

Attracting students to participate in civic and democratic life at European level

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#EDC2022



A role for EDCs?



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A role for EDCs?

➤ #EYY2022



➤ #CoFoE



➤ #EUYouthDialogue



➤ #YouthGoals



➤ #YouthStrategy



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Youth political participation at European level

🔍 What are we looking at?

-> [EU-CoE Youth Partnership – Glossary on youth](#):

- Young people: persons 13 – 30 years old [EDCs: 18 – 30]
- Political participation: any activity that shapes, affects, or involves the political sphere
 - Conventional – unconventional – individualized¹
 - Digital participation!

-> Focus:

- Level of the European Union



¹ cf. Bárta et.al.: Meaningful youth political participation in Europe: concepts, patterns and policy implications – Research study, CoE-EU Youth Partnership, 2021





Opinions and wishes of young people in



- [Flash Eurobarometer European Parliament Youth Survey](#) (Sept. 2021)
 - Comprehensive report [Youth in Europe 2021](#) (Oct. 2021)
 - Flash Eurobarometer survey [Youth and Democracy in the European Year of Youth](#) (May 2022)
 - CoFoE: i.a. platform [youthideas.eu](#), [#STANDFORSOMETHING](#) report, Special Eurobarometer survey [Future of Europe 2021](#) (Jan. 2022) + results in [Final Outcome Report](#)
- > well researched and documented
- > up to decision-making



EU youth policy

- [EU Youth Strategy](#) 2019-2027 as current policy framework - Engage/Connect/Empower – 11 Youth Goals 
- Since June 2021, first EU Youth Coordinator within European Commission Ms Biliana Sirakova 
- European Youth Portal youth.europa.eu as the Commission's information hub on youth policy and opportunities of getting involved 
- Youth Hub of the European Parliament youth.europarl.europa.eu 

Specific participation formats for young people (1)

EU Youth Dialogue

- Since 2010 institutionalised dialogue mechanism with decision-makers, experts, researchers, other civil society actors
- Involvement via national contact points (see [list](#)) → national and European consultations / European Youth Delegates / European Youth Conferences
- Organised in 18-months work cycles (parallel to Trio Council Presidencies) with different thematic priorities (set by the Council of Youth Ministers)
- 9th cycle: 2022 - mid-2023 → “A Sustainable and Green Europe”
- Implementation of [11 Youth Goals](#) - formulated in Dialogue in 2018 and integrated into EU Youth Strategy
- Youth Goals #3 and #10



Specific participation formats for young people (2)

European Youth Event (EYE)

- Bi-annual event at the European Parliament for exchange with decision-makers, experts, activists
- Next EYE: 9 – 10 June 2023, hybrid event, registration from Feb. 2023
- Programme co-created with youth (calls closed)
- [EYEonline](#) as complementary information and exchange format since 2020
- New: [Local EYEs](#) (next: 25 – 26 November in Varaždin) – organised by local youth organisations, co-funded and supported by EP



European Youth Event
European Parliament



Specific participation formats for young people (3)

- Community platform together.eu
- [European Charlemagne Youth Prize](#)
 - Awarded yearly by EP and Foundation of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen
 - To youth-run projects to strengthen democracy and support active participation (27 national projects and 3 European laureates)
 - 2023: launch of competition - 12 January; submission deadline - 2 February
- [Online European Youth Seminars](#)
- Debates on EU issues / simulations of EP sessions:
 - [European Youth Parliament](#)
 - [Model European Parliament](#)



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT



General opportunities for political participation

Elections
to the EP
-> next 2024

Petitions
to the EP
-> [Petitions
Web Portal](#)

Have your say:
[Consultations](#)
and [suggestions
to simplify](#)

European
Citizens'
Initiative
-> [ECI Portal](#)

-> [ECI
Forum](#)

How to participate in EU policy-making

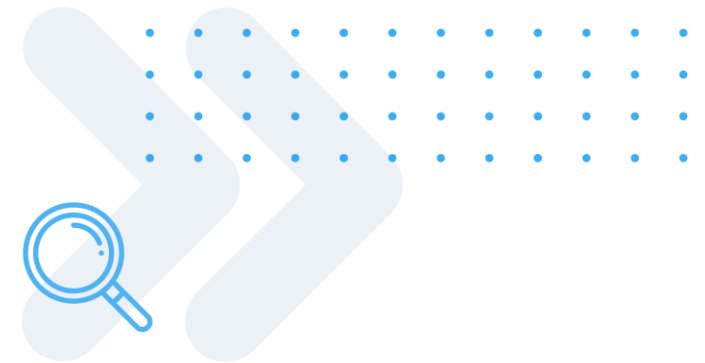


-> [Citizen
Central
Podcast](#)

[Citizens'
Dialogues](#) with
EU decision-
makers

European
Ombudsman
-> [complaints](#),
consultations

[EU Court of
Justice](#)
-> individual
action



What role for EDCs?

Opportunities

- Established information channels (resp. opportunity to expand)
- Expertise on EU communication and ability to translate/multiply
- Access to university students
- Use intensified outreach activities
-
-

Challenges

- Promoting political participation of students not core mandate
- Staff resources
- Creating information overload / „nuisance“?
- Mobilisation of students for concrete participation difficult
-
-

Some experience from EDC Krems



Your experience, your opinion?

Thank you for your attention!

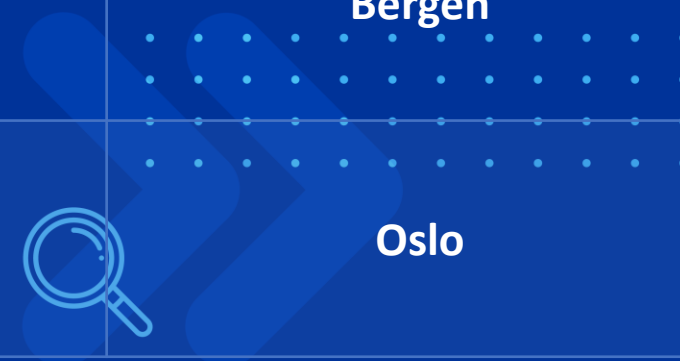
Contact: Susanne Fraczek, susanne.fraczek@donau-uni.ac.at



European
Documentation Centre
Krems

Parallel workshops - second round

The implementation of the Partnership Agreement between the European Commission and EDCs' host structures	Lillehammer
Attracting students to participate in civic and democratic life at European level	Skien (3rd floor)
The role/s of EDCs in informing students and researchers about exchange programmes and EU co-funded opportunities, including supporting Back to University	Bergen
Knowledge Management – how to guide students to EU databases	Oslo



Lunch break
We will be back at 13:45

