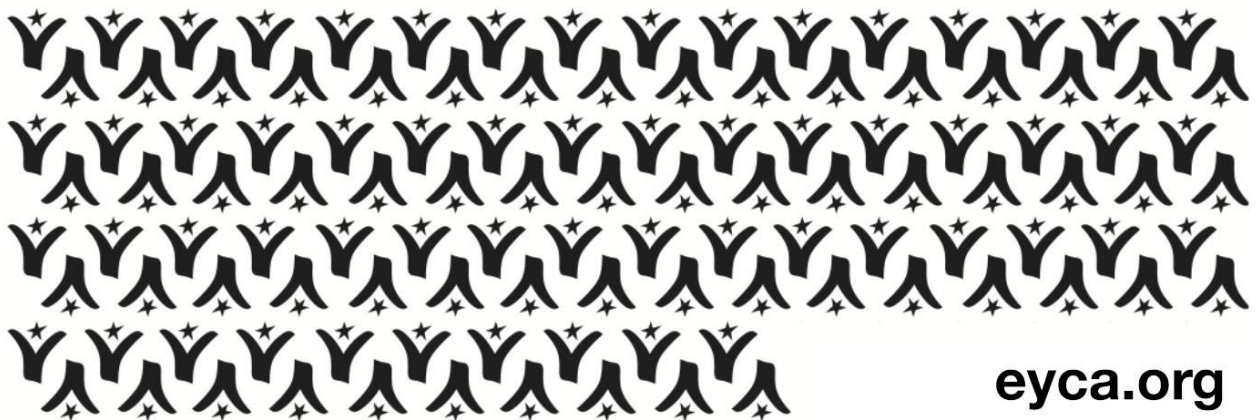




**Development of the European Youth Card:  
Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility  
through the youth card and  
the European Youth Card Association**

Final report 2019



[eyca.org](http://eyca.org)

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to describe the activities and impact of the work undertaken by EYCA in 2019 as a result of the support the Association received through the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card in the framework of the Council of Europe.

The Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Cards has become one of core priorities of the European Youth Card Association, through 32 years of its operations. EYCA has invested significant efforts to revive and strengthen its relationship with the Council of Europe as part of implementing its vision to improve youth mobility and active citizenship for all young people in Europe.

The process of revising the Partial Agreement was launched in October 2012, leading to better-tailored activities which are beneficial for both PA member states and EYCA members. There has been an effort to design the work programmes to more accurately meet the needs of governments who already contribute and communicate more effectively its potential value to governments who could contribute.

Youth Mobility is a current priority for all policy-makers with an interest in youth issues in Europe. Having in mind its different aspects (work mobility, learning mobility, touristic mobility, etc.), EYCA has a great potential to bridge policy priorities with young people's needs in terms of mobility opportunities, thus acting as a service provider for all young people.

Policy makers are interested to learn more about good practices in other countries. EYCA can provide excellent insights into these practices, having in mind 38 countries in its network, all dedicated to supporting youth mobility. EYCA is equipped to easily and promptly generate information from different European countries on any aspect of mobility, which is of interest for stakeholders.

European Youth Cards are a valuable tool for mobility of young people, which is to be further promoted and strengthened. Youth cards connect young people to all kinds of information, services and opportunities, many of them are linked to employability and entrepreneurship. Youth Cards provide communication channels which can enable policy-makers (1) to provide young people with information, and (2) to consult young people directly. And many youth card organisations create innovative practices to engage young people as active citizens and in co-designing solutions.

### **Priorities**

Having in mind the priorities for the 2018-2019 programme of activities of the Council of Europe's Youth Sector adopted by the Joint Council on Youth, we strongly advocate that youth mobility is an important tool for achieving these objectives.

Throughout 2019, we looked at youth mobility opportunities from different angles and we debated the topic in relation to youth work and youth participation. The thematic seminars served as spaces for engagement for all stakeholders, generate debate and new policy ideas.

Therefore, the proposed specific aims for the Partial Agreement work programme 2018-2019 were:

- To generate and mobilize knowledge about youth mobility in Europe;
- To support governments to develop opportunities for meaningful youth participation in democratic processes and in their communities;
- To support innovation in youth work towards a better inclusion of young migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and promoting the positive narrative of youth mobility;
- To stimulate and present youth card practice that contributes to ensuring young people access to their civic, economic and social rights.

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

### 1. Commissioning design and content input for EYCA communications tools

#### 1.1 Communication activities have been implemented as planned.

- The EYCA Facebook page is growing, with 3.375 likes and an average organic reach of 30.000 people per month.

#### 1.2 Website

- The new EYCA website was updated throughout the year
- Information on the PA is prominently featured - <https://www.eyca.org/partial-agreement>.
- The new website highlights the good practice of EYCA members via a dedicated section - <https://www.eyca.org/national-projects> - to which content is added constantly.

#### 1.3 EYCA Update

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

### 2. Travel, board and lodging associated with:

**Quality improvement support to existing members:** In 2019, EYCA has offered support services to member organisation in order to improve youth card services and make mobility opportunities more accessible to young people. EYCA has offered specific services in the following countries: Spain, Andorra, France, Portugal, Russian Federation, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, Finland, United Kingdom, Malta, Italy, Greece, Albania, North Macedonia, Croatia, Serbia, Cyprus, Slovenia, Montenegro. Among these, we will detail on the following:

#### **Visit to Greece to support the youth card services development:**

- The support visit took place in July 2019 and helped the INEDIVIM staff to plan strategically for the development of the youth card services during the year, both at operational and political level;
- The central office of the youth card services was moved to Thessaloniki and new thematic areas were explored, such as using the youth card to promote social inclusion of unemployed youth;
- Digital elements were also discussed, in particular, the API connections, usage of EYCA free app and rebranding the services;
- On a political level, it was touched also the theme of Greece joining the PA on Youth Mobility and the role of the European Youth Card in the new youth legislative framework of the country.

#### **Visit to North Macedonia:**

- One of the newest members of EYCA is the National Agency for European Programmes and Youth Mobility, joining the network in June 2019;
- The support visit offered a deep understanding on how the European Youth card services can be implemented, the access to resources offered by EYCA and examples of good practices from different countries;
- On a political level, North Macedonia was encouraged to join the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility and were presented the opportunities offered by this membership.

### **Visit to Montenegro to support negotiations between youth card organisation and the Government representatives**

- The visits in Montenegro resulted in a stronger cooperation between EYCA member organisation and the Ministry of Sports and Youth, making the European Youth Card part of the implementation of public youth policies;
- It coincided with the one-year anniversary of the European Youth Card in Montenegro, offering the chance for strategic planning with the member organisation and the Ministry of Youth. The main conclusions are related to: strengthening the role of the EYC as a tool for public services; reaching more young people and especially the vulnerable ones and offering the card for free, as a way to encourage them to access youth work services; develop the technological dimension of the EYC scheme and encourage development of digital skills among young people.

### **Visit to Italy:**

- As one of the newest members in EYCA, LazioCrea, based in Rome (Italy), benefitted from a support visit aiming to offer a broad overview of how the European Youth Card scheme works, what are the resources they have available as members of the network, but also strategically how they can use the card as a policy tool;
- The visit coincided with launching event of the European Youth Card for Lazio Region in Italy, which offered EYCA and its partners a good visibility opportunity;
- A presentation on the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility was delivered on this occasion.

