

Country	Developments regarding the European Youth Card scheme and/or youth mobility policy
<i>ANDORRA</i>	
<i>ARMENIA</i>	At the moment, EYCA is awaiting to receive a letter of intent from an Armenian NGO to develop the programme in Armenia with the support of the Ministry.
<i>AUSTRIA</i>	<p>The European Youth Card in Austria is built on the realities and strengths of a federal state and therefore mainly based on the cooperation with the regional youth cards. Hence, strengthening and enhancing the cooperation with the regional youth cards is always a top priority of the EYC in Austria. Every year several measures and activities aiming at this goal are put in place.</p> <p>While the regional youth cards support their card holders to make the best out of the opportunities available in their region, the EYC co-brand complements this by offering and promoting nationwide and European opportunities and discounts to the young people - thus fostering and supporting youth mobility Austria- and Europe-wide.</p> <p>Developing youth mobility opportunities through the youth card is also one of the priorities of the Austrian regional youth cards. Notably the youth card in Salzburg, S-Pass, has established a groundbreaking cooperation with the Salzburg state's public transport network. Concretely the digital s'COOL-CARD and the SUPER s'COOL-CARD, both reduced travel cards for students and apprentices, in the S-Pas app are full-feature substitutes for the respective plastic cards. Also the youth card in Lower Austria is piloting together with the edu.card (a school/student card) and the youth ticket of the Austrian eastern region public transport network (reduced travel cards for students and apprentices in Lower Austria, Vienna and Burgenland) the project youth app Lower Austria. The aim is to combine/join all three cards in one digital card.</p>
<i>AZERBAIJAN</i>	
<i>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</i>	The European Youth Card Association is currently awaiting to receive an application from an NGO to become the EYCA member organisation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
<i>CROATIA</i>	<p>Developing youth mobility opportunities through European Youth Card is one of Croatian priorities in the field of youth policy. It is planned as a measure in Croatian new strategic baseline document for youth. Youth mobility is also one of the priorities of annual call for projects that Ministry for demography, family, youth and social policy (hereinafter referred to as: the Ministry) publishes every year.</p> <p>Therefore, the Ministry has a strong cooperation with National Agency for mobility and EU programmes as well as the card holder.</p> <p>Holder of the European Youth Card is Croatian Hostel and Ferial Alliance (HI Croatia). They promote the European Youth Card scheme and discounts.</p> <p>From 28th – 30th October 2018 a Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) was held in Zagreb, Croatia. Seminar was aiming to explore the “brain-drain – brain gain” phenomenon and the role which the European Youth Card could play in this respect, notably by providing opportunities for young people at home and abroad.</p> <p>The Ministry recognizes the importance of youth mobility, especially of youth in remote and rural areas as well as young people with fewer opportunities.</p>

	<p>The Ministry supports activities that promote and encourage youth mobility through European Youth Card and sees NGO and NGYO as an important partner in that process.</p>
<i>CYPRUS</i>	<p>The EYCA member organisation in Cyprus has substantially increased the number of cardholders.</p> <p>At the moment, they are immersed in promoting activities and projects related to active citizenship and raising awareness about a number of topics among young people. In addition, the European Youth Card is being promoted via other programmes developed by the Youth Board of Cyprus in order to reach as many young people as possible.</p> <p>Their discount portfolio is currently under review to increase the quality and quantity of the discounts. In terms of promotion of the European Youth Card, the member in Cyprus has been present in several meetings and fairs and has also awarded two young EVS volunteers with a visit to Cyprus.</p>
<i>FINLAND</i>	<p>Allianssi, the EYCA member organisation in Finland is currently planning to restructure the administration of the youth card from Allianssi association to Allianssi Youth Exchanges. The goal of this restructuring process is to link the European Youth Card to mobility programmes.</p> <p>Several new student unions are planning to co-brand their student card with the EYC. With these new agreements, the member organisation in Finland envisions that the total number of cards will be doubled within the next 12 months.</p> <p>Allianssi, was also a partner for the EYCA Youth Activation Campaign aiming at encouraging young people to get informed and vote in the European Elections in May 2019.</p>
<i>HUNGARY</i>	<p>The Hungarian student card is a state-funded plastic card, with electronic data storage, that provides state-guaranteed discounts and many other additional benefits. The EYCA logo is also present in the card. This way the cardholder is also entitled to access the international benefits provided by the organisation. The card is offered to all students free of charge.</p> <p>The goal is to broaden the variety of these discounts, in order for the students to be able to acquire more discounts from various fields, e.g. culture, transportation.</p> <p>The member organisation in Hungary is currently putting in place structural and IT changes regarding the discount system. An expansion in the number of partners and users is hallmarking the system. On the one hand, the cashless methods were strengthened. On the other hand, due to the promotion in devices and monitoring of need, we were able to continue the innovation.</p>
<i>IRELAND</i>	<p>In Ireland, the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) are currently represented by Youth Work Ireland. Youth Work Ireland is the largest youth organisation in Ireland, made up of 21 Local Member Youth Services and a national office.</p>

