth programmes.
- The event included good practices from youth card organisations, an external speaker and a follow-up activity to promote the design of new ideas for the future of EYCA, in the consolidation of communities of cardholders and to empower young people.
- This year, the event was co-organised and hosted by the [Comunidad de Madrid](#),⁴ and welcomed **31 participants coming from 16 various** countries. As usual, a diverse profile of institutions participated in this event to strengthen the partnership.

The objectives of that event were:

- Offer a space for dialogue and share of good practices among EYCA member organisations.
- Create better and stronger links between EYC services and youth policies or programs.
- Support EYCA member organisations to build partnerships among themselves and exchange good practices beyond the event.

PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR

DAY 1 – 6 th of March	
Arrival of participants	
12:30 – 14:00	Welcome lunch
14.00-14-30	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikolay Yordanov - Director General Youth, Comunidad de Madrid • Lilya Elenkova - EYCA Board Member • Manel Sanchez - EYCA Director <p><i>Introduction of facilitator: Alicia Carpio</i></p>
14.30 – 16.00	<p><i>Mette Ranta - Keynote speaker on youth trends in Europe (mental health, civic engagement, social inclusion) - online</i></p> <p>Connections to the European Youth Card services (facilitated discussion)</p>
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>

⁴ <https://www.comunidad.madrid/en/noticias/2023/03/11/comunidad-madrid-acoge-seminario-internacional-impulsar-politicas-apoyo-jovenes-europeos>

16.30 – 18.00	<p>Success models of connecting EYC to youth policy & programmes. Presentations from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comunidad de Madrid • Young Scot • Carnet Jove Andorra • National Youth Council of Czech Republic <p>Questions & Answers Closing the day</p>
20:00	Dinner at the hotel
DAY 2 – 7th of March	
09.30 – 11.30	<p>An overview of the European policy and programmes landscape: how can we tap into the potential of European Youth Card?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of youth policy priorities, processes, key moments and programmes • Working groups on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EYC & youth policy priorities (#StandForSomething priorities: climate change, education, mental health) -EYC & strengthening communities of cardholders -EYC & empowering youth
11.30 – 11.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:45 – 13:30	<p>Presentation of working group results</p> <p>Presentation of connecting EYC with national & regional youth policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenzija Zghazagh (Malta) • CJP Netherlands • Regione Lazio (Italy)
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch
15.00 – 16.30	<p>Future of EYC services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic key moments for youth participation • Youth Work Agenda and EYC • Diversifying opportunities for young people in digital era
16.30 – 16.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.45 – 17.30	Conclusions and closing session
20.00	Dinner
DAY 3 – 8th of March	
Departure of participants	

Identifying and supporting the new member organisations of EYCA

In 2023, EYCA focused on strengthening its presence in the already existing countries and territories. Members in Italy, Montenegro, Slovenia or Portugal saw a significant boost in number of users, outreach to young people and new partnerships. While discussions on membership change or stronger cooperation took place in some countries, there were no significant changes.

EYCA welcomed a strong, new Full Member – the Dipartimento per le Politiche Giovanili e il Servizio Civile Universale – which comprises over 1.8 million European Youth Cards in Italy.

At the end of 2023, EYCA also welcomed a new member organisation for the territory of Kosovo, namely the *Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Kosovo*. A follow-up support visit is planned for early next year.

EYCA is actively negotiating new memberships in San Marino and Lithuania, with strong chances to successfully have a member in each of these territories.

New signatory states of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

Two new member States signed the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card in early 2023: *Bulgaria and Romania*. EYCA appreciates the efforts of its member organisations in these countries which worked to advocate with relevant authorities on the importance of joining the PA on Youth Mobility.

Legal support dimension of quality improvement development

Domain registration and protection

- To ensure the reciprocity of European Youth Card discounts and benefits in all European countries, the registration and protection of online domains is crucial. To make sure youth information is easily accessible to young people, EYCA has registered **europeanyouthcard.xy** and **eyca.xy** domains, so that they can be used by member organisations.

Effective license and sub-license agreements

- According to the EYCA Statutes, there can only be one license holder for the European Youth Card per territory, i.e. one organisation developing the card for the given country/territory. However, to expand the distribution network and to make the card available to all young people, there are also sub-license agreements in some cases. EYCA provides the legal services connected to both license and sub-license agreements.

