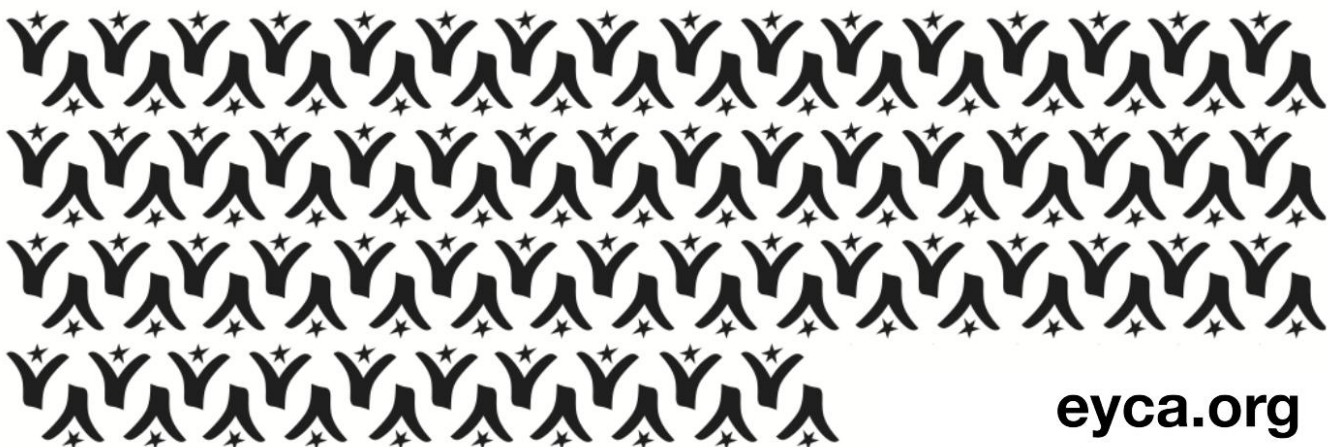




# Development of the European Youth Card: Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the youth card and the European Youth Card Association

Final report 2020



[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 2020 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 the core priorities of the European Youth Card Association, through 33 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 37 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, which has definitely become the focus in Europe in recent years. 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.

In 2020, the implementation of the programme of Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Not being allowed to implement most of the PA seminars, the programme of this year was ***focused on adapting to the new realities, supporting youth workers to deliver digital services by using the European Youth Card infrastructure, rebranding the PA on Youth Mobility and evaluating our work so far.***

It is worth mentioning that the budget reallocation was amended in June 2020. The current narrative and financial report reflect the changes made to the programme and approved by the Council of Europe.

### **Priorities**

Having in mind the priorities for the 2020 - 2021 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 2020, youth mobility has been particularly challenged and replaced by on-line, international activities. During the year we used the opportunity to reflect on the value of youth mobility and to understand better how the skills gained through youth mobility, now served during a crisis situation: leadership, resilience, care for the most vulnerable and defending human rights at times when freedoms were challenged.

Therefore, the proposed specific aims for the Partial Agreement work programme 2020 - 2021 are:

- Support and encourage innovation in youth work and youth services;
- Explore how the European Youth Card can support democratic participation of young people and access to their rights;

- Promote the European Youth Card as a tool for young people's social, economic and cultural inclusion.

## **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 3.722 likes and an average organic reach of 35.000 users 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. PA on Youth Mobility branding and presentation brochure**

- In 2020, EYCA worked together with its creative agency, Jamhot, **to develop a new, distinctive brand for the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility**. The concept was approved by the Council of Europe communication department. The new branding involved working on: specific logo, color pallet, fonts, combination of colors etc.;
- The branding is reflected in the new presentation brochure of the Partial Agreement;
- In 2020, EYCA worked to update and develop the presentation brochure of PA on Youth Mobility. The document serves to promote the values of the Partial Agreement and to encourage other Member States to join. It offers information on the topics approached during the PA seminars throughout the years, results and how Governmental bodies can use the outcomes.

#### **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 PA seminars calls were promoted accordingly and member organisation were encouraged to attend and present good practices.

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

#### **Quality improvement support to existing members**

In 2020, although most of the activity was online, EYCA managed to offer support visits to key new member organisations and organise flagship event of the network, before the spring lock-down. At the end of last year, EYCA welcomed new member organisations in Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Italy and United Kingdom. In addition to members in these countries, EYCA offered support visits and discussed PA joining possibilities in Albania and Spain.