### **Visit to Albania:**

- Throughout 2019 the EYCA member organisation in Albania went through staff changes and needed support in developing the EYC scheme strategically;
- The visit benefitted from the presence of State Secretary on Youth and touched on topics such as a national youth card that would be also a European Youth Card, the development of EYC scheme in Albania, as a tool for public policy, the operational aspects and the support EYCA member needed to thrive in promoting the EYC;
- Other elements such as the connection with the European Youth Capital were discussed in the context of Tirana 's application for the title

### **Visit to Germany:**

- As one of the strategic territories for EYCA, in 2019 we supported Reisenetz e.V. with support visit aiming at developing the European Youth Card scheme in the country and promote quality, sustainable mobility opportunities for young people;
- The event coincided with the election of a new leadership for the EYCA member and a presentation about PA on Youth Mobility was delivered by EYCA Director.

### **Identifying and supporting the new member organisations of EYCA**

In 2019, the EYCA GA launched the European Youth Card in the strategic territories: North Macedonia and Italy. EYCA office and board members travelled to visit both organisations and offer them technical and institutional support in designing the card services, negotiate different partnerships and launch the card in Italy.

In addition, EYCA worked to develop new card services in other countries such as Republic of Moldova, Georgia and Armenia. The EYCA team travelled to Republic of Moldova to meet the Government representatives and different civil society organisations, to discuss the possibilities of supporting the youth card project in their country. Discussions are currently on going and Moldova is expected to join in the near future.

At the end of 2019, EYCA member organisations voted in 3 new EYCA members in: Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Sardinia region, Italy. The organisations were welcomed as EYCA Associate members at the end of November 2019. Support visits to respective countries are planned for February 2020.

### **Legal support dimension of quality improvement development**

#### **Domain registration and protection**

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

#### **Effective license and sub-license agreements**

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

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

### **1. Commissioning technology infrastructure:**

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

#### **EYCA discount database & intranet**

- The new **EYCA discount database** was introduced in 2018 together with the website. The database allows members to use APIs to add their discounts to the EYCA database automatically. This translates into quality discount information for young people at all times. Throughout 2019, the discounts were updated in the new database and organised in a user - friendly way, which makes it more accessible for the young people.
- The existing **EYCA intranet** continued to be expanded into a comprehensive EYCA Customer Relationship Management system (CRM), in order to streamline the collaboration between EYCA and its member organisations.

#### **EYCA App**

- The EYCA app project has grown and is currently being used by 11 EYCA member organisations, an increase from last year. The project features two development options: the use of a general European Youth Card app or receiving support from EYCA to develop a local card app.

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

EYCA regional meetings were organised as following:

- Group 1 – Andorra, 22 - 24 May 2019
- Group 2 – Thessaloniki, Greece 9 - 11 May 2019
- Group 3 – Brussels, Belgium, May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Group 4 – Helsinki, Finland, 1-3 May 2019
- Group 5 – Thessaloniki, Greece 9 - 11 May 2019

Partial Agreement evolution and new possibilities of implementation were discussed in the meetings. Also, the PA programme 2018 - 2019 was discussed.

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

Since 1999, EYCA has been working with the European Commission to issue a special edition of the European Youth Card to all young volunteers of the EVS and Erasmus+ Programmes. A new agreement was signed for 2019. As part of the collaboration with the European Commission, the third edition of the Erasmus+ Volunteering Awards was organised in 2019. The video competition had 10 winners who created inspirational videos about their volunteering experience. All attended the European Youth Event in Strasbourg in May.

In 2019, EYCA collaborated with ERYICA and EURODESK to advance quality youth information services, promote digitalisation in youth work and offer a space for sharing good practices among youth workers. As part of the collaboration, we organised the seminar *Enhancing youth services promotion and outreach* with the participation also of the Council of Europe representative. The practical results of sharing good practices are also available in a brochure which was recently released and can be found on EYCA website.

### **III. SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

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

- **Engaging young people in democratic processes and shaping the youth card services at European level**

Throughout 2019, EYCA advanced youth participation in democratic processes and their closer engagement in shaping the services offered through the European Youth Card. Youth mobility and participation was at the centre of agenda, with two major processes getting started in 2018:

1. EYCA Youth Panel – resulted from a large consultation process with cardholders, the selection of first generation of EYCA Youth Panel members had their kick off training in March 2019. EYCA Youth Panel aims at offering the space, tools and knowledge to non-organised young people, direct beneficiaries of the youth card services, to contribute to shaping the services offered to almost 6 mil. young people across Europe. They represent EYCA at different youth related events, will act as ambassadors of the European Youth Card in their communities and are active in promoting mobility and active participation among their peers. On the same note, EYCA selected its representative on the Advisory Council on Youth among the members of the EYCA Youth Panel, offering this opportunity to its beneficiaries directly.

2. Young people participation in democratic life and electoral process – during 2019, EYCA implemented the #GiveAVote campaign to get out the vote at the European Parliament elections in 2019, but also to learn more about

the European institutional design and what is the role of Council of Europe and European Union in advancing opportunities for young people.

## Partial Agreement seminars

### I. Partial Agreement seminar “Youth Work and sustainable communities: the role of the European Youth Card in delivering youth work services”, 5 – 7 May 2019, Helsinki, Finland

The Seminar “Youth Work and sustainable communities: the role of European Youth Card in delivering youth card services” took place in Helsinki, Finland, on 5-7 May 2019 as part of the programme of *Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the European Youth Card*, of the Council of Europe.

Three partners joined forces for its implementation: Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card of the Council of Europe (Finland is part of the Partial Agreement), the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and its Finnish member organization - Finnish Youth Co-operation – Allianssi.

As one of the leading European countries in promoting qualitative youth work services, Finland represented the perfect location to host one of the Partial Agreement’s seminars, especially as it held the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers for the period of November 2018 - May 2019. The seminar was a follow-up to the main activity of the Finnish Chairmanship in the field of youth, namely the seminar “Educational Pathways for Youth Workers” (20-22 February 2019, Helsinki).

The main objectives of the event were:

- a. To explore the understanding of ‘youth work services’ and the variety of models across Council of Europe countries;
- b. To promote the importance of youth work in building sustainable communities, based on access to rights and social inclusion of vulnerable young people;
- c. To consider the role of the European Youth Card in implementing specific Council of Europe legislation, in particular the recommendation on youth work CM/Rec (2017).

The seminar brought together:

- Governmental representatives of the Council of Europe member states;
- Researchers;
- EYCA member organisations, partners and networks;
- International organisations;
- Youth organisations and civil society organisations.

#### Day 1

The event was open by Mrs. Henni Axelin, Director for Youth, Division of Youth Work and Youth Policy on behalf of Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland. The main focus was on the Finnish practices of youth work as well as inclusiveness as a means to build trust among generations in the Finnish society and the full commitment and support given by the Ministry towards youth and youth organisations.

Ms. Natalja Turenne spoke on behalf of the Council of Europe and highlighted the importance of PA on Youth Mobility through the European Youth Card, as the strong tool on reaching out to young people towards sustainable communities.

The opening session was concluded by Mr. Manel Sanchez, EYCA Director. He mentioned the importance of European Youth Card and youth mobility as well as the importance of the PA Seminar for EYCA and their expectations as the outcome and further steps. As the final input, he presented the European Youth Card in detail in



terms of history, progress and the final focus on youth mobility, social inclusion, and access to rights and information and current initiatives of EYCA towards their member organisations and the European Youth at focus.

