

## **Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card 54th meeting of the Board of Co-ordination**

**Monday 17 November 2025**

**18.00-19.30**

**European Youth Centre Strasbourg**

**Room 5.1**

**and**

**Thursday 18 December 2025**

**On-line**

### **REPORT**

#### **1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was chaired by Miguel Perestrello, Chair of the Board of Co-ordination for 2025 and current president of EYCA. The list of participants is available in the Appendices 1 and 2 to this Report.

#### **2. Adoption of the agenda *AP/Carte-J(2025)OJ54, annotated agenda***

The Board of Co-ordination adopted the agenda of its current meeting as it appears in the reference document AP/Carte-J(2025)OJ54.

#### **3. Adoption of the report of the 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Board of Co-ordination**

*AP/Carte-J(2025)PV53; AP/Carte-J(2025)PV54\_ad hoc*

The Board of Co-ordination adopted the report of its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting as it appears in document AP/Carte-J(2025)PV53 and the report of its 54<sup>th</sup> ad hoc meeting as it appears in document AP/Carte-J(2025)PV54\_ad hoc.

#### **4. Prolongation of the terms of office of the current Chair and Vice-Chair *AP/Carte-J(2025)2***

The Committee of Ministers, limited to its composition to the member States of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card, would nominate eight governmental representatives to the Board of Co-ordination for a term of office 2026-2027 by the end of 2025<sup>1</sup>. The non-governmental, EYCA, part of the Board of Co-ordination would be nominated by the next EYCA General Assembly in June 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> The Committee of Ministers, limited to its composition to the member States of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card, nominated eight governmental representatives to the Board of Co-ordination for a term of office 2026-2027, at its 1543<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 18 November 2025: Austria (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Bulgaria (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Greece (1<sup>st</sup> term), Hungary (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Luxembourg (1<sup>st</sup> term), Portugal (1<sup>st</sup> term), San Marino (1<sup>st</sup> term) and Slovenia (2<sup>nd</sup> term).

The next regular meeting of the Board of Co-ordination in principle should take place in the framework of the statutory bodies of the youth sector (23-25 March 2026, Budapest). The next Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board should be elected at that meeting. This time, the Chair should come from a governmental side and the Vice-Chair from EYCA side.

The Board agreed that until that meeting, the mandate of the current Chair, Miguel Perestrello, and Vice-Chair, Liliya Elenkova, would be prolonged, as well as of the EYCA representatives in order to safeguard the Board's smooth functioning. The newly nominated governmental representatives were invited to join the meetings in November and December in 2025 and the governmental members of the current Board – the meetings early 2026, in order to ensure coherence in the work programme, particularly of 2026, and of discussions on long-term issues such as the research review, the Partial Agreement's expansion perspectives, and its financial rules.

**5. Exchange of views with Mrs. Elda Moreno**, Senior Advisor for the Integration of the Youth Perspective in the Council of Europe work (Reykjavik Declaration, New Pact for Democracy) <https://www.coe.int/en/web/new-democratic-pact-for-europe>, *Reykjavik Declaration; Resolution on the CoE Reference Framework on a Youth perspective*

Elda Moreno, Senior Advisor for the Integration of the Youth Perspective in the Council of Europe work, was not able to join the meeting. This said, she presented her work and vision on how the youth perspective could be integrated as a clear policy objective at all levels of the Council of Europe as well as on the national level at the CDEJ meeting taking place just before the Board. Thus, the governmental representatives and the EYCA Director got already informed. It would be interesting to exchange views with Ms. Moreno in future on practical steps which could bring co-operation with various Partial Agreements closer.<sup>2</sup>

**6. Exchange of views on the results of the 10<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth** “Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action” (Valletta, Malta, on 8–9 October 2025) **and their impact on the work of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card**  
*Declaration “Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action”*  
*Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective*

The Board of Co-ordination exchanged views on possible take-offs from the Ministerial Conference could be envisaged in a short-term, medium-term and long-term perspectives.

The Board members underlined that the 10th Council of Europe Conference gave impetus, at the highest political level, to the elaboration and further development of youth policies on topics considered to be priorities for the member States. The Declaration of the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth and the Resolution on the Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective would guide the Council of Europe's action in this field for the coming years. The two documents would be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers in early 2026, which would then decide on the operational follow-up.

