



# **Democracy done right: young people as key actors in pluralistic democracies and the role of the European Youth Card**

**17 – 18 November 2022  
Santa Severa, Lazio Region, Italy**

Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility  
through the Youth Card  
and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

## **REPORT**

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## **1.1 Setting the scene**

### **The context of the seminar**

The Council of Europe is the leading Pan-European international organisation promoting inclusive, human-rights based youth policies. The Council of Europe highly values the active participation of young people in decision-making particularly through one of the most advanced models of youth participation world-wide – the co-management system (see <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/co-management>).

Over the past years, youth participation witnessed various ways of expression, from actively running for elected positions, to protests and using social media to draw attention to different political issues, with young people finding new, alternative ways of engaging. However, the space for civic participation for youth has consistently shrunk over the past years, in particular due to civil restrictions caused by health crisis measures.

In response to the many challenges present, the Council of Europe launched the campaign Democracy Here | Democracy Now, aiming to revitalise democratic participation. Young people need to be recognised as key actors in pluralistic democracies and strengthen their agency as citizens and as a very particular electorate.

In this context, social media clearly create new opportunities for voice, for action and possibly influence. But they create risks too, as engagement with participatory politics might not always develop in positive ways. That's where schools come into the picture, playing their traditional role of preparing students to be citizens. It will be a challenge for researchers, teachers and education policy makers to keep pace with the rapid use of digital media by youth.

### **Aim and objectives of the seminar**

The seminar “Democracy done right: young people as key actors in pluralistic democracies and the role of the European Youth Card” was organised within the 2022 programme of activities of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and was aimed at supporting the recognition of various forms of participation in community and democratic societies as well as to explore the different ways in which the European Youth Card could be a tool for engagement of all young people.

The objectives of the seminar were the following:

- 1) offering a space for debate and reflection on how pluralistic democracies could be revitalised and on the role of youth organisations;
- 2) identifying how tools such as the European Youth Card (EYC) could be used to educate and engage young citizens in important civic debates and empower them as key actors in their communities;
- 3) making policy recommendations to strengthen youth participation in emerging areas such as internet governance, while implementing the principles of the Council of Europe policy frameworks (ex. The Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life).

### **Profile of participants**

This seminar brought together (representatives of):

- Governments of the member states of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card (8);
- EYCA member organisations, partners and networks (8);
- European youth organisations and civil society organisations (9);
- International organisations (3);
- Young activists or non-organised young people (3);
- Researchers in youth participation and other subjects relevant to the seminar (2).

## 1.2 Opening and welcome

### Welcome

The event was opened by **Manel Sanchez**, Director of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA).

**Pietro Tidei**, Mayor of Santa Severa and then **Lorenzo Sciaretta**, Head of the youth and cultural policies at the cabinet of the Presidency of the Lazio Region, welcomed participants, presented the Lazio Region, its engagement towards young people and the historical and cultural background of Santa Severa as well as the Castle hosting the seminar.

**Natalja Turenne**, Administrator and Co-secretary to the CDEJ at the Council of Europe Youth Policy Division, brought out the framework of the seminar: the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card.

### Expectations and needs of participants

As an introduction, participants expressed the following expectations and needs regarding the seminar:

- to better understand how the EYC is used across different European countries and how it could be used in other contexts than the EYCA, in other settings and platforms, including in other continents; how the EYC could be a tool for democracy, the concrete connections between mobility and democracy; how the EYC could be more accessible and used for youth participation;
- to collectively build a plan of action for the advancement of youth participation through the EYC;
- to provide more recognition of the EYC;
- to get more information about EYCA organisations;
- to strengthen the EYCA network across Europe, to develop partnerships and new cooperation;
- to exchange on policy developments and make recommendations;
- to link theory and good practices;
- to exchange practical ideas, best initiatives and tools on local level;
- to share ideas about their roles;
- to learn better ways to organise an environment conducive to young people's development;
- to show young people that governments' representatives are doing practical things for their well-being, in order to regain their trust;
- to gain new experiences.