The discussion was opened by **Prof. Howard Williamson** who offered an overview of youth work development on the transforming communities over the past 30 years. He stressed the specific contribution on non-formal and informal learning on young people, fostering active citizenship and participation of young people in diverse and tolerant societies, preventing marginalisation and radicalisation.

The second panelist **Jarkko Lehikoinen from Allianssi** mainly focused on the youth work model in Finland and the effectiveness, financial support and organisational aspects leading to success in strong position of youth work and youth organizations in Finnish society. Final panelist **Juha Kiviniemi representing Verke** presented the digital youth work concept and the successful examples how to reach out and engage youth through digital tools linked with the traditional methods of youth work.

The keynote speech was on new approaches in youth work as innovative tool and social and economic inclusion of young people towards sustainable communities presented **by Arnaud Raskin – StreetwiZe**. As the social entrepreneur, co-founder of Mobile School, StreetwiZe and StreetSmart with hybrid approach juxtaposing social impact and business models. The successful implementation of the youth work's non-formal methods in reaching out street kids and empowering them through youth work methodologies further engaging them in social and economic initiatives was the key approach by Arnaud Raskin. The full session was dedicated to the business model and social impact analysis both digital tools and traditional methods developed in theory and practice further implemented around the World.

The afternoon session started with the presentation of **Tommi Kiilakoski, Youth Work Coordinator in Finnish Youth Research Society**, presented the new research and theory that is focusing on the level of recognition of youth work in European societies and defined the categories based on the legislative, social and economic/material recognition. The presentation concluded how to further support the recognition process in respected countries of the participants and other EU countries in youth work development.

To connect these topics with the European Youth card services, we had presentations from:

- ❖ **Ms. Soula Pappouti - Youth Board of Cyprus** presented the ways and approaches in social inclusion of young people with migrant background as well as fewer opportunities and in rural areas in building tolerant and multicultural communities and empowering youth for further participation in social and economic life.
- ❖ **Ms. Deborah Bonnici - Agenzija Żgħażaġh in Malta** presented how to engage young people in civic participation through youth work. The successful examples as well as implementations among Maltese youth on active citizenship and social and economic participation was presented in detail.

The day finished with a **field visit at Harju Youth House**. The field visit was organised in order to visit and observe the successful youth centres and their approach and communication with the young people in Helsinki. The adaptation of the public building as the new youth house function was presented by the coordinator with detailed information on their programmes and opportunities provided towards the young people. The Q&A session by the participants as the successful example for their own reality and model for effective youth house was very useful outcome of the visit. Following the visit informal meetings at the dinner was very well planned by the hosting organisation Allianssi.

## Day 2

The second day started with summary of the previous day by the moderator followed by the interactive questions and answers in order to involve participants in the second day's presentations and further recommendations:

- ❖ **Mr. Josep Moliner - Agència Catalana de la Joventut**, presented the inspiring implementations and successful examples of youth work towards the tolerant and multicultural communities. Furthermore, the strategy on implementation of European Youth Card as the successful tool in engaging young people on mobility, social inclusion and tolerance.



- ❖ **Ms. Lilya Elenkova - National Youth Card Association Bulgaria**, presented the effective implementation of European Youth Card in mobility and promoting civic participation among Bulgarian youth.
- ❖ **Ms. Danielle Logan- Young Scot** presented the programmes and actions on media literacy and youth work methodologies on raising awareness among Scottish youngsters in becoming active citizens and leaders in their communities.

The seminar continued with thematic group discussions and recommendations for EYCA member organisations and policy makers. In the final session the participants of the PA Seminar were divided into four working groups focusing on the further recommendations for EYCA organisations and policy makers with the main guiding question; How the European Youth Card further support the development of Quality Youth Work? (National, European and Policy Level). The recommendation statements by the working groups were:

***Working Group 1:***

- Promotion of CoE youth work portfolio
- Using European Youth Card to increase the visibility of learning opportunities
- Develop a programme to support youth workers

***Working Group 2:***

- Seminar with specific topic on quality of youth work and exchange instruments and tools
- Advisory board of EYCA working with a national ambassador for good practices

***Working Group 3:***

- Promotion of quality of youth work and/with European Youth Card
- Introduce EYCA Day (Annual Thematic)
- Digital developments in the app
- Standardization of European Youth Card (based on best practices)

***Working Group 4:***

- Database with NGOs (on arrival to new European country)
- Support and include Youth Work recommendations (2017) through EYC
- Better interface and APP with notifications
- Terms and conditions: Develop youth work activities; Paid/Volunteer Youth Work

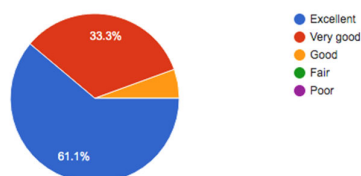
The recommendations were summarized by the moderator at the final stage in order to take out the lessons learnt from the PA Seminar overall as well as from the suggestions to EYCA organizations and the policy-makers. Following the conclusions. Manel Sanchez addressed the participants of the PA Seminar focusing on the concrete recommendations and how the board of EYCA will further take them into account in the next stages. The seminar concluded with the group seminar picture and the lunch.

**Evaluation**

A survey was circulated among participants of the event. The results were:

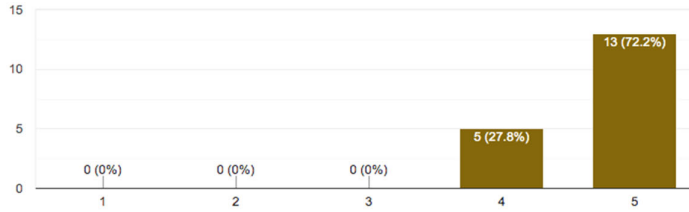
How would you rate the general organisation (logistics and content) of the PA Seminar?

18 responses



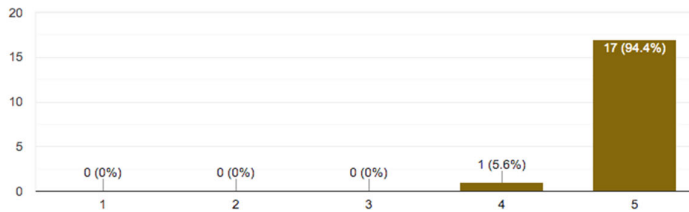
**How would you rate the information offered on Youth work in the digital era?**

18 responses



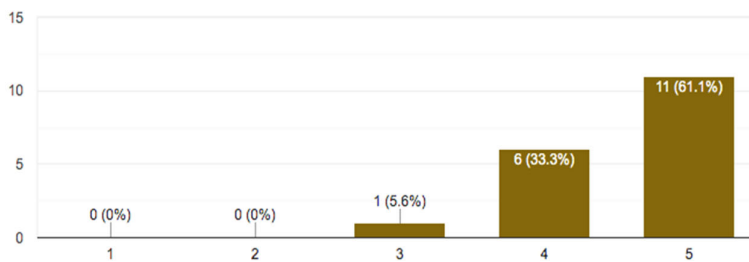
**How would you appreciate the intervention of keynote speaker Arnaud Raskin from StreetwiZe?**