Echoing the Head of Youth Department, Tobias Flessenkemper, the Board underlined the importance of the fact that the Declaration mentioned the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility and its positive contribution to the work of the Youth Sector, which was recognised by 44 Ministerial delegations, and confirmed the usefulness of this tool in the youth policy development alongside and on equal footing with the EYF and the EYCs, and placed

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<sup>2</sup> It became known later that Ms. Elda Moreno would leave the Council of Europe by 31 December 2025.

responsibility on it to play an ever-increasing role in the implementation of the youth perspective. This demanded an outlook for further steps, in view of the next milestone – the Ministerial Conference in Luxembourg in three-year time. The Chair added that this time-line should be kept in mind for the expansion prospects of the Partial Agreement.

The representative of Luxembourg said that indeed the next GSO could include a discussion on the importance and relevance of this Partial Agreement in the Youth Sector with a view to taking over at the next Ministerial Conference. Several Board members said that the Ministerial Conference should empower this Partial Agreement; a concrete example was that in EPAS each year the member States try to ensure the presence and implication of the Youth Sector, but this is not ensured for the next Conference of Ministers of Sport. There was a need to promote the workshop between CoE Partial Agreements, with the aim of facilitating the implementation of the youth perspective by and with other Partial Agreements.

The Chair supported this plea to continue co-operation workshops like the one in March 2025 to increase cross-sectoral knowledge, explain the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility to other Partial Agreements (representatives and staff), and thus strengthen the Council of Europe values.

It was also recognised that mobility was not only a tool for self-development, intercultural dialogue, autonomy, but it was also political. Mobility and Information were two key words to be taken in a political assessment. But mobility was also a controversial notion in Europe today, it had become a political issue placed in a difficult and sometimes messy context. That's why the Partial Agreement's position was in a highly relevant context where its members could be productive and deal with modern issues of high pertinence to the society. One of the suggestions was to rethink again the title of the Partial Agreement: whether it should continue to include "youth mobility". For that, one should go back to the roots and memorize reasons of why EYCA, the Council of Europe and young people were brought together as stakeholders of the Partial Agreement. Clearly, one should look at the definitions and meanings of mobility in the present moment. This said, it should be reminded that mobility was the very basis for peace-building and peace-keeping.

Some think that young people were mobile and thus nothing more needed to be done. To counter this illusion and explain, the PA needed to develop an argument, with facts and figures, why, for example, a governmental platform like the PA on Youth Mobility was needed. And what kind of mobility we need? What about the green agenda, social responsibility, sustainability? The EYCA Director mentioned that the working breakfast in the Ministerial framework was productive, but short.

It was recalled that a plan/strategy would be developed to implement the reference framework through the integration of youth perspectives in Council Europe's work<sup>3</sup>, and it would be important for the representatives of the Board of Co-ordination (both CDEJ and EYCA sides) to take part in that work, particularly that the future document should "rely on the expertise and networks of the Youth Department".

**7. Update on the implementation of the programme of activities 2025** and particularly on the side event of the Partial Agreement in the framework of the Ministerial Conference  
*Work programme 2025 AP/Carte-J(2025)1; AP/Carte-J(2025)4;*

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<sup>3</sup> It is expected to adopt a step-by-step approach, taking into account each sector's specificities and young people's priorities; include measures to develop skills, share knowledge, create opportunities, assess impact, show results and lessons learned from the process already launched; etc.

*Report on the Workshop on co-operation “Youth perspective in action: Council of Europe’s Partial Agreements after the Reykjavik Summit”;*  
*Analytical review of the Activities Delivered (2013-2025) under the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card; AP/Carte-J(2025)PV54\_ad hoc*

The secretariat, the EYCA Director and several Board members up-dated the Board of Co-ordination on the implementation of the Partial Agreement’s programme of activities 2025:

**1) 7 March 2025, Strasbourg: Breakfast Roundtable on women’s health and sport:** the representatives of the Partial Agreement, Liliya Elenkova, the Board’s Vice-Chair, and Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director, contributed as speakers and panelists to the event organised by the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) on the occasion of the International Women’s Day. Both said that mutual learning between the two Partial Agreements was very useful as sports, mobility of young athletes, access to equal opportunities and rights-based treatment of young female athletes were all interconnected. The Board welcomed this experience and considered it as a direction to be further developed, particularly as regards issues of policies on safety and prevention of violence for young people who were engaged in sports activities, not necessarily at highest national/international level, and were mobile to take part in them.