Key elements of each of the visit are presented below.

#### **Visit to Belarus**

- The support visit took place in February 2020, bringing together representatives of the new member organisation BRYU, the Ministry of Youth and EYCA staff;
- It marked the launching of Licence Agreement and starting of the membership
- It focused on policy and technical aspects of the European Youth Card scheme and possibilities of cobranding in Belarus.

- During the meetings the possibility of Belarus joining the Partial agreement was discussed and it was foreseen as a second step once the card is develop in the country.

### **Visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina**

- One of the newest members of EYCA is PRONI Youth Centre in BiH. The organisation is 30 years old, providing human rights and peace education through youth work in all regions of BiH;
- The support visit focused on how to better integrate the EYC in their youth clubs, youth workers' training and volunteering programmes;
- It was also an opportunity to meet the Ministry of Civil Affairs and discuss possibilities of youth policy implementation through the European Youth Card;
- The EYC was officially launched in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 12 August 2020, the International Youth Day.
- Since Bosnia and Herzegovina is already a member of the Partial Agreement several possibilities of cooperation in the form of organizing seminars and activities sin the country were also discussed.

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

- Throughout 2019 the EYCA member organization in Albania went through staff changes and needed support in developing the EYC scheme strategically;
- The support visit in February 2020 included meetings with representatives of City Hall of Tirana and Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth.
- Possibility of joining the PA on Youth Mobility was further discussed and hopefully will materialize in 2021; A meeting with the new Deputy Minister is set for December 3.
- Other elements such as the connection with the European Youth Capital were discussed in the context of Tirana's title for 2022.

### **Visit to Italy:**

- One of the newest member organizations in EYCA is the Eurodesk Italy, for the region of Sardinia;
- The visit offered support to the new member, helping them connect the European Youth Card scheme to all the information networks, youth policies in the region and programmes dedicated to young people;
- Discussions with possible strategic co-branding partners were included, as well as with regional public authorities;
- A presentation on the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility was delivered on this occasion.

### **Visit to Spain:**

- In September 2020 a support visit was organized at INJUVE, in Spain having as main objectives the development of European Youth Card in the regions, the relationship between EYCA and CCAAs (regional public bodies) and the possibility of Spain to re-join the PA on Youth Mobility;
- EYCA Director met with the Director General of Injuve and addressed all these topics. INJUVE expressed interest to be more connected to EYCA and thus they proposed a candidate for EYCA elections in 2020;
- The visit was successful and advanced the already existing Memorandum of Understating.

## Identifying and supporting the new member organisations of EYCA

In 2020, the EYCA launched the European Youth Card in the strategic territories: Italy, Georgia, United Kingdom and Belarus. EYCA office and board members travelled to visit organisations and offer them technical and institutional support in designing the card services, negotiate different partnerships and launch the card in Italy.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, in-person support visits could not be organised for Georgia and United Kingdom. However, on-line sessions throughout 2-3 working days took place with the new EYCA member organisations in these territories.

For 2021, EYCA is looking in to expanding the European Youth Card scheme in Baltic countries, other Nordic countries (Denmark and Norway) as well as Armenia.

## 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 and 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 2020, 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 organizations.
- COVID-19 pandemic also fostered the negotiation of new, pan-European discounts, as requested by young people. Most of them spent the lockdown consuming on-line services of education,

entertainment, culture and shopping on line. Thus, the EYCA members adapted their business model, in an effort to increase the pool of cardholders and access to providing them health related information. ***EYCA started a new cooperation with Market AAD, aiming to offer young people across Europe new benefits.***

### **EYCA App**

- The EYCA app project has grown and is currently being used by 12 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.
- In addition, other 14 EYCA member organisations use local card apps, thus highly increasing the digitalisation of EYC in Europe.

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

EYCA regional meetings were organized on line this year, as travel was prohibited or very difficult.

This was an opportunity for EYCA members to meet two times in groups this year and exchange good practices on how they are providing youth work services during the pandemic. Therefore, the online meetings took place as it follows:

- Group 1 – 7<sup>th</sup> of May and 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2020
- Group 2 – 26 of May and 13 of October 2020
- Group 3 – 13<sup>th</sup> of May and 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2020
- Group 4 – 14<sup>th</sup> of May and 12 of October 2020
- Group 5 – 8 of May and 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2020

Partial Agreement evolution and new possibilities of implementation were discussed in the meetings. Also, the PA programme 2020 - 2021 was discussed.

