



AP/Carte-J(2025)PV53

Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card 53rd meeting of the Board of Co-ordination

**Wednesday 12 March 2025
14.00-16.00 CET**

**European Youth Centre Strasbourg
HYBRID
Room 3.1 and on-line**

REPORT

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Miguel Perestrello, Chair of the Board of Co-ordination for 2025. The list of participants appears in the Appendix.

2. Adoption of the agenda

[AP/Carte-J\(2025\)OJ53](#), [annotated agenda](#)

The Board of Co-ordination adopted the agenda of its current meeting as set out in document [AP/Carte-J\(2025\)OJ53](#).

3. Adoption of the report of the 52nd meeting of the Board of Co-ordination

[AP/Carte-J\(2024\)PV52](#)

The Board of Co-ordination adopted the report of its 52nd meeting as it appears in document [AP/Carte-J\(2024\)PV52](#).

4. Tour de table on national developments in the field of youth mobility and youth card schemes if major developments since the last meeting

A few Board members made some updates on recent developments in the implementation of youth mobility policies and/or European Youth Card scheme on national level. The European Youth Card of Navarra gave a chance to two youth card holders to be a part of the "youth jury" for the upcoming PUNTO DE VISTA International Documentary Film Festival of Navarra happening in Pamplona from 24 February to 1 March 2025.

The Carnet Jove Andorra had recently celebrated its 35th anniversary, marking a significant milestone in supporting young people in the country. Since its inception in 1988, the initiative had become an essential tool for Andorran youth, boasting over 9,900 active users.

5. Expansion perspectives of the Partial Agreement

The EYCA Director noted that no major developments happened in this respect since the last Board's meeting on 12 November 2024, i.e. since three months.

6. Update on the implementation of the programme of activities 2025 and on co-operation with other Partial Agreements [AP/Carte-J\(2025\)1](#)

The Board discussed the implementation of the Partial Agreement's work programme 2025, particularly:

- Workshop on co-operation «**Youth Perspectives in action**: Council of Europe's Partial Agreements after the Reykjavik Summit», 12 March 2025, EYCS (see item 7);

- the preparation of the **research-overview of the results and achievements of the Partial Agreement's activities for the last 12 years** since the work programme started in 2013 with a possibility of sharing the conclusions in appropriate settings to be organised during the European Conference of Ministers responsible for youth affairs (7-9 October 2025, Malta); the Call for the selection of the researcher had been launched and a research team selected; a first preparatory meeting was set for 20 March 2025.

- the **next session of the Walk the Talk seminar in the framework of the 14th Annual Forum of Cultural Routes** of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA). As in 2024, the aim of this activity was to enhance the involvement of young people and the European Youth Card organisations in the development and promotion of the Cultural Routes, as well as to strengthen the support of the Ministries responsible for youth affairs in these processes (Cappadocia, Türkiye, 22-24 October 2025).

The first preparatory on-line meeting with EPA's interlocutors took place on 3 March 2025 with the participation of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Co-ordination, EYCA Director, ANIJ representative and the Chair of the Governing Board of EPA, supported by the secretariat of both Partial Agreements. The EPA representatives noted the EPA's recent staff changes and thus staff shortages and limited financial resources. Youth was not a focus of the forthcoming Annual Forum. The EPA representatives considered that landscape and tourism issues did not seem to lend themselves to young people's participation.

At that meeting the Vice-Chair of the Board of Co-ordination drew attention to the Reykjavik Declaration of the 4th Summit of Heads of States and Government prescribing all Council of Europe bodies to integrate a youth perspective in their activities, and considered that the 2024 experience was a front runner in that sense and a basis for future co-operation.

The Chair of the EPA Governing Board – the host of the Forum – asked EYCA Director to discuss with the Turkish CDEJ representative the following:

- a) interest of the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Türkiye to establish contact and co-operation for this possible joint event (Walk the Talk seminar/Annual Forum) with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Türkiye, and

- b) possible financial support by the Ministry of Youth and Sport for meals and accommodation of the PAYM's seminar's participants (travel, facilitator, report-writer, speakers being covered, as usual, by the PAYM/EYCA).

The Board discussed the above and came to the conclusion that the suggested discussion with the representative of the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Türkiye was delicate given that Türkiye was not party to the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card, and that an

activity, albeit preliminarily discussed with the EPA's Governing Board Chair at the Board's meeting on 12 November 2024, could not be planned on a shaky ground. As a result, the Board agreed to replace this event by a promotional event linked to the above-mentioned research during the forthcoming Conference of Ministers responsible for youth affairs to take place in Malta on 8-9 October 2025, and to find a new format to continue the development of links between the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card.

As regards co-operation with other Partial Agreements in 2025 besides EPA, Liliya Elenkova, the current Vice-Chair, and Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director, took part in the **Breakfast Roundtable on "Women in Sport"** on 7 March 2025 in Strasbourg on the occasion of the celebration of the International Women's Day, organised by the Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS). They brought in a youth perspective into debates, as well as a youth mobility- and access to rights perspectives.

Another contribution concerns co-operation with the Partial Agreement "the Pompidou Group" for the **composition of a Jury for the 2025 Pompidou Group Prevention Prize**: two candidates from the EYCA Youth Panel have applied. The Prevention Prize involved young people in finding solutions to social problems as an effective way of addressing them. The Prize promoted active youth participation in prevention of drug use and addictive behaviours, supported the winning projects in their development and visibility, as well as fostered civil society and target group engagement in prevention efforts.

