

# European Youth Policy: A changing environment

12-13 November, Brussels



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## Young people can do a lot for the EU. But what can the EU do for them?

**Brando Benifei, MEP**

We should spark the young people's active participation and offer them the necessary information and skills to understand and influence the democratic decision-making processes at local, national, and European levels.

**Jeroen Lenaers, MEP**

The EU Youth Policy field needs strong structures at national level, sharing best practices, and focus on skills for active citizenship as there is no one EU-wide solution available.

MEPs are craving for input from the grassroots level and express their openness for an honest and two-way conversation with those working directly with the young people.

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## EU action for youth and Erasmus+

**Floencia van Houdt, DG EAC**

In 2016 increased focus on inclusion, diversity, and recognition of youth work in promoting social inclusion, intercultural understanding, and preventing violent radicalisation.

**Andrea Szakonyi, EACEA**

Erasmus+ Civil Society Cooperation Youth Grant – fosters the empowerment of young people in society, and their participation in the decision-making processes

**Gabriela Scibiorska, EACEA**

Capacity Building in the Field of Youth (Internationalisation, Cross-sectorial cooperation, Recognition, Innovative methods.)  
Large Scale EVS Events (at least 30 volunteers for an European or a worldwide event in the field of youth, culture and sport)

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## Change management - improvisation versus sticking to the script in the social sector?

**Peter Rosseel**, Management Consulting and Research  
**Daniel Akhtar**, Management Consulting and Research

“Success rate of major change projects remains at 30%” because organisations simply do not know how to react (appropriately) to change.

Change is or at least should be the new norm!

Change management is bridging the gap between what is happening and what is possible (preferred future).

Successful change management requires both components:  
Relational and Rational



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## Change management in practice

**Larry Waller**, Together Trust

In a changing society an organisation needs to improve the way it designs, describes, and delivers its services in order to meet the expectations and requirements of the environment.

Together Trust aims for flexible services that put people first and have clear and open communications.

The planning process needs to create strong roadmaps for change, to both guarantee success and ensure that the process can be managed safely.



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### Making youth's voices heard in a changing environment

**Pierre Baussand**, Social Platform

The idea of rethinking our society should not be left in the hands of the ones in power.

Social standards are necessary to battle inequality issues, the unemployment level, and the refugee crisis.

Youth should get a sense of community again in Europe because this is important when change is necessary.

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### European Youth Strategy – Evaluation, Prospects

**Lucille Rieux**, European Youth Forum

EU Youth Strategy objectives: create equal opportunities for all young people in education and in the labour market and promote their active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity.

Very difficult to assess the successes (or limits) of the EU Youth Strategy because of no measurable instruments are in place.

Even though Youth Organisations know little about the EU Youth Strategy, they do contribute strongly to the implementation of the objectives of the Youth Strategy.