18 responses



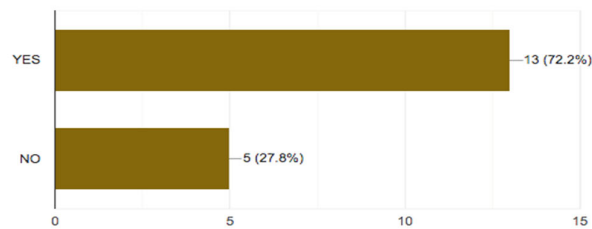
**How do you rate the information about European Youth Card and different models of implementation?**

18 responses



**Was it your first participation in a PA seminar organised by EYCA and Council of Europe?**

18 responses



**SEMINAR PROGRAMME**

DAY 1   SUNDAY, 5 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2019	
	Arrival of participants
20.30	Welcome dinner at the hotel
DAY 2   MONDAY, 6 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2019	
09.15 – 09.30	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government of Finland</li> <li>• Council of Europe representative.</li> <li>• EYCA Director.</li> </ul>
09.30 – 10.00	<b>Aim and objectives</b> of the Seminar -mapping the audience -expectations  <b>Introduction</b> of the facilitator, presentation and expectations of participants  EYCA presentation
10.00 – 11.15	<b>State of affairs of Youth Work in Europe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Howard Williamson – Youth Work transforming communities over the past 30 years.</li> <li>• Jarkko Lehtikoinen - Finnish model of Youth work - How and why it actually works</li> <li>• Tomi Kiilakoski - Trends in the recognition of youth work – a profession to aspire to?</li> </ul>
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	<b>New and old challenges in youth work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arnaoud Raskin – SteetWiZe</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch break (at the hotel)
14.30 – 16.00	<b>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Work Recommendations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juha Kiviniemi – Verke, Youth work in the digital era: what is next?</li> <li>• Youth work and civic youth participation: Aġenzija Żgħażaġh – Malta</li> <li>• Youth work and social inclusion, tolerance and multicultural communities - Agencia Catalana de la Joventut</li> </ul>
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee break
16.30 – 18.30	<i>Field visit to a youth work centre / Attending a youth work activity</i>
19:00	Dinner
DAY 3   TUESDAY, 7 <sup>th</sup> MAY 2019	
9.30 – 11.15	<b>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Work Recommendations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth work and promoting social inclusion, tolerance and multicultural communities - Youth Board of Cyprus</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth work and promoting civic participation – National Youth Card Association Bulgaria</li> <li>• Youth work and media literacy - Young Scot – Scotland, UK</li> </ul>
11.15 - 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 - 13.00	<b>Conclusions</b> Wrapping up: summary of the groups discussions Possible recommendations to the EYCA organisations and policy-makers Next steps and closing of the Seminar
13.00	Lunch (at the hotel)

## II. Partial Agreement seminar “Exploring different models of democratic participation: fostering youth participation through the European Youth Card”, 17-18 October 2019, Strasbourg, France

### DAY 1 | THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2019

#### **Welcome Session**

The Seminar opened with representatives from the partner organisations and from the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe sharing some welcoming words with the group of participants.

Ms. Natalja Turenne, representative of the Council of Europe, underlined the importance of the **Partial Agreement Seminars as spaces for mutual learning between institutions, governments, youth and civil society organisations** and for giving **visibility to what partners and member states from the Council of Europe are doing in their own contexts**. She also mentioned the importance of the topic for the Seminar and **how the European Youth Card itself is a tool to have direct and continuous contact with young people and their aspirations**. Finally, Ms. Natalja Turenne highlighted the importance of the **Partial Agreement Seminars for EYCA in collecting ideas from participants as elements that can enrich and improve the work of the Council of Europe and EYCA**.

Mr. Dominik Scherrer, representative of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe, expressed the **relevance of the topic for the Seminar connecting it with the importance of having more opportunities to discuss youth and youth participation**. He shared information about the **decisive role of the Advisory Council on Youth as a progressive participatory space for young people in decision making processes** where youth organisations and representatives of the member states sit together to decide on the priorities and the budget use for the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. Mr. Scherrer also referred to the results achieved in the last meeting of the Joint Council on Youth (October 2019) where young people and member states decided together on the **next Strategy of the Council of Europe 2020-2030 in the Youth Sector** and stressed that one of the priorities of this new Strategy is revitalising pluralistic democracy and strengthening youth and youth participation within our democratic systems, one of the most important challenges that democratic institutions in Europe are facing, **highlighting the role that the Youth Card can actually play to build democratic societies**.

Mr. Manel Sanchez, Director of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA), highlighted the **relevance that the Seminars have for EYCA as learning moments** where, by having various professional profiles (NGO, EYCA members, policy makers, researches and young people) in one room coming from various backgrounds, **EYCA can actually collect many ideas to improve its work**.

**Introduction to the seminar - profile of participants & main expectations<sup>1</sup>**

The group was composed by 48 participants, including organisers. The existing diversity of professional profiles, nationalities, experiences and expectations was an absolute richness for the Seminar and for the exchange of practices and for the formulation of the key messages during the second day.

**NATIONALITIES**

- 27 nationalities: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Slovakia,

**PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUNDS**

- 3 Youth Experts/Researchers
- 8 Youth Workers/Trainers
- 6 Member/Participant of Grassroots Movement/Protest/Initiative
- 8 Policy Makers/Government Representatives
- 8 Engaged in a member organization of EYCA
- 2 active young people not part of any organization nor movement



**PARTICIPATION IN PREVIOUS SEMINARS**

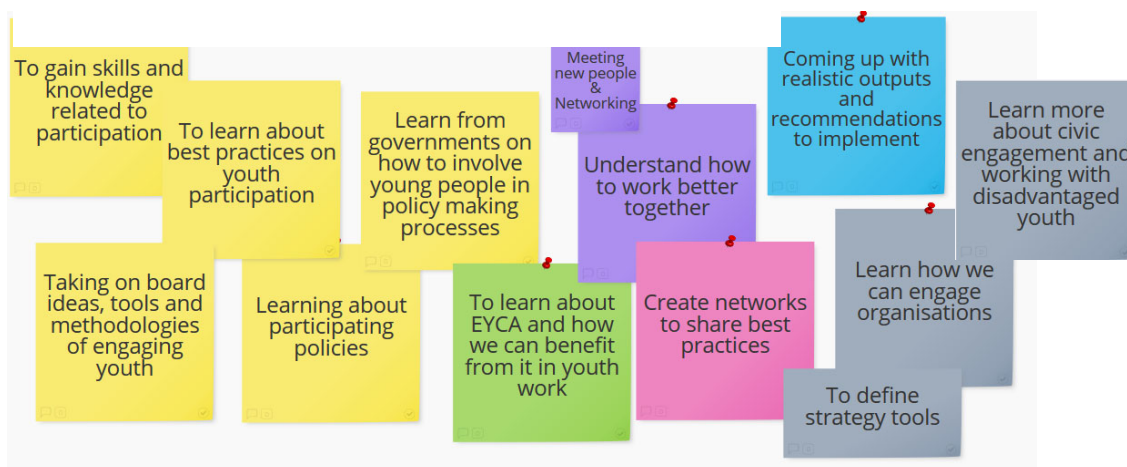
- 10 people participated for the first time
- 9 people participated for the second time
- 6 people participated four or more times

**DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES PARTICIPANTS HAVE RECENTLY ENGAGED IN**

- protests
- Drafting legislation
- Civil actions / signing petitions
- Voted in last European elections
- Campaigning



**MAIN EXPECTATIONS SHARED BY THE PARTICIPANTS**



## Key Note Speakers

**ONDREJ BARTA**

**Pool of European Youth Researchers - PEYR**

*“Youth Participation & Youth Mobility in Europe”*

Ondra Barta is a freelance youth researcher working both on international and national levels and within 3 main topics volunteering (research within the INSPIRIT project), youth mobility within the EU programmes (research and coordination in the RAY Network) and to youth participation (where we participated in the development of the methodological and analytical assistance to the Structured Dialogue and Youth Dialogue). He also conducts evaluation of youth policy programmes and of single projects. Finally, Mr. Barta, with his knowhow on youth-related research findings and practical hands on in some projects as an evaluator works also as a consultant on youth-related topics.