### Introduction to the EYCA and to the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

The Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card exists since 1991 and is a programme of the Council of Europe aimed at developing the youth card scheme, particularly at European level, in the best interests of young people with a view to facilitating their mobility as well as access to the various goods and services necessary for their personal and cultural development. The number of members currently amount to 23. In the framework of the Partial Agreement, seminars, webinars and workshops are being organised and contribute to the development of various aspects of youth policies through the European Youth Card as part of intergovernmental co-operation of member states.

The European Youth Card Association (EYCA) groups around 36 youth card organisations all over Europe and is the Partial Agreement's statutory partner. EYCA's vision is a Europe where all young people are mobile and active (socially, culturally, educationally and economically). EYCA's mission to reach this objective consists in delivering quality youth card services and in contributing to a better policy on youth mobility and active citizenship. To become a member, an organisation needs to show a balance between these two missions. Today, over six million youth card-holders benefit from youth card opportunities.

A more detailed presentation of EYCA is available [here](#).

### **1.3 From social media to civic spaces: youth as key actors in democracies – Keynote speaker: Anna Lavizzari**

Anna Lavizzari, a researcher associated to the Scuola Normale Superiore of Florence, Italy, and member of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR), specialised in youth political participation, gender and social movements, was invited to share her expertise on the topic of youth participation in pluralistic democracies.

She presented some key elements of the research, published in 2021, she had conducted with two other researchers in the framework of the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth: “Meaningful youth political participation in Europe: concepts, patterns and policy implications”<sup>1</sup>.

Anna Lavizzari highlighted a series of challenges met by young people in terms of political participation: their under-representation in existing institutional politics and mechanisms and more broadly the lack of inclusion and diversity in these institutions, the unfavourable political climate and in particular the shrinking civic space, unsafe conditions of expression, as well as stigmatisation and criminalisation of activists in certain contexts.

Then, she presented key trends in youth political participation, regarding issues of interest, forms of participation and major obstacles to participation. Furthermore, she explained some drivers and conditions of their participation: the disaffection with established political institutions (and political elites), the increased efficacy felt by young people through everyday actions, their concern with self-expression and individualisation as well as flexible, intermittent engagement. Thus, she showed that young people had tended to develop alternatives to institutional forms of participation, to a capitalist model of society, to collective action and to traditional memberships. To face the current and upcoming crises, young people are more inclined to embrace pre-figurative politics, “do it yourself/ourselves” politics, direct social actions as well as connective action.

As a conclusion, Anna Lavizzari offered the audience some food for thought. She recommended to make room for a practice of democracy differing from the established one: a more unconventional and meaningful, possibly horizontal, structureless, short-term individual and collective, connective, characterised by networked governance and responsiveness. She also made the case for a fair participation of young people having different lived experiences, a participation defined by diversity and inclusion in practice, notably through non-formal learning, safety, safer spaces, radical transparency, “do-it-ourselves” and peer coordination. Furthermore, the researcher outlined the necessity to develop mechanisms such as co-creation and co-management. Finally, she underlined the role of youth in protecting democratic systems and building democratic resilience.

The presentation made by Anna Lavizzari is available [here](#).

### **1.4 Presentations: European Youth Card and youth participation best practices**

#### **LazioCrea – the EYC and local participation with a European dimension – Lorenzo Sciaretta**

Lorenzo Sciaretta explained the role of the Lazio Region regarding the local youth card and youth policies. LAZIO YOUth CARD (LYC) is the free App of the Regione Lazio that offers young people aged 14 to 30 discounts on goods and services, vouchers (for books, opera, concerts, adventures parks, etc.) as well as free access, special initiatives and opportunities dedicated to them. The LAZIO YOUth CARD project was launched in February 2019 and became EYCA member that same year.

In 2018, the Youth Card could be perceived as a mere discounts generator. It was mostly used in an occasional manner by young people, thus leading to a limited follow-up on social media as well as little engagement.

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<sup>1</sup> The publication can be found here: <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/other-publications#Meaningful>

Since then, the Lazio Region has endeavoured to build a community by making the LYC a tool for engagement of all young people. Its efforts have been directed towards 3 main areas: the quality of initiatives, the consistency of promotions and the focus on communication. Engagement methods have included information on social movements/events (such as the Roma Pride), weekly news, cultural events and participation in campaigns with EYCA as well as dedicated happenings.