**2) 11-12 March 2025, Strasbourg:** Workshop on co-operation “Youth perspective in action: Council of Europe’s Partial Agreements after the Reykjavik Summit”, 34 participants took part in the event, among them 11 governmental representatives. EYCA and ERYICA also had a wide representation. It should be recalled that at its 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting (12/11/2024), the Board of Co-ordination had identified the EDQM, EPA, EPAS and the Pompidou Group as the first four priority Partial Agreements for developing co-operation given their direct relevance to the concerns and needs of the young people. The Board is invited to look at the Conclusions of the Workshop (available in the Workshop’s report).

**3) May–October 2025: Research review** on the achievements and results of the work of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility in 2013-2025

At its ad hoc meeting on 4 November 2025, the Board of Co-ordination had a preliminary exchange of views on the research review commissioned by itself as part of the Partial Agreement’s work programme for 2025, and in particular on its conclusions and recommendations. The research results were presented by Dr. Dan Moxon. The full discussion is available in the report AP/Carte-J(2025)PV54\_ad hoc.

To summarise, the following came out from the initial exchange of views on which the Board is invited to reflect at the current meeting:

**Evaluation and monitoring should be built into the activities from the start** and participants should know in advance that they would be requested to contribute thereto. Dr. Moxon proposed that **participants were contacted three months after the activity** to learn what impact the event had on them and/or actions they took following participation. **Another option was to prepare short, standardised evaluation questionnaires** and ask participants to fill them **at the end of the activity or after the activity at the moment of travel reimbursement requests**. One could also produce **standardised templates for the activities**.

As regards the “Recommendations”, the Board considered that it should **work carefully on realistic expectations**. The Board is invited to look at each recommendation below, consider it relevant or not, suggest priorities among the recommendations and suggest, if relevant, measures for implementation:

1. Increase opportunities within activities to connect youth sector stakeholders within the same country;
2. Provide opportunities for participants to extend their engagement with each other beyond the one-off activities, supporting the growth of a network or community of practice;
3. Consider targeted groupings of participants based on similar needs or context (e.g. geographic, stage in Youth Card development);
4. Make clear if the objective of the Partial Agreement activities is capacity-building at a technical/operational level, or change at a policy level, and design accordingly;
5. Clarify if and how youth mobility remains central to the focus, and expand themes covered to touch upon additional Council of Europe priorities;
6. Devise a theory of change for the Partial Agreement activities, including a robust monitoring and evaluation framework, with regular data collection and reporting.

In respect of the above, the Partial Agreement members **need to agree upon the definition and/or interpretation of youth mobility in present reality and interact with EYCA in order to come up with a coherent concept.** These reflections should be directly linked to recommendation 4: member States answer a question on whether **youth mobility should still be the focus of the Partial Agreement.**

A **SWOT**<sup>4</sup> analysis was integrated into the review which should help the Board to decide on the priorities and the direction to develop in future.

The Board came back to the review on 17 November 2025. It was considered that due to the low number of the interviewees, the research could not be considered enough representative and solid to be published externally. It was an interesting and useful tool for the Board of Co-ordination to develop and adjust some working methods of the Partial Agreement and proceed with the definitions and notions of youth mobility in co-ordination with the follow-up to the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference and implementation of the youth perspective.

The Board might also wish to consider at a later stage whether **a task force or a working group should be created to develop a road-map for a follow-up to the review** (see also item 8).

**4) 10 October 2025, Valetta, Malta: a working breakfast** “Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the youth card: looking ahead to new horizons” organised as a side event of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference for Youth, in Valetta, Malta. The aim was to present some conclusions of the research review of the Partial Agreement’s impact in 2013-2025, as well as to initiate a discussion on the current meaning and political significance of youth mobility in various member States of the Council of Europe. 36 participants – policy-makers, youth activists, EYCA members and representatives of international bodies – took part in the discussions.

## **5) Pompidou Group’s 2025 Prevention Prize**

Following the Workshop on co-operation (11-12 March 2025) and in the framework of co-operation between the Pompidou Group and the PA on Youth Mobility, a Call for applications for the prevention Prize Jury composed of young people was circulated among EYCA’s stakeholders and several changemakers from the EYCA MoreIn24 project run for the EU elections,

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<sup>4</sup> In strategic planning and strategic management, **SWOT** analysis is a decision-making technique that identifies the **strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and Threats** of an organisation or a project. The purpose of performing a SWOT is to reveal positive forces that work together and potential problems that need to be recognised and possibly addressed.

applied on behalf of EYCA. Malina Turtureanu, Romania, was selected to be part of the new Jury for the 2025 Prevention Prize. The awards were presented at the 19<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Pompidou Group which shall take place on 27-28 November 2025 in Strasbourg.