II. LIVING TOGETHER IN DIVERSE SOCIETIES: YOUTH POLICY AND YOUTH WORK PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

1. Commissioning technology infrastructure:

- to support good practice database development
- to support EYCA's members' group structure

EYCA discount database & intranet

- The new **EYCA discount database** was introduced in 2018 together with the website. The database allows members to use APIs to add their discounts to the EYCA database automatically. This translates into quality discount information for young people at all times. Throughout 2023, the discounts were updated in the new database and organised in a user - friendly way, which makes it more accessible for the young people. **Currently there are over 28.000 valid discounts available to all cardholders across Europe.**
- The existing **EYCA intranet** continued to be expanded into a comprehensive EYCA Customer Relationship Management system (CRM), in order to streamline the collaboration between EYCA and its member organisations.
- EYCA also advanced the negotiation of new, pan-European discounts, as requested by young people. Most of them spent the lockdown consuming on-line services of education, entertainment, culture and shopping online. Thus, the EYCA members adapted their business model, in an effort to increase the pool of cardholders and access to providing them health related information. ***EYCA continued cooperation with Market AAD, aiming to offer young people across Europe new benefits.***

EYCA App

In 2023, EYCA commissioned the development of a new app that would incorporate all existing European Youth Card apps across the EYCA membership. The project is expected to be finalised in Spring 2024, but the most significant part of the work had been done and it was being tested in 2023.

2. EYCA's members' group structure, including specific Conference workshops

EYCA regional meetings were organised in person. Therefore, in preparation for EYCA General Assembly and Conference, the meetings took place as it follows:

- Group 1 – 22 – 24 May, Paris (France)
- Group 2 – 29 – 31 May, Bucharest (Romania)
- Group 3 – 29 – 30 May, Brussels (Belgium)
- Group 4 – 26 May, Edinburgh (Scotland, UK)
- Group 5 – 18 – 19 May, Cagliari (Italy)

The Partial Agreement's evolution and new possibilities of implementation were discussed in the meetings.

3. Commissioning the generation and dissemination of knowledge relating to volunteering and youth citizenship

During 2023, EYCA continued to consider the feedback received during the research and feedback request from members of the PA on Youth Mobility. This aspect has been reflected in the innovative approach to the PA events, for example, such as a study visit to have an eye-birds overview on how the European Youth Card can be used as a policy tool.

In addition, EYCA started this year to prepare for the inclusive, participatory process of designing the Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030. A working group would be set in place and EYCA members will have the space at the Regional Meetings and EYCA Conference to offer input into the new, strategic planning of the organisation, which covers the next five years.

III. SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

1. Travel, board and lodging associated with knowledge exchange meetings and events related to promoting and developing social inclusion aspects of the youth card organisation

The year of 2023 also marked piloting the updated version of Maximising Impact Programme, including new grants for EYCA members and opportunities to develop joint collaborations to improve EYC services offer.

- Eurodesk Italy and ANIJ Luxembourg visiting MOVIJOVEM in Portugal;
- Carnet Jove Madrid, Spain visiting Young Scot, UK;
- NGO Centre for Youth Education visiting CJP Netherlands;
- Czech Council of Children and Youth and Croatian Youth Hostel Association to Youth Board Cyprus.

In addition, other mobility experiences were funded, especially a pilot activity of EYCA members in Group 5 aiming to support mobility of cardholders across the Mediterranean area, discover new cultural routes and have special EYC advantages on the way. The EYCA members plan a special programme in each country, connecting the communities of cardholders and showing the added value of youth mobility and how EYC can be an empowerment tool. Benefitting from the digitalised card and the upcoming EYCA app that will bring together both discounts and mobility opportunities, the initiative will combine real-time youth mobility, activities of cardholders communities across the Mediterranean countries and youth information through the EYCA app (via push-notifications and other features available).

The EYCA Youth Panel, now in its third edition, brought together a new team of 11 panellists at the start of 2023. They hold a mandate of 2 years and their role is of representing the voices of all cardholders within EYCA meetings and actions. They have done this in various way in 2023:

- Involvement in EYCA activities and meetings: they regularly join decisional and information meetings, including the regional group meetings, the Board meetings and the EYCA Conference and GA (which this year took place in Montenegro);
- EYC ambassadors & external representation of EYCA: this role is performed both internally and externally, by sharing their views on new pathways for EYCA (for instance, the EYCA strategy discussions) and by joining external events as guest speakers on behalf of EYCA;
- Assist with EYCA's visibility: they are currently working on increasing EYCA's communication via online actions and in-person outreach;
- Youth Panel-led actions: they are currently implementing the Rural Youth Project. This project aims to engage with young people from rural areas, to better understand their needs and daily challenges, and shape EYCA's services accordingly. The Youth Panel is currently finalising the research phase of this project, which will culminate in the publication of key findings in January 2024. After this, the panelists will organise a Rural Youth Camp, taking place in Andalucia, Spain in April 2024, with 50 rural young participants;
- To carry out these responsibilities, the Youth Panel meets in person regularly. In 2023, they held meetings in Prague (in February), in Torino (in July) and Brussels (in October). The next meeting is planned to take place in Munich in February 2024. This is matched with online meetings in the months between.