These initiatives have led to a direct and higher engagement of youth to regional opportunities and higher satisfaction rate. They have turned the Youth Card from a youth policy tool to a tool for all policies (touristic, economic, educational, etc.) As a consequence, the next 3 years regional youth policy strategy will be based on the feedback of the LYC's cardholders.

The presentation made by Lorenzo Sciaretta is available [here](#).

### **Centre for Youth Education, Montenegro – empowering rural youth to participate – Jugoslav Radovic**

Jugoslav Radovic, an EYCA Board member and the Director of the Center for Youth Education in Montenegro – member of EYCA – presented the Montenegrin experience of the youth card.

The European Youth Card in Montenegro is the only official free card for young people, which allows all Montenegrin citizens aged 13-29 to benefit from discounts and cashback from over 280 partner companies in Montenegro and more than 70 000 throughout Europe.

This international socially responsible programme has been implemented in partnership with the Center for Youth Education (NGO) and the Ministry of Sports and Youth since 2018. This programme of public interest has contributed to strengthening the mobility of young people, non-formal education and information processes, networking with peers at local, national and European level, creating a digital youth society, promoting volunteering and CSR activities, collaborating with the academic field, reducing youth unemployment in the country and thus contributing to youth empowerment on local level.

The EYC in Montenegro fosters collaboration with state institutions, international organisations, academic entities, local municipalities and NGOs. Among the cooperation developed with the private sector, a partnership has been built with a bank, allowing cardholders to have access, from November 2022 on, to a debit card for free.

In cooperation with 8 local municipalities, EYCA Montenegro is implementing various activities, including the distribution of local co-branding EYCA cards free of charge, the cooperation with new discounters, the identification of youth needs on local territories, notably through surveys, the development of high school and university students mobility, the promotion of volunteering and proactive ways of thinking, the organisation of educational workshops, culture and movie activities and, overall, the creation of a better environment for young people.

Regarding communication, the first version of the EYCA website was launched in 2018. It provides young people and cardholders with a live chat as well as information on discounts and discount providers, opportunities, including in the employment field, news about the organisation, etc. As one of the work priorities – the digitisation of the Youth Card – a mobile application was launched in January 2022. It enables young people to have a quick and easy overview of the available benefits, the location of partner companies and to receive notifications.

To reach out young people, the Centre conducts marketing activities online – through their website, social networks (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube) and other communication channels (Viber Community, monthly newsletters & SMS campaigns) – and offline – using communication tools such as classic and co-branding cards, flyers, posters, and the organisation of various activities, including workshops/trainings/lectures annually in cooperation with EYCA partners.

For the future, the Montenegrin EYCA plans to further non-formal education activities, including a special focus on digital tools and the use of modern technologies to facilitate young people's learning, the development of a programme called “Young people – best role models” using podcasts and the organisation of the EYCA Winter Educo Camp in 2023. It will also develop CSR initiatives aiming to build a more youth-friendly society. Furthermore, it endeavours to better promote local tourism and make it accessible to all

cardholders in Europe. Finally, it considers developing youth exchange programmes in order to create more chances for young people to travel and get involved all across Europe.

The presentation made by Jugoslav Radovic is available [here](#).

During the Q/A following the presentation, the question of the accessibility of a bank debit card to minors was subject to intense debate among participants.

### 1.5 Contributions from participants and connections to the EYC

5 working groups reflected on various topics, based on their experiences on the ground and shared reflection, ideas, questions, examples regarding each topic, in connection with the Youth Card.

On the issue of the **involvement of young people in local decision-making**, participants underlined the necessity to conduct surveys in order to target young people's needs, to develop youth-related law and local youth councils, to organise activities which could nurture the youth community in each region – notably through the simulation of political processes and the spreading of beneficial information – as well as to encourage participation through active citizenship on a grassroots level.

Regarding **youth participation spaces and policies created by national and European institutions**, participants pointed out the significance of the European Year of Youth and called for more outreach, to make it known to young people. They regretted the lack of stability for action for young people and the deleterious effects of changing political parties on pre-existing initiatives. They said we should appeal to young people differently than to “established” adults, notably by reaching them on individual rather than institutionalised level, and provide them with a continuum of support ranging from awareness to encouragement and accompanying. They made a case for more events, more interactivity, in order to bridge the gap between institutions and civil society. In that regard, they mentioned the youth card as a bridge between young people and governments/institutions.