The focus of Mr. Barta was to **analyse the relationship between youth participation and youth mobility by exploring how youth mobility impacts/shapes the participation of young people in society**, notably in political life. He started by **examining the main governmental institutions that are supporting youth mobility** in Europe such as the Council of Europe and the European Commission along with the United Nations and its agencies and by scanning **various formats** of youth mobility that can be long or short term, European or global, Bilateral or Multilateral, One-off or Repeated, National or International and can take different forms of volunteering, youth exchanges, travelling, etc. Afterwards, Mr. Barta focused on sharing research on **understanding the implications of youth mobility for youth participation, and gave special attention to<sup>2</sup>:**

- i)* the significant indirect effect of short and long term mobility in participating on EU issues, through European identification, in other words, the young people that have had an experience abroad are able to identify themselves as European hence they are more willing to take part in issues that are across borders;
- ii)* *young people develop key competences including participation-related areas;*
- iii)* volunteering as a specific type of mobility leads to direct involvement of citizens in local development with very identifiable consequences in the fostering of civil society and democracy;
- iv)* in 2010 young people who took part in the Youth in Action programme have a significantly higher vote in the European Elections than their peers.

After the presentation, the group engaged in a dialogue with the speaker that allowed a deeper reflection on **how to increase mobility opportunities for disadvantaged young people, possibilities of development of transgenerational mobility opportunities involving adults and young people** and the **importance of investing in quality research to understand the criteria, the impact and the actual quality of the current youth mobility opportunities.**

**JULIA FERNANDEZ**

**Rejuvenating politics of CoE initiative & EYCA Youth Panel representative**

*“A personal experience of youth engagement”*

Julia Fernández is a Spanish student of the Dual BA in Law and Political Science in the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Since the past year Julia has been engaging in various spaces at local, national and European level. Currently, she is the Spanish Youth Delegate to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe involved in one of the projects that she will speak about - Rejuvenating Politics. She is also one of the 10 members of the EYCA's Youth Panel and through EYCA she is the representative to the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe. She also led various actions in Madrid with the organization Equipo Europa to raise awareness and promote the participation of young people in the last European elections.

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<sup>2</sup> The sources of the implications presented can be consulted on the presentation shared by Mr. Ondra Barta that you can find under the section Useful Resources and Presentations in this report.

In her presentation Julia Fernandez shared the way she got engaged and how fast she understood the difficulties of other young people, her peers, to engage and participate in various levels and/or in cooperation with institutions. Along with the fact that **young people believe that the impact that they can have in society is very restricted** and their **perception of a clear mismatch between what they claim for and what decision makers are actually doing**, she focused that there is a **clear issue of outreach lived by institutions**, in other words, **there is a lack of visibility of the existing opportunities for young people to participate in interesting and decisive spaces of decision making**.

She focused on the **importance of mainstreaming youth participation at local level by recognising and giving more visibility to non-conventional forms of participation**, by **connecting local movements and initiatives with European ones and by reaching young people in places where young people are**, for instance at schools and universities.

In the interaction with the audience the issues discussed were mainly around **the importance of working in an integrated and articulated way amongst local, national and European levels of action**, the **importance of raising awareness on the existing rights** and **keeping young people active, involved, curious and proactive to stand for their rights** and, finally, **on the importance of having opportunities for competence development in topics related with democracy and youth participation**.

### **European Youth Card and Youth Participation best practices**

**MRS. MIRIAM TEUMA**  
Aġenzija Żgħażaġh, Malta

*“Fostering youth participation in democratic life”*

Miriam Teuma brought the experience of Aġenzija Żgħażaġh in Malta and how they see the European Youth Card as a tool that goes beyond travel and discounts and has been actually used to foster youth participation. She shared some examples of projects<sup>3</sup> that are put in place for young people notably through voting, volunteering, engaging young people in different structures and informing young people about civil and political rights. A common aspect between these projects are their youth-led dimension –from debates, trainings and workshops to the creation of the youth councils and the advocacy movements until approval to vote from the age of 16 in local and national elections.

Mrs Teuma stated that **the core of the European Youth Card has become more participation and learning mobility than discounts**, since **mobility provides young people with the opportunity to be in contact, get informed and involved in democratic processes outside their own countries**. She also referred **the importance of youth work in this process**, youth workers able to **establish trust relations and support young people in their path of developing competences, running activities and being proactive**.

The interaction between the group of participants and Mrs. Teuma allowed space to discuss the **importance of direct and continuous communication with young people to get them involved in the campaign to vote from the age of 16** through newsletters, e-mails and social media and how it allows the organization to raise awareness and give visibility to young people's voices.

**MAITE HERNANDEZ**  
Comunidad de Madrid, Spain

*“Youth information services and the EYCA”*

She presented 5 practices implemented<sup>4</sup> by the Comunidad Madrid that go under the priorities of the Directorate General for Youth of the region, namely: healthy leisure/healthy lifestyle, support of nonformal education and the recognition of young people's talent. The practices presented were: 1) Summer swimming pools; 2) Thyssen Museum:

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<sup>3</sup> More details of the projects shared by Miriam Teuma can be found under the section Useful Resources and Presentations in this report.

<sup>4</sup> More details of the projects shared by Maite Hernandez can be found under the section Useful Resources and Presentations in this report.



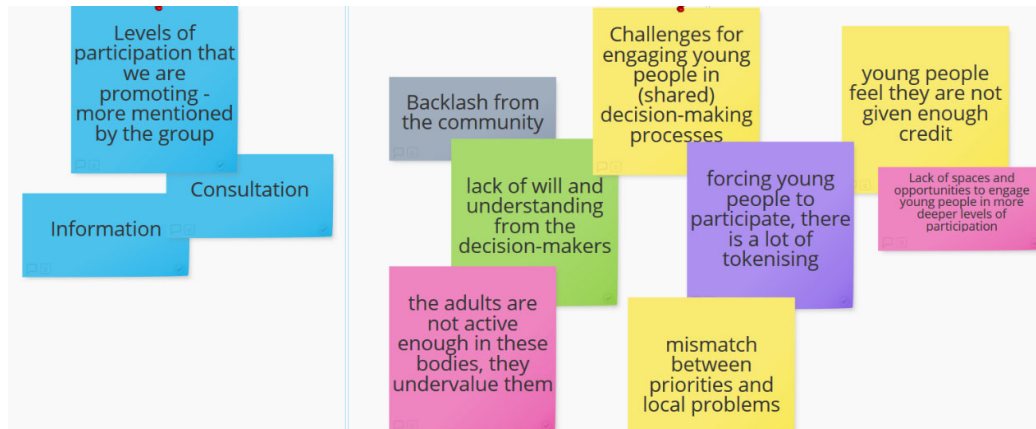
visit + workshop; 3) Talks about youth-related subjects; 4) Free courses (nonformal education); 5) Music contest – New Talent.