Partial Agreement seminars

In 2023, EYCA organised three Partial Agreement activities, for the first time since the pandemic, all of them were organised in person. Moreover, two of the activities' types were piloted for the first time, namely the study visit to EYCA member in Portugal and the interactive seminar in Luxembourg, connected to the Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

The three activities organised by EYCA in 2023 were:

1. Study visit for civil servants and EYCA organisations on youth policy: ‘Strengthening capacities for governmental youth agendas using EYC as a tool: the case of Portugal’
2. 50/50 PA seminar ‘Walk the Talk’
3. Partial Agreement Seminar: ‘Youth as promoters of sustainability: the EYC as a tool to reinforce sustainable mobility’

Study visit for civil servants – April 2023, Evora and Lisbon, Portugal

The study visit “**Strengthening capacities for governmental youth agendas using the EYC: the case of Portugal**” was part of the Partial Agreement’s work programme 2023 and the result of the efforts to broaden the Partial Agreement’s offer of activities following surveys conducted among its member and non-member states in 2020-2021.

The study visit was mainly intended for governmental representatives from the Partial Agreement member states combined with an active participation of EYCA member organisations. *This event was in line with Priority no. 5 of the Council of Europe youth sector’s priorities 2022-2025 “Intergovernmental cooperation on youth policy” and contribute to the expected result: “Member States have increased their capacity to develop youth policies promoting Council of Europe standards.”*

The event was generously hosted by Movijovem, Portugal, and proved to be an opportunity for the participants to learn first-hand from the good practices on youth policy development, programme implementation and efficient management of the European Youth Card by one of the most successful youth card organisations in Europe.

DAY 0 Monday 3 rd of April	
Until 20.00	Arrival of participants and dinner at Évora Youth Hostel
DAY 1 Tuesday 4 th of April	
09.30 – 10.00	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movijovem Board + Local Authorities • Council of Europe • EYCA Director
10.00 – 10.30	Aim and objectives of this seminar + study visit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mapping the audience • expectations
10.30 – 11.15	General presentation of MOVIJOVEM
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 -13.00	Good practices from MOVIJOVEM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-management in a semi-public organisation & involving young people – Plataforma J • National youth survey • EYC as a tool to mobility • Offer of accommodation to university students by Youth Hostels <p>Questions and Answers session</p>
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch break

14.30 – 15.45	<p>Good practices from MOVIJOVEM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interrail with the national railway company • Partnerships with municipalities • Sustainable projects • Effective communication <p>Questions and Answers session</p>
15.45 – 16.15	Coffee break
16.15 – 17.30	<p>Good practices from local youth stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local students' university representatives • Local Youth Associations <p>Questions and Answers session</p>
17.30 – 17.45	Closing remarks for the first day
17.45 – 18.30	Cultural Tour to the Temple of Diana, UNESCO
20.00	Dinner in Evora
DAY 2 Wednesday 5^h of April	
9.00-10.00	Travel from Évora Youth Hostel to Lisbon Youth Centre (CJL) ⁵
10.30 – 13.00	<p>Visit at Lisbon Youth Centre (CJL) and proposed discussion / presentations from youth stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome from IPDJ • IPDJ and the governmental perspective on collaborating with EYC/MOVIJOVEM • PNJ (National Youth Plan) as a strategic way forward • National Youth Council • National Federation of Youth Associations <p>Closing remarks of the event</p> <p><i>Coffee-break available at the Centre</i></p>
13.00	Lunch at the Lisbon Youth Centre and departures (*)

A detailed report of the event is available [at this link](#). ⁶

⁵ <https://cjl.ipdj.gov.pt/en/missao-e-visao>

⁶ <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/17G7z5RraQ4ZthnyTeZuQs9BBLAZf8cgE>

50/50 PA seminar ‘Walk the Talk’ – July 2023, Luxembourg and Luxembourg region

The 50/50 seminar was organised in the framework of the 2023 programme of activities of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. It offered its participants an innovative interactive format ‘**Walk the Talk**’, where guests walked a few cultural routes accompanied by experts and simultaneously learning and exchanging about youth mobility, youth card, cultural heritage, and - what is most important - how to put all this together!