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

The year of 2020 also proved to be a good period for gathering feedback from member and non-member States of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility. In this regard, EYCA employed the services of a consultant, Dan Moxon, in order to:

- Run surveys among representatives of Member States which are part of PA on Youth Mobility. Survey is available at this link: <http://tiny.cc/nf8mrz>
- Run surveys among representatives of Member States which are not part of PA on Youth Mobility. Survey is available at this link: <http://tiny.cc/9o8mrz>
- Analyze the feedback received and include it in a report to be presented at the next Board of Coordination meeting, in March 2021.

Further PA on Youth Mobility programmes will be built based on the feedback received and we are aiming to improve our offer for the Member States. At the same time, the report will be used to advocate for other Member States to join the PA on Youth Mobility through the European Youth card.

On the same note of planning for the next year, in 2020 EYCA undertook an inclusive process of developing its strategy for 2021 – 2025. In this regard, EYCA created a working group including representatives of the Board, of Members and of Youth Panel. They worked together with a facilitator from Northern Star to bring out the best results and cover the interests of all stakeholders that EYCA works with.

The EYCA strategy covers 5 strategic goals:



1. An active member organization in every country across Europe (47 Countries)
2. An EYCA digital platform where Youth Card members in every country will be able to access the benefits of the European Youth Card
3. Active partnerships with global brands that encourage young people to use the Youth Card
4. Strong strategic partnerships with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council of Europe. Here the importance of the Partial Agreement is strongly reinforced.
5. Young people are fully engaged in the governance and work of EYCA

The Strategy layout was worked together with Jamhot, EYCA's creative agency, and the document will be promoted and made public as of 2021.

### 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**

As part of the Maximising Impact Programme, every year EYCA organises a two-day seminar exclusively dedicated to member organisations, on **3-4 March 2020**. The aim of the seminar was to provide expertise and knowledge on a topic of common interest and high on the agenda for many member organisations. Following EYCA members expressed interest and recommendations, the topic of the 2020 MI Seminar was **"The role of European Youth Card in developing urban policies and youth-friendly cities"**.

Objectives:

- Offer a space for dialogue and share of good practices among EYCA member organisations with a focus on municipal youth cards;
- Offer a space for networking with other key stakeholders in urban planning and European cities & regions associations;
- Increase EYCA members' role as a dialogue partner in local youth policies.

The seminar brought together **40 representatives of EYCA member organisations and partners with various profiles:**

- Public authorities' representatives, both at local and regional levels;
- Youth workers who are directly connected to the European Youth Card services;
- Young people themselves (EYCA Youth Panel)
- Representatives of partner organisations in Brussels
- Members of the European Parliament.

The event was a space where both the perspectives of EYCA member organisations and Municipality representatives were equally valued and they learned from each other.

#### **Main results of the event**

The event was open by EYCA Director and the welcome words from EYCA Board members, (coming from countries that are PA members: Andorra and Slovenia,) Mrs. Monica Sala and Mr. Jan Peloza, who invited all guests to enjoy the seminar and find inspiration from best practices across the network.

EYCA Director delivered a general presentation about the network and the European Youth Card as a tool to engage young people and offer them access to local public services. The following presentations showcased examples of good practices on how the EYC is particularly interesting for different municipalities:

- Beth Hayton – Young Scot, UK – presented the advantages of digitalized system and using the EYC as a tool for accessing transport, public spaces and participation opportunities for young people;
- Rui Teixeira – MOVIJOVEM, Portugal – Presenting the various ways in which 105 municipalities across Portugal use the European Youth Card

- Gil Nunes – Municipality representative, Villa Nova de Gaia, Portugal – Presenting how the Municipality of Gaia uses the European Youth Card to foster youth participation, sustainability and involve young people in city's life.
- Babis Papaioannou – Greek Youth Card and Network of European Youth Capitals – presented the potential of Thessaloniki to be the first youth friendly city and the opportunities of collaboration between the EYC and initiatives such as the European Youth Capitals.

All presentations and good practices are available here: <http://tiny.cc/6e17kz>

## PA seminars

The only Partial Agreement seminar organised in 2020 was ***“New challenges and opportunities for innovative youth services. The role of the European Youth Card in promoting the rights of young people in post-COVID era”***. The event was organised as part of the Hellenic Chairmanship of the Council of Ministers and was live broadcasted from the Hotel Divani Caravel, Athens **on 5 – 6 November 2020**.