The participation of young people within these projects occur in two main dimensions - either from a **“beneficiary”** point of view where young people are provided with a service or opportunity to enjoy/ to benefit from an opportunity, from a right (right to leisure, to culture, to information...) in a more passive way OR from a more active perspective when young people can actually share their experiences, try out and exchange perspectives, which happens mainly in the workshops and free courses. Finally, she mentioned the strong interest of young people for the project “Music contest – New Talent”, expressed through the high number of applications received.

**DAY 2 | FRIDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2019**

**EXPERIENCES FROM PARTICIPANTS**

*“Which type of participation are we promoting? Challenges?”*



**Key Note Speakers**

**BRUNO ANTONIO**  
**DYPALL NETWORK**

*“Youth Participation & Youth Mobility in Europe”*

For the past 12 years, Bruno has been actively engaging in international youth work, working as an expert and external consultant for several institutions, such as the European Commission and the North South Centre of the Council of Europe. Currently is the coordinator of DYPALL Network, an European platform engaging over 50 members in 29 European countries, supporting youth policy development and youth participation at Municipality level. On the training field he has been engaged in the pool of trainers of the European Youth Forum and coordinated the pool of trainers of the Portuguese National Youth council and collaborates with SALTO Euromed and SALTO Participation on the development of several training programmes.

Bruno António looked at youth participation by focusing on challenges to reach young people that are not the “usual suspects”, notably by stressing that **to foster meaningful youth participation is a matter of a political decision and a matter of political investment of our decision makers. Investment from decision makers is essential for the development of effective youth policies.**

This investment doesn't necessarily mean huge budgets but it does necessarily means **political commitment and capacity building of organizations (public and private) and competence development plans from actors to be able to work together**, to share decisions and/or to take decisions onboard.

Essential elements of this commitment are the following:

- i)* **quality and continuous training** for school boards, teachers, organizations and local authorities that are essential tools for enabling young people to participate in democratic societies and to enhance the quality of democracy in democratic institutions;
- ii)* the importance of **trying different ways of engaging young people**, allowing space for organizations, schools, local authorities to try approaches, models, to create spaces and structures (online and offline) that can somehow support young people in their paths of becoming active and responsible as citizens;
- iii)* **mapping** what is being tried and implemented **with quality and giving visibility** to it;
- iv)* provide **space for the actors to exchange knowledge and experiences** about what they are implementing and learn from each other, avoiding overlapping and valuing what has been achieved.

Working with young people in policy making also means that their **demands are to be heard and matched with effective results of their participation and better accountability**.

Bruno António also shared two projects<sup>5</sup> ran by DYPALL Network - Regional Youth Policy of Madeira Region where non formal education methodologies were used to consult young people from vulnerable groups; Generation XXI that has a specific focus on young people with fewer opportunities and used mobility as a local youth engagement strategy. After his presentation the interaction with the group allowed a deeper reflection on the challenges to train teachers to empower young people to participate and how to prepare people and institutions to share their power.

### **ALEKSANDRA MANGUS**

**Expert on Media Information and Literacy**

*“Youth participation & media and information literacy”*

Aleksandra is a young Media and Information Literacy (MIL) expert with hands-on experience of working in startups, enterprises and public sector. Right now she is a member of UNESCO's GlobalMILWeek Organising and Steering Committee; Co-organiser and Moderator of the UNESCO's Global Youth Agenda Forum at the University of Latvia in Riga in the framework of Global MIL Week 2018 (here is the Week's full programme in PDF); Organiser of GlobalMILHack - the very first online global hackathon in MIL in close cooperation with UNESCO MIL Programme. It involved over 80 participants from 23 countries and lasted for 3 days. Aleksandra introduced the concept, built the programme, found international partners and implemented the whole cycle of the event which was a success, got extended and got some projects funded by the UNESCO's Youth Spaces Initiative. She is the author of a Master thesis on the topic of Innovative MIL pedagogy through Maker Culture and Hackathons (Tampere University, Finland); MIL Researcher and Expert in SALTO Resource Hub (SALTO Participation and Information Centre, Tallinn, Estonia).

Aleksandra Mangus mentioned some of the challenges that researchers on the field of MIL face when working on this topic and information about the trends in MIL Education that we can currently witness.

In her presentation Aleksandra Mangus stressed 3 main objectives that are mirrored in European strategies: **Digital engagement, Youth Empowerment and Safer Internet**. Understanding that **we are digital citizens with rights** by **empowering young people to act and be part of building strategies to face some of the main challenges of Media and**

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<sup>5</sup> More details of the projects shared by Bruno António can be found under the section Useful Resources and Presentations in this report

**Information is essential** for democratic societies. She made reference to those main challenges that need to be addressed in MIL, completing with some examples of projects<sup>6</sup> that are tackling these problems:

- hate speech and cyberbullying
- disinformation, “fake news”
- sextortion
- data protection and privacy
- generation gap, participation

She highlighted that for engaging young people with their digital citizenship and their role as citizens with a voice and responsibility on shaping policies and strategies in MIL field is essential to ensure **multi-stakeholder involvement** and **to share practices and tools used in youth work and MIL education**. **It is also essential to be able to relate what is missing in young people’s contexts with digital world** and make it a cause for action and interest for other young people across the globe. Lastly, she shared information about the **social relevance of hackathons** as spaces for learning, engaging and acting.

The interaction with the audience was on discussing issues related with resources/funding of online and MIL activities ran by organisations and young people that are not conventionally part of formal groups.

#### **European Youth Card and Youth Participation best practices**

**WALTER GROENEN**  
**CJP, The Netherlands**

*“Celebrating youth participation – Young Impact Award”*

Mr. Walter Groenen shared the elements considered necessary for the project presented to have an impact in young people’s lives. Firstly, he referred to the importance of **learning from other organizations** and to **understand what was suitable for the context** of CJP. Secondly, he referred the need of having **a focus not only on awarding but also on inspiring**. Finally, a **clear understanding that every young person can make a positive change** in their societies if they can cooperate, when given chances to express what is important for them and **support in creating opportunities with a long-lasting impact**.

The project involves **a free programme with schools** to run workshops and to discuss young people’s interests. The project has a strong cultural dimension due to the nature of the organisation that is promoting. It and allows young people to connect with each other and feel capable in understanding their own strengths and talents in order to go through a process of self-development.

The dialogue with the audience allowed to explore more details about the programme with schools as well as the challenges with the financial sustainability of the project.

**MRS. MIA VELICKOVIC**  
**Hosteling International Croatia**

*“Mobilising and informing young voters, presentation of #GiveAVote local experiences”*

Mia Velickovic shared with the audience the main important steps taken by the organization when implementing at the national level the youth-led campaign promoted by EYCA #GIVEAVOTE. The campaign comprised of 5 events, a series of workshops, media actions, direct collaborations with over 200 young people and numerous organizations and associations and over 500 free special edition European Youth Cards distributed in one day. One of the most important activities of the campaign was the two-day youth exchange with students from Zagreb and

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<sup>6</sup> More details of the projects shared by Aleksandra Mangus can be found under the section Useful Resources and Presentations in this report

Zadar organised in cooperation with the Office of the European Parliament in Zagreb with a focus on listening to the needs of young people. In this youth exchange they worked directly with first time voters and discussed relevant topics of their interests related to EU during interactive workshops. Topics such as active citizenship, youth mobility and employability, protection of environment and the importance of EU membership for Croatia were discussed by young people during this specific activity.