As regards to **online youth participation and digital citizenship**, participants proposed to combine the European Student Card and the EYC to create an Educational Digital Passport. They outlined the need to focus on educational campaigns, media literacy and data protection.

Regarding **alternative and « disruptive » ways of commitment for young people**, participants explored the methods being used – online/offline, short term / long term – some of their impacts – creating larger dialogue, building a community culture, triggering turning points and historical events (such as the Fridays for Future) – and raised ethical questions.

Through the topic of **young people promoting a healthy and sustainable environment**, participants tackled a series of key elements, in terms of goals – promoting the “one health” concept (human and nature), saving spaces where to meet and to move – and methods. They underlined the need to make sustainable choices through quality information (and possibly create new ones), to ensure equality and opportunity and an ethical framework and to encourage the circulation of ideas. They also made a case for engaging with peers physically, raising awareness on human rights and needs, developing platforms, social media, youth and green projects, recycling, designing campaigns, promoting storytelling, art and games. Finally, they recommended drafting policy papers, to organise breakfasts with politicians as well as to advocate in front of governments, notably in favour of a medical insurance that should cover both physical and mental health

## 2.1 Panel discussion: empowering youth as key actors in democracies and showcasing examples of good practices from grassroots

In the framework of a plenary, a discussion with a panel of youth work experts and practitioners focused on the issue of youth empowerment and how to allow them to better take part in democratic processes.

The panel included:

- Sara Pirone and Valerio Carocci – Piccolo America Association (<https://piccoloamerica.it/>)
- Kerem Egilmez – European Federation of Psychology Student Associations (<http://efpsa.org/>)
- Tommaso Salarolli – Scomodo (<https://www.leggiscomodo.org/>)
- Lorenzo Sciaretta – Lazio Youth Card
- Liliya Elenkova – EYCA Board Representative

The panellists were first asked what were, according to them, **the most prominent problematics on the ground regarding young people's participation and engagement in civil society**.

Sara Pirone and Valerio Carocci pointed out the costs to access cultural spaces and the bureaucratic obstacles faced by young people in their initiatives. This reflection also raised the questions of the monetisation of participation spaces and the redefinition of youth initiatives' social value.

Lorenzo Sciaretta built upon the question of public spaces and mentioned the lack of public centres dedicated to the youth, as well as the lack of information on youth-related opportunities. He also regretted the anti-democratic nature of some public tenders.

Liliya Elenkova tempered this view on opportunities and said that paradoxically, for young people there was an issue of choice amidst overwhelming information on opportunities. Kerem Egilmez also mentioned that constant flow of information, while Tommaso Salarolli highlighted the issue of accessing reliable ones.

Liliya Elenkova also underlined the challenge of competence: young people's access to data did not necessarily imply their access to knowledge. Yet, that lack of knowledge would hinder the systematic participation of youth. Therefore, she emphasised that meaningful participation required time.

The discussions also brought out the problematic of the lack of spaces where young people would feel safe to express their views and have meaningful participation processes, systemic discrimination faced by young people and their lack of hope about the future.

Then, the speakers shared their views about **young people's main topics of interest and preferred means of action** in their local context.

Tommaso Salarolli brought out the question of mental health. Kerem Egilmez built upon this issue. He said that, since young people were more and more aware of mental health issues, they were also more aware of their lack of access to mental health professionals and care.

Then, Lorenzo Sciaretta pointed out the core issue of environmental sustainability, as brought out through the Fridays for Future.

Sara Pirone and Valerio Carocci insisted on the importance of the democratisation of culture.

As for Liliya Elenkova, she said the questions of peace building and peace keeping had become high on the agenda since the outburst of the war in Ukraine.

Discussions also stressed the importance of creating spaces of social justice in social media as well as financial sustainability.

Regarding these issues, panellists presented some **worth-mentioning initiatives/solutions** that they had witnessed or came up with and implemented on the local level and shared some obstacles they/young people had faced.