## **8. Preparation of the programme of activities 2026**

*AP/Carte-J(2025)3; AP/Carte-J(2025)3revised and revised 2*

At the ad hoc meeting on 4 November 2025, the Chair presented a preliminary draft programme of the Partial Agreement for 2026 saying that it had received a strong support from the EYCA's Board. The EYCA Director reminded that the dates and venues were indicative and open for change. The Board of Co-ordination had no time to take up this item on 17 November 2025 and decided to postpone it to the continuation of the meeting on-line in December 2025.

At the meeting on 18 December 2025, the Board concentrated on the finalisation of the Partial Agreement's work programme 2026. The Head of the Youth Department introduced the discussion by putting this item in the overall context of the Youth Department following the Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth (8-9 October 2025). The Committee of Ministers was expected to consider the Conference's report (including its Declaration and Resolution on the Reference Framework for a youth perspective) early 2026 and take decisions providing orientation for the future work of the CoE Youth Sector.

The Board proceeded with consideration of the proposals of activities for the Partial Agreement's work programme 2026:

1. Promotional Seminar "**Renewing the commitment to youth mobility**" proposed by the Romanian authorities in Bucharest in April 2026. Preliminary objectives would be to (1) reinforce the commitment towards youth mobility and the Partial Agreement as an ecosystem that allows young people to explore, both themselves and European values/places, and (2) gain better knowledge and insights into challenges and opportunities regarding mobility of young people. The seminar would touch such areas as green technology, digitalisation and security, and new meanings of youth mobility.
2. Conference "**Safe youth communities in the Black Sea and Balkans Regions – towards new co-operation in youth work**", Bulgaria, 2026.
3. **Desk research** to better understand the **current meanings, controversies and significance of youth mobility in Europe** and study how PA on Youth Mobility can connect to/work with other Partial Agreements, as a follow-up to the Partial Agreement's side event in the framework of the Ministerial Conference in Malta. This desk research can be accompanied by a thematic debate on the same subject at one of the Board's meetings in Strasbourg or Budapest.
4. **Presentation of the Partial Agreement and its work to the Permanent Representations** through a dedicated event (a half-a-day seminar, or a reception, or a working breakfast).

These four activities would constitute the main deliverables of the Partial Agreement's work programme 2026. If time, resources (both human and financial) and favorable circumstances would allow, the Partial Agreement could hold a Workshop on co-operation with the North-South Centre, either in Strasbourg or in Lisbon, following the success of the first edition of the Workshop on co-operation with other Council of Europe's Partial Agreements on 11-12 March 2025 in Strasbourg.

The Board wished to stay open for proposals of co-operation with the Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes, particularly in the framework of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe to take place in Gümri, Armenia, September 2026. Equally, if co-operation with the Pompidou Group could continue on the Prevention Prize through the young people's Jury, the Board was open to taking this opportunity again.

## **9. Expansion perspectives of the Partial Agreement**

The secretariat informed the Board that there were certain informal consultations with the Partial Agreement on North-South Centre as regards their partner countries from the other bank of the Mediterranean. These issues being of delicate nature, they needed more time and consideration. Negotiations restarted with Albania.

## **10. Recent and forthcoming developments in EYCA – oral update**

The EYCA Director up-dated the Board of Co-ordination on recent and forthcoming developments in EYCA since the Board's 53rd meeting, in particular:

- EYCA regional meetings and General Assembly in 2025 and the next one in 2026;
- new EYCA Youth Panel;
- events and programmes, such as:
  - Young Creators programme;
  - Short Film Competition for European Youth Cardholders (in collaboration with Filmoteca de Navarra);
  - Youth on Track, a coalition of youth, consumer and environmental organisations calling on the EU to address the issue of rail ticket prices that are often higher than flights and that of booking systems that make cross-border train travel too complicated;
  - Participation Awards 2025 (in collaboration with the European Commission, a celebration of volunteering with the European Solidarity Corps);
  - 5th International EYC Educo Camp in Montenegro (35 young people from across the Western Balkans, 12–14 August 2025 in Mojkovac, Montenegro).

The EYCA Director highlighted the fact that regional co-operation between members was very important for EYCA, and that Balkans was a region of some attention now not least because of co-operation with RYCO.