	<p>The Irish National Agency, through Eurodesk cooperates with both. In November 2018, Eurodesk Ireland, ERYICA and EYCA Ireland co-organised an international Symposium on Youth Information in Ireland and in Europe attended by the directors of Eurodesk, ERYICA and EYCA at EU level.</p> <p>We recognise the role that youth mobility plays in affording young people opportunities to: learn and acquire new skills and languages; appreciate different cultures; further their personal development; enhance their employability; build a sense of EU citizenship and tolerance to diversity.</p> <p>EYCA, ERYICA and Eurodesk have joined efforts to support and encourage youth mobility. Mobility opportunities have been promoted via online channels, with the support of youth information workers, by engaging grassroots actors such as educators, local authorities, front line providers of youth services and young people themselves.</p> <p>Within national policy, Ireland’s Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026, makes specific reference to the role that mobility activities under Erasmus+ play in enhancing language skills across the fields of education and training, both for students and educators and sets targets to increase such mobility activities.</p>
LUXEMBOURG	<p>The member organisation in Luxembourg is currently reviewing its discount portfolio and contacting potential new partners and discount providers. In order to update and improve the opportunities and benefits offered to Luxembourgish young people</p> <p>In addition, the EYCA member in Luxembourg is organising contests, further advertising and promoting the card, updating the website and designing a new outreach strategy.</p> <p>Last but not least, the Luxembourgish member will soon join the digitalisation strategy by issuing digital cards and promote the EYCA app among their cardholders.</p>
MALTA	
MOLDOVA	<p>The Republic of Moldova has initiated in 2011 the process of accession to the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. Respectively, all the internal procedures were started for the legal accession to Partial Agreement on Youth Card, and also external ones referring to communication and acceptance by the Council of Europe as a membership of the country within this international treaty. Inclusively, at national level was approved a government decision, in this sense a law was adopted, signed a decree of the president, all documents being published in the Official Gazette). The accession process was completed in 2012.</p> <p>Currently in Moldova there is no organization responsible for the management, distribution and coordination of Youth Card, although in the past there have been several attempts. Speaking about the coordination level of policies related to Youth Card, the process is directed by the Youth Department of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research.</p>

	<p>On February 13, 2019, in cooperation with EYCA an information session was organized on the opportunities and benefits of Youth Card, which took place in Chisinau, Moldova. The goal of the event was to promote the Youth Card and to identify some partner organizations. Therefore, at the moment we are in the process of identifying the partner organization to implement the Youth Card.</p>
<i>MONTENEGRO</i>	<p>The EYCA member organisation in Montenegro is currently working together with municipalities in order to bring the card to all young people in the country and reviewing their discount portfolio by negotiating several agreements with sponsors and discount providers.</p> <p>The member organisation has signed partnership agreements with OSCE and UNDP to foster the capacity building within the organisation and is also seeking for new institutional partners to promote the European Youth Card in the country further.</p> <p>During the first 11 months of activity, the member organisation in Slovenia has issued over 4.000 European Youth Cards.</p>
<i>THE NETHERLANDS</i>	
<i>PORTUGAL</i>	<p>The EYCA member organisation in Portugal is currently focusing on possibilities to expand the benefits for all EYC holders in Portugal in terms of bus transportation, due to the upcoming total opening of the national market in December (there are already conversations with FlixBus that already is covering some lines). Movijovem has renewed their product "Intra_Rail" which is developed jointly with the Portuguese Railways. This benefit provides both transportation and accommodation through their network of Youth Hostels (there is a special price for all cardholders in both options, the three-day pass and the seven-day pass). More information.</p> <p>The EYCA member organisation in Portugal is also reviewing the discounts offered to cardholders by one of the leading Portuguese fuel companies, GALP, in connection with the use of more efficient fuel. More information.</p> <p>Movijovem reinforced the access for all EYC holders to discounts in accommodation in their national network of Youth Hostels, part of Hostelling International, by providing a fixed option in the reservation channel only for cardholders. More information.</p> <p>They have also launched the "Cartão Jovem EYC App" to increase the usage of the Card in the digital format among Portuguese young people. The app is available for iOS and Android users. More information.</p>
<i>SAN MARINO</i>	
<i>SERBIA</i>	<p>The European Youth Card is a key tool for raising awareness among young people in Serbia. Overall, the European Youth Card has around 60,000 users in Serbia. In addition to the many commercial benefits and discounts that are being made, the European Youth Card in Serbia provides constructive and facilitated access to young people through cultural events, events, museums, theatres and other culturally significant institutions. Some of the most significant discounts in Serbia, when it comes to culture are within the following institutions: Belgrade City</p>

	Museum; Belgrade City Theatre; Museum of Theatre; Museum of Contemporary Arts; BITEF Theatre; Sabac Theatre and Museum of Yugoslavia.
<i>SLOVENIA</i>	<p>Mobin, the member organisation in Slovenia, has experienced significant growth in 2018. Currently, Mobin has surpassed 120 thousand cardholders which represent 40% of the Youth Population in the country.</p> <p>At the moment, 45% of high school students have become European Youth Cardholders. Besides, Mobin is also cooperating with two of the three largest universities in the country, which enables 85% of all university students to receive their European Youth Cards.</p> <p>The EYCA member organisation in Slovenia is currently immersed in a digitalisation process by developing a phone app that will allow young people to look for opportunities related to volunteering, and also activities in the field of youth work. It will also reward young people for their participation based on the Scottish and Austrian models.</p>
<i>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</i>	<p>The member organisation in Slovakia has an approach to youth mobility based on travelling, travel-related services, and facilitating connections while being abroad. The EYCA member in Slovakia has negotiated a deal with one of the leading phone operators in the country that offer cardholders the possibility to use a subscription with special conditions.</p> <p>Besides, the EYCA member also cooperates with train and bus companies in the Slovak Republic. In the future, the goal will be to secure better fares for all cardholders in public transport. This would have a significant impact in terms of providing mobility opportunities to young people.</p>
<i>SWITZERLAND</i>	