Sara Pirone and Valerio Carocci explained that Piccolo America was born in Rome in 2014 with the aim of preserving and promoting culture – in particular cinematographic culture – among young audiences. The association is composed of people aged between 20 and 30 years old, and started to work on the territory in response to a lack of spaces for participation and community in the city center. In the past 9 years the association has been organising the "Cinema in Piazza", Rome's biggest open-air and free-admission film retrospective. In September 2021, the association renewed and reopened the historical 300-seat movie theater Cinema Troisi, in Trastevere, which is now Italy's single-screen movie theatre with the highest attendance. The movie theatre also hosts a 24/7 free-access study room, which makes their audience incredibly young:



60% is under 35, and 2/3 of it are under 27. The initial group broadened and the movement, which started in the centre of Rome, progressively developed in the suburbs and started acting on the political level. One of the key principles of the association is the social value brought by their initiatives, to ensure that culture would not remain for privileged categories of people. They had to face various obstacles, among which a trust of distributors of movies, claiming that the association should not project movies for free. This experience has raised the issue of evaluating the social value of youth-led initiatives.

On a different note, Lorenzo Sciaretta explained that he was thriving to create generative politics based on youth activation. He said Vitamina G, one of Lazio Crea's tools for engagement, was sustaining youth initiatives and made the case for a recent project launched by young people aimed at developing energy-renewable communities within cities.

Furthermore, Kerem Egilmez presented some initiatives recently launched by the EFPSA in the field of mental health. Firstly, the "Mind the Mind – to Combat the Stigma of Mental Disorders"<sup>2</sup> campaign aims to educate primary and secondary-level students (aged from 13 to 14 and 15 to 18), as well as the general public, about mental health and mental disorders while working to decrease negative beliefs and stigma toward individuals affected by mental disorders. Secondly, the main focus of the "Better Together"<sup>3</sup> campaign is to empower psychology students to educate others about the most pervasive types of discrimination and means of combating it, as well as to educate high-school students about discrimination, encouraging them to tackle it across Europe through a workshop cycle. The cycle consists of five workshops, each lasting around three hours, delivered to approximately 20 high-school students once per week for five consecutive weeks. Thirdly, (A)live!<sup>4</sup> is a suicide prevention campaign, operating with the aim of educating people about warning signs and prevention and equipping them with knowledge on where and how to seek help for themselves or others when needed. The campaign was only launched in 2021, it has an online format and the content is shared primarily through social media posts and webinars. There is, however, a plan to expand it and a cycle of workshops for high-school students is currently under development. Kerem added that, beyond these campaigns, his organisation also offered its members the occasion to implement safer spaces of democracy and democratic participation within an international setting.

Finally, the speakers shared their thoughts on **how we could better support young people so that they would not lose their interest in the democratic processes** and, in that regard, what could be **the contribution of the European Youth Card**.

Tommaso Salaroli answered that we should allow young people do wrong things, to experiment, to test. Kerem Egilmez pointed out the necessity to take into account young people's basic needs before expecting them to engage in democratic participation. The representatives from Piccolo America underlined the role of culture, which could serve as a tool for dialogue on different issues, with the related key players.

Liliya Elenkova highlighted the role of the EYCA Youth panel. Created in 2018, the EYCA Youth panel is an advisory body that helps the EYCA board identify the priorities, interests and concerns of young Europeans and design EYCA programmes and services. The 10-12 Youth panel members also receive support from EYCA for the activities they wish to develop and represent EYCA at the European level.

## 2.2 Presentations: European Youth Card and youth participation best practices

### National Youth Card Association, Bulgaria – Liliya Elenkova and Kristina Tsankova

Liliya Elenkova, PhD in political science, Project manager within the National Youth Card Association (NYCA) of Bulgaria and member of the Board of EYCA and Kristina Tsankova, Volunteer from the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), presented some of the best practices developed by the organisation.

Beyond the discounts and benefits provided in all areas of life, NYCA relies on 4 main pillars: youth information, youth work and youth projects, ESC volunteers and youth exchanges. Among others, the NYCA promotes access to culture through volunteering for cultural festivals and events, provides youth-related

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/efpsa\\_mindthemind/](https://www.instagram.com/efpsa_mindthemind/)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/bettertogether\\_efpsa/](https://www.instagram.com/bettertogether_efpsa/)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/alive\\_efpsa/](https://www.instagram.com/alive_efpsa/)

information (through interviews, articles, newsletters), youth projects and training courses. It also supports the UN Youth Delegate Programme: as a partner organisation, the NYCA participates in the monitoring process of the delegates' mandate, provides financial assistance in terms of exchanges and international meetings and advertises activities and important events in relation to the Programme.