### Aim & Objectives

**The aim of the seminar reads as follows:**

*‘To support the recognition of the potential of youth work services deployed on-line and the role of the European Youth Card in reaching out to young people’.*

Whereas, the specific objectives agreed were:

- a) To explore innovative ways of promotion and outreach to young people during the pandemic and in a post-COVID, predominantly digital, era and the role of the European Youth Card in it;
- b) To identify challenges and opportunities in youth work and define what can be the role of new technologies & Artificial Intelligence;
- c) To discuss the importance of and means to safeguard the rights of young people in socially and economically uncertain times.

### Structure and methodology

The seminar was based both in asynchronous and synchronous approaches to online learning. For the former, the *E-learning platform for youth activities of the Council of Europe* (<https://e-learning4youth.coe.int/>) was used, while for the latter, the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs has provided the team and the participants with access to its ‘Webex’ online video conferencing platform.

Asynchronous learning activities were already initiated in the beginning of October 2020. The trainers’ team created a space where participants, after their enrolment, could explore background information on the seminar and its organizers and also get to know each other, the keynote speakers and the presenters of ‘good practices’; especially for the ‘good practices’, they also had the option to take a look at the presentations provided and on that basis, make their choice on the workshops they preferred to attend during the synchronous part of the seminar. It has been a conscious choice of the trainers’ team, to construct the activities in a participatory and interactive manner, thus reflecting fundamental principles of non-formal learning for participants’ optimal preparation and development.

The synchronous learning activities (henceforth, the Webinar) sought to take advantage of the live presence of participants and thus engage them into discussions, debates, interactive contributions and workshops (that is, break-out sessions, in the ‘Webex’ terminology). There have been 3 plenary keynote speeches followed by small group discussions, 9 good practice presentations in break-out sessions, 1 plenary panel discussion plus additional fine-tuning, information, conclusions and opening & closing sessions.



## Mapping of policy-makers, contributors and participants.

### 1. Policy-makers

- a) The following policy makers, representing various authorities, contributed to the Webinar:
- b) **Mr Georgios Voutsinos**, [Secretary General for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning/Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs](#). Host of the event.
- c) **Ms Niki Kerameus**, [Minister of Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic](#).
- d) **Mr Apostolos Dimitropoulos**, Coordinator of all Presidency Activities, [Secretary General for Higher Education, Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs](#).
- e) **Ms Antje Rothemund**, Head of the [Youth Department in the Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe](#).
- f) Mr Ivan Hromada, Chair of the [Joint Council on Youth \(CMJ\)](#) and of the [European Steering Committee for Youth \(CDEJ\)](#).

### 2. Contributors

An equally varied profile of contributors was invited; in brief those were:

- a) Mr. Fabio Chiusi, Project Manager at [Algorithm Watch](#)
- b) Ms. Hilary Phillips, owner at [Cygnus Extra](#), represented [YouthLink Scotland](#)
- c) Ms Uly Enn, represented the [Education and Youth Authority of Estonia](#)
- d) Ms Emanueal Doussis, represented a joint project between the [National & Kapodistrian University of Athens](#) & [the Greek Youth & Lifelong Learning Foundation](#).

The above were 'keynote speakers' and more about them and their contributions can be found in the dedicated chapters, later in this report.

Moreover, the following practitioners, members of EYCA, contributed to the workshops:

- a) Ms Nika Stegovec, from the [SLOAM – Slovenian Youth Agency](#)
- b) Mr Yugoslav Radovic, from the [Center for Youth Education, Montenegro](#)
- c) Mr Rick van Veluw, from [CJP, the Netherlands](#)
- d) Mr Dejan Radjen, from [Proni Center for Youth Development, Bosnia & Herzegovina](#)
- e) Ms Danielle Logan, from [Young Scot, Scotland](#)
- f) Ms Soula Pappouti, from the [Youth Board of Cyprus](#)
- g) Mr Josep Moline, from [ACJ, Catalan Youth Agency](#)
- h) Ms Miriam Teuma, from [Malta's National Youth Agency](#)
- i) Mr Jose Sousa, from [MOVIJOVEM, Portugal](#)

### 3. Panellists

The closing panel, which overviewed the main topic and findings of the Webinar in addition to initiating a discussion on future steps, consisted of:

- a) Ms Lydia Sapardini, from the [Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe](#)
- b) Ms Olga Kiriakidou, youth worker/trainer from NGO '[Kids in Action](#)'
- c) Mr Babis Papaioannou, Head of Youth Unit of the [General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning/Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs](#)

### 4. Participants

By the time the Webinar started, 39 participants had enrolled in the *E-learning platform*. During the Webinar, the number of participants varied from 35 to 55; these numbers include also *observer participants* who expressed an interest to follow the plenary discussions, without the option to intervene or participate in the break-out sessions. A wide spectrum of roles and practices were represented; the profile of participants varied from youth workers/leaders affiliated or not to the European Youth Card to policy makers and youth

researchers. More than 25 countries-Member States of the Council of Europe were represented in the seminar.