## **11. Any other business (see footnote 1)**

## **12. Date and place of the next/forthcoming meeting/s**

### **December 2025 on-line**

Agenda: discussion of the recommendations of the research review; discussion of the recommendations of the Workshop on co-operation with other Partial Agreements; continuation of the preparation of the work programme 2026

### **February 2026 on-line**

Agenda: discussion of the financial rules and financial situation of the Partial Agreement; expansion prospects; if need be, finalisation of the work programme 2026

### **March 2026 in Budapest**

Agenda: a regular meeting

Several Board members made a strong plea already voiced at the ad hoc meeting on 4 November 2025, to change the length and time of the Board's meetings in order to have sufficient time for meaningful discussions. The Board considered two options:

Option 1: a meeting on Wednesdays afternoon at 14.00-18.00 (4 hours) or

Option 2: a meeting on Wednesdays afternoon and Thursday mornings (8 hours).

Whereas both options got approximately equal number of supporters, it was agreed that the Board would start with option 1 and then evaluate it. Other options could be also put on the table particularly in view of difficulties EYCA Board members had in travelling to Strasbourg for a very short evening meeting.

Appendix 1  
**Meeting on 17 November 2025**  
**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

Ministry of Youth and Sports

CROATIA

Marina SMERNIC

Ministry of Science, Education and Youth

CYPROS - apologised

Maria CHRISTODOULOU

Youth Board of Cyprus

HUNGARY – technical on-line problems did not allow for participation

Enikő VARGA-VÉGVÁRI

Prime Minister's office, General Youth Department

SLOVENIA - apologised

Igor JESIH

Office for Youth, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

NORTH MACEDONIA - absent

Fatmir SABRIU

Youth Department, Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth

SERBIA – absent

Ivana ANTONIJEVIĆ

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

## **Guests<sup>5</sup>**

### **GREECE**

Konstantina PISLI

General Secretariat for Demography and Housing Policy,  
Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs

### **LUXEMBOURG**

Alix RAMOS

Service Relations internationales Service National de la Jeunesse  
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

### **PORTUGAL**

Jorge Orlando QUEIROS

Department of Information, Communication and International Relations  
Portuguese Institute for Sport and Youth

### **SAN MARINO**

Riccardo VENTURINI

Office of the Secretary of State for Education and Culture, University and Scientific Research,  
Youth Policies

## **EYCA representatives**

Miguel Perestrello, EYCA Portugal, President of EYCA

Ramon Magi, EYCA Board member

Mihai Tapalaga, EYCA Board member, Group 2

Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director

Corina Pirvulescu, EYCA office

## **CCJ representative**

Konstanze Schönfeld

## **Secretariat**

Tobias Flessenkemper, Head of the Youth Department

Clementina Barbaro, Head of Youth Policy Division

Natalja Turenne, Administrator, Youth Policy Division

Giovanna Montagna, Assistant, Youth Policy Division

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<sup>5</sup> Newly nominated members for the term of office 2026-2027 were invited to join the discussions.

Appendix 2  
**Meeting on 18 December 2025**  
**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

Ministry of Youth and Sports

CROATIA

Marina SMERNIC

Ministry of Science, Education and Youth

CYPROS

Maria CHRISTODOULOU

Youth Board of Cyprus

HUNGARY

Enikő VARGA-VÉGVÁRI

Prime Minister's office, General Youth Department

SLOVENIA

Igor JESIH

Office for Youth, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

NORTH MACEDONIA - absent

Fatmir SABRIU

Youth Department, Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth

SERBIA - absent

Ivana ANTONIJEVIĆ

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

**Guests**

GREECE

Konstantina PISLI

General Secretariat for Demography and Housing Policy,

Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs

Luxembourg

Alix RAMOS, Charlotte LOASO

Service Relations internationales Service National de la Jeunesse

Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

PORTUGAL - apologised

Jorge Orlando QUEIROS

Department of Information, Communication and International Relations

Portuguese Institute for Sport and Youth

SAN MARINO

Riccardo VENTURINI

Office of the Secretary of State for Education and Culture, University and Scientific Research,  
Youth Policies

**EYCA representatives**

Miguel Perestrello, EYCA Portugal, President of EYCA

Jean Paul Roumegas, EYCA Board member

Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director

Corina Pirvulescu, EYCA office

**CCJ representative**

Konstanze Schönfeld - apologised

**Secretariat**

Tobias Flessenkemper, Head of the Youth Department

Clementina Barbaro, head of Youth Policy Division

Natalja Turenne, Administrator, Youth Policy Division

Giovanna Montagna, Assistant, Youth Policy Division