The ESC volunteers support the NYCA teamwork and take initiatives in the areas of youth empowerment, inclusion, public engagement, socialisation and inspiration. In 2022, the two ESC volunteers organised a youth camp for 35 Bulgarian young people aged 14 to 29 on the topic of youth participation, notably in decision-making processes. They also conducted video interviews of young activists, youth workers and young volunteers to celebrate the International Youth Day.

The presentation made by Liliya Elenkova and Kristina Tsankova is available [here](#).

### **aha – Jugendinfo Vorarlberg, Austria – Dietmar Übelher FRAGE RAUM POLITIK**

aha is a Youth information centre located in Vorarlberg, Austria. aha provides information and workshops on a variety of youth-relevant topics. It also runs a youth card, the aha card, which offers reductions for young people aged 12 to 20. Dietmar Übelher has been the Head of the Youth Card Unit within aha and has become the Head of the IT Unit. He presented the project “FRAGE RAUM POLITIK”, a project from aha’s Volunteering and democratic culture unit, meaning “Question room for political questions” (“Frage” meaning “question”, “Raum”, “room” and “Politik”, “politics”).

This project originated in 2007, at the time when the voting age was lowered from 18 to 16 years. It was the first time voters were asked what kind of information they needed in order to be able to make an informed decision in an election. Through a survey, young people expressed the following wishes: getting to know different parties and their programmes; encountering politicians in a safe environment without adults in the room; being able to ask questions without being judged.

The “FRAGE RAUM POLITIK” project, launched in 2009, was designed with the aims to enhance openness to dialogue, empower young people to find ways to inform themselves and strengthen the democratic culture. Each event lasts 4,5 hours and brings together 80 to 120 participants, aged 16 to 26, as well as 5 members of the provincial parliament (“Landtag”), each of them representing a different party.

The first part of the event is a plenary meeting taking place without any politician and facilitated by two young people. Participants are then separated into 5 groups, gathering in 5 different spaces. There is one adult companion in each room for support and input. They discuss about a variety of topics including migration, finance, school, etc. and draft the same questions they will ask to the 5 politicians so as to be able to compare their answers. Then the first round begins: a politician comes and the discussions take place, without any stage or microphone. After the questions and answers session, participants reflect among themselves on the politician’s answers. Then the second round begins... At the end of the 5 rounds, a wrap up is facilitated in the meeting room. Politicians are then being asked more personal questions, such as: “On Instagram I am following...”

Nearly 70 “FRAGE RAUM POLITIK” events have been organised so far, bringing together around 7 000 young people and politicians. Some keys for success have been: organising these events during week days, with the collaboration of schools, educational institutions and companies, building homogeneous groups of young people and inviting politicians with rather similar background.

The presentation made by Dietmar Übelher is available [here](#).

## S-Pass – Salzburg region of Austria – Walter Knoglinger and Paul Freh-Deutschmann The Scavenger Hunt

Walter Knoglinger is the teamleader of the S-Pass Youth Card. S-Pass is indeed managing the regional Youth Card – die Salzburger Jugendkarte – on the behalf of the local government. Along with his colleague, Paul Freh-Deutschmann – in charge of social media campaigns and the event-database – he presented the Scavenger Hunt, an app-based solution developed and designed by their team, aiming at encouraging participation, active involvement and physical activity thanks to the gamification approach. This implies that participants are card-holders and have their membership card on their mobile.

Like any classical scavenger hunt, participants have to search for clues, solve tasks and riddles. They also receive rewards and prizes as part of the gaming experience. There are 3 possible game settings: the gaming one, encouraging outdoor activities; the information one, facilitating the transfer of knowledge; the participation one, promoting active involvement.