Within the framework of this campaign Hostelling International Croatia has organised a **MEP debate** where 10 leading political party representatives joined the debate. By **connecting young voters and candidates for European Parliament** it was possible to raise awareness among young people about the importance of Croatia's EU membership and contributing to build their European identity. During the debate, it was essential to encourage young people to have a healthy critical and independent opinion in order to approach the elections as objectively as possible and to choose their representative. Finally, she called attention to the fact that the participation of Hostelling International Croatia in the **#GIVEAVOTE campaign allowed cardholders and new cardholders to learn more about possibilities of organized volunteering, youth mobility and how to use of the European Youth Card as well as the importance of voting during the elections.**

After the presentation of Mia Velickovic the group had the chance to discuss different reasons why, despite the increase turnout of young voters in the last European elections, youth participation it is still very low. In the case of Croatia it was mentioned the existing lack of information related with European political affairs and that young people feel disappointed and don't think they are focal in policy making and don't see themselves and their aspirations, concerns and priorities mirrored in policies and strategies. This first experience of EYCA in promoting and implementing a youth-led campaign deeply connected with voting allowed partner organizations to develop know-how on information, relationships with other stakeholders and to get to know more about young people's perceptions in relation to these topics nowadays.

### **Presentation of the Key Messages of the Working Groups and Plenary Discussion**

The session started with the facilitator launching some questions for the working groups to discuss and to present in plenary the main results of their discussions. The questions launched were the following:

- i) What could be the role of European Youth Card in supporting democratic youth participation?*
- ii) What could be the role of the European Youth Card in strengthening/keeping the links between organizations, institutions and young people to support democratic participation of young people?*
- iii) What could be the role of the European Youth Card in supporting local youth participation, notably through supporting the development of competences of young people and organizations?*

The **main key messages presented by participants were the following:**

#### **1. Promotion and Dissemination**

- a. EYCA should develop a **Youth Ambassadors Programme** in local communities that can disseminate the benefits of the European Youth Card;
- b. EYCA should **work closer with influencers, bloggers and famous people** to outreach its work to more young people;
- c. EYCA should **invest in having pop-ups on websites** that are most visited by young people;
- d. EYCA should organise a **European Youth Fair** targeting cardholders involving stakeholders that are also providing various opportunities to young people.

#### **2. Partnerships**

- a. EYCA should continue to foster **stronger and strategic agreements with stakeholders in the domain of youth participation;**
- b. EYCA should create **training opportunities for leadership skills and job shadowing opportunities** by establishing partnerships with companies and enterprises focusing on young people coming from rural areas;

- c. EYCA should promote the **reinforcement of networks among youth organisations** through initiatives such as trainings and conferences or through a **platform** to foster the link between cardholders, young leaders, youth organisations and institutions.

### 3. Capacity building and competence development

- a. EYCA should continue promoting **opportunities to exchange practices and initiatives** among member organisations, youth organisations and other stakeholders through **Partial Agreement Seminars** and other initiatives like **trainings and conferences**;
- b. EYCA should organise and implement **Deliberative Fora** promoting the space for young people to discuss among themselves and thereafter with policy makers;
- c. EYCA should promote free workshops for cardholders on democratic participation.

### 4. Inspiring and Awarding

- a. EYCA should create a **Prize** to reward young people that are engaged in their local communities;
- b. EYCA should **give away some travel passes** for the young to travel to their countries in order to vote.

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The Seminar “Exploring different models of democratic participation: fostering youth participation through the European Youth Card” is organised to support the recognition of various forms of participation in community and democratic societies and to explore the different ways in which the EYC can be a tool for engagement of all young people.

### **The Seminar aimed to:**

- offer the space for debate on and recognition of the variety of forms in which young people make their voices heard, including through digital means;
- explore the ways in which European Youth Card can be a tool to reach out to disengaged young people and encourage them to actively participate at all levels.

The Seminar brought together policy makers in the youth field, youth workers, youth activists and young people, both organised and non-organised, as well as from various structures of representation (ex: young people involved in the ‘Rejuvenating politics’ initiative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe).

### **Expected outcome:**

The Seminar was expected to come up with a number of practical recommendations for the EYCA youth card organisations, and possibly for policy-makers (in order to help them to define the right policy response and use the opportunities offered by the European Youth Card).

### **General overview of the programme of the Seminar**

The programme had a similar structure for the two days. We started by having the speeches with contributions from two experts and then we had the chance to get to know the work that two EYCA member organisations are doing. We closed the second day by developing some key messages for the improvement of the work of EYCA related with the topic of the seminar – Democratic Participation of Young People.

The first day we got to know a bit more about who was the room and what were participants’ expectations for the Seminar and then we moved to explore the links between youth mobility and youth participation and by getting to know a bit about the path of a young person, in this case, a cardholder and a member of the EYCA YOUTH PANEL, who is engaged in various spaces of participation at European and national level. In the afternoon we got to know more about the European Youth Card as tool for development and implementation of youth policy with Miriam

Teuma and the challenges related to it as well as 5 projects from Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid to engage young people in civic life.

During the second day we will explore the local dimension of youth participation, the importance of skills as critical thinking and media literacy as core elements of youth engagement today and we had two more projects from EYCA Member organizations, Young Impact Award and the experience of Croatia engaging young voters through debates, youth exchanges and through the EYCA Campaign #GIVEAVOTE. The last session of our seminar was devoted to collect from the group some key messages that might be useful for EYCA to improve its work in the domain discussed here in this seminar.

### **USEFUL RESOURCES & PRESENTATIONS**

Please have access to all the presentations of the seminar here: <http://tiny.cc/1874gz>

### **III. Promotional Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the European Youth Card, 12 - 13 November 2019, Brussels, Belgium**

This promotional seminar was organised by the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA). **The main objectives** of the seminar were to:

- Promote the European Youth Card as a tool for policy development and implementation, at local, national and European levels, especially towards Government representatives;
- Encourage Governments who have not signed the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility to do so and mainstream 'youth mobility' as a priority in their public policies;
- Share good practices on how the European Youth Card is developed by EYCA members and get hands-on experience on how the youth card is used to provide services to young people at all levels.

The seminar has been organised **as a response to an interest** voiced by a number of states not yet party to the Partial Agreement, to learn more about it, as well as about the European Youth Card and its implementation. From a **methodological perspective**, the seminar combined a variety of formal and very practical ways of learning about, networking and understanding the potential of the European Youth Card, such as meetings with representatives of public authorities, presentations on models of implementation of the European Youth Card (EYC) in various countries, including as a tool to implement policies and provide services to young people.

On behalf of the **Council of Europe**, Mrs. Natalja Turenne welcomed the guests and introduced the purpose of the seminar, inviting everyone to reflect throughout the day on the services that the European Youth Card can support, first and foremost for the wellbeing of young people – as stated in the Council of Europe Resolution instituting the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card.

On the same note, Mrs. **Louise Macdonald, EYCA president**, welcomed the guests and highlighted:

- that EYCA's cooperation with the Council of Europe was of crucial importance for the network and achieving the goal to use the youth card as a tool for public policies;
- that the Partial Agreement (PA) on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card played a significant role in offering information, inclusion and participation services to young people, especially the ones with fewer opportunities;



- that EYCA had as a priority to work with governmental bodies to ensure that the EYC can be an easy, accessible tool used by them, therefore the services that EYCA offered to its member organisations were ultimately aiming to use the card as a public service;
- that the PA on Youth Mobility offered specific benefits to member States who joined such as thematic expert seminars with link to European policy priorities (ex: youth participation, social inclusion, youth employment, youth work), as well as the know-how of linking them to the youth card services.