The event was organised by the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card together with the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and the National Information Agency for Youth of Luxembourg (ANIJ), in cooperation with the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA).

The 50/50 seminar is a format offered by the Council of Europe Youth Department to strengthen the relationship among Governments and civil society representatives, in this case - the European Youth Card organisations. Both are ideally represented on a parity and from the same member states. This facilitates networking, dialogue and new ideas/projects in view of better youth policy implementation meeting the standards of the Council of Europe in this field

The main objectives of the seminar:

- Promote the European Youth Card as a tool for connecting young people with the cultural offers of the Council of Europe member States;
- Open EYCA members to the cultural/heritage possibilities for young people, including the European Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe member states, and encourage them to negotiate special offers for the European Youth Card holders;
- Provide networking opportunities between the civil servants of the Partial Agreement’s member states and the European Youth Card organisations;
- developing cooperation between the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes.

Profile of participants:

- **Representatives of member States of the Partial Agreement;**
- **Representatives of EYCA member organisations, including EYCA Board members and EYCA Youth Panel;**
- **A number of representatives of the EPA Cultural Routes, cultural institutions, tourism developers, researchers and youth NGOs in relevant fields from various member states of the Council of Europe.**

DAY 0 Tuesday 4 th July	
Until 20.00	Arrival of participants and Dinner in Mélia Hotel
DAY 1 Wednesday 5 th July	
09.00 – 09.30	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maurice Bauer, Deputy Mayor of the City of Luxembourg • Natalja Turenne, Council of Europe, Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility • Miguel Perestrello, EYCA President • Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director • Didace Kalisa, ANIJ Director

09.30 – 10.00	Aim and objectives of this event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mapping the audience • expectations
10.00 - 10.30	<p>Short Presentations of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility (Natalja Turenne), Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary) and EYCA (Manel Sanchez)</p> <p>Divide the group for discussions on the route</p>
10.30 -11.00	Coffee break in Mélia Hotel
11.00 – 13.00	Route 1 – European Jewish Heritage Route, Luxembourg City By François Moyses, Chairman of the European Route of Jewish Heritage
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break in Mélia Hotel
14.00–15.20 (bus) 15.30–18.30	Route 2 – European Industrial Heritage Route, Belval region (with a coffee break stop during the walk)
19.00 – 21.00	<p>Dinner at the restaurant “Mme Witzeg” promoting local products and social inclusion dimension (people with disability)</p> <p>Panel discussion on European Capital of Culture and youth mobility with:</p> <p>Jacques Maquet – Quality and Impact Research Coordinator at Esch2022 (European Capital of Culture) and Hailey Ciantar and Nikitas Papadopoulos – members of EYCA Youth Panel</p>
21.00-22.30	Return to the Hotel Mélia
DAY 2 Thursday 6th July	
Until 09.00	Breakfast in Hotel Mélia
09.00 – 11.00	Route 3 – European Fortified Cities Route, Luxembourg City Roy Hoss, Luxembourg Heritage Guide
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee Break in Hotel Mélia
11.45 – 12.45	Transportation to Mondorf les Bains
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 17.00	<p>Route 4 – European Route of Historical Spa Towns (with a coffee break stop) Accompanied by Daisy Eischen, a local guide</p> <p>Reflection in working groups on the questions:</p> <p>“How can the European Youth Card and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe contribute to public policy in the fields of youth, culture, heritage and intercultural living?”, as well as creative and innovative ways through which the</p>

	European Youth Card and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe could be promoted with the aim of having a stronger social and political impact.
17.00 – 18.00	Return to Luxembourg City Exchange between working groups on their ideas and proposals
18.00 – 19.30	Free time
19.30	Departure for dinner
20.00 -	Dinner “La Brasserie du Cercle”, Luxembourg City
DAY 3 Friday 7^h July	
Until 09.00	Breakfast at Mélia Hotel
09.00 -10.00	Next steps – brainstorming and conclusions
10.00 -10.30	Evaluation
10.30 -10.45	Closing session
11.00	Departures

A complete report of the event is found [at this link](#).⁷

Partial Agreement Seminar: ‘Youth as promoters of sustainability: the EYC as a tool to reinforce sustainable mobility’ – November 2023, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country, Spain

On 30 November - 1 December 2023, took place in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country, Spain, the Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) “**Youth as promoters of sustainability: the European Youth Card as a tool to reinforce sustainable mobility**” which focused on the concept of “Sustainability” and how to mainstream it through the potential uses of the Youth Card.