The participation setting is designed for young people aged 12 to 18. The game lasts approximately 100 minutes and works on a hybrid format consisting in a combination of supervised and unsupervised stations. It is played at the regional parliament of Salzburg, thus offering young people an entertaining introduction into the world of politics and aiming to stimulate their interest in participation and engagement and to make politics and democracy vivid and tangible. Students get to know the regional parliament of Salzburg, discover the building, find out how the parliament works, which topics it deals with, express wishes and ideas and get in touch and discuss issues with members of parliament. Indeed, local representatives also take an active part in the game. Students explore questions such as: What opportunities are there to participate in a democracy? What does a regional state parliament do? Who will represent me in the state parliament? How do you become a politician? Which parties are represented in the state parliament?

This tool, a low-threshold method of knowledge transfer, contributes to binding the target group to the youth card application and offers participants more freedom of action than many “classical” workshops.

The presentation made by Walter Knoglinger and Paul Freh-Deutschmann is available [here](#).

Following this round of presentations, and before closing the seminar, Manel Sanchez expressed some final thoughts and thanked everyone for their involvement and participation.

## Appendices

### Annex 1 – Programme

<b>DAY 1  THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>	
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Pietro Tidei – Mayor of Santa Severa</li> <li>• Mr. Lorenzo Sciaretta – Lazio Youth Card</li> <li>• Ms. Natalja Turenne – Council of Europe</li> <li>• Mr. Manel Sanchez – EYCA Director</li> </ul>
10.30 – 10.45	<b>Aim and objectives of the Seminar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mapping the audience</li> <li>• setting expectations</li> </ul>
10.45 – 11.30	<b>Presentation of EYCA</b> <b>Presentation of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card</b>
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 -13.00	<b>From social media to the civic spaces – youth as key actors in democracies</b> Keynote speaker: Anna Lavizzari
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 15.00	<b>Presentations: European Youth Card and youth participation best practices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LazioCrea – the EYC and local participation with a European dimension</li> <li>• Centre for Youth Education, Montenegro – empowering rural youth to participate</li> </ul>
15.00 – 16.00	<b>Contributions from participants and connections to EYC – Work groups</b>
16.00 – 16.30	Presentations from work groups and closing remarks
16.30 – 17.30	Free time or visit of the Santa Severa Castle
19.30	Dinner
<b>DAY 2   FRIDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>	
9:30 – 11.00	<b>Panel discussion: empowering youth as key actors in democracies and showcasing examples of good practice from grassroots</b>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	<b>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Youth Card Association, Bulgaria</li> <li>• aha – Jugendinfo Vorarlberg, Austria</li> <li>• SPass – Salzburg region of Austria</li> </ul> Questions and Answers – Closing remarks
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch and departures

## Appendix 2 – List of participants

Name and Surname	Institution	Country
Marie-Ange Neu	ANIJ/EYCA member	Luxembourg
Carlos Paz	IPDJ	Portugal
Lena Hatto	Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse	Luxembourg
Mishel Grigoryan	“Dream Youth” social-youth NGO	Armenia
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Kerem Eğılmez	European Federation of Psychology Student Associations	Hungary
Jarkko Lehikoinen	Alliannssi	Finland
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Maylinda Bajrami	EYCA Youth Panel	Albania
Chloe Whyte	Local Youth Voice Empowerment UK	Scotland
Nikitas Papadopoulus	EU & You	Italy
Begüm Merve Demirsoy	Jugendvision e.V.	Germany
Liviu Leteanu	Asociatia Youth Competency Development	Romania
Izabella-Maria Kacso-Doboly	Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunity	Romania
Ali Noor	IMPGT	France
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Filip Milenkoski	Young European Ambassador, WeBalkans	Italy
Maria Christodoulou	Youth Board of Cyprus	Cyprus
Manuel Caldoneiro	HI Évora – Pousada de Juventude/ Movijem	Portugal
Kaltra Toska	New Epoch youth center	Albania
Marco Morelli	Dipartimento Politiche Giovanili	Italy

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Veli Esen	Teacher at Hendek Anatolian High School	Turkey
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Lily Elenkova	NYCA	Bulgaria
Natalja Turenne	CoE	France
Florence Murlon	Facilitator	France
Corina Pirvulescu	EYCA	Belgium
Manel Sanchez	EYCA	Belgium
Anna Lavizzari	Keynote speaker	Italy
Jean Paul Roumegas	Guest	France
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