7. Feedback on the «Youth Perspectives in action: Council of Europe's Partial Agreements after the Reykjavik Summit» Workshop on co-operation

[AP/Carte-J\(2024\)9 \(for information\)](#)

As a follow-up to the "Strategic discussion on co-operation between the PA on Youth Mobility and other CoE Partial Agreements in line with the youth perspective" held during the 52nd meeting of the Board of Co-ordination (12 November 2024) and in line with the Partial Agreement's work programme 2025, a Workshop on "Youth perspectives in action" was organised in Strasbourg in conjunction with the Board's meeting on 12 March 2025. The following evaluations were given orally by the participants at the end of the Workshop:

- “- a great impulse for a new development;
- a very well organised and interesting idea of putting the PAs together;
- good organisation, great team, good approach methods, welcoming atmosphere, good to have presentations with the representatives of the Partial Agreements;
- congratulations on identifying important partnership opportunities, encouragement to keep it up and together we can identify the concrete measures to strengthen the bond between youth and sport;
- super productive meetings;
- it was productive, informative, dynamic: from 0-5, I give 5
- thank you! I really liked the help of a facilitator; it would be nice to be matched with a peer to catch up later;
- motivating and inspiring;
- continue bringing youth to the table, thank you;
- there were so many stakeholders that it was difficult to identify objectives and priorities to focus on;
- very well moderated and many opportunities to exchange;
- extraordinary opportunity for discovery;

- thank you for all the efforts put in for this to happen.”

The Board was greatly satisfied with the outcomes of this innovative format and clearly saw the need to continue in that venue to develop a number of concrete proposals for co-operation with the Partial Agreements present at the Workshop (it was regretted that the Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes was not represented) and, at a later stage, explore opportunities with such Partial Agreements as the North-South Centre, EUR-OPA Hazards Agreement, EURIMAGES, etc.

This trend, nonetheless, raised questions of financial nature. First of all, future partners should invest part of their resources in joint activities. And second, the way the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility was currently financed by member States should be reviewed: ridiculously low rates of annual contributions, even if member States were willing to contribute more, did not allow for the Partial Agreement activities’ growth and did not correspond to the importance of the work of the Partial Agreement and its driving role in bringing youth perspective into the work of other Council of Europe Partial Agreements in accordance with the Reykjavik Declaration. The Board saw the need to study this question in detail at its next meeting with a view to making relevant proposals.

8. Recent and forthcoming developments in EYCA – oral update

The EYCA Director updated the Board on recent and forthcoming developments in EYCA. The next EYCA Conference and its General Assembly would take place in Pristina, Kosovo¹, on 24-26 June 2025. During the month of June EYCA Regional Groups would meet as follow:

Group 1 (countries: Andorra, France, Portugal, Spain through its regions): in Spain;
Group 2 (countries: Bulgaria, Romania, Czech Republic, Georgia, Poland): in Czech Republic;
Group 3 (Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Belgium): in Germany;
Group 4 (Baltics, Nordics and the UK): Scotland;
Group 5 (countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Slovenia, Malta, Cyprus, Italy): in Albania.

At the moment EYCA was voting on the acceptance of the National Agency of Moldova as the EYCA member in the country. This was important since Moldova was party to the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. At the same time, there were discussions with Armenia, Kazakhstan, Sweden, Finland, England, Wales and San Marino in order to have a member in their country.

EYCA would be present in the European Youth Work Convention in Malta on 27-29 May 2025 as part of its Steering Group where a number of EYCA members would present good practices. EYCA would be present in ERYICA and EURODESK General Assemblies and Conferences.

In February 2025 EYCA launched a Young Creators programme. This new initiative aimed at providing young people with a voice and showcasing the topics that they felt were important through creative videos. The programme was destined at 8 volunteers with a valid European Youth Card. Ideally, one participant in the European Solidarity Corps Programme, one participant in DiscoverEU, and one member of the EYCA Youth Panel would take part. The five other places would be filled through an open call. The programme would start with a training for

¹ All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

young creators in Paris, France, from 25-29 April 2025. The programme would last for one year, participants would have the chance to join some EYCA events along the way, connecting with more young (and older) engaged people across Europe.

9. Any other business

10. Date and place of the next meeting: in the framework of the youth sector's statutory bodies on 18 November 2025, in a hybrid format (on-line and in Strasbourg), subject to further notice and available resources.

APPENDIX
List of participants

Governmental representatives

AUSTRIA

Markus WOLF

Federal Chancellery Section VI - Family and Youth

Department 7 European and International Family and Youth Policy

BULGARIA

Liliya ELENKOVA

Advisor to the Minister of Youth and Sports of Bulgaria

CROATIA - absent

Ivana BARAC

Central State Office for Demography and Youth

CYPROS

Maria CHRISTODOULOU

Youth Board of Cyprus

HUNGARY - excused for absence

Enikő VARGA-VÉGVÁRI

Youth Policy Officer, Prime Minister's office, General Youth Department

NORTH MACEDONIA

Stefan Stepanoski

Youth Department, Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth

SERBIA – absent

Ms Ivana ANTONIJEVIĆ

Assistant Minister, Sector for Youth, Ministry of Tourism and Youth

SLOVENIA – excused for absence

Mr Igor JESIH, Office for Youth

Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

EYCA representatives

Miguel Perestrello, EYCA Portugal, President of EYCA

Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director

Corina Pirvulescu, EYCA office

Jean Paul Romegas, EYCA France

Antía Loureiro Carbia, EYCA Galicia, Spain

CCJ representative

Peter Török

Secretariat

Tobias Flessenkemper, Head of Youth Department
Clementina Barbaro, Head of Youth Policy Division
Natalja Turenne, Administrator, Youth Policy Division