The EYCA Director introduced all the speakers and the main subject of each presentation:

The first presentation by Mrs. Natalja Turenne, Youth Policy Division, **Council of Europe**, offered a detailed introduction to the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card, its history, priorities, members and benefits of being a member country. The seminar continued with presentations on various topics, focusing on the role of the European Youth Card and effective youth policies:

- **Carnet Jove Andorra** | The Youth Card as a tool of dynamisation and implementation of youth policies. The presentation shared good practices related to consultation of young people and using the card as a tool for implementing coherent, data-based policies at national level.
- **Young Scot, Scotland, UK** | The Youth Card as a tool for youth engagement. The presentation offered a series of examples on how the youth card can help breaking financial barriers for young people and foster social inclusion, access to services, culture and a lifestyle that would bridge gaps among young people coming from different backgrounds. A special attention received the rewards system and how the smart card could be used by governmental bodies to implement various policy priorities.
- **Agencia Catalana de la Joventut, Catalunya, Spain** | The Youth Card promoting youth participation. The importance of consulting young people and youth organisations at every step of building the product and services around it was specifically highlighted. The speaker paid particular attention to how the European Youth card could help reaching out to non-organised young people.

Each presentation was followed by a questions-and-answers session when the guests raised questions in relation to the topics of the presentation and used the opportunity to also share their experiences. After lunch, the presentations and discussions continued:

- **MOBIN, Slovenia** | The Youth Card promoting student services & lifestyle. One of the successful stories in EYCA, the member organisation had been working to co-brand with Universities across the country and to integrate services for young students.
- **Movijovem, Portugal** | The Youth Card promoting mobility. As the network for youth hostels across Portugal, Movijovem used the European Youth Card to foster mobility services, both in transportation and accommodation. The institution approached mobility as a means to foster active citizenship, enforce European values and offer young people opportunities to enrich their personal and professional lives.
- Presentation from partners: **Eurail and supporting youth mobility**. The presentation focused on the company's philosophy and commitment to offer young people opportunities for mobility, its contribution to the growing generations of European citizens, by breaking stereotypes and barriers through travelling.

The presentations were followed by debates related to the benefits of supporting the European Youth Card and joining the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility. All presentations are available at this link: <http://tiny.cc/g86mgz>



## PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR

Day 1 - 12 November 2019	
All day	Arrivals of guests
19.30	Welcome dinner
DAY 2 - 13 November 2019	
09.30 – 10.15	<p><b>Welcome address by hosts and organisers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Louise Macdonald – EYCA President</li> <li>Natalja Turenne - Council of Europe</li> <li>Representative of an Embassy -TBC</li> </ul> <p>Round of introductions from participants</p>
GENERAL PRESENTATION	
10.30 – 11.15	<p>Presentation and discussion:</p> <p>The Partial Agreement and its role in the implementation of youth policies in member states – examples of good practice from governments</p>
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES	
11.30 – 13.00	<p>The European Youth Card and effective youth policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carnet Jove Andorra   The Youth Card promoting local youth policies</li> <li>Young Scot, Scotland, UK   The Youth Card as a tool for youth engagement</li> <li>MOBIN, Slovenia   The Youth Card promoting student services &amp; lifestyle</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES (continuation)	
14.30 – 17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Movijovem, Portugal   The Youth Card promoting mobility</li> <li>Agencia Catalana de la Joventut, Catalunya, Spain   The Youth Card promoting youth participation</li> </ul> <p>Presentation from partners: Eurail and supporting youth mobility</p> <p>Debates related to the benefits of supporting the European Youth Card and joining the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility</p>
17.00 – 17.15	Closing remarks
18.30	Reception with EYCA Board
DAY 3 – 14 November 2019	
Departures	

**List of participants and their contacts:**

Name	Surname	Institution
Dora	Bei	Ministry of Education, Research & Religious Affairs, Government of Greece
Konstatina	Pilsi	Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Government of Greece
Ana Belen	Medina Garrido	INJUVE, Spain
Sedar Osman	Dobur	Ministry of Youth and Sport, Turkey
Cemal Atakan	Parlak	Ministry of Youth and Sport, Turkey
Murat	Tulubas	Ministry of Youth and Sport, Turkey
Natalja	Turenne	Council of Europe
Josep	Moline	EYCA Board
Goce	Velichkovski	National Agency for Youth Mobility and European Programmes, Rep. of North Macedonia
Aleksandar	Gochev	National Agency for Youth Mobility and European Programmes, Rep. of North Macedonia
Jan	Peloza	EYCA Board
Louise	Macdonald	EYCA President
Valeria	Croce	Eurail
Monica	Sala	EYCA Board
Jose	Sousa	EYCA Board
Yunus	Duman	DG EAC
Manel	Sanchez	EYCA Director
Corina	Pirvulescu	EYCA Office
Pablo	Guillerna	EYCA Office

**2. Commissioning generation and dissemination of knowledge relating to social inclusion**

EYCA was present in different in several meetings during 2019.

***European Youth Week, 28 – 30 April 2019***

The European Youth Week took place on in the European Parliament's seat in Brussels. It is a unique opportunity for young Europeans to make their voices heard. During the event, 9,000 participants came up and discussed ideas for the future of Europe with decision makers. During the event, EYCA organized a workshop on youth participation in democratic life.

EYCA had a stand promoting the European Youth card and the #GiveAVote campaign, together with other opportunities for young people to get involved in democratic processes.

### **3. Participating in meetings and events to support the development of youth information across Europe**

- **April and December 2019: Steering Group of the European Platform on Learning Mobility, Luxemburg and Brussels.**

The Main outcomes of the meeting were:

- The European Quality Charter on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field was adopted by the SG together with the performance indicators;
- The Quality app to implement the indicators;
- Attendance of the biennial conference to be hosted by the Flemish NA in Ostende, on 2-4 April 2019.
- **March and July 2019: EU Youth Conferences in Bucharest and Helsinki**

EYCA attended the two EU conferences that took place in 2019 as part of its work to support the EU Youth Dialogue.

All of the above-mentioned youth organisations are natural partners for EYCA in the field of youth policy as well as volunteering/active citizenship/youth information projects. EYCA is looking into possible joint projects and/or co-branded cards or cooperation on national level by member organisations.

## **IV. POLICY APPROACHES AND INSTRUMENTS BENEFITTING YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN**

### **Commissioning technology infrastructure**

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

The development of the CCDB continued in 2019. New member organisations added their card numbers to the database, with over 4 million card numbers verifiable via the CCDB currently.

A new grant system was set up in 2019 to support members to add customised features to the EYCA free app, making the experience more user-friendly for young people.

### **Promoting youth mobility by partnering up with Eurail**

In 2019, EYCA and Eurail implemented their agreement aiming to promote mobility among young people across Europe with the following measures:

- More than a 100 InterRail passes were distributed among EYCA members.
- Joint marketing and PR activities were held together by EYCA members and Eurail in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Slovenia and Scotland.
- Discount on InterRail Global Passes for selected EYCA members in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, etc.
- Finally, Eurail was also a partner in all the EYCA international campaign and projects.