### Team of organizers & facilitators

An international team of organizers - representing all stakeholders – and facilitators, planned, prepared, implemented and followed-up the seminar. Those were:

- a) Ms Dora Bei, Youth Director at the [General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs](#)
- b) Mr Babis Papaioannou, Head of Youth Unit of the [General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning/Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs](#)
- c) Ms Natalja Turenne, Secretary to the [Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card, Council of Europe](#)
- d) Mr Manel Sanchez, Director at the [European Youth Card Association](#)
- e) Ms Corina Pirvulescu, Member Support & Project Manager at the [European Youth Card Association](#)
- f) Ms Zara Lavchyan, Youth Worker & Trainer, [Member of the Trainers' Pool of the Council of Europe](#), facilitator of the seminar
- g) Mr Athanasios Krezios, Youth Worker & trainer, [Member of the Trainers' Pool of the Council of Europe](#), facilitator of the seminar

The broad international profile of the organizers and trainers' team enabled the reflection of a series of issues and priorities with a global outlook into the activity programme of the whole seminar, including its asynchronous and synchronous elements. It is definitely worth mentioning that the team managed the repercussions of the 'turbulence' caused by the pandemic in all manifestations of social and professional life, with due diligence and continuous systematic adaptations; something which wouldn't have been possible without the unparalleled professionalism and cooperative attitude all members demonstrated throughout all stages of development and delivery.

## PROGRAMME OF THE WEBINAR / DAY 1

### November 5<sup>th</sup>, Thursday

09h30 Start of the webinar, tuning in, checking connections

10h00 Official welcome and opening of the webinar

Introductory welcome by: Ms **Dora Bei** (Youth Director/Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs) and **Manel Sanchez** (Director European Youth Card Association). *Present in Athens*. Introduction of facilitators (Ms **Zara Lavchyan** / Armenia *in online connection* and Mr **Athanasios Krezios** / Greece, *present in Athens*)

Official welcome speeches by:

- **Georgios Voutsinos**, Secretary General for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning/Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. Host of the event. *Present in Athens*.
- **Niki Kerameus**, Minister of Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic. *Online connection*.
- **Miltiadis Varvitsiotis**, Alt. Minister of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Hellenic Presidency. *Present in Athens* (tbc)
- **Apostolos Dimitropoulos**, Secretary General for Higher Education, Coordinator for all Presidency activities of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. *Online connection*.
- **Antje Rothmund**, Head of the Youth Department in the Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe. *Online connection*.
- **Ivan Hromada**, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) and of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ)

10h40 Keynote speech "**Automating Society Report 2020: Key findings**", Fabio Chiusi, Algorithm Watch. *Online connection*.

11h30 Coffee Break

11h45 Session on Good Practices (parallel sessions)

- **SLOAM Slovenia** – Using digital tools to reach out to students. *Online connection*
- **Centre for Youth Education, Montenegro** – Supporting young people during the pandemic. *Online connection*
- **CJP Netherlands** – Transforming the crisis into an opportunity. *Online connection*

12h45 Conclusion from the sessions and closing of the morning

13h00 Lunch break

14h00 Keynote speech “**Digital Youth Work: the reasons why**”, Hilary Phillips, YouthLink Scotland. *Online connection.*

15h00 Coffee Break

15h15 Session on Good Practices (in parallel)

- **PRONI, Bosnia and Herzegovina** – using the EYC to build resilient and peaceful communities. *Online connection.*
- **Youth Board, Cyprus** – Using the EYC to build resilient communities. *Online connection*
- **Young Scot, Scotland** – Using EYC to offer complex information to youth. *Online connection*

16h15 Conclusion from the sessions and closing of the day

## **PROGRAMME OF THE WEBINAR / DAY 2**

### **November 6<sup>th</sup>, Friday**

10h00 Opening of the day

10h10 Keynote speech „ **Is it the End of the World as We Know It? Some perspectives on youth field innovation through the lens of smart youth work?**”, Uly Enn, fa. *Online connection.*