This event was co-organised by the Council of Europe, the EYCA association and the Government of Euskadi, General Secretariat for Social Transition and Agenda 2030 - youth direction, institution that hosted the event in Vitoria-Gasteiz.

Sustainability is a topic with multiple meanings and the young generation is becoming one of its stronger promoters. Considering that the core mission of EYCA is to encourage youth mobility (facilitating transport, accommodation, leisure or cultural options), it is relevant to consider sustainable options in order to become reliable stakeholders in the European Youth field. This seminar was an opportunity to learn, debate, reflect and construct new possibilities to be practical and useful for the youth card promoters.

⁷ https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1v4gxXhqM2HzDfXM_gbtppuU_pLhl-8v

PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR

DAY 0 Wednesday 29 th November	
Until 20.00 20.45	Arrival of participants to Cancellor Ayala hotel . Dinner at the hotel's restaurant.
DAY 1 Thursday 30 nd November - Palacio Europa	
09.30 – 10.00 “La Hechicera” Room	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet of Mayor of Vitoria Gasteiz (TBC) • Mrs. Miren Saratxaga, Youth Director - Basque Country Regional Government representative • Mrs. Clementina Barbaro - Council of Europe • Mr. Miguel Perestrello - EYCA President
10.00 – 10.30	<p>Aim and objectives of this seminar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mapping the audience • expectations • brief presentation of EYC scheme and PA on Youth Mobility
10.30 – 11.15	PhD Natalia Ciobanu - Keynote speaker on sustainability: Between policy compromises and greenwashing. Youth pushing the Green Agenda.
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break “Sorginetxe” Room
11.45 -13.30	<p>Good practices from EYCA members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Euskadi • Centre for Youth Education - Montenegro <p>Questions and Answers session</p>
13.30 – 15.00	Lunch break at Olarizu Restaurant .
15.00 – 17.00	<p>Stakeholders working together for sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euskadiko Gazteriaren Kontseilua - Basque Youth Council • Environmental Studies Centre - Vitoria-Gasteiz • Eurocities
18.00 – 19.00	Guided tour in the city. Meeting point in Plaza Virgen Blanca .
20.45 – 22.15	Dinner in the city in a traditional restaurant - Arkupe .

DAY 2 1 st December - Ataria	
9.00	At hotel entrance to take a shuttle bus to Ataria.
9.30 - 10.00	Walk visit in Ataria (10 min) Welcome back and recap of the previous day
10.00 – 11.00	Cities' challenges in their race to Net Zero <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DemSoc - sustainability and community engagement
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.30	<p>Good practices from EYCA members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOVIJOVEM – Portugal <p>Short presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute Balearic of Youth - Instituto balear de la Juventud • CJP Netherlands • INEDIVIM Greece • Agencia Catalana de la Juventut <p>Untapping the potential of EYC in achieving SDGs</p> <p>Working groups on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nudging behaviours of young citizens (ex. of rewards system with EYC) • Culture as a vector to promote sustainability & EYC role • Promoting sustainable mobility of youth <p>Presentation of results</p>
13.30	Lunch break and departures
15.00	Bus shuttle from Ataria to hotel.

A full report of the event can be [accessed at this link](#).⁸

IV. POLICY APPROACHES AND INSTRUMENTS BENEFITTING YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN

Commissioning technology infrastructure

The EYCA common card number database (CCDB) allows for card numbers to be verified instantly online. This allows cardholders to use online discounts and services such as mobile applications.

⁸ <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1y9X1o3WCjhqrtYCam7vqzWmmBehtKZ8>

The development of the CCDB continued in 2023. New member organisations added their card numbers to the database, with **over 7.5 million card numbers verifiable via the CCDB currently**.

In 2023, EYCA continued to support members to add customised features to the EYCA free app, making the experience more user-friendly for young people, by offering tech grants as part of the MI programme.

Special edition of the European Youth Card

In 2023, EYCA continued using the EYC special editions app especially to promote active participation and mobility of young people. Ahead of the European elections which will have a profound impact on the continent, EYCA has developed again a special edition of the EYC to support active youth participation in democratic life of Europe.

Signed:



Manel SÁNCHEZ | EYCA Director

 **European Youth
Card Association**