11h00 Coffee Break

11h15 “The role of young people in using the European Youth Card as a dynamic tool for participation and intervention”, presentation of Committee of Ministers simulation practice. Co-Hosting Organization **INEDIVIM and University of Athens** presentation. *Present in Athens.*

11h35 Session on Good Practices (in parallel)

- **ACJ, Catalunya, Spain** – Supporting youth workers during the public health crisis. *Online connection.*
- **Agezija Zghazagh, Malta** – Delivering on line youth work services. *Online connection.*
- **MOVIJOVEM, Portugal** – Sustainability and municipal European Youth Card services for young people during the pandemic. *Online connection.*

12h35 Conclusions from the sessions and closing of the morning

13h00 Lunch

14h00 Panel Discussion: “**New challenges and opportunities for innovative youth services in the digital and COVID era**”

15h00 Evaluation of the seminar

15h30 Closing of the seminar

- **Dora Bei**, Youth Director / Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs / General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning. *Present in Athens.*
- **Natalja Turenne**, Secretary to the Partial agreement on Youth mobility through the Youth Card, Council of Europe. *Online connection.*
- **Manel Sanchez**, EYCA Director. *Present in Athens*

The final report of the event will be made public by the end of the year. A branded layout will be worked with EYCA's creative agency Jamhot, which allowed for the report to be presented as a publication and final outcome of the event.

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

During the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, EYCA members adapted very fast and used the European Youth Card infrastructure to reach out to young people and provide them with information on:

- Mental health support
- Health advice regarding the pandemic
- Support to offer to their communities during the pandemic.

The EYCA members provided **good practices which were published on the Council of Europe website** at this link: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/-/gp-eyca-members>

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

- **EPLM** – EYCA is part of the Steering Group of the European Platform on Learning Mobility. This year, the two coordination meetings took place on 9<sup>th</sup> of June and 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. The first meeting focused on reflections about how the pandemic impacted youth mobility and brainstorming related to 4<sup>th</sup> EPLM Biennial Conference, to be hosted in Finland at the end of 2021.

The second EPLM meeting was focused on the strategic development of the Steering Group and other dimensions that should be addressed at policy, practice and research level, on the topic of youth mobility.

- **EU Youth Conferences in Zagreb, 9 – 11 March 2020** – EYCA Director and EYCA Youth Panel representatives attended the Conference related to Youth Participation. This represented another opportunity to interact with decision makers in youth field and promote the Partial Agreement through Youth Mobility.

## **IV. POLICY APPROACHES AND INSTRUMENTS BENEFITING 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 4,3 million card numbers verifiable via the CCDB currently.

In 2020, EYCA continued to support members to add customised features to the EYCA free app, making the experience more user-friendly for young people, by offering tech grants as part of the MI programme.

### **Promoting youth mobility by partnering up Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes**

In 2020, EYCA and seven-member organisation implemented the project **#Routes4Youth** which aimed at connecting youth mobility and culture, by promoting 18 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe cross the seven countries. The project included a special edition of the European Youth Card which was offered for free to young people. More information about the initiative on: <https://www.eyca.org/european-projects/5ecfc775c91c5fa0ce590e43>

A “Letter of Intent” on cooperation between the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), Eurail and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) was signed by the Director General of Democracy Mrs. Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ, on behalf of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Eurail General Manager Mr. Carlo BOSELLI and EYCA Director Mr. Manel SÁNCHEZ, which entered into force on 19 August 2020.

The “Letter of Intent” was signed to promote sustainable mobility across Europe, support the discovery of the rich and diverse heritage of Europe, foster the creation of a strong community of young travellers who support cultural diversity, intercultural learning and mutual exchanges across borders.

The “Letter of Intent” is an important step forward to establish a collaborative partnership in areas of shared interest and, among other, it foresees conducting regular consultations, sharing practice and expertise, exchanging information to the visibility of the partner institutions.

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme was launched in 1987 to demonstrate, via journeys through space and time, how the heritage of different countries in Europe contributes to a shared cultural heritage, in a spirit of dialogue and respect for European identity and diversity. The 38 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe certified to date are transnational thematic networks of cultural heritage destinations. The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), now comprising 34 member States, was established in 2010 in order to strengthen the programme and award the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification.

Signed:

 **European Youth  
Card Association**

Manel SÁNCHEZ | EYCA Director